

**Madison Area Transportation Planning Board (an MPO)  
July 11, 2018 Meeting Minutes**

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**1. Roll Call**

**Members present:** David Ahrens, Steve Flottmeyer, Chuck Kamp, Jerry Mandli (arrived during item #5), Ed Minihan, Mark Opitz, Larry Palm, Bruce Stravinski, Doug Wood

**Members absent:** Mark Clear, Paul Esser, Ken Golden, Steve King

**MPO staff present:** Renee Callaway, Colleen Hoesly, Bill Schaefer

**Others present in an official capacity:** Kelly Danner (appointed to board, but not yet confirmed), Rob Phillips (City of Madison Engineer)

**2. Approval of June 6, 2018 Meeting Minutes**

Moved by Kamp, seconded by Wood, to approve the June 6, 2018 meeting minutes. Motion carried.

**3. Communications**

- Two letters from WisDOT to all MPOs regarding State targets established for the remaining federal performance measures. Schaefer said the MPO has 180 days to set local targets or support the state targets.
- Letter from WisDOT approving the TIP amendment #2, adding three state highway maintenance projects.
- Email from Tom Wilson (Town of Westport) supporting the WisDOT projects programmed for STH 19, and further requesting additional improvements to STH 19 and STH 113.
- Four email communications requesting that STBG Urban funding remain on the Buckeye Road and Cottage Grove Road projects (Items #5, 7)

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

None

**5. Public Hearing on Amendment #3 to the 2018-2022 Transportation Improvement Program for the Madison Metropolitan Area & Dane County, Making Changes to the STBG Urban Priority Projects and Funding**

Schaefer gave a brief overview of the proposed amendment to remove STBG Urban funding from previously approved projects on Buckeye and Cottage Grove Roads and transfer the funding to already approved projects on E. Johnson Street, CTH M, and McKee Road, and to new project on Atwood Avenue. He emphasized the proposed reallocation of funding was being proposed only due to the lack of agreement on the Buckeye and Cottage Grove Road projects. If not reallocated to the other projects in the same years, the federal funding would be lost. Ahrens opened the floor up for public comment.

The following people registered to speak:

- Carol Troyer-Shank, Madison, opposed the amendment to transfer STBG Urban funding. She noted that she is a west side resident but taught at Allis Elementary School and is

currently a volunteer there. She stated the Buckeye Road corridor serves a community that relies on public and active transportation, and that the sidewalks are unsafe for students and residents. She also stated that improvements to Buckeye Road could include rain gardens, which would help protect the lakes.

- Christel Preuss, Madison, opposed the amendment to transfer STBG Urban funding. She noted that traffic has increased, and the road was in need of repair. She has attended many of the meetings for Buckeye Road reconstruction and believed it was a poor use of people's time to introduce a project and then not follow through with it.
- Liz Dannenbaum, Madison, opposed the amendment to transfer STBG Urban funding. She reiterated safety concerns around the school and poor roadway conditions.
- Jeff Pertl, County Supervisor (Dist. 17), opposed the amendment to transfer STBG Urban funding, and asked the Board to defer the decision to allow more time for the city of Madison and Dane County to come to a resolution. Pertl referenced an email that was sent to board members outlining possible solutions to move the projects forward as programmed.
- Amanda Hall, Madison Alder (Dist. 3), opposed the amendment to transfer STBG Urban funding, and asked the Board to defer voting on the amendment to see if the city and county could come to an agreement.
- Jamie Kuhn, County Supervisor (Dist. 16), opposed the amendment to transfer STBG Urban funding. She noted that Cottage Grove Road is an important thoroughfare for that area of the city, and that the lack of sidewalks creates a barrier for bicyclists and pedestrians. She stated that her constituents did not care who the project sponsor was, just that the projects got done and asked the board to prove that government can work together and make things happen.
- Tanya Buckingham, County Supervisor (Dist. 24), opposed the amendment to transfer STBG Urban funding. She reiterated previous concerns, and noted that when previously canvassing in the Buckeye Road area the senior population was looking forward to the increased mobility that the Buckeye Road project would offer.

Following public comment, Ahrens requested staff to pull up Buckeye Road on Google Earth to illustrate the areas of concern and poor pavement, and allowed Board members to address those who had provided comment. Stravinski and Palm asked Pertl to review the three proposals for moving the projects forward that were included in his letter to the board. Mandli clarified that Buckeye Road was under county jurisdiction, but that the city and county currently alternated snow plowing responsibility for that stretch. Hall asked whether another municipality could be a temporary sponsor of the projects while the city and county work towards an agreement. Phillips explained that this was a responsibility no other municipality would want to take on since it would be responsible for providing the local match funding. It was reiterated that a decision must be made in August, or the MPO could lose the \$1 million funding for the Buckeye Road project scheduled in 2019.

## **6. Election of Officers**

Moved by Wood, seconded by Minihan, to refer the item to the next meeting when all MPO Board members were confirmed and more members were present. Motion carried.

**7. Resolution TPB #140 Approving Amendment #3 to the 2018-2022 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for the Madison Metropolitan Area & Dane County**

Schaefer said that WisDOT SW Region staff informed MPO staff a decision on reallocation of funding could be delayed until the August 1 meeting, but would need to be made then.

Stravinski asked whether anyone thought that an agreement could actually be reached if the board deferred the decision until the August 1 meeting. Rob Phillips stated that Mayor Soglin has made it very clear that he will not accept any solution that results in a jurisdictional transfer. Opitz asked Mandli how the county determined which roadway segments to request a jurisdictional transfer. He commented that the county's policy should be consistently applied. There was discussion about transfers on recently completed projects. Mandli clarified that transfers did not typically take place if more than one jurisdiction was involved. Minihan stated the MPO has the capability to use data to determine whether a street is local or regional, and asked Phillips if the Mayor would consider that. Phillips repeated that the Mayor would not support a project that would result in a jurisdictional transfer. He said the city was open to a study that would result in a comprehensive solution to the issue, but wasn't supportive of accepting jurisdiction of roadways on an individual basis. Wood noted given the Mayor's position, it would require legislative action from the Common Council to overturn his veto, which was unlikely to be accomplished in three weeks. Stravinski suggested that since it was Madison that was unwilling to negotiate, perhaps the funding should be transferred to non-Madison projects. Schaefer replied that there were not any other projects that could be taken off the shelf to be completed in 2019 or 2020. It was reiterated that a decision must be made by August, or the MPO could lose the funding. Wood asked if funding were reallocated when funding might be available in the future for the projects. Schaefer said 2023 at the very earliest due to commitments to other projects.

Several board members expressed concern about not having a quorum if the TIP amendment was deferred to the August meeting, but Schaefer stated the meeting date could be moved to ensure a quorum, if necessary. Phillips noted that the Buckeye Road project had to be submitted to WisDOT by September to meet the PS&E (plans, specifications, and estimates) date. He explained that the submittal of the PS&E triggers the process to get the project ready for letting. Opitz asked if delaying the vote would impact the WisDOT project that was included in the amendment. Schaefer replied that WisDOT said it was ok if the amendment was delayed a month. Kamp asked about the process for determining whether the county would seek a jurisdictional transfer when a project was initiated, and Mandli and Phillips both responded.

Moved by Wood, seconded by Opitz, to defer voting on the TIP amendment until the August meeting. Motion carried.

**8. Approval of Comment Letter on Alternatives for Interstate 39/90 and US Highway 12/18 Beltline Interchange Project**

Schaefer gave a brief overview of the comments included in the letter addressing the alternatives for the Interstate 39/90 and US Highway 12/18 Beltline Interchange project. He noted that MPO staff was notified of an additional alternative that WisDOT was considering that would carry three lanes through the southbound interchange, but not the northbound interchange. The letter still recommends Alternative B, but if the new alternative is chosen it is recommended the structures be built to accommodate the extra NB lane.

Moved by Kamp, seconded by Palm, to approve the letter. Motion carried with Flottmeyer abstaining.

**9. Presentation on MATPB Rideshare/TDM Program**

Schaefer explained that some of the MPO's federal funding supports the Rideshare/TDM program. Renee Callaway gave a presentation about the program. Callaway described the program's purpose, scope, and service area boundaries. She reported registrant statistics from 2017 and discussed the Guaranteed Ride Home Program. Callaway pointed out the benefits of a Transportation Management Association and described the kind of community assistance provided by Rideshare, Etc. She discussed the ongoing regional coordination on TDM issues and reviewed other related projects such as Bicycle Friendly Community applications, SRTS and bike equity programming.

Kamp asked if there was a way to track how many carpool matches had been made to see how that compared with the drop in transit ridership. Callaway responded that she could get that data from the program. Minihan asked what was done to ensure safety of the participants. Callaway responded that participants were encouraged to meet in a public place to discuss their arrangements ahead of time, and to do their own research on any potential carpool participants.

**10. Discussion Regarding WisDOT Release of 2019-2022 STBG Urban Program Policies and MPO Funding Allocations**

Schaefer explained that WisDOT had been considering restructuring the STBG program and decided to not go forward with that. As a result WisDOT was moving forward with the program a year late. That benefitted the MATPB as it allows us to program new projects this year rather than waiting until next year because the CTH M was initiated and the funding for that project doesn't count against our allocation anymore. However, WisDOT is proposing not to include last year's funding in the MPO allocations and WisDOT also is still saying we can't fund the Madison ped/bike safety project. Staff believes that as a TMA (large MPO), WisDOT cannot alter MATPB's allocation. Schaefer said he has sought assistance from FHWA in resolving the issues. The new funding will need to be allocated to projects as part of approval of the 2019-2023 TIP. The two projects that scored highest last year and which the MPO conditionally approved are University Avenue and Pleasant View Road Phase 1. Design and environmental work for both has begun. Schaefer said he hoped to have a resolution on the issues by the time of the August meeting.

**11. Update on the Coordinated Public Transit – Human Services Transportation Plan**

Schaefer provided an update to the revised schedule to complete the Coordinated Plan, and noted a local coordination meeting was scheduled for July 19<sup>th</sup> to gather input from a wide range of stakeholder groups.

**12. Presentation on Low Stress Bikeway Map Application Developed by MATPB Staff**

Deferred to next meeting.

**13. Appointment to MATPB-CARPC Workgroup**

Deferred to next meeting. Schaefer also noted that a member of the Board is needed to represent the MPO on the Dane County Specialized Transportation Commission.

#### **14. Status Report on Capital Area RPC Activities**

Palm said that the next workgroup meeting was scheduled for July 23rd. He reported that the subject of staff co-location was still being discussed. Once a permanent MPO Chair was elected there should be another meeting to start prioritizing recommendations. Schaefer also noted the workgroup needed to discuss how to communicate information to local officials and get their feedback in terms of prioritizing some of the recommendations.

#### **15. Status Report on Studies and Plans Involving the MATPB**

None

#### **16. Discussion of Future Work Items**

None

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

Schaefer stated he was considering adding the Board members emails to the MPO website. Palm suggested that the MPO look into creating an "All Board" email address similar to the city. Schaefer also mentioned that the City of Stoughton will host an MPO Board outreach meeting in November.

The next meeting of the MPO Board is scheduled to be held Wednesday, August 1, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. at the Madison Water Utility, 119 E. Olin Avenue, Rooms A-B.

#### **18. Adjournment**

Moved by Opitz, seconded by Stravinski, to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:37 PM.