



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
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Minutes of Technical Advisory Committee Meeting, November 10, 2021

Minutes of the meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee held on Wednesday, November 10, 2021 at 2:30 p.m. in room 1700 and by Microsoft Teams.

Members Present/On Call: Voting: Jarrod Holter, Charlie Handy, Joe Langeberg, Anna Pierce, Jim Krueger, Kurt Wayne, Ian Turner, Bob Gollnik, Loren Schwier, Bob Fisher. Non-voting: Francis Schelfhout, WisDOT; Jim Kuehn, WisDOT. **Guests and Staff:** Jane Klekamp, Peter Fletcher, Jackie Eastwood.

Peter Fletcher called the meeting at 2:31 p.m.

1) Approval of the minutes of the September 8, 2021 TAC meeting:

Charlie Handy motioned to approve the minutes of the September 8, 2021 meeting; Jim Krueger seconded. All were in favor.

2) Recommendation to approve amending the 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program:

Peter Fletcher summarized the changes and additions to the TIP project list. Francis Schelfhout identified a typo in one of the state project numbers for the TCMC project. It should include "52," not "72."

Charlie Handy motioned to recommend to the Policy Board to approve amending the 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program as corrected; Bob Gollnik seconded. All were in favor.

3) Recommendation to approve the 2022-2025 Transportation Improvement Program:

Peter Fletcher highlighted the main information in the TIP document. He stated that the correction to the project in the 2021 TIP would also be made in the 2022 TIP. Jackie Eastwood reported the minor changes resulting from agency comments, which are also reported in Appendix A of the document.

Jarrod Holter motioned to recommend to the Policy Board to approve the 2022-2025 Transportation Improvement Program as corrected; Charlie Handy seconded. All were in favor.

4) STP-Urban program project ranking:

Peter Fletcher stated that 10 applications were submitted totaling nearly \$12.5M in requested federal funds. The allocation is just over \$4.0M. The TAC ranks the projects using a set of criteria updated this past January. The ranked list must be received by WisDOT by January 22, 2022. LAPC staff went through the exercise and ranked the 10 projects as a guide and springboard for discussion. Peter stated that the goal is to fund projects at 80%.

TAC members considered the staff ranking and began discussing the high cost of the County project, which would use up all of the allocation and still only be funded at 63%. Joe Langeberg described the County project and stated that the County has also applied for RAISE funds. Bob Gollnik added that the project would likely be eligible for a TEA grant also.

Charlie Handy suggested that they take the highest ranking project from La Crosse, Onalaska, and West Salem and then fund two additional projects with the remaining allocation. He suggested Midwest Dr (80%), City Loop (80%), 6th St (80%), Mark St (80%), and Theater Rd (72%).

Kurt Wayne commented that the process should consider the rankings. Because the projects being recommended for funding were so close in rank, he was okay with the recommendation.

Jarrold Holter asked that the TAC consider a process for funding transit more consistently since the criteria don't really prioritize transit projects.

Jarrold Holter motioned to recommend funding the 6th St, Midwest Dr, City Loop, and Mark St projects at 80% and the Theater Rd project with the remainder (72%). Bob Fisher seconded.

Jarrold Holter commented that the County project is a good project, but expensive. With the County having fared well in recent cycles, he thinks the money should be spread around to the other municipalities. He added that the faster projects get off the books, the more money becomes available for allocation. Communities need to be assertive and get projects moving so future funding isn't jeopardized.

With a motion by Holter and second by Fisher on the table, the other voting members voted in favor.

Peter Fletcher stated that the recommendation will go to the Policy Board on Wednesday, November 17 and then the list would be sent to WisDOT.

5) Other updates and information items:

Charlie Handy stated that the County has applied for new electric buses for the SMRT service. Charging stations will be installed at the end of this year/beginning of next year. The buses are anticipated in the second quarter of 2022. The current buses are 2015s. Charlie added that ridership is up again.

Peter Fletcher announced that the TAP applications are out. Projects are due to WisDOT no later than January 28, 2022. LAPC staff will help communities with their application(s) if desired. The CTAT will rank the projects in March.

6) January 2022 agenda items:

- 2022-2025 TIP amendment

7) Other Business; Adjourn; Next meeting to be announced:

The next meeting will be held virtually on Wednesday, January 12, 2022.

Jim Krueger motioned to adjourn at 3:30 p.m.; Kurt Wayne seconded. All were in favor.