



City of Madison

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

Meeting Minutes - Approved LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLANNING COMMITTEE

Thursday, September 20, 2012

5:00 PM

215 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.
Room LL-110 (Madison Municipal Building)

1 CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

LRTPC Chair Robbie Webber called the 9-20-12 meeting of the Long Range Transportation Planning Committee to order.

Present: 7 -

Margaret Bergamini; Robbie Webber; Eric W. Sundquist; Lucas K. Dailey;
Chris Schmidt; Al Matano and Mark N. Shahan

Excused: 3 -

Susan M. Schmitz; Marsha A. Rummel and Steve King

2 APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM AUGUST 16, 2012 MEETING

The Minutes of the 8-16-12 LRTPC meeting were unanimously approved, on a motion submitted by Lucas Dailey/Ald. Chris Schmidt.

**A motion was made by Dailey, seconded by Schmidt, to Approve the Minutes.
The motion passed by voice vote/other.**

3 PUBLIC COMMENT

Royce Williams (representing Madison Area Bus Advocates) asked that additional progress be made regarding the intercity bus terminal. He said that the City has 35 intercity bus lines serving the area but has no permanent facility. He felt that a solution to this problem is needed, and that it will likely require City of Madison participation (possible providing the land for a terminal). He added that a site should be selected in a year or less, and that budgeting for the facility should also be pursued.

David Trowbridge reported that the upcoming Transportation master Plan will be addressing intercity transit access. He also said that the next phase of planning for the Judge Doyle Square project will be starting up this year, and will involve master planning for a larger transit-oriented development (TOD) district in the downtown. He added that this study will consider possible intercity bus terminal locations in the downtown area.

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

4 DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

There were no disclosures or recusals reported by Committee members.

NEW BUSINESS

- 5 [27528](#) Amending Sections 3.14(4)(b), (4)(c), (6)(b), (6)(c), and (7)(c) of the Madison General Ordinances to make the terms of certain members of the Transit and Parking Commission coincide with their other terms of public office.
- Mark Shahan/Eric Sundquist submitted a motion to recommend adoption of Ordinance ID 27528. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Shahan, seconded by Sundquist, to Return to Lead with the Recommendation for Approval to the COMMON COUNCIL ORGANIZATIONAL COMMITTEE. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

- 6 [27707](#) **ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING OF THE LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLANNING COMMITTEE**
- **ELECTION OF LRTPC CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR**
- Eric Sundquist/Mark Shahan moved to open nominations for LRTPC Chair. Eric Sundquist/Mark Shahan then moved to nominate Robbie Webber to serve as Chair. Lucas Dailey/Mark Shahan then moved to close nominations for Chair. The LRTPC then voted unanimously to elect Robbie Webber as LRTPC Chair.

Lucas Dailey/Mark Shahan moved to open nominations for LRTPC Vice Chair. Robbie Webber/Lucas Dailey then moved to nominate Eric Sundquist to serve as Vice Chair. Margaret Bergamini/Sup. Al Matano then moved to close nominations for Vice Chair. The LRTPC then voted unanimously to elect Eric Sundquist as LRTPC Vice Chair.

- 7 [27697](#) **OVERVIEW AND DISCUSSION OF ISSUES PERTAINING TO MADISON TRANSIT CORRIDOR STUDY AND BUS RAPID TRANSIT (BRT) ALTERNATIVES IN THE CITY OF MADISON**

Bill Schaefer and Mike Cechvala provided an overview of the Bus Rapid Transit study, which held its first public informational meeting in early September. They provided information about specific routes and streets that could be utilized for BRT. They also pointed out that the level of investment could range from low to very high, depending on the types of guideway characteristics desired.

Bill Schaefer noted that BRT has the potential to reduce transit travel times, improve the comfort and convenience of the transit experience, and thereby increase the attractiveness of transit for a whole new market of potential users. He added that BRT provides more vehicle carrying capacity in high-use areas and corridors (which now experience crush loads), and increases efficiency of Metro's operations.

Schaefer added that BRT service has the potential to enhance opportunities for transit-oriented development (TOD), in accordance with Madison's Comprehensive Plan and our numerous neighborhood plans. Finally, he pointed out that BRT has the ability to provide fast, frequent, reliable transit service (key attributes of rail service), but does so at a fraction of the capital cost of a new rail system. In addition, he said that federal funds are available for these types of projects, and Madison is well-position to take advantage of this.

Margaret Bergamini said that it is important to build a strong BRT system before development and serious traffic congestion take place, and should be done as part of major roadway construction projects (such as Verona Road, where the opportunity was missed).

Sup. Al Matano said that a BRT system could be a pre-cursor of rail and that we need to start with something now. Chair Robbie Webber urged BRT participation from other units of government, who in particular now benefit from Metro's existence.

Mark Shahan said that the UW Campus Master Plan recommended extensions of north-south streets, primarily for pedestrian circulation. He said that BRT service could help improve circulation in this area as well.

Margaret Bergamini said that the Sheboygan Avenue/Hill Farms area is highly transit-supportive, and she does not support making people walk a greater distance for faster vehicle travel time. She felt that shorter walks are more important, especially for elderly populations in this area. Robbie Webber said that pedestrian crossings of University Avenue are a major concern for residents in this area. Ald. Chris Schmidt stated that a pedestrian bridge somewhere in this area should be evaluated, to help improve access - especially for the elderly.

Mark Shahan said that he supports better transit service to the Dane County Regional Airport, noting that Metro service and ridership are very poor at the moment. Robbie Webber agreed. Shahan hoped that the BRT study could address this need. Margaret Bergamini felt that BRT need not provide direct service to the airport, but that the use of shorter shuttles (from strategic locations, like a BRT station) might be more effective.

Bill Schaefer and Mike Cechvala thanked the Committee for their comments and looked forward to returning to LRTPC over the course of the BRT project.

8 [08484](#) INFORMATION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS BY CHAIR AND COMMISSION MEMBERS

- Note: No Discussion of Specific Items

Sup. Al Matano indicated that he will have a standing conflict with LRTPC, as he serves on the Dane County Board's Executive Committee at the same time (not to mention the regular Board meetings at 7:00 p.m.). He said that the second or fourth Thursdays would be better attended by Dane County Board members of LRTPC. Chair Robbie Webber said that she would poll LRTPC members about the possibility to change standing meeting dates.

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

9 [08486](#) SCHEDULE OF FUTURE MEETINGS

David Trowbridge noted that agenda items for the October 18th meeting (5:00 p.m., Room LL-110) will likely include an overview of the Madison Area MPO's 2013 Unified Planning Work Program.

10 ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned its meeting at 7:00 p.m.