

**Madison Area Transportation Planning Board (an MPO)  
March 4, 2009 Special Outreach Meeting Minutes**

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**1. Roll Call**

*Members present:* Robin Schmidt, Eileen Bruskevitz, Robbie Webber, Al Matano, Chuck Kamp, Ken Harwood, Duane Hinz, Mark Opitz, Satya Rhodes-Conway, Tom Clauder, Joe Clausius.

*Members absent:* Jerry Mandli, Paul Skidmore, John Vesperman

*Staff present:* Bob McDonald, Bill Schaefer, Bob Pike, Dan Seidensticker

**2. Approval of January 7, 2009 Meeting Minutes**

Opitz moved, Webber seconded, to approve the January 2009 meeting minutes. Motion carried.

**3. Communications**

The following were in the packet:

- Letter from WisDOT Secretary Busalacchi to local government officials, dated February 6, 2009 regarding federal stimulus local transportation project solicitation (to be discussed under Agenda item #9).
- Letters from FHWA and Sandy Beaupre, WisDOT Bureau of Planning Director, approving the 2009 MPO Work Program and Federal funding for transportation planning activities.

Others handed out at the meeting:

- Letter from WisDOT Secretary Busalacchi to local government officials, dated February 27, 2009 regarding a second stage solicitation for local transportation economic recovery projects, and an email from MPO staff to the MPO Technical Coordinating Committee regarding the solicitation and planned process for MPO project selection process for STP-Urban projects (to be discussed under Agenda item #9).
- Letter from Chairmen of the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure regarding requested reporting of information on economic recovery projects in accordance with the transparency and accountability information requirements of the bill.

**4. Public Comment (for items *not* on MPO Agenda)**

Arnold Harris, a resident of Western Dane County and representing the Western Dane County Coalition for smart growth and environment, spoke about having a concern about the disconnect between the work done by the Capitol Area Regional Planning Commission and the Metropolitan Planning Organization and the fact that they are two separate agencies. The planning focus tends to be around the City of Madison when many issues in comprehensive planning are really countywide. He would like to spearhead efforts to get the MPO and CARPC together as one. He is concerned that CARPC is rubberstamping proposals to extend urban service areas. What they really need to be doing is regional planning. The MPO should focus on things on a countywide basis.

**5. Brief Overview of TPB Board Purpose, Structure, Planning Area Boundary and Responsibilities**

McDonald provided a power point presentation on the MPO. The presentation covered the purposes and primary responsibilities of MPOs and the planning area boundary, policy board structure, and appointment requirements for the Madison Area Transportation Planning Board.

McDonald also provided examples of projects funded by the MPO with its direct allocation of Surface Transportation Program – Urban funds. He then reviewed some of the major ongoing corridor studies that the MPO is involved in.

## **6. Review of Current Local and Regional Transportation Issues by Local Officials in the Greater Sun Prairie Area**

Scott Kugler, City of Sun Prairie Planning Director, provided a power point presentation on local development and transportation projects and plans. Kugler first reviewed downtown area projects. He showed the Cannery Square redevelopment project to create an urban village center. It is mostly developed. He then showed two projects currently under development: a new Coppers grocery store on the site of the former county garage and a new high school south of downtown. The site of the new high school south of the rail line will attract students and others downtown, but also presents some transportation challenges. He reviewed roadway improvements to accommodate these projects and increased traffic, including expansion of CTH N to four lanes from E. Main Street south to the high school entrance and creation of a back entrance from the west to the high school. He mentioned that the downtown plan identifies a location for a potential rail station if commuter rail is implemented. Kugler then reviewed the Main Street Corridor Plan to redevelop the corridor with a more urban design and the \$12 million street reconstruction project planned for this year. He reviewed the cross-sections for the different segment of the 1½-mile corridor. The City has created a TIF district in the corridor. Kugler provided an update of the City's Westside Neighborhood Plan. A traffic impact fee has been created. Roadway projects to date include the extension of Main Street west to CTH C, reconstruction and expansion of CTH C from USH 151 to STH 19, and extension of O'Keeffe Avenue. A new Target store just opened and three other projects have been approved. A SSM Health Care facility is opening off Reiner Road south of the USH 151 interchange, which it is hoped expands to a larger campus. Kugler then provided a status report on the comprehensive plan, showing draft maps of the future street classification system and bicycle routes/paths and noting other issues to be covered. He said a recent transit survey showed interest in park-and-ride service.

Schmidt asked what the population was of the City of Sun Prairie and Kugler said 26,000. Opitz asked about plans for expanding transit service. Kugler said they recently added shuttle service to East Towne Mall and are considering a more regular route.

## **7. Status Report on Transport 2020 Implementation Task Force (ITF) Finance and Governance Subcommittee**

Dave Trowbridge with the City of Madison Planning Unit provided a power point presentation on the Transport 2020 Study and the draft recommendations of the Finance and Governance Subcommittee. Trowbridge explained that the committee was expanded in 2008 and charged with developing draft governance and funding options for the recommended regional public transportation elements of Transport 2020 to present to the public for discussion. These elements include a new commuter rail line between Middleton and Reiner Road, new express bus service and park-and-ride lots, expanded and improved local bus service, new shared-ride taxi service, and improved specialized transportation services. The committee recommended creation of a new regional transit authority (RTA) with authority to levy up to a 0.5% sales tax. A referendum would be held on the RTA and sales tax, probably in 2010. State enabling legislation is still needed for creation of an RTA. Trowbridge then reviewed cost estimates for the commuter rail, express bus service, and park-and-ride facilities and the history of rail transit studies. He also reviewed regional growth and travel trends, redevelopment plans in the rail corridor, and maps from the MPO Regional Transportation Plan that help explain why transit improvements are

being recommended in the east-west corridor. He also reviewed some of the other options considered such as BRT and the operating characteristics of the recommended rail service. He said the forecast 11,000 riders per day compares favorably to other rail services recently implemented in the Twin Cities, St. Louis, and Chicago. He mentioned that one of the issues brought up is the traffic delay due to the trains. He said the gates at the rail crossings would be down for 30-45 seconds, roughly ½ of a traffic signal.

Opitz commented on the traffic delay issue and clarified with Trowbridge that the gates would be down twelve times an hour during the peak periods. Clauder suggested having another public information meeting or two during the day (e.g., at noon), since some people aren't able to or don't want to attend night meetings.

**Those registering in support:** Fred Bartol (Madison, Dane Alliance for Rational Transportation), Margaret Bergamini (Madison), Bernice Brown (Sun Prairie), John Condron (Sun Prairie), John Delamater (Madison), Lori Kay (Madison, UW-Madison), Kevin Pomeroy (Madison, 1,000 Friends of Wisconsin), Janine Punzel (Sun Prairie, DMI), John Robison (Fitchburg, Downtown Madison, Inc), Caryl Terrell (Madison, Sierra Club), Gary Werner (Madison)

**Those registering in opposition:** Ken Ackerman (Madison), Jill Ames (Sun Prairie), Todd Ames (Sun Prairie), Doug Birkholz (Madison), Beatrice Blau (Sun Prairie), Brenda Blau (Sun Prairie), Dean Blau (Sun Prairie), Robert Bowe (DeForest), Milo Breunig (Madison), Jamie Carlson (Sun Prairie), Tim Carmichael (Sun Prairie), Elizabeth Carney (Madison), Ted Chase (Sun Prairie), Alicia Connoly-Lohr (Sun Prairie), Roberto Dean (Madison), Jerry Derr (Bristol, Dane Co Town Assoc), Angela Docherty (Waunakee), William and Helena Dzindosz (Sun Prairie), Kim Elton, Leslie Emery (Sun Prairie), Bruce Faanes (Sun Prairie), Jason Fehrman (Sun Prairie), George Frank (Sun Prairie), Anna Freidel (Sun Prairie), Kathy Gerard (DeForest), Dustin Greene, Mark Gudgeon (Madison), Jack Gugger (Cottage Grove), John Hartung (Madison), James Harwood (Sun Prairie), Tracy Harwood (Sun Prairie), Beth Hellenbrand (Waunakee), Richard Hellenbrand (Waunakee), Ronald Henell (Monona), Darryl and Deb Henry (Sun Prairie), Gary Herzberg (Waunakee), Sarah Huemoeller (Sun Prairie), Don Hoffman (Waunakee), Keith Holmes (Sun Prairie), Robert Host (Sun Prairie), Timothy Johnson (Sun Prairie), Jim Koenig (Sun Prairie), Andrew Kolberg (Marshall), Colleen Kolberg (Marshall), Greg Kopan (Madison), Bernadine Kramer (Madison), Joanne Krause (Madison), Katie Krause (Sun Prairie), Nancy Krause (Sun Prairie), Ryan Krause (Sun Prairie), Steve Krause (Sun Prairie), Susan Kreul-Frank (Sun Prairie), Eric Krueger, Ken Kreuger (Sun Prairie), Paulette Kunki (Sun Prairie), Kevin Kuhse (DeForest), Fred Landes (Sun Prairie), Bill Landgraf (DeForest), Bruce Larsen (Sun Prairie), Travis Larson (DeForest), Steven Lohr (Sun Prairie), Curtis Liposcam (Madison), Ginger Maly (Sun Prairie), Brian Markevitch (Sun Prairie), Douglas Middleton (Edgerton), Mary Middleton (Edgerton), Joe Moretl (Madison), Scott Morrical (Marshall), Leslie Nigh (Sun Prairie), Daniel Oasen (Burke), Matthew Ollila (Madison), Robert Petry (Sun Prairie), Orville Phillips (Blue Mounds), Leonard Piontek (Sun Prairie), Eric Poffenberger (Sun Prairie), Jeff Pokorski (Madison), Jim Pulvermacher, Bill Pyle (Sun Prairie), Paul Rehdantz (Sun Prairie), Terence Reuter (DeForest), Dori Rhody (Sun Prairie), Richard Rhody (Sun Prairie), Bill Richardson (Middleton), Bernice Ringelstetter (Sun Prairie), Darwin and Dianna Roberts (Madison), Bill Sands (Marshall), Brett Sands (Marshall), Scott Sands (Sun Prairie), Marcella Sawall (Middleton), Joan Schaller (Madison), Lee Schaller (Madison), Randy Schmidt (Middleton), Steve Schumacher (Sun Prairie), Steve Schwartz (Sun Prairie), Mary Shane (Sun Prairie), Charles Smith (Deerfield), Paulette Smith (Deerfield), Trevor Smith (Madison), Kathy Sotak (Marshall), Peter Sotak (Marshall), Cindy Stankey (Sun Prairie), Ken Stevens (Sun Prairie), Doug Sveum (Sun Prairie),

Chris Thompeu (Sun Prairie), Linda Thompson (Sun Prairie), Don Tierney (DeForest), Joanne Tierney (DeForset), Lucas Tierney (Sun Prairie), Ann Weaver (DeForest), Carol Weber (Madison), James Weber (Madison), Ralph Weichbred (Marshall), Mary Weisensel (Sun Prairie), Russ Weisensel (Sun Prairie), Joyce Weitzman (Sun Prairie), Hope Werchbrod (Marshall), Daniel White (Sun Prairie), Amy Williams (Sun Prairie), Michael Witz (Sun Prairie), James Wolfe (Sun Prairie), Stu Wood (Sun Prairie), Lowell Zirbel (Sun Prairie)

**Those registering neither in support nor in opposition:** Nancy Bartlett (Verona), Marilyn Bjorge (Madison), Joe Chase (Sun Prairie), Duane Gau (Sun Prairie, Dist 20 Dane Co Board), Arnold Harris (Mt Horeb, Wester Dane Coalition for Smart Growth and Environment), Erich Huemoeller (Sun Prairie), Elliott Loug (Waunakee, North Mendota Group), Hans Noeldner (Oregon), Martin Redmann (Sun Prairie), Bob Saidler (Madison), Bob Schaefer (Madison), Ryan Slesar (Middleton)

**8. Consideration of Resolution TPB No. 24 Regarding Amendment #2 to the 2009-2013 Transportation Improvement Program for the Madison Metropolitan Area and Dane County**

Matano said the amendment is required for one roadway maintenance project, USH 151 (Main and Bird Street Bridges) Bridge Painting, and three transit projects. These are the Dane County Mobility Management and Trainer Program, YWCA-Madison Employment Transportation Services, and City of Sun Prairie Small Bus Purchase.

Bruskewitz moved, Webber seconded, to approve Resolution TPB No. 24. Motion carried.

**9. Status Report on the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Economic Stimulus Bill) and Solicitation and Selection of Local Transportation Projects**

McDonald reported that project applications for Stage 1 funding were due to WisDOT March 17<sup>th</sup> but MPO staff has not received the list of local projects that would be eligible for STP Urban funding. Staff is aware that there are potentially two projects, one being the Aberg Ave. bike bridge which is already programmed with 50% Enhancement funds and 50% local funds and Monona Drive which is already programmed with 80% STP Urban funds and 20 % local funds. Eligibility of these two projects for stimulus funding and meeting other requirements still needs to be determined.

**10. Status Report by TPB Board Members on Projects Potentially Involving the TPB:**

• **USH 51 (McFarland to Stoughton)**

. Harwood reported that there was an interesting meeting, well attended in Stoughton. There were a lot of ideas presented and the property acquisition will be a real interesting component of the project.

• **North Mendota Parkway Implementation Oversight Committee**

Bruskewitz reported that the meeting scheduled for the February 23<sup>rd</sup> was cancelled. The next meeting is scheduled for March 18<sup>th</sup>. Information provided by Strand and Associates on the various alternatives has been very good. The consultant reported on information provided by various groups affected by the alternatives and provided good information for decision-making.

**11. Discussion of Future Work Items:**

- **2009-2013 Transit Development Plan (TDP)**

McDonald said MPO staff is working with Metro staff on this and will be bringing information to the Board at future meetings.

- **2009 Federal Certification Review of the MPO**

McDonald noted that the review would occur in the summer months before July 4<sup>th</sup>. There will be a public hearing and a presentation by the feds.

## **12. Announcements and Schedule of Future Meetings**

Next meeting of the MPO Board is scheduled for April 1, 2009 at the Madison Water Utility.

## **13. Adjournment**

Harwood moved, Webber seconded, to adjourn. Motion carried.