1. Roll Call
   Members present: Eileen Bruskewitz, Corey Finkelmeyer, Kenneth Golden, Al Matano, Laura Rose, Chan Stroman, John Vesperman, Robbie Webber, Doug Zwank
   Members absent: Lisa MacKinnon, Kristine Euclide
   Staff present: Bob McDonald, Bob Pike, Bill Schaefer

2. Approval of the October 10, 2005 Meeting Minutes
   Moved by Stroman, seconded by Zwank, to approve October meeting minutes. Motion carried.

3. Communications
   • Letter from Frank Busalacchi, Secretary, Wisconsin Department of Transportation, approving the Madison Area Metropolitan Planning Organization’s Amendment # 3 to the 2005-2009 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).
   • Email from David Trowbridge, City of Madison Planning Department, regarding Long Range Transportation Planning Commission’s review of the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). McDonald explained that there was a motion by Golden, seconded by Webber, regarding the commission’s review of the TIP. It talked about three types of reviews that would be conducted by the commission: 1) Advising the City of Madison members of the MPO about comments and opinions of projects sponsored by other jurisdictions; 2) Assisting in the prioritization of City sponsored projects; and 3) Making direct recommendations on projects that are not sponsored by the City, if those projects are within, abut, or have significant impact on the City. Furthermore, the commission asked City staff for its recommendations for ways that they can have a role in dealing with shifts/changes in project design, concept or timing. Golden added that this was more of an internal step, wanting the commission to get involved earlier in what the City submits, so that there was more influence. It wouldn’t really affect the MPO in any way, other than it may get more of a policy maker influence in years to come. The last part of the communication is a work in progress for the commission.
   • Letter from Mayor Dave Cieslewicz, City of Madison, to Dane County Executive Kathleen Falk, regarding the Pioneer Neighborhood Development Plan. This letter was referenced during the October 10th meeting, at which time Golden asked that a copy be provided at the November MPO meeting.

4. Public Comment (for items not on MPO Agenda)
   None

5. Consideration of Appointments
   • USH 51 (USH 12/18 to I39/90/94) Policy Advisory Committee (1)
     Finkelmeyer expressed interest in serving on the committee. Golden appointed Finkelmeyer. Zwank moved to accept the appointment, Webber seconded. Motion carried.

McDonald explained that they are supposed to prepare a report for the MPO on their findings and what their expectations are for the MPO. They called McDonald and said that they are not ready because they are struggling with the representation issue. Zwank commented that he feels that there are some misconceptions among the cities and villages association. He feels that the frustrations there are that there really isn’t a vehicle for coordinating, planning, and communicating between Madison and the outlying communities. He said that there is a meeting the following week, at which time he’ll try to get a better feel for the situation. McDonald commented that the small cities and villages want to become more involved at a policy level. He stated that there is staff from the small cities and village committee which are also on the MPOs Technical Coordinating Committee, and that many of these issues are covered at the TCC meetings, which the shared members should be reiterating back to the small villages committee.

Golden stated that over a year ago he had brought up the fact that it was perceived that this was a Madison dominated board by virtue of the appointments and that Madison is the central city in the region. One of the things that Golden had wanted to do was to try to have at least one meeting per year, based on a model used at the RPC, with the idea of inviting representatives of outlying communities so that the board could become more in tune with what is on their minds, and perhaps present to the MPO what some of their transportation issues are. Zwank added that there is an underlying issue, which is communications between some of the outlying cities and towns, and the Mayor Cieslewicz and Executive Falk. It’s very difficult to get meetings and to have candid discussions, and as a consequence things are announced and things happen and they feel like they’re being told where to go and what to do.


McDonald highlighted the various projects contained in the UPWP. Moved by Matano, seconded by Webber, to approve resolution. Motion carried.

8. Consideration of Resolution MPO No. 51, Regarding Agreement for Specialized Transportation Coordination Services with Dane County

McDonald covered the background on this item, which is that Dane County is requesting the MPO continue staff assistance for specialized transit coordination services. Moved by Webber, seconded by Matano, to approve resolution. Motion carried.

9. Continued Review of Preliminary Results From the New Regional Travel Demand Model

McDonald reported at the last meeting that the MPO had gone through all its transit scenarios: the Existing Plus committed system, which we’re getting good results on with express routes to Verona and Sun Prairie. He covered the TSM alternative, which is a variation of the plan that was used in Transport 2020, which also provides express service between the transfer points along with the park and ride system. In terms of comparing one system with the other, we’re looking at vehicle miles of travel that are saved as a result of the system, how much they’re reduced when you go to the other system, and what are the impacts if you go with the commuter rail hybrid system.

We ran into problems with the rail alternative in the scenario. Because of a bug in the system, the vehicle miles went up instead of down when the model was run. Now we think that the problem is fixed. McDonald pointed out, however, that when the model is run for the rail alternative we’re getting about 3300 boardings on the rail, but it’s coming off the bus system. So overall ridership when you go to rail goes up just a little bit, and the remainder is just a shift from bus to the rail.
Golden asked a question about how gas price increases would affect the model. McDonald responded that it will be included in the analysis and that he will get back to the board with some alternatives. The MPO had a conference call with the consulting teams on how to reflect that in the model because the issue will have to be addressed in Transport 2020 as well.

10. Progress Report on Signatures Received from Units of Government on the New MPO Agreement Concerning Composition of the Policy Board

McDonald stated that so far we have heard from five: City of Stoughton, Town of Blooming Grove, Town of Cottage Grove, Town of Sun Prairie, and Town of Burke. Golden added that Madison had just approved, but it has not yet been signed by the Clerk. Beyond that we need City of Middleton, and City of Fitchburg or Sun Prairie to get us where we need to be.

11. Status Report by MPO Board Members on Projects Potentially Involving the MPO

Transport 2020: McDonald said that the consultants are working on Transport 2020, and the scope of work is being finalized, but the contract has not been signed. In all probability work will begin in January.

Highway 51: McDonald stated that they haven’t met yet, but the technical committee has, and the issue there is the modeling results. What has been realized is that a lot of people are either going to the Hwy 51 corridor or leaving, it is not through traffic.

North Mendota Parkway Implementation Oversight Committee: Bruskewitz stated that they had their first meeting in October, and they reviewed what was in the report. They set a direction for a time-line. Next meeting is Nov 10, and they will have a draft from the corporation council, putting all of the recommendations into a form. Matano is on the committee that the County Board has to look over all the provisions.

12. Discussion of Future Work Items

McDonald talked about the Travel Demand Model. As soon as it gets straightened out we’ll be able to package some alternatives and bring them to the Board. At some point in time, he wants to bring in the Dane County Clean Air Coalition to talk about ongoing programs. The MPO is finishing up the West Side Bicycle corridor study.

13. Announcements and Schedule of Future Meetings

Next meeting is “iffy” at this point. Golden stated that he’d like to schedule sometime in the first quarter of 2006, one meeting somewhere other than the central city. Perhaps in an area where there is a transportation issue, and give the surrounding communities enough notice so that they can present their take on transportation issues.

14. Adjournment