

MPO 2024 Resolution No. 19
Amendment No. 1 to the 2021 Public
Participation Plan for the Greater Madison
MPO

WHEREAS, the Greater Madison MPO (Metropolitan Planning Organization) approved the 2021 Public Participation Plan on January 6, 2021; and

WHEREAS, an approved public participation plan is a requirement for receiving various Federal and state planning financial assistance; and

WHEREAS, the 2021 Public Participation Plan was developed to build upon past procedures and strategies, making use of lessons learned to improve the public involvement process and make use of new techniques, including use of social media, email newsletters, web-based mapping and public comment tools, and visualization tools; and

WHEREAS, the MPO has seen an increase in the number of major TIP amendments to be processed, and the current 30-day public comment period has presented an obstacle to timely project initiation; and

WHEREAS, an amendment is needed to reduce the public comment period for major amendments from 30 days to a minimum of 15 days, and to amend the public hearing notice recipient list; and

WHEREAS, an amendment is also needed to permit the MPO Policy Board and MPO Technical Coordinating Committee to continue to meet virtually; and

WHEREAS, a public comment period of 45 days was provided on the amendment and a notice of availability of the amendment was sent out to the MPO's contact list and posted to the MPO's website:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Greater Madison MPO approves Amendment No. 1 to the 2021 Public Participation Plan, incorporating the changes listed in the Change sheet, dated 9/26/24, which reduce the public comment period from 30 days to a minimum of 15 days, amend the public hearing notice recipient list, and permit the MPO Policy Board and MPO Technical Coordinating Committee to continue to meet virtually.

October 2, 2024



Mark Opitz, Chair
Greater Madison MPO

9/26/2024

Proposed Amendment to the 2021 Greater Madison MPO Public Participation Plan

Note: Proposed text additions underlined, proposed text deletions in ~~red strikethrough~~.

On Page 13: Meeting Schedule

The MPO Policy Board generally meets virtually monthly on the first Wednesday of the month, ~~currently at the Madison Water Utility Building, located at 119 E. Olin Ave., Madison, WI 53713,~~ beginning at 6:30 p.m.; at the discretion of the Chair, the Policy Board may meet in person at an accessible location with proper public notice. When there are insufficient agenda items for a meeting, the meeting may be canceled at the discretion of the Chair. If the regular meeting date is on or near a holiday, the meeting will be rescheduled or canceled.

On Page 14: Virtual Meetings

~~Virtual board meetings and public hearings are permissible where public health orders or guidance recommend against in-person meetings due to a pandemic or other health emergency.~~

~~Virtual board meetings may also be permissible in rare occurrences for a short, generally one item agenda meeting to address an urgent, non-controversial matter (e.g., minor TIP amendment).~~

~~In circumstances where virtual meetings are authorized and held, the meeting information will be posted on the MPO website at the time that the agenda is posted with details on how the public can access the meeting. Meeting information will also be distributed electronically.~~

During the Covid-19 pandemic, the MPO shifted from in-person meetings and public hearings to virtual meetings. The MPO Policy Board and Technical Coordinating Committee continue to meet and conduct official business, including hosting public hearings, virtually. Links and details on how the public can access the meeting and submit public comments will be posted on the MPO website at the time that the agenda is posted. Meeting information will also be distributed electronically.

Page 19: Major TIP Amendments

The process for major amendments is to send out a notice via email to chief elected officials of local units of government and clerks, MPO Policy Board Members, and individuals on the MPO Technical Coordinating Committee mailing list ~~local officials and others included in the notice for the annual TIP update and (2) post the memo and public hearing notice on the MPO website.~~ If the amendment pertains to a transit project, the notice will also be sent to Metro Transit and private transit operators in the county. In addition, the memo and public hearing notice will be posted on the MPO website.

A ~~30~~ minimum 15-day public comment period will be provided, and a public hearing held before the MPO Policy Board prior to adoption.