



**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, August 27, 2008

5:00 p.m.

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

-- ROLL CALL

Members Present: Sandy Beaupre; Michael Blaska; Rod Clark; Karna Hanna; Lori Kay; Dan Larson; Sup. Al Matano; Jeff Miller; Paul Munz; Jim Pulvermacher; Dan Viste; Dick Wagner.

Members Absent: Chuck Kamp; Chris Klein; Sup. Scott McDonell.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Co-Chair Michael Blaska called the August 27, 2008 Transport 2020 Finance and Governance Subcommittee meeting to order. There were no modifications to the meeting agenda.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM JULY 29, 2008 SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

The Minutes for 7-29-08 Transport 2020 Finance and Governance Subcommittee meeting were unanimously approved, as submitted on a motion by Jim Pulvermacher/Paul Munz.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Bob Schaefer expressed concerns about the Transport 2020 project and asked that the number of riders on the system be considered. He said that the system would cost even more, if extended over time. He also said that Wisconsin is a leader in transportation innovation and should explore "maglev" technologies.

Gurdip Brar said that he is an alderperson in the City of Middleton. He praised the group's work so far and urged them to look at all transit options, especially innovations from other countries. He also said that the high cost of building more highways should be considered in the decision making process.

Hans Noeldner said that the possibility of fuel rationing in the future should be considered by the Subcommittee and its work.

4. REVIEW OF FINANCING MECHANISMS FOR VARIOUS TRANSPORTATION MODES IN WISCONSIN (ROD CLARK, DIRECTOR, BUREAU OF TRANSIT, LOCAL ROADS, RAILROADS AND HARBORS, WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION)

Rod Clark (Wisconsin Department of Transportation) presented some slides summarizing transportation financing for all modes of transportation in Wisconsin.

(Note: Mr. Clark's slide presentation can be obtained by request)

Implementation Task Force member Jesse Kaysen asked Rod Clark if Dane County reached 750,000 population, whether or not it could access new transit funds. Clark said that the urbanized area needs to be 750,000 to access those funds, and that may not encompass all of Dane County.

A member of the public asked if federal funds would have to be paid back if the service didn't materialize but expenditures were made. Clark responded that federal officials have a very rigorous process for evaluating a project's health before distributing funds and that it would be unlikely to get to that point.

Dan Larson asked if operating agreements with the freight railroads need to be in place before moving forward. Clark said that there would need to be an operating agreement before the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) would enter into a full funding grant agreement for the Transport 2020 project. David Trowbridge said that a great deal needs to be worked out with freight operations, and also the potential for high speed intercity passenger rail (which would operate on the eastern end of the Transport 2020 service corridor).

Rod Clark pointed out that there are some members of Congress that want to radically change the way the federal government finances transportation, so it is difficult to predict how Wisconsin and Dane County might fare in the future. He said that reauthorization of the federal transportation legislation could take several years.

The Subcommittee thanked Mr. Clark for his thorough explanation of transportation financing in Wisconsin.

5. CONTINUED DISCUSSION OF QUESTIONS AND ISSUES RAISED BY SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS (PERTAINING TO THE SUBCOMMITTEE WORK PLAN AND MEETING SCHEDULE)

Jim Pulvermacher reiterated his point that the Subcommittee should conduct future meetings at locations outside of the City of Madison. He said that many people he's talked to would benefit from a meeting at a city or village on the periphery of Madison. Pulvermacher provided a list of communities that would be willing to host such a meeting.

Michael Blaska said that this was a good idea, but that the Subcommittee is not yet ready to do so. David Trowbridge added that the Subcommittee does not yet have good answers to many questions the public has at this time, and that they may be expecting that if a meeting is held in their community. Dick

Wagner suggested having the October 1st meeting in Madison and then see where the Subcommittee is at - in terms of the work program – and make a decision at that time.

A few Subcommittee members also asked to move the meeting start time to 5:30 p.m. David Trowbridge noted that the remaining 2008 meeting dates for the Finance and Governance Subcommittee are as follows (*please note some changes in the meeting locations*). He asked that Subcommittee members contact him if they had any conflicts with these dates:

2008 Meeting Dates (note time/location changes)

- Wednesday, October 1, 5:30 p.m., Room 260 MMB (*note location/time change*)
- Wednesday, October 29, 5:30 p.m., Room 300 MMB, or outside Madison TBA
- Wednesday, November 19, 5:30 p.m., Room 300 MMB, or outside Madison TBA
- (*alternate*) Wednesday, December 3, 5:30 p.m., Room 309 CCB

6. ADJOURNMENT

The Finance and Governance Subcommittee adjourned its meeting at 7:00 p.m.