



City of Madison

City of Madison
Madison, WI 53703
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Meeting Minutes - Draft CONTRACTED SERVICE OVERSIGHT SUBCOMMITTEE

Thursday, September 14, 2017

12:00 PM

210 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.
Room 108 (City County Building)

1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Also present: Mark Opitz

Staff: Wayne Block, Chuck Kamp, Ann Schroeder, Phillip Gritzmacher

Present: 3 - Gary L. Poulson; Kenneth Golden and Jacquelyn M. Dahlke

Excused: 3 - Renee Schwass; Darwin Ward and Mick Howen

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Golden moved approval of the minutes as written; Poulson seconded. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

4. DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

There were no disclosures or recusals.

5. [48779](#)

Capital Budget Update - Wayne Block

Attachments: [2018 Metro capital budget \(002\).pdf](#)

Block said the capital budget was released by the Mayor and it went through the Finance Committee and last night to the TPC. Highlights: BRT is not a project that is imminent because Metro needs a bus facility prior to implementing BRT. Now there is a TIGER grant available that Metro is applying for. Golden: Does having the garage so far out in the budget potentially adversely affect the coming infrastructure funding? Maybe it would be better to just keep moving it a year out. Block said there was discussion about moving it up if Metro gets a TIGER grant. Metro doesn't know how the FTA would look at it. They say the funds have to be obligated by 2020. The TIF shows it in 2020, so that is consistent with guidance. Transit coaches are funded at 15 replacements per year. The whole capital budget is based upon projects funded 80% federal/20% local (except the special STP one year). This budget accepts the fact that 80% federal funding is not a possibility any more

the way federal funding now works. Metro is not requesting paratransit buses in this budget even though most are reaching the end of their useful lives. That was pulled out to meet the capital budget guidelines as well as unknowns with Family Care (FC).

Golden said 60% of paratransit rides are not FC or CIP. Kamp said 2/3 of Metro rides are MA Waiver rides. Golden said Metro needs to remember there is a group of consumers who are not MA Waiver riders. That is not to say they can't be served with contractors. But some of the negative feedback from public hearings will be from people who have built up personal relationship with Metro staff over the years. Kamp said Metro has 300,000 rides a year and 200,000 are MA Waiver. The assumption is Metro will lose all of that funding but only 1/3 of the rides because the clients are ADA paratransit eligible. It will be a learning process.

Facility repair and improvements are a large part of the budget in the coming years. Now it is obvious Metro will be staying at 1101, that facility needs a lot of work. There is a facility study going on right now for recommendations about what should be done in a phased in upgrade. First up, Metro needs a reauthorization of the roof replacement. There is federal funding available for the roof repair from previous year allocations. Transit radio system upgrade has moved into the future. Most projects are GO borrowing. Metro pushed out the replacement of the geo-locating system. The hardware on the buses is getting old and breaking, needing more frequent repairs. That hardware might not be supported in the future. The software has recently been upgraded and works well.

Kamp said in the facilities repairs and improvements, the Mead & Hunt study shows Metro hasn't allocated enough money for this and the phase-in of projects will be changing. In regard to BRT, the city is working on locally preferred options for a Small Starts project. Metro isn't done with BRT but needs a new garage to do it. Block said locally preferred alternatives will be funded by the old Project 2020 money if the state approves reassigning it. It is 50% federal and 50% federal/county/state.

Poulson said a BRT system is being pushed in Milwaukee. That would be 80% federally funded. They've had lots of neighborhood meetings. Now they want to commit construction dollars to build. They did some good public outreach. Kamp doesn't think Metro is competing for the same funding. There have been two in Michigan.

Golden said the state is getting vilified for turning down funding for rural internet. Walker turned down money for rural internet and trains at the beginning of his administration. If the state is hesitating to move the federal money from transport 2020, how much is that? Block said over \$1 million. The city already has the local match, but the state has to sign off on the authority to change from rail to bus. Golden suggested Kamp discuss with the Mayor to make this more of a public issue that the state is once again turning down money because the state has already been publicly set down by a similar issue. They might not want another public fight. Kamp said he would prefer to check in with Nick Zavos to see what is happening with his work first. Golden said this is just one suggestion. Gritzmacher said what is happening right now is holding and waiting, possibly because the new Secretary is not as familiar

with transportation as the former. Timelines are not similar to what they were in the past for many things. It's a learning curve and hopefully things will begin to move more quickly.

Block said there could be a conflict there with a state slowdown and the federal government always wanting money to be spent.

6. [48778](#) TORC Update - Chuck Kamp and Ann Schroeder

Attachments: [FINAL DRAFTER's ANALYSIS.pdf](#)
[5937transptn3rd SUB.pdf](#)

Kamp shared a letter from John Strange and the compilation of ordinance changes. CSOS has talked at previous meetings about how this changes 7 committees to 2 committees with the possibility of a regional committee. There will be the Transportation Policy and Planning Board (TPPB) and the Transportation Commission (TC). TPPB is where the regional representative would be housed if this is approved by Council next week. On page 5.g. it recommends an establishment of a regional subcommittee that would be similar to CSOS.

7. [48777](#) Ridership Reports

Attachments: [Fixed Summary Jul2017.pdf](#)
[Monthly Ridership Jul2017.pdf](#)
[Para Indicators Jul2017.pdf](#)
[Para Summary Jul2017.pdf](#)
[Route Performance Jul2017.pdf](#)
[Route Productivity Jul2017.pdf](#)

Kamp said ridership continues to be down a couple percentage points. There is a lot of discussion at Metro and APTA and other national organizations. Similar decreases are common at medium and small size systems due to gas prices and other reasons. For example, density of development on campus – people can walk and ride bikes. Overcrowding to places like Epic – people prefer to drive if they can't get a seat. Kamp said on a visit to Sen. Johnson's office, he asked his aide how she got to work. When she said bus, he asked whether she had a seat. She said yes, almost always. She can relax, do work, put in earbuds. Kamp made a comparison to Epic and said Metro has also gotten request from American Girl and Amazon among others. How can Metro grow if it can't grow? Kamp said he also heard from Rep. Duffy's office that a delay in federal money could cause some rural transit systems to have to shut down. Metro can rely on the city if the federal budget is delayed by some months. That was interesting because Duffy's office hadn't been that transit focused in the past, so maybe they are seeing transit is not just for big cities.

8. [08290](#) Reports of Member Communities/Institutions

Dahlke (Madison College) – The downtown campus is closing after fall 2018 semester. Most of those students live downtown, so it won't affect transportation much. The new south campus has been approved at Park and the Beltline. This will open August of 2019. It's right near the STP. The college continues to wrestle with their Transportation Demand Management

Plan. They are looking at funding now and will work through that.

Optiz (Middleton) – They presented the transit budget to committee yesterday and told them they would look at Sunday service for next year. The cost will be similar to Saturday service. There was some interest in that. They are working with the Chamber and Greenway station shops and office parks. Restaurants in particular have trouble hiring without available transportation. They would like to change Route 78 to provide some service and are working with Metro. Construction on University and Park is done. They put in new bus shelters. About 40% of bus stops now have boarding pads. Every year, they are adding 5 to 10 boarding pads.

Poulson (TPC) – TPC talked about the uncertainty of FC. They approved Metro having a public hearing, which will be difficult. Kamp said there are four items for the public hearing:

- 1) A recommended fare increase in February 2018 to \$4
- 2) Moving toward cash fares only in June of 2018
- 3) Move to the ADA minimum in June 2018 by discontinuing leave attended
- 4) Phase from door-to-door to curb-to-curb service in October 2018

As FC unfolds, there are ways for TPC and others to direct Metro. Golden said he just realized that Metro no longer having directly operated (DO) service is not part of the public hearing, but it seems like there would want to be more notice than just obscurely in the minutes. Metro doesn't want people angry and surprised by that.

Kamp said when the budget is done, the phase out of paratransit vehicles is part of that. But there will be other opportunities, so Metro is open to the kind of things Golden is suggesting. Golden said if Metro doesn't do something extraordinary, it is subject to being criticized. Kamp said Metro will want to have more outreach sessions with some groups – counties, ADRCs, Senior Centers – in order to explain what is being planned as well as get feedback.

Griztmacher (MPO) – The MPO is working on their system performance report. They got Metro feedback on ridership and will be making modifications. They need VMT from the state and will release the report when they get that. For the 5310 grant, they are hoping to have a POP available in the next few days. They hope to take that to the board at the next meeting and hopefully approve TIP as well. They will be getting a bus stop study from Metro to identify criteria for bus stop improvements. Ridership is down everywhere except Seattle and Houston.

Golden (TPC) – Regarding TORC, it is ironic that informally coming out of CSOS, it was a recommendation adding a non-resident member of this committee to TPC. The end result is a regional representative having nothing to do with this committee but on the policy board rather than the operations commission.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Opitz moved adjournment; Golden seconded. The meeting adjourned at 12:54 PM.