

Greater Madison MPO
Technical Coordinating Committee
Meeting Minutes

September 25, 2024

[Virtual Meeting via Zoom](#)

2:00 p.m.

1. Roll Call

Members present: Blau, Bruun, Clark, Dietz, Forlenza, Grady (for Tuttle), Mountford, Petykowski (arrived during item #3), Salmon (for Vieth), Schmid, Schreiber, Sivertson, Stauske, Violante

Members absent: Cruz, Kahler, Husen, Igl, Larson, Munz-Pritchard, Tao, Thao, Wheeler

MPO Staff present: Andros, Holloway, Kanning

Other present in official capacity: Art Sommerfield, WisDOT; Greg Hall, DeForest (arrived during item #3); Julia Pooler, Carbon Leadership Forum

2. Approval of July 24, 2024, Meeting Minutes

Blau moved, Dietz seconded, to approve the July 24, 2024, meeting minutes. Motion carried.

3. Committee Member Reports

- City of Middleton (Stauske): Middleton's new zoning code has been completed and put in place. The City's Planning Department won an award for the new zoning code from the American Planning Association (APA). We are in our budget season with lots of projects that have wrapped up and others that have not yet started.
- City of Monona (Bruun): The City of Monona has been working on putting together an LED streetlight conversion manual and getting the streetlight conversion project bid out. The project received grant funding through the federal Carbon Reduction Program (CRP). Monona is only bidding out for the materials, MGE will provide the labor through a maintenance contract with the City. The City got no bids on the project after it was initially let out and is revising the manual and preparing to bid it out again.

Bruun suggested including a discussion of best practices, successes, and challenges in bidding out CRP project work as a topic for a future TCC meeting. Stauske noted that Middleton has faced the same types of obstacles. Andros asked Bruun who at WisDOT Monona has been working with. Bruun said that the City has been working with Lorraine Betzel (SW Region Office).
- Village of DeForest (Blau): The Village of DeForest is currently building sanitary sewer across the Interstate and then north. We had an issue going north across CTH V that has resulted in delays. If you're traveling through DeForest on CTH V, you'll have to take a detour up north onto CTH DM and then back down.
- Madison Metro (Mountford): Metro launched our first bus rapid transit (BRT) route last Sunday. I encourage everyone to check it out.
- City of Sun Prairie (Salmon): Salmon introduced himself, noting his new role as Transportation Coordinator for the City of Sun Prairie and his previous role as Janesville MPO Coordinator. He

said that the City is applying for a Reconnecting Communities grant to build an overpass over US 151.

- Village of Waunakee (Dietz): A construction project on STH 113 going north out of town, in conjunction with WisDOT, has been ongoing throughout most of the summer. The project had been delayed earlier in the year due to fish spawning season and it has impacted local businesses. We're hoping to have that project done in the next week or two. One sticking point in the community was that the public information meetings for the project were held 4 years ago, prior to the pandemic, so when the project started, many of the people who had been notified years ago had moved away and many of the new residents had received no notice prior to the beginning of construction.

4. Chair and Vice Chair Election

Blau nominated, Bruun seconded, Stauske to be renewed as Committee Chair. Dietz nominated herself for Committee Chair. Dietz was elected unanimously as the new Committee Chair, effective at the next committee meeting.

Stauske nominated Bruun for Vice Chair. With no other nominations and no objections, Bruun accepted the nomination for Vice Chair.

5. Low-Carbon Materials Grant Presentation and Discussion

Julia Pooler, Carbon Leadership Forum-Wisconsin, presented on low carbon building materials and FHWA's Low-Carbon Transportation Materials (LCTM) Grant Program. She noted that while some low-carbon materials are cutting edge new technologies, many others are already being widely used. She said that LCTM program funding can be used for process development and incentives/reimbursements for the use of LCTM in Title 23 construction projects.

She outlined a proposed approach to applying for the grant, with the Greater Madison MPO serving as the applicant and managing the distribution of funding to municipalities; a consultant handling the required process plans and reports, municipal outreach and education, coordination with WisDOT and other activities; and MPO Area municipalities providing feedback for the implementation plan, using and documenting the use of LCTM on their projects, and implementing processes for materials identification, environmental product declarations (EPDs), QA, and procurement.

She asked committee members to identify at least one project in their communities that could be included in a grant application as potential candidates for the use of LCTM in their construction and emphasized that the projects are not limited to small-scale pilot/test projects. In addition, she asked that they consider what level of staff time or contractor support would be necessary to update their processes to begin using LCTM in construction projects.

Stauske asked how the cost-effectiveness of different type of LCTM treatments are evaluated. Pooler responded that those evaluations will be a part of process development, and that there are already many well-established products that have been documented to have much lower carbon footprints. The available funding can pay for both the process development part—to determine the carbon impacts and cost differentials of LCTM—and any additional marginal cost associated with using LCTM in place of conventional materials.

Bruun asked about whether the LCTM grant would consider the lifecycle carbon emissions of different materials—e.g., a very low-carbon material that needs much more frequent replacement, resulting in higher overall carbon emissions over the long term. Pooler replied that pilot projects assessing durability of lower carbon alternatives would be an allowable expense but that, while the program allows pilot

projects using innovative materials, it is also completely acceptable to use the funding to just pay the marginal cost of well-established LCTM alternatives that are already widely used.

6. Review and Recommendation on Draft 2025-2029 Transportation Improvement Program for the Madison Metropolitan Area and Dane County

Kanning reviewed the draft 2025-2029 TIP, that was before the TCC at the July meeting, and the changes to STBG-U project funding levels proposed by staff. He said that MPO staff were requesting the TCC recommend approval of the draft 2025-2029 TIP, including all changes listed in the addition/change sheet, to the Policy Board.

Bruun asked whether another amendment could be made to accommodate changes to the City of Monona's Nichols Road project that would entail higher costs. Kanning replied that a new funding cycle will begin next year, and that Monona could then amend its currently approved project to allow for those changes. He noted that it is possible additional funding will become available due to currently scheduled projects coming in under budget or that the MPO's funding allocation will increase between now and 2029, when the project is scheduled for construction.

Bruun motioned, Salmon seconded, to recommend approval of the Draft 2025-2029 Transportation Improvement Program for the Madison Metropolitan Area and Dane County. Motion carried.

7. Staff Report

- **MPO Hiring Update**
Andros noted that the MPO has received a sufficient number of applications to begin interviews for the staff position left vacant by Colleen Hoesly's departure from the MPO.
- **MPO Planning Area Boundary**
Andros showed the recently revised MPO urban area and the proposed planning area boundary. The most significant change involves the inclusion of the Village of Mt. Horeb in the MPO planning area.
- **Charging and Fueling Infrastructure (CFI) Grant**
Dane County's CFI grant application was approved. The County will receive about \$13 million to install EV charging infrastructure in key locations around the County.
- **Public Participation Plan (PPP) Amendment**
The amendment to the PPP, that would shorten the required public comment period on major TIP amendments to 15 from 30 days, was approved by the Policy Board at their most recent meeting.
- **Draft 2024-2028 Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan**
The Coordinated Plan has been updated and the draft is available for review on the MPO's website.

8. Next Scheduled Meeting Date

- The next meeting is scheduled for October 23rd.

9. Adjournment

Stauske adjourned the meeting at 3:20 p.m.