

**Greater Madison Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)
November 6, 2024, Meeting Minutes**

Virtual Meeting hosted via [Zoom](#)

Opitz called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

1. Roll Call and Introductions

Members present: Clement Abongwa, Richelle Andrae, Liz Callin, John Duncan, Paul Esser, Derek Field, Thomas Lynch, Mark Opitz, Art Sommerfield, Kristi Williams, Doug Wood

Members absent/excused: Phil Caravello, Barbara Harrington-McKinney, Charles Myadze

MPO staff present: Alex Andros, Kayla Haas, Bill Holloway, Ben Lyman

Others present in an official capacity: None.

2. Approval of October 2, 2024, Meeting Minutes

Williams moved, Abongwa seconded, to approve the October 2, 2024, meeting minutes. Motion carried.

3. Communications

Andros stated that she had just received a letter (dated November 5, 2024) from WisDOT approving the MPO's most recent TIP amendment.

4. Public Comment (for items *not* on MPO Agenda)

None.

5. MPO 2024 Resolution No. 21 Approving 2025 Unified Planning Work Program

Andros said that the draft unified planning work program (UPWP) that had been previously reviewed by the MPO Policy Board was reviewed by WisDOT and FHWA. She said that they offered few comments about anything other than what the MPO was already planning to change. Those are listed on the change sheet, included in the meeting packet.

FHWA is still working on guidance for how the MPO should use Safe and Accessible Transportation Options funding and they will be asking MPOs to amend their UPWPs in the first quarter of 2025 to accommodate that. The MPO also received complements on how the UPWP was put together.

Other key changes to the UPWP include the active transportation plan being pushed into 2025 to coordinate with the City of Madison's active transportation plan and the transportation systems management and operations (TSMO) plan being delayed—due in part to Colleen's departure. The MPO is working closely with the City of Madison Traffic Engineering Department on putting together an RFP for a consultant to help us with the TSMO plan.

MPO staff recommended approval of the resolution.

Esser moved, Wood seconded, to approve MPO 2024 Resolution No. 21 Approving the 2025 Unified

Planning Work Program. Motion carried.

6. MPO 2024 Resolution No. 22 Approving the 2024-2028 Coordinated Public Transit – Human Services Transportation Plan for Dane County

Lyman said that the Board had seen the draft a month ago and that since then there had been only one substantive comment received on the plan calling for a couple of changes to highlight the need for better transportation between Dane and Rock Counties. This change is in keeping Rock County’s most recent coordinated plan, which calls for improved transportation between the two counties.

Duncan moved, Williams seconded, to approve MPO 2024 Resolution No. 22 Approving the 2024-2028 Coordinated Public Transit – Human Services Transportation Plan for Dane County. Motion carried.

7. MPO 2024 Resolution No. 23 Adopting Annual Federal Safety Improvement Performance Measure Targets

Andros said that adopting the federal safety improvement targets is required. She noted that some of the transit targets cannot be set because it requires three years of data, which the MPO lacks because the data is only available back to 2023.

Lynch moved, Duncan seconded, to approve MPO 2024 Resolution No. 23 Adopting Annual Federal Safety Improvement Performance Measure Targets. Motion carried.

8. MPO 2024 Resolution No. 24 Amending the 2025-2029 Transportation Improvement Program for the Madison Metropolitan Area & Dane County to Revise Attachment E to Incorporate Reference to the 2025 Federal Safety Improvement Performance Measure Targets

Andros said that this would include targets for the number and rate of fatalities and serious injuries, and the number of non-motorized fatalities and serious injuries. She said that MPO staff recommended approval.

Esser moved, Williams seconded, to approve MPO 2024 Resolution No. 24 Amending the 2025-2029 Transportation Improvement Program for the Madison Metropolitan Area & Dane County to Revise Attachment E to Incorporate Reference to the 2025 Federal Safety Improvement Performance Measure Targets. Motion carried.

9. MPO 2024 Resolution No. 25 Authorizing the Greater Madison MPO to Submit a Grant Application to the United States Department of Transportation for up to \$15 million for Low-Carbon, High Reward: Uniting Local Communities Toward Low-Carbon Infrastructure Materials

Andros described the Low-Carbon Transportation Materials grant program, the short timeline for applications, and the MPO’s efforts to assess how and whether to pursue the grant.

She said that she had just spoken with WisDOT staff about the potential grant project and that, following that discussion, she felt that continuing to pursue the grant would not be a good use of the MPO staff time nor the time and effort that would be required from other grant partners. She said her main concerns were that WisDOT would not be able to assist the MPO in the project, local government engineering staff would be reluctant to use specifications developed separately from WisDOT, and that the MPO lacks the engineering expertise to oversee consultants doing the work.

Abongwa noted that his engineers had already put a lot of work into preparing to apply for the grant. And he asked Andros to provide feedback to FHWA to let them know how much effort had been expended trying to prepare to apply for this grant and that FHWA should provide more clarity about these types of grants in the future to avoid this type of confusion and wasted effort.

Esser moved, Callin seconded, to approve MPO 2024 Resolution No. 25 Authorizing the Greater Madison MPO to Submit a Grant Application to the United States Department of Transportation for up to \$15 million for Low-Carbon, High Reward: Uniting Local Communities Toward Low-Carbon Infrastructure Materials. Motion failed.

Field moved, Andrae seconded, to indefinitely postpone consideration of MPO 2024 Resolution No. 25 Authorizing the Greater Madison MPO to Submit a Grant Application to the United States Department of Transportation for up to \$15 million for Low-Carbon, High Reward: Uniting Local Communities Toward Low-Carbon Infrastructure Materials. Motion carried.

10. Announcements and Staff Reports

Andros said that she was working on hiring a new staff member to fill Colleen's old position. The first candidate offered the job had not accepted and she was in the process of negotiating with the second. She noted that the MPO was lucky to have three excellent candidates for the job and that she expected to have the new candidate onboard by late November or early December.

11. Adjournment

Esser motioned, Wood seconded, to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:39 p.m. The next Policy Board meeting will be held virtually on Wednesday, December 4th, 2024.