



**Preliminary Engineering/NEPA Analysis
for the
Dane County/Greater Madison Metropolitan Area**

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Minutes

TRANSPORT 2020 IMPLEMENTATION TASK FORCE (ITF) MEETING

Wednesday, June 27, 2007

5:00 p.m.

**Madison Municipal Building, Room 260
215 Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard
Madison, WI**

-- **ROLL CALL**

ITF Members Present: Sandy Beaupre; Jim Berkenstadt; John DeLamater; Sup. Chuck Erickson; Kristine Euclide; Lori Kay; Sup. Al Matano; LeAnna Wall (*for Joe Olson*); Dick Wagner.

ITF Members Absent: Michael Blaska (*notified*); Steve Hiniker (*notified*); Jesse Kaysen (*notified*); Chris Klein; Sup. Scott McDonell (*notified*).

TAC/Staff Present: Rebecca Cnare (City of Madison, Mayor's Office); Elizabeth Kluesner (Dane County Executive's Office); Bob McDonald (Madison Area Metropolitan Planning Organization); Larry Nelson (Madison City Engineer); Bob Pike (Madison Area MPO); Bill Schaefer (Madison Area MPO); David Trowbridge (City of Madison, Planning Division; *Transport 2020 Project Manager*).

Others Present: Fred Bartol (Dane Alliance for Rail Transit); Margaret Bergamini (Associated Students of Madison); Eileen Bruskewitz (Dane County Board of Supervisors, District 25); Ken Kinney (HNTB); Patrick McDonnell (Tenney-Lapham Neighborhood Association); Bob Schaefer; Marie Thomas (HNTB); Royce Williams (Pro-Rail).

1. **REVIEW OF AGENDA**

Dick Wagner assumed the role of interim Chair, without Task Force objection, and welcomed Transport 2020 Implementation Task Force members to the meeting. He suggested that items 4 and 5 of the agenda be reversed so that the FTA update preceded discussion on the Dane County Board Resolution. The Task Force agreed with that agenda modification.

2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM MAY 24, 2007 TASK FORCE MEETING**

The Minutes for the 5-24-07 Transport 2020 Implementation Task Force meeting were unanimously approved, as submitted on a motion by Kristine Euclide/Sup. Al Matano.

3. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Fitchburg Mayor Tom Clauder (President of the Dane County Cities and Villages Association) expressed his happiness over the agreement announced by Mayor Dave Cieslewicz and County Executive Kathleen Falk. He also advised caution in discussion over the Dane County Board Resolution 57, 2007-2008. He indicated that there was still some language used in the resolution that must be further refined, and he also emphasized the need for the study team to keep the cities, towns and villages in mind.

Royce Williams expressed concern over the Mayor and County Executive's agreement, noting that the details of the agreement did not receive adequate public input. He also supported the concept of a regional transit authority (RTA), but felt that the MPO or urban area boundary would be better for an RTA than the entire county. He said that Chicago and the Twin Cities use the urban area for their RTAs.

Bob Schaefer was concerned about bringing the study findings to the public. He emphasized the need to address congestion increases and/or decreases that the proposed rail would bring. Additionally, he wanted to bring to the attention of the ITF the inclusion of a single type of vehicle and technology for the regional transit system, as proposed by Mayor Cieslewicz and County Executive Falk in their agreement.

4. UPDATE ON RECENT VISIT TO FTA HEADQUARTERS (WASHINGTON D.C.) AND DISCUSSION OF POTENTIAL PROJECT DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT (PDA) APPROACH FOR TRANSPORT 2020 NEW STARTS APPLICATION

Ken Kinney began the presentation by reviewing the FTA meeting that took place in Washington D.C. on May 31, 2007. FTA members present at the meeting were Brian Jackson, Jim Ryan and Nazrul Islam. Transport 2020 members present at the meeting were Dick Wagner, David Trowbridge, Kenneth Kinney, Kimon Prousaloglou and Laurie Hussey.

Kinney stated that in terms of benefits, ridership and costs, the FTA felt that the study was in good shape and the technical data was strong. Moving forward, the submission of the New Starts Application is expected to occur at the end of the summer this year. As of this meeting, the FTA indicated that the finance and governance portion of the project needed more direction. There were also concerns over the small amount of study time spent on the BRT alternative.

Lastly, the project development agreement (PDA) was proposed to the FTA. This would be the first PDA ever created. Kinney reviewed the elements that would make up the PDA, which include the identification of issues to be resolved for governance and finance; identification of who is responsible; action plan with milestones to be met; and a draft plan to be reviewed with FTA prior to the preliminary engineering request.

John DeLamater posed a question regarding the PDA, and Ken Kinney clarified that the PDA was a way to formally address the concerns brought forth by the FTA at the May 31st meeting. The PDA would be drafted before submitting the application to move forward to preliminary engineering.

Kristine Euclide posed a question regarding finance and governance. Wagner replied that the FTA felt that the governance issue was not resolved. The FTA requests an actual plan laying out how the Transport 2020 project would advance as pertains to finance and governance. Today's announcement of

the agreement between Mayor Cieslewicz and County Executive Falk moves this forward and allows for the study team to address the FTA's concerns.

Euclide thanked the Finance and Governance Committee, the County Board, County Executive's office and the Mayor's office for their work thus far. She felt that the agreement was a step in the right direction, and although not all the concerns from the FTA have been addressed, the study seems to be headed the right way. She wanted to reiterate the need for a flexible Regional Transit Authority.

5. DANE COUNTY BOARD RESOLUTION 57, 2007-2008, "SUPPORTING THE EXPANSION OF MULTI-MODAL PUBLIC TRANSIT IN THE MADISON METROPOLITAN AREA AND STATE LEGISLATION THAT ENABLES THE CREATION OF A REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY"

Supervisor Al Matano/Supervisor Chuck Erickson submitted a motion to recommend approval of the resolution to the Dane County Board of Supervisors.

Jim Berkenstadt questioned the need to vote on the resolution at this time. He felt that there was not enough information regarding finance and governance as pertains to the RTA to vote. Wagner responded that the Finance and Governance Committee had been waiting for an LPA, which was approved at the last ITF meeting, before moving forward with their work. With the feedback from the FTA, the Finance and Governance Committee reinforced to the County Executive and Mayor of the importance of coming to an agreement and setting up an RTA.

Berkenstadt conveyed that there was still confusion over the process and other members of the ITF echoed his concerns over the need to vote on the resolution. ITF members questioned the reasoning behind voting on a County Board resolution. Wagner clarified that it was not imperative to vote on the resolution and that the results of the vote would serve as an official record of the ITF's support or non-support of the resolution.

Berkenstadt questioned whether approval of the resolution would be detrimental, as the specifics of the RTA were yet to be put in place and future changes to the resolution may not reflect the sentiments of the ITF. Wagner responded that a vote of the resolution would be for approval of the document as it reads today and that future changes would have to be resubmitted to the ITF for re-approval.

Supervisor Al Matano stated that he supported the resolution before it was put to a vote. Six members voted in approval of the resolution, no members voted against the approval of the resolution and three members abstained from voting.

6. TRANSPORT 2020 PROJECT TIMELINE/NEXT STEPS

David Trowbridge noted that the next Transport 2020 ITF meeting would need to be scheduled for some time in August. He said that FTA New Starts Application materials would likely be ready for Task Force review.

7. INFORMATION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS BY TASK FORCE MEMBERS

There were no announcements or information provided by Task Force members.

8. ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

