



La Crosse Area Planning Committee

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

Vacant, Director Jackie Eastwood, Transportation Planner
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Minutes of Committee on Transit and Active Transportation Meeting, January 10, 2019

Minutes of the meeting of the CTAT held on Thursday, January 10, 2019 at 3:00 pm in room 1107 of the La Crosse County Administrative Center, 212 6th St N, La Crosse, WI.

Members Present: Francis Schelfhout, Kurt Wayne, Sandy Sechrest, Cathy Van Maren, Peter Fletcher, Jim Longhurst, Adam Lorentz, Bob Fisher, Ginny Loehr (3:26 pm), Jackie Eastwood. **Excused:** Susan Lundsten, Krista Heinz, Carolyn Dvorak, Rick Diermeier, Steve Johnson, Linda Larson, Leroy Brown, Jack Zabrowski. **Others Present:** None.

Jackie Eastwood called the meeting to order at 3:05 pm.

1) Approval of minutes of the November 8, 2018 CTAT Meeting:

Sandy Sechrest motioned to approve the minutes of the November 8, 2018 meeting; Cathy Van Maren seconded. All others were in favor.

2) Reconsideration of alignment of Regional Route 1 extension:

Jackie Eastwood stated that she was going to present to the City of La Crosse BPAC the extension alignment of the Regional Route 1 bicycle route that was approved by the CTAT in December, but because the BPAC did not have a quorum, there was only discussion. Some concerns were raised about using Front St where the railroad tracks run up the middle of the road and suggestions were made to provide alternatives to routing through the Rivercrest Mobile Home Park. The CTAT was shown a map of modifications based on the comments received. The alignment was moved from Front St to 2nd St between King St and Market St and two alternate routes to the MHP were proposed—Pammel Creek Trail and 33rd St.

Jim Longhurst voiced his concern with the unsignalized intersection at 33rd St and Mormon Coulee Rd. Francis Schelfhout asked that a bulleted list of reasons for the changes be compiled so he can explain to the Mississippi River Parkway Commission why those changes were made. Jim Longhurst volunteered to draft the list.

Ms. Eastwood asked for an approval of the updated map so that she could take it back to the City BPAC for their approval.

Jim Longhurst motioned to approve the updated alignment of the Regional Route 1 extension; Kurt Wayne seconded. All were in favor.

3) Update on Wagon Wheel Trail connection to La Crosse:

Francis Schelfhout began by saying that the intention of the map is to be a planning document to help guide grant applications and planned projects. He then continued to describe the recommended treatments between the Wagon Wheel Trail and the connection to the Regional Route 1. Mr. Schelfhout stated that the City BPAC approved the document at its December 18, 2018 meeting. Jim Longhurst stated that with the Wagon Wheel Trail being completed between La Crescent and the boat landing, the number of riders will only go up and it's important to make those safety improvements between the current end of the Trail and La Crosse.

4) Transit projects to be amended into the TIP:

Jackie Eastwood stated that a transit project for the MTU was being amended into the TIP. Adam Lorentz continued on to say that MTU applied for funds for two electric buses, two charging stations, and the electric grid infrastructure. He stated that he's been questioned as to why MTU is still applying for diesel buses instead of all electric buses. His response has been that because MTU cannot get all of the infrastructure in place for additional electric buses and 16 of the 21 MTU buses are beyond their useful life, MTU needs buses to maintain service. The goal is to get the electric grid infrastructure in place so that the whole fleet can convert to electric.

Peter Fletcher asked if MTU would have a quick-charge station to which Mr. Lorentz responded, "No." MTU wants to be able to charge more buses at one time and they don't have a need for a quick-charge station because of how the buses operate.

5) Other updates and information items:

Adam Lorentz stated that the Automatic Vehicle Location (AVL) system should be ready to go in March.

Kurt Wayne stated that the Minnesota districts are wrapping up their district-wide bicycle plans and that he would be glad to share the information for District 6 with the committee.

Bob Fisher stated that he would be attending the Wisconsin Association of Rail Passengers meeting in April and he would like to present a resolution of support from the LAPC.

Cathy Van Maren made several announcements: 1) The La Crosse Area Transit Advocates (LATA) will be holding a meeting on Thursday, January 24 from 5:15 pm to 7:00 pm in the community room of the People's Co-op. LATA is a member of the state-wide Wisconsin Transit Alliance. 2) The Sierra Club will be hosting a discussion on Community Climate Resolution on Saturday, January 26 at 11:00 am at the South Community Library; and, 3) The Coulee Progressives will be hosting the Progresstival on Saturday, February 4 from 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm at the Concordia Ballroom.

Jim Longhurst announced two events: 1) The Conference on the Ethical City will be held at Viterbo from April 4-6. Charles Montgomery, author of *The Happy City*, will be speaking on Thursday, April 4 at 7:00 pm in the Fine Arts Center Main Theater. 2) La Crosse Bike Swap on March 2 from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm at Logan Middle School.

6) Future agenda items:

- District 6 Bicycle Plan
- Letter of support/resolution for Amtrak
- Mississippi River Parkway Commission meeting update

7) Adjourn; Next meeting TBA:

Sandy Sechrest motioned to adjourn at 3:50 pm; Kurt Wayne seconded. All others were in favor.