



Department of Transportation

Thomas Lynch, PE, PTOE, PTP, AICP, Director of Transportation

Madison Municipal Building
215 Martin Luther King Jr Blvd
Suite 109
P.O. Box 2986
Madison, Wisconsin 53701-2986
Phone: (608) 266-4761
Fax: (608) 267-1158

Director's Report – September 13, 2023

The paragraphs below summarize some of the key efforts and events that occurred over the summer. All divisions submitted both their capital and operating budgets, which will be presented to the Finance Committee and Transportation Commission in the coming meetings.

Sincerely,

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

E-W BRT

- Some type of construction has occurred on roughly 42 of the 50 stations. Work at each individual location is expected to take 3-4 months, but can vary depending on weather and other factors. To complete the project as quickly and efficiently as possible, crews are working at multiple sites at once. This extends construction duration at each site compared to working on one site at a time, but it reduces the construction time and cost for the project as a whole. You can learn more about the project at www.madisonbrt.com and sign up for construction updates.

N-S BRT

- On August 25 the City submitted the North-South BRT to FTA to be evaluated under the Small Starts program. The project ratings for Small Starts will be published in March of 2024. We are now answering FTA questions and providing supplemental information. The initial project estimate is roughly \$150 million. Some of this budget leverages federal funding to reconstruct Park Street into a more human and transit centered roadway.

Amtrak

- Staff and consultants have met with several property owners to refine site characteristics for most of the studied locations.
- The City's consultant has been preparing a screening memo to reduce the number of candidate sites. This memo will likely go to the TC with a subsequent Public Involvement meeting in October.
- We've hired a new Transportation Planner, Liz Callin, who will lead this study.
- WisDOT submitted an application to the Federal Rail Administration in March for the Corridor ID program for the whole state. It is expected that FRA will announce the selected corridors this fall.

Other

- Several Traffic Engineering staff gave several presentations that the Governor's Conference on Highway Safety, the week of August 28, including the plenary session
- Transportation Demand Management – The City hired Trent Schultz as the TDM coordinator, and the program has been operational since the middle of June. Eventually Trent will come before the TC with some suggested refinements.
- Staff are working through geometric details/challenges associated with the Intercity Bus Terminal, including two field tests to understand the turning abilities of intercity buses. The intercity bus terminal along with the Lake St garage is scheduled to be bid this fall.

Federal Funding

- Transportation staff will resubmit an application for the Reconnecting Communities grant due on September 28.
- Traffic Engineering will be submitting a joint application with UW Madison for a SMART grant (Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Transportation – somewhat technology focused) this October.
- Working on final details for BRT grant documents with FTA.

WisDOT Projects

- Ribbon cutting for County AB interchange is planned for September 20, 2023.
- I-39/90/94 Project – WisDOT is narrowing the number of alternatives for the US 151/I-39/90/94 interchange to two. These will be shown at a public meeting this fall. The WisDOT website is here: <https://wisconsindot.gov/Pages/projects/by-region/sw/399094/default.aspx>
- Stoughton Road Projects – WisDOT is narrowing the Stoughton Rd/East Washington Ave alternatives to four, which will be shown at a public meeting this fall. More can be learned about them at this website: <https://wisconsindot.gov/Pages/projects/by-region/sw/us51-corridor/default.aspx>