



La Crosse Area Planning Committee

Metropolitan Planning Organization
Serving the La Crosse/La Crescent Urbanized Area

Peter Fletcher, Director Jackie Eastwood, Transportation Planner
La Crosse County Administrative Center
212 6th St N ☎ Room 2300 ☎ La Crosse, WI 54601
PH: 608.785.6141 Website: <https://lacrossecounty.org/mpo>

DATE: **FEBRUARY 28, 2022**
TO: **COMMITTEE ON TRANSIT AND ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION**
FROM: **JACKIE EASTWOOD, LAPC STAFF**
SUBJECT: **MARCH 10, 2022 COMMITTEE MEETING NOTICE**

The meeting of the Committee on Transit and Active Transportation will be held on **Thursday, March 10, 2022 at 2:00 p.m. in person in Room 1700 and as a virtual meeting.** If you cannot attend in person, please use the information provided below to join the Teams meeting.

- 1. Approval of the minutes of the May 20, 2021 CTAT meeting.**
- 2. Ranking of Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) applications.**

Project presentations are scheduled as follows:

1. City of La Crosse Grand Crossing Trail
2. West Salem Safe Routes to School
3. Town of Shelby Goose Island Connector Trail
4. City of La Crosse Wagon Wheel Trail Link

- 3. Other updates and information items.**
 - a) **Transit service and facilities updates.**
 - b) **Bicycle/pedestrian facilities and events updates.**
- 4. Future agenda items.**
- 5. Adjourn, next meeting TBA.**

Microsoft Teams meeting

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If you need assistance participating in this meeting, please contact Jackie Eastwood at 608.785.6141 or at jeastwood@lacrossecounty.org as soon as possible.

Minutes and agendas for all LAPC committees can be found at: <https://lacrossecounty.org/mpo>.

Committee on Transit and Active Transportation

Rick Diermeier, Carolyn Dvorak, Jackie Eastwood, Robert Fisher,
Bob Gollnik, Charlie Handy, Krista Heinz, Rachel King, Jim Krueger, Jim Longhurst,
Sandy Sechrest, Francis Schelfhout, Cathy Van Maren, Voni Vegar, Kurt Wayne, Jack Zabrowski



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Minutes of Committee on Transit and Active Transportation Meeting, May 20, 2021

Minutes of the meeting of the CTAT held as a virtual meeting on Teams on Thursday, May 20, 2021 at 3:00 pm.

Members Present: Francis Schelfhout, Charlie Handy, Cathy Van Maren, Adam Lorentz, Rick Diermeier, Jim Longhurst, Krista Heinz. **Staff and Others Present:** Joe Kapper, Menno Schukkert, Jacob Sciammas, Peter Fletcher, Jackie Eastwood.

Peter Fletcher called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm.

1) Approval of minutes of the November 12, 2020 CTAT Meeting:

Charlie Handy motioned to approve the minutes of the November 12, 2020 meeting; Jim Longhurst seconded. All were in favor.

2) Regional Transit Development Plan for La Crosse MTU, Onalaska Shared Ride, and SMRT. Presentation by SRF Consulting:

Peter Fletcher introduced Joe Kapper and Menno Schukking, stating that SRF is the consulting firm that will be completing our regional transit development plan. What's different about this TDP from past TDPs is that it will consider service improvements for not only MTU but also Onalaska Shared Ride and SMRT.

Joe Kapper and Menno Schukking from SRF Consulting presented on the purpose, tasks, process, schedule, and deliverables of the TDP project. They provided a high-level overview of the MTU, Onalaska Shared Ride, and SMRT services and presented the goals for public engagement. Rick Diermeier suggested they engage with the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM) and local temp agencies. Cathy Van Maren asked if the scope of work included looking at the impact on carbon, especially since the County and City have resolutions to reduce carbon emissions. Joe responded that a reduction in carbon emissions will occur with reduced VMT from increased transit use and efficiencies in capital planning. Joe and Menno then engaged meeting participants in an exercise to identify goals and trade-offs. Two issues that came up included a lack of awareness of transit services by students and businesses moving out of areas served by transit.

3) La Crosse Drift Cycle bike share program:

Jacob Sciammas provided a status report of the new Drift Cycle bike sharing program in La Crosse. He stated that the program has been in effect roughly seven weeks. The bike stations were installed in the beginning of April at eight locations around downtown La Crosse. Although the program has been slow ramping up, they have seen where riders have gone as far north as Caledonia St and as far south as Fiesta Mexicana. Most rides are under 30 minutes, but some have been over four hours. They are now looking at barriers to use and COVID-related supply issues (getting locks, etc.). There has been some vandalism, but no major hiccups. Users have been pleased with the bikes and riders with their own bikes have been using the racks, which is encouraged. Jacob announced Bike to Work Day on Friday, May 21. They will have a presence by Downtown Mainstreet, offering snacks, drinks, and discounts on bike rentals.

4) Other updates and information items:

Jim Longhurst stated that many of the bike events have been cancelled, including Bike Fest. He is looking to find a new home for the Ride with the Mayor event that occurs annually.

Cathy Van Maren announced that September 22 is International Car Free Day. She is looking to have a Sustainable La Crosse bike ride and an open house featuring MTU, Drift Cycle, and others.

Jackie Eastwood stated that the city of la Crosse is close to finalizing the purchase of an easement through the Rivercrest Mobile Home Park on the south side. This will allow us to identify the locations and cost for signage to extend the Regional Route 1 bike route. Francis Schelfhout is coordinating with the Mississippi River Parkway Commission, which wants to realign the Mississippi River Trail closer to the river, to move the MRT to the Regional Route 1 through south La Crosse.

Rick Diermeier announced that Phase 2 of the Flyway Trail between Buffalo Town Park and the Great River Trail is underway. Bids have been let to conduct an engineering study.

5) Future agenda items:

- TDP
- Sign locations and estimated costs for Route 1 extension.

6) Adjourn; Next meeting TBA:

Rick Diermeier motioned to adjourn at 4:30 pm; Cathy Van Maren seconded. All were in favor.

Revised TAP Project Ranking Process and Criteria

Approved by the Committee on Transit and Active Transportation, November 12, 2020.

The LAPC ranking process has been revised to 1) simplify the ranking criteria; 2) align better the ranking criteria with the nature of TAP projects; 3) ensure a robust discussion of projects; and 4) include consideration of the WisDOT process, which ultimately determines final awards.

PROCESS

- 1) Applicants or a representative must present their projects to the CTAT. Each applicant will have up to 15 minutes per project for presentation and Q & A. If an applicant does not present its project(s), the project(s) will not be considered in the ranking by the CTAT. The project(s) will be placed at the bottom of the ranked list submitted to WisDOT. WisDOT considers the MPO ranking as a recommendation and performs its own statewide ranking process for final TAP awards.
- 2) Applicants, including those who are committee members, will be excused from the ranking process and discussion. Each project will be discussed by ranking members after its presentation (10 minutes). All projects will be discussed and compared by ranking members at the end of the process when the final ranking is determined. The total points available is 100.
- 3) Projects that receive the same number of points during the ranking process will be further evaluated by their feasibility, commitment to local design, quality of application, and project history of sponsor.

CRITERIA

The criteria are grouped into two main categories: 1) Regional concerns and priorities and 2) WisDOT selection committee considerations. Criteria may overlap, which would result in a natural weighting of overall important criteria.

Regional Priorities (60 points)

- Safety (20 points):
 - Addresses high crash/high crash rate location(s).
 - Provides enhanced crossings of major roads (4-lane, high-speed, high traffic).
 - Provides separated facilities—safety increases with distance from roadway.
 - Includes pedestrian/bicycle signal priority.
 - Reduces motor vehicle speeds and/or conflicts.
- Mobility (10 points):
 - Provides increased travel times through direct connections.
 - Removes barriers to travel.
 - Is multimodal.

- Accessibility (10 points):
 - Provides transfer opportunities between modes.
 - Goes beyond ADA requirements for facilities.
 - Provides curb ramps or flush transition between the street and the project.
- Connectivity (10 points):
 - Completes a gap in the network.
 - Creates a connection between communities.
 - Removes barriers to a continuous travel path.
- Equity (10 points):
 - Addresses transportation improvements identified by residents in low-income neighborhoods or in communities of color.
 - Primarily benefits low-income neighborhoods and communities of color.

WisDOT Selection Committee Criteria (40 points)

Project Utility & Connectivity (15 points)

- The project serves utilitarian rather than recreational purposes.
- The project connects existing multimodal transportation networks.
- The project is close to a school and/or commercial center
- The application includes data demonstrating that the project would go beyond community enhancement to address a specific community need
 - “Communities of concern”
 - Economics
 - High crash location(s)

Project Benefit – Environmental, Livability, Economic Justice, Public Health, Historic Preservation, & Safety (25 points)

- Project increases likelihood of modal shift to biking, walking or transit from utilitarian car travel.
- Project increases access and connection to the natural environment.
- Project would have a demonstrable impact upon public health of community.
- Project would go beyond enhancement to address a specific “communities of concern,” including elderly, disabled, minority, and low-income population.
- Project addresses a specific safety concern.
- Project would have strong historical or preservation benefit.
 - Restores and reuses historic buildings with strong link to transportation history.
 - Restores and reuses historic buildings for transportation-related purposes
 - Provides interpretive displays at historic sites.
 - Provides access improvements to historic sites and buildings.
 - Restores railroad depots, bus stations, and lighthouses.
 - Rehabilitates rail trestles, tunnels, bridges, and canals.

PROJECT: Grand Crossing Trail

SPONSOR/APPLICANT: City of La Crosse

CRITERIA	POINTS AWARDED	COMMENTS
<i>Regional Priorities (60 pts)</i>		
Safety (20 pts)		
Mobility (10 pts)		
Accessibility (10 pts)		
Connectivity (10 pts)		
Equity (10 pts)		
<i>WisDOT Selection Committee Criteria (40 pts)</i>		
Project Utility & Connectivity (15 pts)		
Project Benefit (Environmental, Livability, Economic Justice, Public Health, Historic Preservation, Safety) (25 PTS)		
Total Points Awarded		

DISCUSSION POINTS:

PROJECT: Safe Routes to School Plan

SPONSOR/APPLICANT: Village of West Salem

CRITERIA	POINTS AWARDED	COMMENTS
<i>Regional Priorities (60 pts)</i>		
Safety (20 pts)		
Mobility (10 pts)		
Accessibility (10 pts)		
Connectivity (10 pts)		
Equity (10 pts)		
<i>WisDOT Selection Committee Criteria (40 pts)</i>		
Project Utility & Connectivity (15 pts)		
Project Benefit (Environmental, Livability, Economic Justice, Public Health, Historic Preservation, Safety) (25 PTS)		
Total Points Awarded		

DISCUSSION POINTS:

PROJECT: Goose Island Connector Trail

SPONSOR/APPLICANT: Town of Shelby

CRITERIA	POINTS AWARDED	COMMENTS
<i>Regional Priorities (60 pts)</i>		
Safety (20 pts)		
Mobility (10 pts)		
Accessibility (10 pts)		
Connectivity (10 pts)		
Equity (10 pts)		
<i>WisDOT Selection Committee Criteria (40 pts)</i>		
Project Utility & Connectivity (15 pts)		
Project Benefit (Environmental, Livability, Economic Justice, Public Health, Historic Preservation, Safety) (25 PTS)		
Total Points Awarded		

DISCUSSION POINTS: