

**Madison Area Transportation Planning Board (an MPO)
December 6, 2017 Meeting Minutes**

1. Roll Call

Members present: David Ahrens (arrived during item #5), Mark Clear, Ken Golden, Chuck Kamp, Jerry Mandli (left after item #5), Al Matano, Mark Opitz, Robin Schmidt, Steve Stocker, Bruce Stravinski

Members absent: Steve Flottmeyer, Steve King, Ed Minihan, Larry Palm

MPO staff present: Colleen Hoesly, Bill Schaefer

Others present in an official capacity: Yang Tao (City of Madison Traffic Engineering), Diane Paoni (WisDOT), Charles Wade (WisDOT)

Members from the public: Royce Williams

2. Approval of November 1, 2017 Meeting Minutes

Moved by Opitz, seconded by Clear, to approve the November 1, 2017 meeting minutes. Motion carried.

3. Communications

- Letter from MPO to the Waunakee Village Administrator regarding sewer service area amendment request to CARPC with attached maps
- Letter from Matano to WisDOT regarding the DMV service center move to location on Excelsior Dr.
- Response from WisDOT to Matano regarding the DMV service center move
- Article from *Roads & Bridges* magazine, which selected the USH 18/151 (Verona Rd) and Beltline interchange reconstruction project as the top roadway project in the US.

Golden said the comments by MPO staff on the Waunakee sewer service area amendment request were excellent and commented on the importance of the role of the MPO in commenting on amendment requests.

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

None

5. Presentation on Autonomous and Connected Vehicles and Connected Vehicle Pilot Project in the Park Street Corridor

Yang Tao, Assistant Traffic Engineer for City of Madison Traffic Engineering, gave a presentation on Connected Vehicle (CV) and Autonomous Vehicle (AV) technology and initiatives of the city and partners to begin to plan for and implement the technology. He outlined Madison's Smart Cities grant application. While unsuccessful in securing funding, efforts have begun to start to implement some components of the plan, including developing an advanced traffic signal system and a CV pilot project in the Park Street corridor. Other initiatives included the designation of UW as a USDOT AV Proving Ground and efforts to implement an AV microtransit pilot project.

Tao answered questions from the board. Ahrens and Golden asked questions about adaptive signal systems. Tao explained the technology and that detection of traffic could be done in different ways. For University Avenue, it would be mostly video detection. Schmidt asked about detection of bicyclists and pedestrians, and Tao said that would be done through a smart phone or wearable device. Golden asked if there has been any discussion of how AV technology may change car ownership. Tao responded there could be different ownership models, which could have different travel pattern impacts. People in urban areas may choose to

not own a vehicle but rather adopt the “transportation as a service” model. That would be good for cities and the environment. If people choose to own their vehicle, that could increase VMT.

6. Resolution TPB No. 137 Approving the MATPB Title VI Non-Discrimination Program/Limited English Proficiency Plan

Schaefer gave an overview of the proposed changes to the Title VI program compared to the last submission in 2014. He noted that a section that was added to discuss how Title VI and Environmental Justice considerations are addressed in all of the core MPO planning documents and programs. He also said that based upon updates to the Limited English Proficiency Plan the MPO would be working towards providing more written translations of core documents and website content.

Golden commented that based upon the table showing the racial and ethnic composition of MPO Policy Board and committees that efforts should be made to provide more diversity in committee membership where possible. Schaefer agreed and said it was a priority to do that for the citizen committee. The technical committee is based on staff positions (Planning and Public Works Directors) so the MPO doesn't have control over the diversity of that group.

Moved by Schmidt, seconded by Golden, to adopt Resolution TPB No. 137, approving the Title VI Program/Limited English Proficiency Plan. Motion carried.

7. Presentation on Bicycle Level of Traffic Stress Analysis

Schaefer gave a presentation on the MPO's effort to map the area bikeway network using a methodology that has been developed to classify the suitability of streets for bicycling based upon the comfort or stress level for the average bicyclist. The benefits of defining and mapping the stress levels of the bikeway network include helping riders identify comfortable routes, assisting in developing the bicycle wayfinding system, identifying gaps in the low stress bikeway network, helping to inform street project design decisions, and utilizing in performance management. He summarized the methodology, which includes calculating the level of traffic stress for different segment types and intersections and factors in traffic speed, number of travel lanes, bicycle facilities, and whether there is on-street parking. A recently released update to the methodology factors in average daily traffic (ADT) volume for mixed traffic streets. MPO staff are in the process of incorporating this latest change to the methodology. Accessibility analyses will then be done on the network.

Golden asked if pavement quality was factored in. Schaefer said it was factored into the bicycle level of service, but not this methodology which was meant to be simpler and more transparent. Golden also asked if parking occupancy was factored. Schaefer said the methodology doesn't explicitly factor that, but staff made adjustments to the ratings for some streets that had striped parking/bike lanes, but little or no parking on them.

8. Discussion and Potential Action Regarding City of Madison Resolution 47513 Supporting Staff Recommendation to Proceed with Phase 1 BRT Project in East-West Corridor and MPO Role in the Study

Royce Williams, City of Madison resident, registered to speak. He mentioned new technology that would allow electric battery-powered rail vehicles. He said ProRail thinks that rail should still be considered due to the traffic increases on the roadways expected and lack of available space for bus lanes on some segments. Rail could operate without being impacted by this traffic congestion.

Golden provided an update, noting that the Madison Long Range Transportation Planning Committee added two recommended amendments to resolution – one stating that a study oversight committee should be created, possibly to include an MPO representative, and another stating that TIF, special assessments, and other methods should be considered as a potential means of assisting in funding the BRT system.

Matano requested that as the governing body of one of the participating agencies, that the MPO Board be given monthly updates on the planning process and meetings.

9. Discussion and Potential Action Regarding MATPB Joining Title VI Complaint Concerning Move of WisDOT Department of Motor Vehicles Service Center to Far West Side

Royce Williams registered to speak. He said it was a poor decision to move the DMV service center to a location with minimal bus service. He thought a solution would be to open an office at UW or in the new office building at Hill Farms and just issue ID cards there.

Matano stated it was his understanding that Rebecca Kemble, Alder for District 18, was drafting a Title VI complaint regarding the move of the WisDOT DMV service center to the far west side and asked if the board wanted to join in support of the complaint. Golden asked if the service center project was in the TIP, and Schaefer said that it was not. He commented on the possibility of special bus service from certain neighborhoods to the center, merging this service with some other one. Clear asked whether the complaint would be brought to the Madison City Council, and Matano said he didn't think so. Kamp said Metro was looking at solutions such as the guaranteed ride home program the MPO administers. The consensus was that the board would likely support the complaint, but would like to see the formal complaint first before deciding how to proceed. The item was therefore deferred until the next meeting.

10. Brief Report on MATPB-CARPC Workgroup

Stravinski reported that the workgroup discussed short term solutions such as co-locating the organizations' staff to improve communication and collaboration between the two organizations, and then discussed the possibilities of how/if the organizations should be merged in the long-term. The workgroup asked staff to compile a list of how MPOs and RPCs are structured in other parts of Wisconsin, and to start compiling the challenges and opportunities with a potential merger. Schaefer mentioned that there was also discussion about getting the word out to other agencies about the effort.

11. Status Report on Studies and Plans Involving the TPB

There were no updates.

12. Discussion of Future Work Items

Schaefer said he didn't have any significant updates on projects, but asked for direction from the board on the issue of whether or not to proceed with investigating a possible name and logo change for the MPO. He said staff felt it was an important issue. It was agreed to put the item on the agenda for the next meeting and discuss it then.

Kamp mentioned that Metro was looking at the impacts of the paratransit service changes due to the implementation of Family Care. Metro staff is working with MPO staff to conduct a bus stop improvement study. He said a related study may be done to analyze the ADA accessibility of bus stops and the amenities necessary to encourage more individuals that are able to ride the fixed-route system.

13. Announcements and Schedule of Future Meetings

The next meeting of the MPO Board is scheduled to be held Wednesday, January 3, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. at the City-County Building, 210 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd., Room 351. Schaefer said it was likely to be cancelled.

14. Adjournment

Moved by Opitz, seconded by Clear, to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:27 PM.