



Division of Transportation
System Development
Southwest Region
2101 Wright Street
Madison, WI 53704-2583

Jim Doyle, Governor
Frank J. Busalacchi, Secretary
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E-mail: madison.dtd@dot.state.wi.us

RECEIVED

APR 28 2006

April 24, 2006

HNTB COMPANIES

ATTN VICTOR AUSTIN, COMMUNITY PLANNER
FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION, REGION 5
200 WEST ADAMS STREET, SUITE 320
CHICAGO, IL 60606

Dear Mr. Austin:

SUBJECT: Transport 2020 Transit Study and Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS)
Invitation to become a participating agency pursuant to Sec. 6002 SAFETEA-LU
and Agency Scoping Meeting Invitation

Thank you for the invitation to be a participating agency for the above project. Wisconsin Department of Transportation, Southwest Region is interested in this project and accepts the invitation to participate as a member of the study team.

I will be the WisDOT Southwest Region contact for all correspondence relating to this project. The following is my contact information:

Joseph S. Olson, P.E.
Director -Southwest Region
Wisconsin Department of Transportation
2101 Wright Street
Madison, WI 53704
(608) 785-9026 - La Crosse
(608) 245-2643 - Madison
(608) 386-8953 - Cell
joeseeph.olson@dot.state.wi.us

When I am unavailable to participate, one of the following 3 people will likely be my proxy. Please also copy them on all of our correspondence:

LeAnna B. Wall
Planning Project Manager
WisDOT Southwest Region - Madison Office
2101 Wright Street
Madison, WI 53704
(608) 246-3866
leanna.wall@dot.state.wi.us

Michael E. Hoelker
Planning Supervisor
WisDOT Southwest Region - Madison Office
2101 Wright Street
Madison WI. 53704-2583
(608) 246-3832
michael.hoelker@dot.state.wi.us

John Vesperman
Systems, Planning & Operations Manager
WisDOT Southwest Region - Madison Office
2101 Wright Street
Madison, WI 53704
(608) 246-3850
john.vesperman@dot.state.wi.us

LeAnna Wall will be attending the Agency Scoping Meeting, Bus Tour and Public Scoping Open House on Wednesday, April 26th.

We look forward to working with you on the Transport 2020 Transit Study and DEIS.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joseph S. Olson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Joseph S. Olson, P.E.
Director -Southwest Region

Cc: Dave Trowbridge, City of Madison, Transport 2020 Project Manager
Caron Kloser, HNTB Corporation, Transportation Planner
Sandra Beaupre, WisDOT Bureau of Planning & Economic Development, Director
John Vesperman, WisDOT Southwest Region, Systems, Planning & Operations Manager
Michael Hoelker, WisDOT Southwest Region, Planning Supervisor
LeAnna Wall, WisDOT Southwest Region, Planning Project Manager
Jennifer Grimes, WisDOT Southwest Region, Environmental Coordinator
Marie Turner, HNTB Corporation, Administrative Assistant



Madison Metro Transit System

Catherine Debo, Transit General Manager

1101 East Washington Avenue
Madison, Wisconsin 53703
Administrative Office: 608 266 4904
Customer Information: 608 266 4466
TDD/Device for Deaf: 608 267 1143

April 28, 2006

Victor Austin
Federal Transit Administration, Region 5
200 West Adams Street, Suite 320
Chicago, IL 60606

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Re: Environmental Impact Statement on New Transit Operations in Madison, WI

Dear Mr. Austin,

I am writing in response to an invitation for our agency to be a "participating agency" in the development of an Environmental Impact Statement for the Transport 2020 Transit Study. Metro Transit does wish to be designated as a "participating agency" in this study of new transportation solutions to mobility issues within the study area.

I will serve as the liaison from Metro Transit on this project. My address for ongoing contact is email: agullickson@cityofmadison.com

Sincerely,

Ann Gullickson
Transit Service Manager

cc: Catherine Debo, Transit General Manager
Dave Trowbridge, Transportation Planner
Caron Kloser, HNTB
✓ Marie Turner, HNTB



**COMMENTS RE: TRANSPORT 2020
TRANSIT STUDY AND DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (DEIS)
SUBMITTED TO AGENCY SCOPING MEETING APRIL 26, 2006**

The University of Wisconsin-Madison was an active member of the advisory committee to the alternatives analysis for potential commuter rail in Dane County and is currently a member of the Implementation Task Force for Transport 2020. We are strong supporters of this project since commuter rail could serve a key role in our overall parking, transportation, and transportation demand management plans and operations.

With over 60,000 faculty, staff, and students, the University campus community constitutes the single largest employer and destination for commuters, including transit commuters, in the Madison metropolitan and Dane County area. The implications of this fact for the scope of the Draft Environmental Impact Study (DEIS) are powerful. First, the study should ensure that any potential commuter rail adequately serve the University's commuters both within the City of Madison as well as at and beyond the periphery of Madison where an increasing number of our staff and faculty reside as the region expands. The University would be happy to provide geo-coded data describing the residential locations of the campus community as well as information about the daily schedules of our faculty, staff, and students as needed. The peak hours for campus commuting are similar to but not identical to regional averages, especially in the case of faculty and students.

Second, we are concerned that the travel modeling used to assess ridership for alternative commuter rail systems be sensitive to the specific location, populations, and modal characteristics of the campus. Four-step models using relatively large traffic analysis zones (TAZs) can fail to adequately assess concentrated populations such as ours if special care is not taken. Third, the University has already chosen three sites for potential commuter rail stations within the campus as part of its master plan process and as part of the earlier Transport 2020 alternatives analysis. We ask that these stations—at the UW Hospital, Randall Ave. and the Kohl Center—be fully incorporated into the current DEIS process.

With respect to University requirements and permitting, we would point out that all improvements and changes on University property, especially those requiring state funding, must be approved through an established set of University entities and procedures. Entities involved could include the Campus Planning Committee, Campus Transportation Committee, Joint West Campus Area Committee, Joint Southeast Campus Area Committee, the Chancellor, Board of Regents, State Building Commission, Division of State Facilities, and other entities. More information about University approvals as well as easements and related arrangements can be provided as necessary and as the DEIS and preliminary engineering design work proceeds.

Please contact Rob Kennedy, Senior Transportation Planner (608/263-3027, rkennedy@fpm.wisc.edu) for more information regarding the University's involvement with scoping for this project.

Facilities Planning & Management

9th Floor WARF Building 610 Walnut Street Madison, Wisconsin 53726-2397
(608) 263-3000 FAX (608) 265-3139 TTY (608) 265-5147

From: Anderson, Russell A [<mailto:Russell.Anderson@dnr.state.wi.us>]
Sent: Monday, April 10, 2006 1:21 PM
To: victor.austin@fta.dot.gov
Cc: David Trowbridge; Friedlander, Michael; DNR_SCR_ADM; Bleser, Catherine A.; Grasshoff, Ronald E; Bump, Cameron M.; Siebert, David R
Subject: Transport 2020 study and DEIS

Dear Mr. Austin, I am officially notifying FTA that the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources would like to be included as a participating agency in the review of the DEIS for Transport 2020, Dane County, Wisconsin. Please use me as the point of contact for our agency. My address is:

WDNR
3911 Fish Hatchery Road
Fitchburg, WI 53711

If you have any questions, please contact me. Thanks

P Russ Anderson
Environmental & Analysis Program Supervisor, South Central Region
South Central Region Land Use Team Leader
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
(* phone: (608) 275-3467
(* fax: (608) 275-3338
(* cell: (608) 516-0856
(* e-mail: russell.anderson@dnr.state.wi.us

CAPD Community Analysis and Planning Division**Dane County Department of Planning and Development**

City-County Building, Room 362 210 Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard Madison, WI 53703
Phone: 608-266-4137 Fax: 608-266-9117 www.danecorpc.org

May 17, 2006

Mr. David Trowbridge
Transport 2020 Project Manager
215 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Room LL100
Madison WI 53703

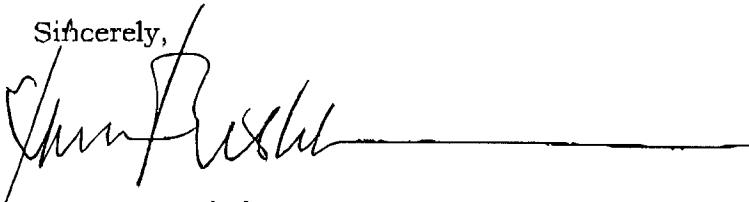
Re: Transport 2020 participation

Dear Mr. Trowbridge:

Our agency accepts your invitation (letter dated March 24, 2006) to become a Participating Agency for the Transport 2020 Transit Study and Draft Environmental Impact Statement, in compliance with Section 6002 of SAFETEA-LU. We understand that our designation as a Participating Agency does not imply support, jurisdiction over, nor special expertise with respect to the proposed project.

Thank you for the invitation. We look forward to our future involvement.

Sincerely,



Kamran Mesbah
Director, Environmental Resources Planning

KM:cg

cc: Karen Baker, Bay Ridge Consulting
