



Department of Transportation

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Director's Report – December 19, 2022

The paragraphs below summarize some of the key efforts and events that occurred in the last month. In many ways – the past month accomplishments reflect the many years of work on Bus Rapid Transit, Transportation Demand Management, Complete Green Streets, and Intercity Bus terminal. And we began movement on locating an Amtrak passenger rail station. These are major initiatives the City has been pursuing for years.

Sincerely,

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

BRT

- The BRT ground breaking was December 15 at the Brayton lot and included the Governor, WisDOT Transportation Secretary, and Mayor Satya as speakers. Despite the weather, it was a noted success and represents a large accomplishment for Madison and area.
- We received two bidders for the BRT Main package. The apparent low bidder was generally within project budget. We will be introducing the bid award to BPW (Jan 4th) and CC (Jan17).
- Our staff and consultant team continue to on items necessary to enter a project agreement with Federal Transit Administration. This includes resolving some issues with Railroad crossings, Risk Assessments, Operating Plans, etc.
- We are beginning to prepare a Request for Qualifications for the North-South BRT line, and hope to release early in 2023.

Amtrak

- We had two meetings to kickoff the Amtrak station location study. The in-person meeting had from 100 to 150 attendees. The virtual meeting had translation services with over 300 attendees. Because of the much greater than expected attendance, coupled with staffing challenges, we were not able to offer a Q&A session for the virtual session. We will be prepared for the future meetings.
- Criteria for station location is attached, as well as an FAQ sheet. Note that determining a station location is just one small step in the overall process. Partnerships with other entities will be necessary.

Major Initiatives

- Transportation Demand Management Ordinance – passed at the Dec 6th Common Council meeting. A major accomplishment requiring quite a bit of stakeholder engagement.
- Complete Green Streets – before TPPB Dec 19th and will go to Common Council on Jan 3rd.
- Transit Oriented Development – alternate proposal goes before Common Council on Jan 17th

Parking

- Currently interviewing candidates for Parking Manager and PEO Supervisor.
- Development agreement for State Street Campus Mixed Use Development approved by Common Council. General development approved by Plan Commission.

Federal Funding

- Transportation is continuing to monitor the FRA's Corridor Identification Program – with an expected submittal due early spring.
- Working out last details for the BRT Construction agreement with FTA.

WisDOT Projects

- County AB interchange is planned for opening October 2023.
- I-39/90/94 Project – WisDOT continues in the data collection and beginning alternative development. They are coordinating with stakeholders on two potential new interchanges, one at Hoepker Road, and one as an extension of Milwaukee Street. The WisDOT website is here: <https://wisconsin.gov/Pages/projects/by-region/sw/399094/default.aspx>
- Stoughton Road Projects – WisDOT had a public involvement meeting on Oct 13. No alternatives have been developed yet. Next public involvement meetings will be in spring of 2023. More can be learned about them at this website: <https://wisconsin.gov/Pages/projects/by-region/sw/us51-corridor/default.aspx>

Other

- Another failed recruitment for Transportation Engineer. We continue to be short staffed.