

**Greater Madison Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)  
May 1, 2024, Meeting Minutes**

[Virtual Meeting hosted via Zoom](#)

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Opitz called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

**1. Roll Call and Introductions**

**Members present:** Kristi Williams, Liz Callin, Tom Lynch, Paul Esser, Doug Wood, Phil Caravello, Charles Myadze, Steve Flottmeyer, Richelle Andrae, and Pam Dunphy

**Members excused:** Derek Field, Barbara Harrington-McKinney, and John Duncan

**MPO staff present:** Alex Andros, Colleen Hoesly, Ben Lyman

**Others present in an official capacity:** none

**2. Approval of April 3, 2024, Meeting Minutes**

Williams moved in approval with one edit underneath item 11. Wood seconded, to approve the April 3, 2024, meeting minutes with the suggested edit. Motion carried.

**3. Communications**

Mayor O'Connor of Monona sent a letter to the MPO regarding the Nichols Avenue project, requesting the project be moved to a later date.

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

Kristi Williams asked if other board members receive a stipend for attending MPO Policy Board meetings. Opitz says people don't receive a stipend for attending policy board meetings.

**5. Approval to Release for Public Review and Comment Proposed Major Amendment to 2024-2028 Transportation Improvement Program and to add a new federally funded Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) project.**

Andros explained that the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) needs to be amended to add a project sponsored by the City of Madison. The City of Madison was awarded over \$6 million in Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) funding. The TIP needs to be amended whenever a project over \$7 million is added.

Staff recommends sending out a notice for a public hearing notice regarding the TIP Amendment. Kristi Williams moved, Esser seconded, to send the public hearing notice. Motion carried.

**6. MPO 2024 Resolution No. 5 Approving Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment No. 3 to the 2024-2028 TIP for the Madison Metropolitan Area & Dane County**

- Revise the City of Madison’s East Rusk Shared-Use Path Project, advancing funding obligation from 2028 to 2027.
- Revise the City of Madison’s Moorland Road Shared-Use Path Project, advancing funding obligation from 2028 to 2027.
- Revise the City of Madison’s West Beltline Frontage Road Shared-Use Path Project, moving funding obligation from 2028 to 2029, with the potential to advance it to 2028 if obligation authority exists.

Ben Lyman explained that after all three projects received funding, City of Madison staff came back and said they could not complete these projects at the same time due to staffing capacity. After looking at our obligation and expenditure authority and working with the Wisconsin Department of Transportation and City of Madison staff, we created a schedule that worked for both the City of Madison and the MPO.

Wood moved, Caravello seconded, to adopt MPO 2024 Resolution No. 5 approving TIP Amendment No. 3 to the 2024-2024 TIP for the Madison Metropolitan Area and Dane County. Motion carried.

**7. MPO 2024 Resolution No. 6 Amendment to the 2024 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)**

Lyman said that Metro applied and received a grant under the Areas of Persistent Poverty Program. However, we were not specific enough in our Work Program according to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). The FTA wants this Metro grant to be in our Work Program, which will allow Metro to access those funds.

Tom Lynch says that the City of Madison is using some of this funding in our North-South BRT project.

Myadze moved, Williams seconded, to adopt MPO Resolution No. 6 Amendment to the 2024 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). Motion carried.

**8. Presentation on Draft Regional Safety Action Plan and Approval to Release for Public Comment**

Hoesly provided a presentation on the Draft Regional Safety Action Plan. She gave an overview of the plan, as well as the Safe Systems Approach, which is the holistic strategy that aims to reduce death and serious injury on roads. The contents of the plan focus on the “Safe Roads” element of the Safe Systems Approach, which says roads are designed to accommodate human mistakes, encourage safe behavior, and reduce crash severity and frequency.

In September, the Board concluded that our Vision Zero goal is to have zero roadway fatalities and serious injuries on regional roadways by 2040. The plan aims to help us meet this goal and focuses on vulnerable roadway users, especially bicyclists and pedestrians. The goals of the plan are to (1) elevate the need to address safety improvements for all users across the regional transportation system, (2) collaborate with partner agencies in a shared mission to improve transportation safety and create a culture of safe driving behavior, and (3) invest in equitable transportation safety improvements.

Hoesly also shared the feedback the MPO received on the Regional Transportation Plan, along with the City of Madison’s feedback on Vision Zero programming and Dane County Traffic Safety Commission’s focus group and survey results.

Lynch asked if the MPO's high-injury network aligns with the City of Madison's. Hoesly explained that the MPO's high-injury network includes a few more black-box contextual details than Madison's, but they are relatively similar.

Hoesley explained the process of prioritizing investment locations. Equity areas will be prioritized over other areas.

Myadze asked if the plan considers areas that might have high crashes in the future. Hoesley explained this data analysis is primarily focused on the crashes that occurred from 2017 to 2020.

Hoesley outlined the next steps following the plan's adoption, including developing a regional application for funding for the Safe Streets and Roads for All Program. Tom Lynch mentions communities are beginning to create their budgets, so now is the time to start thinking about this since the funding may not be around forever. Andros says the MPO could consider creating a matching fund for these sorts of opportunities in the future. Lynch likes this idea and says that communities struggle with creating their operating budgets. Communities may be able to contribute capital dollars more easily than operating dollars.

Opitz asks for presentation to be shared with Board members via email. Esser makes the motion to release the plan for public comment. Williams seconded. Motion carried.

#### **9. Discussion and Possible Action: MPO 2024 Resolution No. 7 MPO Comments on WisDOT's I-39/90/94 Project Concurrence Point 2- Recommended Preferred Alternative**

Andros says the MPO's recommendation is to remain neutral on WisDOT's recommendation for I-39/90/94 freeway modernization and the added general-purpose lane. We concur with all other WisDOT recommendations. The MPO supports bike and pedestrian connectivity in DeForest and Madison's identified priority bike and pedestrian connectivity, as well as the use of noise mitigation wherever appropriate. Andros also encourages Travel Demand Madison and Transportation System Management strategies to be included during project construction.

Hoesley says the MPO took into account the organization's goals for the region, as well as other communities' comments when making these decisions.

Esser moved, Myadze seconded, to approve these recommendations. Motion carried.

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

Andros says CARPC approved two urban service area amendments in DeForest. CARPC received bronze-level recognition from SolSmart for their efforts in promoting solar energy in Dane County.

#### **11. Staff Reports**

Andros says that we have more engagement on Facebook following the release of the MPO's Annual Report.

The MPO is continuing to work on the organization's strategic plan. The strategic plan is more staff-focused but includes a survey from the MPO Policy Board.

## **12. Adjournment**

Next MPO Board Meeting: Wednesday, June 5, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. (Remote meeting via Zoom)

Williams moved, Lynch seconded, to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:51 p.m.