



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

For additional project information: www.transport2020.net

Minutes

TRANSPORT 2020: IMPLEMENTATION TASK FORCE FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE SUBCOMMITTEE

Wednesday, May 28, 2008

5:00 p.m.

**City-County Building, Room GR-27
210 Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard
Madison, WI**

-- **ROLL CALL**

Members Present: Michael Blaska; Rod Clark; Karna Hanna; Chuck Kamp; Dan Larson; Sup. Al Matano; Sup. Scott McDonell; Jeff Miller; Paul Munz; Jim Pulvermacher; Dan Viste; Dick Wagner.

Members Absent: Sandy Beaupre (*notified*); Lori Kay (*notified*); Chris Klein.

1. **CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS**

Subcommittee members and project staff introduced themselves to one another.

2. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Bob Schaefer expressed concerns about the Transport 2020 project and its high cost. He said that the system would cost even more, if extended over time. He said that the cost of extensions should be considered before embarking on a first phase. He also said that the project would not relieve traffic congestion, but would actually cause greater congestion at some areas where the trains cross the streets.

3. **REVIEW OF FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE SUBCOMMITTEE DRAFT CHARGE/MISSION**

Co-Chair Dick Wagner reviewed some of the components of a recent Thrive-brokered agreement to reconvene the Finance and Governance Subcommittee (with expanded membership). The key components of the agreement include:

- Expansion of the Finance and Governance Subcommittee of Transport 2020 to include representatives of large and small business; city, village and town governments; and movers of goods;
- Consensus that transportation is a regional issue that requires regional solutions;
- The expanded committee should conduct a review of the assumptions underlying the Transport 2020 recommendations concerning the need for a regional transportation authority;
- The expanded committee should develop models for a regional transportation authority for community review and discussion that will accommodate both express bus alternatives and/or potential commuter rail;
- The expanded committee should develop additional information and communication about potential regional transportation solutions including public hearings around Dane County.

Sup. Scott McDonell said that he participated in the talks and that it was agreed that the business community and other cities and villages in Dane County needed to be more directly involved in these regional transportation discussions.

Karna Hanna asked how the Metro transit bus system would be included in these discussions. Chuck Kamp (Metro General Manager) said that it would be important to include bus financing in these discussions, and in his view the current mechanism of paying for bus service in Wisconsin is broken.

Jim Pulvermacher asked if other communities could run buses in the outlying portions of the urban area. Rod Clark said that there are examples of that in the southeastern part of the state. Co-Chair Michael Blaska asked how municipalities are involved in those types of arrangements. Clark replied that certain types of express transit services are purchased by municipalities from private providers.

4. OVERVIEW OF REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AND DEVELOPMENT TRENDS

David Trowbridge provided an overview of some regional transportation and development trends in Dane County. He also summarized the recommendations of the Transport 2020 Implementation Task Force and provided an update on the upcoming submittal of a federal New Starts Application to enter Preliminary Engineering.

Dan Larson asked to review the financial plan component of the Transport 2020 project. He questioned whether or not a lesser investment could be made to accomplish the same goals. He also expressed concern about future freight rail activity and how that could affect the Transport 2020 proposal.

Jeff Miller agreed that the financial planning for Transport 2020 should be looked at, and wondered whether or not a bus option had been fully evaluated. He questioned the need for a regional transit authority (RTA) and said that the Subcommittee should have a clear charge with regard to the consideration of an RTA.

Karna Hanna also asked for additional background material to review. David Trowbridge said that he would provide the recently-completed financial plan for the Transport 2020 project. He also offered to meet individually with Subcommittee members to go over background material, if requested.

5. REVIEW AND DISCUSSION OF FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE SUBCOMMITTEE DRAFT MEETING SCHEDULE AND WORK PLAN

Co-Chair Dick Wagner reviewed the work plan items and noted that the June 25th meeting would focus

on the Madison Area MPO's Regional Transportation Plan, and how the Transport 2020 project fits into broader regional transportation needs.

The Subcommittee agreed with the meeting dates for 2008. Co-Chair Wagner said that the meeting locations would be announced but would generally be held in central Dane County. The 2008 meeting dates for the Finance and Governance Subcommittee are as follows:

2008 Meeting Dates (all 5:00 p.m.)

- Wednesday, May 28, Room GR-27 CCB
- Wednesday, June 25, Room LL-110 MMB
- Tuesday, July 29, Room LL-110 MMB
- Wednesday, August 27, Room 309 CCB
- Wednesday, October 1, Room 309 CCB
- Wednesday, October 29, Room 309 CCB
- Wednesday, November 19, Room 309 CCB
- (alternate) Wednesday, December 3, Room 309 CCB

6. ADJOURNMENT

The Finance and Governance Subcommittee adjourned its meeting at 6:15 p.m.