



# La Crosse Area Planning Committee

*Metropolitan Planning Organization  
Serving the La Crosse/La Crescent Urbanized Area*

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## Minutes of Technical Advisory Committee Meeting, July 15, 2009

**Minutes of the meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee** held on Wednesday, July 15, 2009 at 2:30 p.m. at the La Crosse County Administrative Center, Room 3220, 400 4<sup>th</sup> St N, La Crosse.

**Members Present:** Scott Halbrucker, Bob Haines, Paul Kitzmann, Dennis Osgood, Dick Granchalek, Bob Crooks, John Boland, Matt Gallagher, Franco Marcos, Paul Wydeven, Peter Waskiw, Bob Fisher, Mike Weibel, Jason Gilman, Dale Hexom, Mike Weibel. **Members Excused:** Andrea Finch, David Jolicoeur. **Others Present:** Jackie Eastwood, Tom Faella.

Tom Faella called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m. Introductions were done for the new WisDOT liaison, Paul Wydeven.

**1) Approval of Minutes of the May 20, 2009 TAC Meeting:**

*Paul Kitzmann motioned to approve the minutes of the May 20, 2009 meeting. Bob Crooks seconded. All were in favor.*

**2) Status of Round 2 Wisconsin ARRA (“Stimulus”) applications:**

Tom Faella reported that the only stimulus project submitted from the area that was funded was the Mormon Coulee Rd Bike Path enhancement project submitted by La Crosse. Paul Wydeven stated that only about 10 percent of all projects submitted statewide were eligible for funding.

**3) LAPC 2009 – 2012 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment:**

Tom Faella outlined the projects added to the TIP.

*Matt Gallagher motioned to recommend approval of the TIP amendment to the LAPC Policy Board. Mike Weibel seconded. All were in favor.*

**4) LAPC 2010 – 2013 TIP Project Lists:**

The TAC members looked over the project list and found no issues.

*Paul Kitzmann motioned to recommend approval of the 2010 – 2013 TIP project list to the Policy Board. Jason Gilman seconded. All were in favor.*

**5) TAC involvement in LAPC regional bike plan:**

Jackie Eastwood summarized the process to date for updating the regional bicycle plan. She informed the TAC of the upcoming activities, which include two public meetings: North La Crosse Corridors on August 18 at the Kane St library in La Crosse and South La Crosse Corridors on August 19 at the Main St library in La Crosse. Both meetings will begin at 5:00 p.m. and will include discussion of rural county roads that connect into the urban system. She stated that the TAC would be involved in the update by assisting with policy development, i.e. Complete Streets, roadway design, signal activation. She plans a joint TAC/BPAC meeting for September to discuss bicycle-friendly policies.

**6) LAPC 2010 – 2011 Planning Work Program activities:**

Tom Faella provided an overview of the main 2010 – 2011 work program activities for LAPC staff. The major work task for 2010 will be the update of the Metropolitan Transportation Plan. This plan will be an interim plan because no 2010 census data will be available for a major update. Also, the results

of the Coulee Connections Study will not be available in time to be included in the 2010 plan. Franco Marcos stated that the study to evaluate independent utility for the USH 53 / 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue Extended project is still underway. WisDOT wants to ensure that the study is done correctly and expects a completion date of 2011.

Tom Faella informed the TAC that Mn/DOT and WisDOT have submitted a joint application for \$50 M to conduct an environmental study for the proposed high speed rail line between Chicago and the Twin Cities. The study would consider alignment options for the Midwest Regional Rail Initiative, ultimately recommending a preferred alternative.

Tom Faella asked if the TAC has an interest in the LAPC purchasing a traffic counter for use by member communities. Members voiced their support of the idea, with discussion about who would be responsible for maintaining the equipment and software. Mr. Faella stated he could include a place holder of \$5,000 in the 2010 budget for a counter and software.

*Bob Crooks motioned that LAPC staff investigate the costs and licensing requirements for a traffic counter and to include \$5,000 for such equipment in the budget. Bob Haines seconded. All were in favor.*

**7) Other Business, Adjourn, Next meeting to be announced:**

Tom Faella extended an invitation to TAC members to attend an informal meeting with Ray LaHood, Secretary of Transportation, at the La Crosse Airport on Thursday, July 16 at 10:00 a.m.

*Bob Crooks motioned to adjourn at 3:50 p.m. Scott Halbrucker seconded. All were in favor.*