



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, January 19, 2011

Minutes of the meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee held on Wednesday, January 19, 2011 at 3:30 p.m. in the ballroom of the La Crosse Center, 300 Harborview Plaza, La Crosse, WI.

Members Present: Claudia Orvis, Bobbi Retzlaff, Sara Aultman, John Boland, Scott Halbrucker, Jarrod Holter, Dick Granchalek, Bob Haines, Mike Weibel, Dave Jolicoeur, Greg Pates, Jason Gilman, Paul Wydeven, Keith Back, Jeff Brudos, Bob Crooks, Matt Gallager. **Others Present:** Michael Erickson, Jackie Eastwood, Tom Faella.

Tom Faella called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. Introductions were done.

1) Approval of Minutes of the November 17, 2010 TAC Meeting:

Jason Gilman motioned to approve the minutes of the November 17, 2010 meeting. Mike Weibel seconded. All were in favor.

2) Amendment of the 2011-2014 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP):

Tom Faella provided an overview of the two projects added to the TIP. He stated that minor updates were done to some of the other projects.

Jarrod Holter motioned to recommend approval of the TIP as presented; Bob Haines seconded. All were in favor.

3) 2011 – 2014 STP-Urban Fund Program:

Tom Faella stated that the amount of funds for the STP-U program is less than originally anticipated. About \$1.3 M in projects was submitted, but only \$1.15 is available. Mr. Faella suggested a reallocation of funds by funding CTH B and Garland St at 80% federal, and to Oak St at about 75% of project cost. The construction schedule for the Oak St project will allow La Crosse to apply for additional funding.

Bob Haines motioned to accept the changes in allocation as proposed; Bob Crooks seconded. All were in favor.

4) Local Studies Program:

Tom Faella stated that the LAPC will have \$100,000 in planning funds for local studies in 2011. He would like the proposals submitted to him by February 18 in time to include them in the agenda for the March 16 meeting. Only planning projects are eligible—no engineering or design. The local studies program will not require a local share.

5) Annual Meeting:

Tom Faella announced the annual meeting, following the TAC meeting.

6) Other Business, Adjourn, Next meeting to be announced:

Michael Erickson discussed the benefit of creating an STP-Urban policy where the cost of design and design oversight would be paid by local funds. He explained the 10-year rule for the timely use of funds (a project must be completed within 10 years from the date of approval. By removing design

and design oversight from the project funding approval process, the municipality will have more flexibility in a project's schedule should issues arise that would cause delay.

Jarrold Holter voiced concern over committing to funding design at the local level without knowing if the project would receive STP-U funds. Michael Erickson responded by saying that Madison has been doing this, but the City has discussions early in the process. Michael continued to say that he will be doing the State/Municipal Agreements (SMAs) for new projects which will be sent out more quickly than in the past. The process for the next program cycle (2013-2016) will not begin before July. Mr. Erickson stated that the La Crosse TEA project (Cunningham St) has passed the environmental review and should begin construction by the end of this year.

Tom Faella asked how everyone felt about having a design policy as suggested by Michael. Historically, the area has used a lot of STP funds for design. Jason Gilman said he thought it was a risk either way.

The group decided to carry over the discussion to the next meeting.

Bob Crooks motioned to adjourn at 4:27 p.m.; Jason Gilman seconded. All were in favor.