



# 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, March 14, 2018

**Minutes of the meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee** held on Wednesday, March 14, 2018 at 2:30 p.m. in Room 1107 of the La Crosse County Administration Center, 212 6<sup>th</sup> St N, La Crosse, WI.

**Members Present:** Scott Halbrucker, Roland Bogert, Bob Fisher, Carolyn Dvorak, Dean Olson, Ron Chamberlain, Katie Aspenson, Jason Gilman, Jarrod Holter, Becky Lakowske for Ginny Loehr, Jim Kuehn (phone), Francis Schelfhout. **Members Excused:** Ginny Loehr, Kurt Wayne. **Others Present:** Tom Faella, Jackie Eastwood.

Tom Faella called the meeting to order at 2:30 pm.

**1) Approval of the Minutes of the September 20, 2017 TAC Meeting:**

*Jarrod Holter motioned to approve the minutes of the September 20, 2017 meeting; Ron Chamberlain seconded. All others were in favor.*

**2) 2017 Surface Transportation-Urban Program Update:**

Tom Faella stated that WisDOT still has not yet released the final amount to be allocated to the La Crosse area.

**3) 2018 – 2021 TIP Amendment:**

Tom Faella stated that some flood relief projects and a new road project funded by a TEA grant were added to the TIP since the TIP sheets were sent out for the meeting. A Minnesota project was also taken out of the TIP because all of the work will be occurring outside of the planning area.

*Dean Olson motioned to recommend to the Policy Board to approve the 2018-2021 TIP amendment as discussed; Jarrod Holter seconded. All others were in favor.*

**4) Local Studies Program:**

Tom Faella stated that he had received three proposals for local studies funding, totaling \$83,600--\$6,085 more than what is available. The three projects include an intersection control study for the Village of Holmen, an economic analysis of La Crosse's bicycle network, and phase 2 of the Amtrak Second Empire Builder study. Dean Olson recalled that the DOTs received local studies funds last year for their study and that this is the first year that Holmen has applied. He stated that he was not comfortable with a proportionate distribution of the funds as the DOTs have already benefited from that program.

Bob Fisher, as the rail representative on the TAC, stated that he thinks the LAPC is the only MPO that has contributed to the Second Empire Builder study. He asked Jim Kuehn (participating via phone) if any other MPOs in Wisconsin were contributing in a similar fashion. Mr. Kuehn was reviewing the SEWRPC work program, but was unable to quickly find any such reference.

Jason Gilman spoke on behalf of the economic analysis stating that it's a good time for data collection to show the public and the policy makers the benefits of continuing investment in bicycle infrastructure. Mr. Gilman was unsure of the cost estimates to know if the study could manage a reduction in funds. Dean Olson went on to speak about the intersection study stating that the village

anticipates increased traffic as the area grows and they would like to plan for the appropriate type of control mechanism.

*Ron Chamberlain motioned to fully fund the City of La Crosse and Village of Holmen studies, with the balance going to the DOTs for the rail study; Jarrod Holter seconded; Bob Fisher abstained; all others were in favor.*

**5) Transportation Alternatives Program:**

Jackie Eastwood stated that the Committee on Transit and Active Transportation (CTAT) prioritized five TAP projects on Thursday, March 8. Two projects were Safe Routes to School and three projects were infrastructure. La Crosse County submitted applications for the County SRTS, the STH 16 Connector Trail, and the La Crosse River Bike/Ped Bridge, with a County preference for the SRTS project. The City of La Crosse submitted applications for a SRTS Plan and a buffered bike lane on 2<sup>nd</sup> St, with a City preference for the SRTS Plan. The CTAT ranking had the La Crosse County SRTS come in first; the City of La Crosse SRTS Plan, second; the STH 16 Trail Connector, third; the 2<sup>nd</sup> St buffered bike lane, fourth; and the La Crosse River bridge, fifth.

**6) Supporting Vision Zero Policies:**

Jackie Eastwood presented on what Vision Zero is, why we're considering it, the resolution to prioritize safety and support Vision Zero activities in the planning area that will go before the Policy Board next week, and what our next steps will be.

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

*Dean Olson motioned to adjourn at 3:23 pm; Jason Gilman seconded. All others were in favor.*