



# 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 18, 2018

**Minutes of the meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee** held on Wednesday, July 18, 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:** Bobbi Retzlaff (phone), Scott Halbrucker, Kurt Wayne, Katie Aspenson, Jarrod Holter, Jason Gilman, Becky Lakowske for Ginny Loehr, Chris Dahl, Don Smith, Francis Schelfhout, Ron Chamberlain (late). **Members Excused:** None. **Others Present:** Michael Erickson, Jim Kuehn (phone), Jackie Eastwood.

Jackie Eastwood called the meeting to order at 2:40 pm.

### 1) **Approval of the Minutes of the May 16, 2018 TAC Meeting:**

*Jarrod Holter motioned to approve the minutes of the May 16, 2018 meeting; Jason Gilman seconded. All others were in favor.*

### 2) **WisDOT 2019-2022 STP-Urban Program:**

Jackie Eastwood stated that we had four projects submitted for STP-U funding that totaled more than the allocation (\$2,422,232), which would be reduced by \$505,600 for the projects approved in 2017, resulting in \$1,916,632 available for this round. After some discussion, the attendees agreed that with so few TAC members in attendance, the TAC should hold a special meeting on August 22 to prioritize the projects. The timing will allow for the Policy Board to approve the ranking at its September 19 meeting. Michael Erickson said that we will be fine for time.

Mr. Erickson continued by saying that the submitted projects will be going against next year's allocation. Review costs are expected to go down with WisDOT taking over all oversight and delivery.

### 3) **WisDOT Bridge "Replace in Kind" Policy:**

Michael Erickson passed out a couple of handouts about changes in the Local Bridge Program. He stated that WisDOT has developed a new bridge replacement policy where bridges will be replaced with structures that are similar (width, length, approaches, etc.) to the existing structure. Funding eligibility is limited to the minimum project scope necessary for a safe and effective facility. Exceptions to the policy may be made as deemed necessary by WisDOT for safety, conformance, traffic, or other reasons. Any costs incurred outside of the approved scope would be the responsibility of the local entity. WisDOT has removed aesthetics (i.e. decorative staining) as an eligible cost and is moving to eliminate bicycle and pedestrian facilities on bridges unless they connect to or are replacing existing bicycle and pedestrian facilities.

Jason Gilman asked if anyone at DOT is taking input on the new policies to which Mr. Erickson responded that comments could be sent to Steve Flottmeyer or Francis Schelfhout and moved up the chain. He added that WisDOT is moving from a reconstruction mode to a preservation mode.

Jackie Eastwood asked if the federal performance measures are being considered as WisDOT develops these new policies to which Mr. Erickson responded that WisDOT is working with FHWA on an agreement. WisDOT is working to document its new policies and will update its Facilities Development Manual this year to address the performance measures.

**4) Follow up on 2017 Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Initiative:**

Jackie Eastwood stated that the City of Onalaska presented on its TDM activities at the May meeting and so could be relieved of having to do so again. Jason Gilman talked about the City of La Crosse TDM Plan that complements the LAPC plan. He elaborated on the USH 53 corridor plan, which concentrates on land use and financial incentives. He went on to say that the City's plan was developed out of a public-private partnership with the business community. The Neighborhood Revitalization Commission is prioritizing the projects and recommendations in that plan.

Chris Dahl from the Village of Holmen introduced himself and then stated that he only recently replaced Dean Olson who just retired. Being so new, he could not comment on where the Village is with its TDM efforts.

Don Smith stated that La Crescent recently adopted a plan to address some of their development concerns. He talked of La Crescent's commitment to transit with the purchase of a new bus and the deviated service provided by MTU. He finished with a summary of the process for constructing the Wagon Wheel Trail and the need to engage La Crosse for a connection at the West Channel Bridge.

**5) 2018-2021 TIP Amendment:**

*Ron Chamberlain motioned to recommend approval of the TIP amendment to the Policy Board; Don Smith seconded. All were in favor.*

**6) Proposed Change in Scope for Village of Holmen 2018 Local Studies Project:**

Jackie Eastwood informed the TAC that the Village of Holmen expanded the scope of its Local Studies project to study an additional intersection for the same cost.

**7) Local Studies Program for 2019:**

Jackie Eastwood requested that everyone get their local studies project submitted to the office by July 31 so we can get it into the Work Program.

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

*Jarrod Holter motioned to adjourn at 3:30 pm; Jason Gilman seconded. All others were in favor.*