



# City of Madison

## Meeting Minutes - Final

### LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLANNING COMMISSION

City of Madison  
Madison, WI 53703  
www.cityofmadison.com

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Thursday, October 20, 2005

4:45 PM

215 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.  
Room 300 (Madison Municipal Building)

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## CALL TO ORDER

### 1 ROLL CALL

*Staff Present:* Debra Amesqua (Chief, Madison Fire Department); Brad Murphy (Planning Unit); Larry Nelson (City Engineering); David Trowbridge (Planning Unit).

*Others Present:* None.

**Present:** Mark N. Shahan, Matthew A. Logan, Ald. Kenneth Golden, Judy Bowser, Michael W. Rewey, Ald. Robbie Webber, Dave deFelice and Robert J. Schaefer

**Absent:** Chris R. Carlsen

### 2 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Bowser, seconded by Schaefer, to Approve the Minutes. The motion passed by acclamation.

### 3 PUBLIC COMMENT

*There were no members of the public wishing to speak in regard to future LRTPC agendas.*

## NEW BUSINESS ITEMS

### 4 DISCUSSION OF POSSIBLE MODIFICATIONS TO CITY OF MADISON'S REVIEW OF THE ANNUAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) FOR THE DANE COUNTY AREA: OVERVIEW OF ISSUE BY LARRY NELSON (CITY ENGINEER)

*Larry Nelson (City Engineer) summarized some information regarding two TIP projects that had changed while the document was still being developed - the Cottage Grove Road bridge over Interstate 90 and the Perry Street bicycle overpass of the Beltline. He said that projects in the TIP are sponsored by individual agencies and jurisdictions (often with cooperation/collaboration among others), and that both of these projects were WisDOT-sponsored. He said that it is common for projects to be modified as they move along, often as a result of local budgeting processes.*

*Nelson said that the Cottage Grove Road bridge was modified from 4-lanes to 2-lanes because of WisDOT budget problems. He said that the Perry Street overpass was deleted due to opposition from the area alder and some businesses.*

*Ald. Ken Golden suggested that the City prioritize TIP projects (City-sponsored as well as other jurisdictions) in order to help inform the process when changes may need to be*

made. Mike Rewey said that the boards and commissions do not really have much influence over project modification, noting that the staff and alders do. Supv. Al Matano said that he feels the MPO does not have as much review as they could have. Rewey said that the Cottage Grove Road 2-lane bridge will not be modified again for 20 years. He said that this is a poor short-term decision with long-term consequences, and that it would have been better to do nothing in the near term. Rewey said that there should be a City review if the "concept" of a project changes.

Mark Shahan said that the potential supporters of the Perry Street overpass were not mobilized to help keep that project in the TIP, and that ranking local projects could have helped. He hoped the LRTPC could be brought into the decision loop.

Larry Nelson said that there were changes in WisDOT personnel that affected this as well. He said that it is important for the City to continue a working relationship with WisDOT or else the City will get nothing. Bob Schaefer said that he agrees with the need to do a project correctly, even if it means waiting to do it. He felt that City commission review of projects before implementation may be helpful.

Mike Rewey said that the funds for the original Perry Street project were intended to address a specific problem, and the funds were moved to a project on Todd Drive (which would not have qualified for the funding in that program). He felt that delaying the Perry Street project would have been acceptable, but deleting it altogether is not.

Ald. Ken Golden said that the LRTPC should have a role in City-sponsored projects and other projects as well. Mike Rewey agreed, noting that many WisDOT or Dane County projects are in the City of Madison. Mark Shahan said that other jurisdictions should be informed of how Madison feels about various projects.

Ald. Ken Golden/Ald. Robbie Webber then submitted a motion:

"The Long Range Transportation Planning Commission, in its review of the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), focus on years 2-5 of the TIP and conduct three types of reviews:

- (1) advise the City of Madison members of the MPO about the comments and opinions of projects sponsored by other jurisdictions or agencies;
- (2) assist in the prioritization of City of Madison-sponsored projects; and,
- (3) make direct recommendations on projects that are not sponsored by the City of Madison, if those projects are within, abut or have a significant impact on the City of Madison.

Furthermore, the LRTPC asks City staff for its recommendations for ways the LRTPC can have a meaningful role in dealing with significant shifts/changes in project design, concept or timing (for those projects listed in the current-year TIP)."

Mark Shahan said that the emphasis should be on projects that affect the City's long-range plans and policies. Ken Golden asked that this motion be forwarded to the MPO staff, for their information.

Supv. Dave de Felice wondered in the outcome of the 2 highlighted projects would have changed with the newly-recommended LRTPC review procedure. He suggested that the current process, where the LRTPC made its comments to the MPO, works just fine and that there is a need for flexibility when issues arise (such as budgetary changes).

Mike Rewey said that he supports the recommended review process. Matt Logan said

*that it is important to help give staff some guidance on project changes. Larry Nelson pointed out that the 2 highlighted projects were quite unique and that he was unsure that the outcome would have changed much.*

*The original Golden/Webber motion carried unanimously (Ald. Brenda Konkel abstained ).*

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS ITEMS

### 5 REVIEW OF MADISON STREET WIDTH STANDARDS: OVERVIEW OF POTENTIAL REVISION TO SUBDIVISION ORDINANCE BY MEMBERS OF LRTPC STAFF TEAM AND COMMISSION DISCUSSION

*Brad Murphy provided a brief summary of the process to develop some changes to the subdivision ordinance and the staff and LRTPC discussion leading up to this point. David Trowbridge distributed a draft of a potential ordinance revision and some other materials pertaining to the review of street widths.*

*Ald. Ken Golden said that the criteria for narrower streets feels like a Planned Unit Development (PUD) process. He also said that, in section (E), there should be more flexibility - essentially allowing a 32 foot street (if it is shown to be safe and warranted) rather than requiring a 36 foot street. Murphy said that the plat review process should determine this.*

*Judy Bowser asked if prohibiting parking on one side of the street was included in the document, as a potential way to address problems on narrow streets. Brad Murphy said that it was in section (D.3), referred to as "parking regulations applicable to the street".*

*Larry Nelson suggested a review of traffic crash data over time, particularly on new streets that are constructed. He suggested conducting an audit after 3 years and 5 years on new narrow streets, to determine how they are functioning. He also suggested notifying homeowners, at the time of purchase, that the parking now allowed on their streets could change as a result of these future street audits. Finally, he said that it would be interesting to ask insurance companies to weigh in on narrow streets, to essentially determine if they feel narrow streets are less safe. Mark Shahan said that this could be an interesting project for a graduate student to work on.*

*Ald. Ken Golden wished to thank the Fire Department, City Engineering and other staff working on this issue. He felt that the City agencies most affected by narrower streets really seemed to be attempting to find a solution this time around. Golden also felt that the crash data needed to control for certain factors to be meaningful, particularly traffic volumes. Ald. Robbie Webber agreed and said that bicycle and pedestrian volumes also need to be controlled for. Larry Nelson said that the new data would do this.*

*Debra Amesqua (Fire Chief) said that her agency has not changed their position on this issue, noting that the Fire Department need 20 feet of net workable space to do their jobs properly. She said that the Fire Department feels strongly that this is needed to maintain a safe community.*

*Bob Schaefer said that it is a good idea to inform people of potential future on-street parking changes when they purchase their homes. Ald. Ken Golden said that alders will likely pressure City staff if issues like this arise.*

*Chair Mark Shahan (with LRTPC concurrence) asked that staff draft an ordinance*

revision for introduction at a future Common Council meeting, with referrals being LRTPC (lead), Public Safety Review Board, PBMVC, Plan Commission and Board of Public Works. Ald. Ken Golden, Ald. Robbie Webber and Ald. Brenda Konkol asked to join Mayor Dave Cieslewicz as sponsors of the ordinance revision.

Chief Amesqua asked if language regarding the possible remedies to address narrow street problems could be included directly into the ordinance. Larry Nelson felt that these remedies should be made part of the regular procedures. Brad Murphy said that the normal development review process would be the place to get at these issues. Ald. Brenda Konkol felt that the ordinance may not be the right place for these types of issues to be resolved.

The Commission then thanked staff for their hard work on this issue and looked forward to seeing a draft ordinance in the near future.

- 6      [02190](#)      Providing for a change on the Official Map of the City of Madison, which will add a proposed public street reservation for the widening of North and South Broom Street on platted lands, located in part of the Northeast 1/4 of Section 23, Town 07 North, Range 09 East, City of Madison, Dane County, Wisconsin. (4th AD)

**A motion was made by Ald. Golden, seconded by Bowser, to Return to Lead with the Recommendation for Approval to the BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS. The motion passed by acclamation.**

*Bob Schaefer pointed out that there could be some mistakes in the map and he suggested that staff double check them.*

7      **INFORMATION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS BY CHAIR AND COMMISSION MEMBERS**  
**- NOTE: NO DISCUSSION OF SPECIFIC ITEMS**  
**INFORMATION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS BY CHAIR AND COMMISSION MEMBERS**

*Supv. Dave de Felice handed out an article from the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel that summarized gas prices and rail transit issues in Madison and southeastern Wisconsin. Ald. Ken Golden said that commuter bus opportunities in this region could possibly be considered by LRTPC on a future agenda, given high gas prices.*

*There were no other announcements or information submitted by the Chair or Commission members.*

8      **SCHEDULE OF FUTURE MEETINGS**  
**- Next Meeting: Thursday, November 17th, 4:45 p.m., Room 300 MMB**  
**(\*note different room)**

*David Trowbridge noted that the November 17th meeting may include further consideration of street standards and, likely, consideration of the final Comprehensive Plan ordinance. He said that the meeting would again be in Room 300 MMB.*

9      **ADJOURNMENT**

**The Commission adjourned its meeting at 6:40 p.m.**