

Transportation MGO 33.56

June 21, 2023



Origins of Transportation Department

Prior to 2018

- Transportation Department functioned as three separate divisions without a director
- There were 7 transportation related committees and subcommittees

Led to the rewriting of MGO 3.14 – 6/19/2018

- Created one department with three divisions, Metro, TE, and Parking
- Resumed the role of Transportation Director
- Reduced number of committees from 7 to 2 (TPPB and TC)

In 2022/23

Several New Ordinances and Responsibilities

- Complete Green Streets MGO 33.56, MGO 16.23
- Transportation Demand Management MGO 16.03

Led to the rewriting of MGO 33.56

- Created just one Transportation BCC (TC, eliminating TPPB)
- More clearly defined duties of the TC

(6) Power and Duties .

a) Transportation System Policies .

1. Work collaboratively with the Director of Planning, Community, and Economic Development to develop and recommend for adoption by the Common Council the transportation element of the City's comprehensive plan;
2. Consider, develop, and recommend for adoption by the Common Council **transportation policies and plans** for all elements of the City's transportation system;
3. Work to **eliminate any disparities that people of color** experience and people of low income experience with respect to the City's transportation policies, programs, services and destinations;
4. Make recommendations to the Common Council regarding proposed ordinances related to all elements of the City's transportation system;
5. Make recommendations to the Common Council regarding the proposed budgets of each division of the Department of Transportation;
6. **Provide annual reports to the Common Council** listing any transportation policies or plans that have been adopted by the Commission in the previous year;
7. Recommend that the Common Council establish a Disabled Parking Council of at least seven (7) members, on an ad hoc basis, pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 346.50(3m), if any proposed ordinance imposes a 3-hour or less limitation on parking of a motor vehicle used by a physically disabled person.

(b) Transportation System Oversight .

- 1. Except as provided below, the Transportation Commission **shall review and approve all major changes to the City's transportation system**, including Transit, Pedestrian, Bicycle, and Motor Vehicles elements of the City's transportation system, or changes outside of adopted policies. In approving changes, the Transportation Commission shall ensure that its decisions are consistent with the transportation element of the Comprehensive Plan and all transportation policies adopted by the Common Council.
 - i. It is authorized that the **Director of Transportation** or designee to make changes to the City's transportation system according to written policies adopted by the Transportation Commission establishing **administrative authority**, and that the Director or Designee follows the Commission's written policies when implementing such changes.*
 - ii. This requirement shall not apply to changes that related to day-to-day operations or routine maintenance.**
- 2. Additionally, the Director of Transportation or designee may make such **changes to the transportation system they deem necessary to protect the public health, safety and welfare** of users of the City's transportation system, provided that any such change is reviewed and approved by the Transportation Commission within forty-five **(45) days of implementation** if such a change is not already authorized by the written policies adopted by the Transportation Commission.*

3. The Transportation Commission **shall have the power to:**

- i. Modify the Complete Green Streets Guide.
- ii. Approve updates to the Transit Priority Network.
- iii. Approve updates to the All Ages and Abilities Bike Network.
- iv. Approve any **design variances** from the Complete Green Streets Guide.
- v. Provide recommendation to the Plan Commission for needed **variances** associated with sub-area plans and plats that propose street facilities and right-of-way widths that vary from the Complete Green Streets Guide.
- vi. Approval of **amendments** and modification to mitigation point values in the **Transportation Demand Management Program** administered by the Transportation Department, and any amendments thereto.
- vii. To hear and decide **appeals** where it is alleged there is error in a determination made by the Transportation Department or where additional relief in the form of **mitigation points** is required regarding a Transportation Demand Management Plan submitted under Sec. 16.03 MGO.
- viii. To hear and decide appeals where it is alleged there is error in any order, requirement, decision or determination made by the Transportation Department in the enforcement of Sec. 16.03 MGO.
- ix. Review and approve requests made through the **Safe Streets Madison** program after considering all program priorities and evaluation criteria.
- x. Approve any changes to the **Safe Streets Madison** program.

(c) Road Construction Projects .

Final authority for approving road construction projects lies with the Common Council, which takes action after receiving a recommendation from the Board of Public Works.

The Transportation Commission shall determine the right-of-way use and geometric designs to be included in the final plans and specifications sent to the Board of Public Works and Common Council for approval, with Transportation Commission approval required for any geometric design variances from the Complete Green Streets Guide.

In making a recommendation to the Common Council, the Board of Public Works may recommend approval of the road construction project, including the road geometry approved by the Transportation Commission, refer the road geometry decision back to the Transportation Commission for reconsideration, or recommend against approval of the road construction project on the basis that it does not agree with the Transportation Commission's decision regarding road geometry.

For road construction projects identified as appropriate for administrative approval and in compliance with the Complete Green Streets Guide, The Transportation Commission may authorize the Director of Transportation or designee to determine the right-of-way use and geometric designs to be included in the final plans and specifications sent to the Board of Public Works and Common Council for approval.

(d) Complete Green Streets .

- 1. Determine the right-of-way use and geometric designs to be included in the final plans and specifications sent to the Board of Public Works and Common Council for approval.*
- 2. Modify Complete Green Streets Guide.*
- 3. Approve updates to Transit Priority Network.*
- 4. Approve updates to the All Ages and Abilities Bike Network.*
- 5. Approve any design variances from the Complete Green Streets Guide.*

(7) *Final Decisions. Decisions made by the Transportation Commission under Section (6)(b) above related to any of the following items are final decisions **appealable to the Common Council** as provided in Section (8) below.*

(a) Transit service standards;

(b) Transit fares;

(c) Transit route additions, extensions or contractions;

(d) Transit changes in headways, and hours of service;

(e) Rules necessary to ensure safety for bus passengers;

(f) Regional transit contracts (services and pass programs);

(g) Bus routes and stops;

(h) Charter service, taxis, limousines, courtesy cars, hotel busses, jitney services, hire and drive services, ride-sharing, car-sharing, transportation network companies, subscription bus service, park and ride facilities, and any other issues pertaining to the operation of the City's transit and services;

(i) Transit for people with disabilities;

(j) Off-street parking rates;

(k) Rules necessary to ensure safe and proper operation of parking facilities;

(l) Parking revenue collection technology and systems;

(m) Pedestrian and bicycle safety, enforcement, and facility maintenance programs;

(n) School crossings;

(o) Safety programs and projects;

(p) Traffic signals

within twenty (20) days of the Transportation Commission's final decision