

**Greater Madison MPO**  
**Technical Coordinating Committee**  
**Meeting Minutes**

***November 15, 2023***

***Virtual Meeting via Zoom***

***2:00 p.m.***

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**1. Roll Call**

***Members present:*** Aulik, Blau, Brunn, Dunphy, Forlenza, Hall, Holt, Koprowski, Mountford, Petykowski, Stouder, Stauske, Tao, Thao, Violante, Brown

***Members absent:*** Cruz, Kahler, Larson, Scheel, Semmann, Wheeler

***MPO Staff present:*** Andros, Hoesly, Holloway

***Other present in official capacity:*** From SRF Consulting for the Safety Study: Bitzan, Chellevoid, Kuehl

**2. Approval of September 27, 2023 Meeting Minutes**

Tao moved, Blau seconded, to approve the September 27, 2023 meeting minutes. Motion carried.

**3. Committee Member Reports**

- Madison: The City has adopted its 2024 budget. We are finishing up many projects right now, we are trying to get a lot of traffic lights, streetlights, and stop signs up before winter sets in. We are also working on our annual process to determine which intersections should be signalized (Traffic Signal Priority List). We're engaging the public in the process and it should be complete by early next year.

University Avenue project is ongoing. There will be a winter shutdown after Thanksgiving, during which it will open back up to three lanes in each direction but very shortly thereafter, BRT work will start on two new stations in the project area. The project will require four to six weeks of additional construction work in the spring.

The Atwood project is done. Just some punch list and restoration work remaining.

The Autumn Ridge project is up on WisDOT's website and will be open for bids on December 12.

The City, and surrounding areas, are continuing to see growth and development interest. We are seeing record numbers of housing units coming through our development processes. It is unclear if financing issues will slow the pace of this growth. The City recently updated its population forecasts, and now expects 115,000 new residents by 2050. The City's current population has also been updated to about 286,000.

- Middleton: The Pleasant View Road project, involving Madison and Middleton, will be on winter shutdown soon, during which it will open up to two lanes in each direction. Construction work will resume in the spring and should be completed in June.

Next year Parmenter Street will be rebuilt north of Century Avenue. The budget is expected to be adopted soon. We have a lot of projects on our plate for next year. We are getting caught up with our reconstructions and hopefully after that we will be able to focus on resurfacing projects.

The City's zoning code rewrite is also nearing completion.

- Monona: We are still waiting on the final agreement from WisDOT for the Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) grant that we received. We are also wondering if any other communities have also experienced delays receiving their final agreements for CRP grants as well. We are working with WisDOT to get approval for the LED fixtures we are planning to install with the CRP funding. DOT's approved fixtures are all higher voltage units suited to use on highways but we are planning to install these on local roads.

Monona asked WisDOT whether they could receive partial reimbursement of the funds that were to be spent in 2023, and was told that it had to be all or nothing, but now that the agreement has been delayed and everything will be done in 2024 that will be unnecessary. However, if WisDOT would allow partial reimbursement, it would provide communities with more flexibility and the ability to complete more projects.

Stauske noted that Middleton is dealing with the same issues, waiting on the final agreement and needing approval for fixtures appropriate on local roads.

Hoesly stated that the MPO would contact the WisDOT SW Region office to see whether there is anything that can be done to speed the process along.

Tao noted that Madison is also waiting on a final agreement with WisDOT.

- DeForest: River Road project (collaborative effort with Windsor) is wrapping up. New stop signs that have been ordered should be arriving soon. When they arrive we will be making the intersection of North Town and Vinburn Road a 4-way stop.
- Dane County: CTH M's 4-lane expansion from Oncken to STH 113 is under construction. We have had some road closures on CTH K due to utility work, and we have some closures coming on CTH M as well. The CTH M project should be completed next fall.

#### **4. Election of Committee Chair and Vice Chair**

Blau nominated, Tao seconded, Stauske to be renewed as Committee Chair. With no other nominations and no objections, Stauske accepted the nomination to remain Committee Chair for the next term.

Bruun nominated, Blau seconded, Tao to be renewed as Vice Chair. With no other nominations and no objections, Tao accepted the nomination to remain Committee Vice Chair for the next term.

#### **5. Update Presentation on the Greater Madison Regional Safety Action Plan**

Kuehl and Bitzan presented on the Greater Madison Regional Safety Action Plan.

Hoesly said the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) implementation grant application period, which had been expected to commence in April 2024, will begin in February 2024.

Chellevoid then discussed the SS4A grants. He noted that the application window usually lasts about 100 days so applications will likely have to be submitted no later than sometime in June. That would mean commitments would have to be made no later than May. He noted that nearly 100% of the grant applications for supplemental and demonstration projects have been approved, while less than 20% of implementation grant applications have been successful.

Hoesly said that, since it is unlikely that communities would have time to submit implementation grant applications in FY 2024, the MPO is interested in hearing from committee members about their thoughts as to whether they would be interested in submitting for supplemental/demonstration projects next year or whether they would prefer to focus on submitting a supplemental/demonstration or implementation grant application. The Policy Board has not ruled out submitting an application next year if there are

projects identified and it is possible, given the timeframe. Hoesly said that the MPO would like to know by December 1<sup>st</sup> if there is interest in submitting an application in 2024.

Stauske said he was skeptical that Middleton could be ready for a 2024 application, even if there was available funding and interest on the part of the Council due to the short timeline and the process required to adjust planned projects and get local match funding approved.

Tao said that City of Madison Traffic Engineering already has funding authorized to pursue grant applications so the City has enough available funding to go after SS4A grants, and that if another community has similar funding available it may be possible to partner to submit a joint application in 2024.

However, he also agreed with Stauske that for most communities submitting a 2024 application would likely be difficult.

Tao said that after the City's successful past SS4A application, it took a while to hear back from USDOT but once they were engaged with FHWA, the whole process took 2-3 months to get all of the agreements signed. Tao thanked Forlenza and others at the local FHWA office for their assistance during the process.

Paul noted that there are three more years of SS4A grants, so even if an application is not submitted in 2024, there would still be time to submit a supplemental/demonstration grant in 2025, and an implementation grant in 2026.

Hoesly will be sending emails out to TCC members asking them to submit their community's preference for submitting an application in 2024 or waiting until 2025.

## **6. Presentation and Recommendation to Release Draft Dane County Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Plan**

Holloway reviewed the purpose and scope of the plan and the initial findings, which were presented to the TCC at the March, 2023 meeting, and then presented on the County's charging needs, priority locations for level 2 and level 3 charging infrastructure, and recommendations.

Stauske suggested reaching out to non-profit environmental groups like 350.org and others to publicize the plan, in addition to policy makers and local officials. He also suggested that model EV-friendly zoning ordinances could be helpful to communities.

Volante suggested planners, both public sector and private sector consultants, as a target audience. Sustainability coordinators are another group that could help push the information out to the rest of their organizations.

## **7. Staff Reports**

- 2024-2026 TIP was approved at the most recent Policy Board meeting, it is now posted on the MPO website.
- MPO staff is looking into some potential changes to the TIP process:
  - Moving to a 2-year update cycle instead of annual updates.
  - Moving to an e-TIP platform that would be entirely online.
- MPO staff is recommending that available supplemental ARPA and CRISSA section 5310 funding be split evenly between the three nonprofit organizations that submitted applications for the funding. An amended program of projects and TIP amendment will be considered by the Policy Board at their December meeting.
- The MPO's Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) was approved at the November Policy Board meeting. That should be posted to the MPO website tomorrow.
- The MPO's Title VI plan was also approved at the Board's November meeting.

- The MPO staff continues to work on updating the draft urban area boundary and has met with a few local agencies, and will be reaching out to the rest of the local agencies, to review the draft boundary and provide comments. We anticipate bringing the adjusted boundary to the TCC for approval in January.
- There is an MPO-CARPC webinar tomorrow on the connection between transportation, land use, and housing. We have close to 200 registrants at this point.

**8. Next Scheduled Meeting Date**

- Wednesday, January 24<sup>th</sup>

**9. Adjournment**

Stauske adjourned the meeting at 3:27 p.m.