



Department of Transportation

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Director's Report – August 2, 2021

We continue to move forward on key initiatives such as BRT. Recent fatalities on East Washington Ave are very concerning and we are increasing attention and resources in this direction..

Sincerely,

Thomas W. Lynch, PE, PTOE, PTP, AICP
Director of Transportation
City of Madison

Staff

- Transportation - Philip Gritzmacher has joined the DOT staff and is replacing the position once held by Dave Trowbridge. Philip has worked in Denver, the Madison Area MPO, and the City of Sun Prairie. We are very excited for this staff addition. Right now he is directing his efforts towards the TDM ordinance.

Transit - BRT

- State Street – A fair amount of effort has been focused on the BRT State Street routing and station design. This has involved numerous station refinements to decrease the visual impact and numerous meetings with individual property owners. Preferred locations include the Madison Fresh Market (westbound) and mid-block MMOCA.
- East Washington Ave – Submitted traffic analysis and draft agreement to WisDOT regarding use of East Washington Ave for BRT. The analysis included balancing needs for pedestrian and bicycle service levels with motor vehicle travel. Coordination meeting to discuss impacts.
- Historic
 - Meeting consulting parties mid-September
 - Presenting to Landmarks Commission on September 20th for comment.
 - Subsequent submittal to SHPO
- Public Involvement meetings tentatively scheduled for September and October.

Transit - Other

- Wisconsin Transit Funding.– Metro Transit receives about 30 percent of its annual operating funding from the State. In July the state budget was approved which cuts transit funding by 50 percent in the 2022-23 budget for Tier A systems (Madison and Milwaukee). This is a loss of approximately \$8.5 million for Metro Transit. The impacts will probably be felt in the 2023 operating budget.

- Network Redesign - Presented Alternatives report to TPPB. Report likely to be posted to web week of August 2nd. September 23 possible public meeting. After public meeting, combination network will be developed.
- Smaller Service changes will go into effect August 22nd.
- Metro continue to get comments on the elimination of routes 14, 19, 56 and 57

Transportation Demand Management

- We are reinitiating refinements to the Draft TDM plan to address some of the comments received from stakeholders and the Plan Commission/TPPB meeting. We are looking towards Denver and other recently released TDM programs to see they have addressed these issues. Anticipating providing TPPB review in September.
- Will be making informational presentation to Smart Growth Madison in mid-August.

Parking Enforcement

- Continue to work with Engineering and Facilities on options for housing the PEOs on Pennsylvania Ave.
- Working on RFP for Towing contract that will now be housed within Parking budget.
- Working on purchasing processes for PEO supplies, such as uniforms, etc.

Parking Garages

- There is a potential developer/hotelier to occupy the site formally housing the Government East garage. They are requesting use of some spaces from the Wilson St garage for their use. See the finance committee presentation.

Vision Zero

- Twenty is Plenty - Signs are going up on August 9th on the two pilot neighborhoods. Meeting with neighborhoods on week of August 2nd to alert them of the coming changes.
- East Washington - Speed reduction signs and continental cross walks installed early summer. There is also a concerted effort to address speed, including message boards, reducing street capacity on weekends, and substantially increasing enforcement. Other longer-term measures are also being investigated.

Shared Streets and Slow Streets

- Sign production problems have delayed implementation of some areas. Materials needed for improved signing took significant time to get. The old undersized air conditioning system in the Traffic Engineering Sign Shop has been malfunctioning and has affected sign production.
- The protected two way bike lane was set up on Atwood Ave a few weeks ago, with improved traffic control.
- The improved Shared Streets plan was implemented on W Shore Drive and S Shore Drive on July 29.
- East Mifflin St signs will likely go up on the week of August 2.
- Sherman Ave will be implemented shortly after E Mifflin St.
- Traffic Engineering staff are working on neighborhoods meetings for Darbo Drive and Fisher Street.





Let's Talk Streets

- Madison is working on several projects this year related to how our streets work. These projects will impact the way the City makes decisions about streets in the future: how they are designed, who they serve, how they are used, and how to make them safer. We want these future decisions to be rooted in shared community values. Let's Talk Streets is public engagement effort that will shape several initiatives, such as Complete Green Streets, Vision Zero, traffic calming and Pedestrian Bicycle Enhancements. Traffic Engineering launched the event on June 15 and June 16, with 35 public members attending and providing inputs.
- Online survey is active at: www.cityofmadison.com/talkstreets
- Targeted engagement is being started to engage young people, people with disabilities and people from underserved neighborhoods.