

**Greater Madison Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)
October 4, 2023 Meeting Minutes**

[Virtual Meeting hosted via Zoom](#)

Opitz called the meeting to order at 6:31 PM.

1. Roll Call and Introductions

Members present: , Phil Caravello, John Duncan, Pam Dunphy, Paul Esser, Derek Field, Steve Flottmeyer, Barbara Harrington-McKinney, Tom Lynch, Mark Opitz, Kristi Williams, Doug Wood

Members absent: Charles Myadze, Richelle Andrae

MPO staff present: Alex Andros, Ben Lyman, David Kanning, Colleen Hoesly

Others present in an official capacity: None.

2. Approval of September 6, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Williams moved, Wood seconded, to approve the September 6, 2023 meeting minutes. Motion carried.

3. Communications

- Letter from WisDOT approving Amendment No. 5 to the 2023-2027 Transportation Improvement Program for the Madison Metropolitan Area & Dane County to add the USH 18/151 (CTH G to STH 69) Ramp/Auxiliary Lane and Bridge Widening Project.

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

None.

5. Review and Recommendation on Scoring and Proposed Funding of STBG-Transportation Alternatives (TAP) Set Aside Project Applications

Lyman noted that the MPO has sufficient funding available to fund all nine eligible applications at 65% across the board, and at 80% for those eligible to receive the higher percentage. Staff recommends funding these TAP projects at 65% federal share instead of the MPO's typical 60% federal share, in order to avoid carryover and be consistent with recent changes to the MPO's STBG-U funding policy. Lyman noted that WisDOT has approved waiving the minimum project cost for the Rectangular Rapid Flash Beacon (RRFB) project in Verona, as it can be considered "installation" instead of construction.

Wood asked if there is something unique about the RRFB project. Lyman stated that the MPO has a history of approving funding for corridor projects that include RRFBs, but that this project is unique in being a standalone RRFB installation. The project is also located at a key pedestrian crossing with access to five different schools. It is more expensive because it requires additional work to modify the intersection design for pedestrian safety. This would be the first TAP-funded project in Verona.

Williams moved, Field seconded, to approve the scoring and proposed funding of the STBG-Transportation Alternatives (TAP) set aside project applications. Motion carried.

6. Review and Approve Revised STBG-Urban Priority Projects

Andros stated that the MPO received its preliminary STBG-Urban allocation from WisDOT and will receive an estimated total of \$32.845 million for the 2025-2029 program cycle, which is larger than the \$17 million originally anticipated. She reviewed a marked-up version of the draft *2024 - 2029 Madison Area STBG Urban Program - Currently Approved and Proposed New Priority Projects* table included in the board packet, with changes reflecting the new estimated funding allocation. Changes include funding for projects previously not approved, as well as increasing funding levels for approved projects.

Harrington-McKinney asked why the Raymond Road project was not recommended to receive funding from the additional allocation. Andros noted that the project did not score well originally compared to the other projects.

Esser moved, Duncan seconded, to approve the revised STBG-Urban priority projects. Motion carried.

7. MPO 2023 Resolution No. 10 Adopting the 2024-2028 Transportation Improvement Program for the Madison Metropolitan Area & Dane County

Kanning reviewed the Addition/Change Sheet dated 9/27/23, included in the board packet. The sheet includes the revised STBG-Urban priority projects approved by the board under the previous agenda item, as well as the TAP projects approved under agenda item 5.

Esser moved, Williams seconded, to approve MPO 2023 Resolution No. 10 Adopting the 2024-2028 Transportation Improvement Program for the Madison Metropolitan Area & Dane County. Motion carried.

8. Approval to Release Draft 2023 MPO Title VI Non-Discrimination Program and Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Plan (Title VI Plan) for Review and Comment

Lyman highlighted a note in the cover sheet for this agenda item that requests completed self-identification forms from Policy Board members who have not yet submitted one. These are required in order to complete the plan. WisDOT staff have reviewed the draft plan and confirmed that it meets the technical requirements.

Esser moved, Williams seconded, to approve release of the Draft 2023 MPO Title VI Plan for review and comment. Motion carried.

9. Review and Recommendation on CRRSSA & ARPA Section 5310 Funding Process and Disbursement

Lyman noted that the MPO previously approved funding for a project that was unable to be obligated within the funding period, leaving the MPO with \$38,379 in available un-obligated Section 5310 supplemental apportionments from CRRSAA and ARPA. Because the MPO received no applications for eligible projects in the 2023 solicitation for Section 5310 funding, staff proposes to distribute these funds to current Section 5310 recipients who are already completing necessary federal reporting for the program. See memorandum in the board packet dated September 12, 2023 for more information.

Williams moved, Field seconded, to approve the proposed method of distributing available funding, without modification. Motion carried.

10. Approval to Release Draft 2024 MPO Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) for Review and Comment

Andros noted that the UPWP includes numerous continuing work items in addition to several new items.

Lynch stated that Alder Slack is interested in a transportation survey and that the MPO had previously conducted a supplemental survey to the National Household Travel Survey (NHTS). Andros said that the next NHTS survey will occur in 2025, which will align well with preparing for the next RTP (regional transportation plan). Lynch noted that the UPWP includes selecting a consultant for the future on-board survey, so it could include a similar work item that foreshadows the future supplemental survey. Lynch also noted that many city plans include the goal of reducing vehicle miles traveled (VMT), and that the MPO used Streetlight Data last year to calculate VMT and documented dramatic results. VMT is a performance measure that he is accountable for but does not have the staff capacity to track. It is also a performance measure that could be of interest to everyone in the meeting, as a benchmark for the many plans in the region focused on improving non-drive-alone modes. Andros stated that the UPWP includes an item for tracking performance measures, but that VMT could be identified specifically. Hoesly noted that the MPO does collect VMT as part of its performance measures dashboard and plans on looking at Madison VMT. Staff can certainly drill down to VMT for other specific areas. Field asked whether the idea of exploring commuter parking options in outlying areas along the BRT route that was discussed at a past meeting was included. Andros said that staff had identified a countywide parking study as a potential project, but that it is not in the 2024 UPWP; it could be included in 2025.

Wood moved, Esser seconded, to approve the release of the Draft 2024 MPO Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) for review and comment. Motion carried.

11. Review and Recommendation on Draft 2024 MPO Budget

Andros reviewed the budget table included in the board packet and noted that the numbers may change a bit as the budget process continues, due to the number of agencies involved. The format presented follows past budget proposals.

Lynch asked whether the MPO is maximizing its federal share. Andros stated yes, the MPO is using its full federal share, including rollover from 2023 that will be used in 2024.

Esser moved, Williams seconded, to recommend approval of the 2024 MPO budget by the city of Madison. Motion carried.

12. Status Report on Capital Area RPC Activities

Andros noted the list of updates in the board packet and highlighted that the commission is recruiting for a new executive director. The current director, Steve Steinhoff, will retire in January.

13. Announcements and Schedule of Future Meetings

Next MPO Board Meetings:

- Wednesday, November 1st, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. (Remote meeting via Zoom)
- Wednesday, December 6th, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. (Remote meeting via Zoom)

14. Adjournment

Wood moved, Williams seconded, to adjourn. The motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:29 p.m.