

**Greater Madison Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)
October 12, 2022 Meeting Minutes**

[Virtual Meeting hosted via Zoom](#)

Opitz called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

1. Roll Call and Introductions

Members present: Phil Caravello, Paul Esser, Steve Flottmeyer, Grant Foster (joined at item #5), Tom Lynch, Jerry Mandli, Mark Opitz, Nasra Wehelie, Kristi Williams, Doug Wood

Members absent: Richelle Andrae, Barbara Harrington-McKinney

MPO staff present: Bill Schaefer, Zia Brucaya

Others present in an official capacity: Diane Paoni (WisDOT Planning)

2. Approval of September 7, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Williams moved, Wehelie seconded, to approve September 7, 2022 meeting minutes. Motion carried.

3. Communications

The meeting packet included an email from Steve Steinhoff, Director of the Capital Area Regional Planning Commission (CARPC), providing a brief report on CARPC's recent activities. This written update will replace the agenda item previously included in MPO policy board meetings. Schaefer noted that the CARPC board approved funding for 25% of the outreach and communications specialist position that the MPO is targeting to hire in the second quarter of 2023.

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

None

5. MPO 2022 Resolution No. 8 Adopting the 2023-2027 Transportation Improvement Program for the Madison Metropolitan Area & Dane County

Schaefer reviewed revisions to the STBG-Urban priority projects table, which shows recent changes to funding levels and project schedules that staff are proposing in red, based on meetings with local project sponsors and a review of cost estimates. The schedule for projects is still draft until WisDOT confirms there is sufficient funding in years projects are programmed. Schaefer explained that costs for some projects needed to be increased to more accurately and consistently reflect state costs for construction engineering and review, as well as contingency costs. The table includes these cost increases along with proposed associated STBG-Urban funding increases of approximately \$260,000 across four projects, which would be removed from the John Nolen Drive project. Schaefer mentioned the additional change for the Stoughton project that was emailed to board members after it was discovered storm water facility cost had mistakenly been omitted. Schaefer then highlighted the biggest changes shown in the "Addition/Change Sheet," which mostly includes technical corrections. He said the MPO Technical Committee recommended approval of the draft TIP with the changes reflected in the Addition/Change sheet, aside from one change to the City of Stoughton project that staff had not yet made when the TC reviewed.

Williams moved, Wood seconded, to adopt with the draft TIP with the changes reflected in the Addition/Change sheet dated 10/6/22. Motion carried.

6. Approval to Release Draft 2023 MPO Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) for Review and Comment

Schaefer reviewed the summary of the draft 2023 UPWP included in the board packet and highlighted key projects. Highlights include implementing planning-related recommendations from the recently adopted RTP; creating a new MPO Planning Area boundary and roadway functional classification system based on the 2020 Census urban area boundary that will be released later this year; developing a regional resiliency plan; adopting an MPO complete streets policy; assisting communities with active transportation planning; and taking the lead with Metro to oversee an on-board passenger survey in the spring. Staff expects to have a regular STBG-Urban application cycle for FY 2027-2028 funding and is hoping for additional cycles for the TAP and Carbon Reduction programs to start before the end of this year or early next year. The MPO just released an RFP to develop a regional comprehensive safety action plan and implementation grant application next year, and is starting work on a regional electric vehicle planning study. Staff will also resume work on the Transit Development Plan; support major corridor planning studies; and provide ongoing support for BRT.

Lynch said that measuring vehicle miles of travel (VMT) is critical to the City of Madison and is a reporting metric included in several plans. Schaefer said that the MPO will be using Streetlight Data to measure this for the city, county, and some sub-areas. Lynch requested that this be added as a bullet in the UPWP.

Lynch moved, Williams seconded, to release the Draft 2023 MPO UPWP for review and comment, with the addition of a reference to seeking to develop a methodology for measuring annual VMT for the county and city of Madison. Motion carried.

7. Review and Recommendation on Draft 2023 MPO Budget

Schaefer said that the MPO board approves the work program and the City of Madison approves the budget, but staff has the board make a recommendation on the budget to the city. He then reviewed the draft 2023 MPO budget included in the board packet and pointed out major items. The budget reflects a 23% increase from 2022 due to the increase in federal Planning funding.

Wood moved, Wehelie seconded, to recommend approval of the Draft 2023 MPO Budget to the City of Madison Common Council. Motion carried.

8. Letter of Support for City of Madison's Planning Grant Application under the New Federal Reconnecting Communities Grant Program

Schaefer said that the city is applying for a planning grant to study the Perry Street connection over the Beltline. The connection is recommended in the city's new South Madison Plan, and identified in the MPO's regional transportation plan as a key missing link for bicyclists and pedestrians. It is an important project from an equity standpoint.

Opitz commented that the first sentence of the second paragraph sounds pejorative and requested rephrasing. He also commented that in the second to last paragraph, the Perry Street crossing would be the fifth Beltline crossing, not third.

Williams moved, Opitz seconded, to approve the letter of support for the City of Madison's application to the Reconnecting Communities grant program, with edit to second paragraph to delete reference to

neighborhoods around the proposed overpass as ranking among the worst in the region in low-stress bicycle accessibility, and instead say that the 2018 MPO staff analysis revealed that the neighborhoods, “would benefit the most in terms of increased job accessibility from improvements to low-stress bicycle infrastructure in the area, including this overpass.” Motion carried.

9. Presentation on MPO’s RoundTrip Travel Demand Management (TDM) Program

Brucaya presented on the RoundTrip program, providing background information and discussing current initiatives and ideas for use of rollover/extra funding in 2023-2024. The RoundTrip program was rebranded in Fall 2021 and the MPO has been developing new marketing and educational resources over the past year. A major current project is working with WisDOT and the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SEWRPC) to switch vendors for the statewide rideshare platform, which the MPO manages in Dane County under RoundTrip. The new platform is set to launch in January 2023 and will provide better tools to support ridesharing and other transportation options in the region. With rollover funding in 2023, the MPO is considering developing a mini-grant pilot program for employers to implement TDM strategies, and launching a regional promotional event in the fall to build public awareness of transportation options. Ideas for 2024 include developing a new strategic plan for the TDM program, and launching a residential-focused initiative.

10. Announcements and Schedule of Future Meetings

MPO/CARPC Open House at our office: Thursday, October 20, 2022, 4-6 p.m.

The recent MPO Complete Streets webinar was well attended. The slides and recording are posted on the MPO website.

Next MPO Board Meeting: Wednesday, November 2, 2022, 6:30 p.m.

11. Adjournment

Williams moved, Wehelie seconded, to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 7:42 p.m.