



City of Madison

City of Madison
Madison, WI 53703
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Meeting Minutes - Approved LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLANNING COMMITTEE

Thursday, May 20, 2010

5:00 PM

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

1 CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Chair Robbie Webber called the 5-20-10 meeting of the Long Range Transportation Planning Committee to order.

Present: 6 -

Margaret Bergamini; Robbie Webber; Paul E. Skidmore; Eric W. Sundquist; Steve King and Mark N. Shahan

Excused: 2 -

Gary L. Poulson and Michael A. Basford

2 APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM MARCH 18, 2010 MEETING

The Minutes of the 3-18-10 LRTPC meeting were unanimously approved, on a motion submitted by Mark Shahan/Ald. Paul Skidmore.

Tim Gruber noted that he was in attendance on March 18th. David Trowbridge said that Legistar had not yet entered his name into the system, even though he is a confirmed LRTPC member.

The Minutes of the 3-18-10 LRTPC meeting were unanimously approved, on a motion submitted by Mark Shahan/Ald. Paul Skidmore.

3 PUBLIC COMMENT

Judy Siegfried (2206 West Lawn Avenue) said that the location of the intercity rail station is very important. However, she also said that the linkage to other modes (such as local bus or commuter rail) was equally important and needs careful consideration.

Mark Shahan asked her how she finds out about the modal linkages. Ms. Siegfried said that she checks the internet for maps and schedules before going to a new City. Tim Gruber asked if there were cities she felt did a good job of intermodal linkages. She cited Boston, Portland and Charlotte.

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

NEW BUSINESS

- 4 [18267](#) Amending Section 3.14(7)(b) of the Madison General Ordinances to modify the composition of the Long-Range Transportation Planning Committee.

Eric Sundquist said that Plan Commissioners often have numerous commitments and it has become difficult to recruit 3 members for LRTPC. He said that this was the impetus for changing the LRTPC membership requirement and the ordinance. Mark Shahan said that this problem has existed for more than 10 years. Shahan did acknowledge the importance of having some Plan Commission members on LRTPC, because of the need to have a direct linkage of land use and transportation decision makers on one committee.

Ald. Steve King suggested that one member of the newly-formed Dane County Regional Transit Authority (RTA) could replace one Plan Commissioner. Mark Shahan agreed that this would be a good idea. Robbie Webber suggested requiring the RTA member to be a City resident. Ald. Paul Skidmore said that, if no RTA City residents wanted to be on LRTPC, the residency requirement could be waived. Margaret Bergamini said that this would allow for some flexibility.

Mark Shahan/Tim Gruber then submitted a motion to modify the "composition" section to make the following change:

"...one member, preferably from the Dane County Regional Transit Authority Board of Directors who resides in Madison"

That motion failed 6-1 (Shahan cast the lone "yes" vote).

Margaret Bergamini/Eric Sundquist then submitted a motion to remove the word "preferably" and modify the section to read (see underline and strikeout text changes):

"(b) Composition. The Long-Range Transportation Planning Committee shall consist of eleven (11) voting members to serve without compensation consisting of two (2) members of the Pedestrian/Bicycle/Motor Vehicle Commission, two (2) members of the Transit and Parking Commission, one (1) member of the Board of Public Works, ~~three~~ two (32) members of the Plan Commission, one (1) member of the Dane County Board of Supervisors who resides in Madison, ~~and~~ two (2) City representatives of the Metropolitan Planning Organization for Transportation Planning, and one at-large member of the Dane County Regional Transit Authority Board of Directors who resides in Madison. Of the eleven (11) Committee members, three (3) shall also be members of the Common Council. The Mayor may also designate one (1) alternate."

That motion carried, on a unanimous vote.

Margaret Bergamini/Eric Sundquist then submitted a motion to remove the word "preferably" and modify the section to read (see underline and strikeout text changes):

"(b) Composition. The Long-Range Transportation Planning Committee shall consist of eleven (11) voting members to serve without compensation consisting of two (2) members of the Pedestrian/Bicycle/Motor Vehicle Commission, two (2) members of the Transit and Parking Commission, one (1) member of the Board of Public Works, ~~three~~ two (32) members of the Plan

Commission, one (1) member of the Dane County Board of Supervisors who resides in Madison, and two (2) City representatives of the Metropolitan Planning Organization for Transportation Planning, and one at-large member of the Dane County Regional Transit Authority Board of Directors who resides in Madison. Of the eleven (11) Committee members, three (3) shall also be members of the Common Council. The Mayor may also designate one (1) alternate.”

That motion carried, on a unanimous vote.

5 [17861](#)

SUBSTITUTE-Recommending that the public railroad crossings at Blount Street, Bready Street and Livingston Street remain open to motor vehicles, bicycles and pedestrians.

Michael Waidelich (Planning Division) reported that the Economic Development Commission (EDC) recommended adding a resolved clause to the resolution:

“BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Madison supports the establishment of a new pedestrian, bicycle and limited vehicular access railroad grade crossing to planned Central Park at Few Street, as recommended by the Central Park Design and Implementation Task Force.”

Margaret Bergamini/Tim Gruber moved to adopt the resolution, with the resolved clause added by EDC. Ald. Paul Skidmore asked to be added as a co-sponsor of the resolution.

Tim Gruber said that he supports the resolution because closing streets creates more driving, air pollution and disrupts circulation (especially for bicycles and pedestrians). He also said that closing streets could cause economic development efforts in the area to suffer.

The LRTPC unanimously recommended adoption of Resolution ID 17861, as amended.

Margaret Bergamini/Tim Gruber moved to adopt the resolution.

6 [14029](#)

REVIEW AND DISCUSSION OF ISSUES PERTAINING TO INTERCITY PASSENGER TRANSPORTATION AND POTENTIAL MULTI-MODAL TRANSPORTATION STATION/TERMINAL IN THE CITY OF MADISON

David Trowbridge said that there is not any action required on this topic, but that he wanted to update the LRTPC on the high speed rail station and the process WisDOT has laid out to-date. He noted that the Governor has selected the Monona Terrace area as the location for the station, but that details need to be worked out.

Ald. Paul Skidmore said that the decision was political in nature, and he objected to the fact that the City of Madison did not have a role in the decision. He stressed the importance of station access to all other modes of travel (such as bus, parking, etc.)

Mark Shahan agreed that future station planning should accommodate all modes. He also said that Wilson Street traffic needs to be looked at, as well as the problematic intersection of John Nolen Drive, Blair Street and Williamson Street. Shahan also felt that the station site evaluation conducted by WisDOT did not consider all of the criteria important to the City of Madison.

Tim Gruber said that he supports the Monona Terrace station location, even though there are numerous challenges to the site. He suggested that intercity bus access be provided off of John Nolen Drive. Gruber also felt that the redevelopment opportunities near Monona Terrace would be enhanced, including a possible public market. He hoped that this project could be a springboard to address numerous planning issues (including redevelopment of the area and the Blair Street/John Nolen Drive intersection). Ald. Chris Schmidt agreed that Monona Terrace is a great location and that it could

help address other issues in the area.

Margaret Bergamini did not think that Monona Terrace is the best location for an intermodal terminal, noting that the Memorial Union has had problems with diesel buses (which will also need to be addressed at the new station).

Eric Sundquist said that the Yahara Station was the best location, in his opinion, but that the City should work hard to make Monona Terrace work for all modes - including intercity buses. He also said that MPO funds might be used to help with the intermodal station (given that it is a regional facility).

Tim Gruber suggested having regular reports to the LRTPC on this topic. David Trowbridge said that he would do this. Ald. Chris Schmidt also suggested reviewing some of the details of the track design, throughout the City. For example, he wondered if the tracks through Central Park could be moved a block to the north (since the project is rebuilding the tracks anyway).

Margaret Bergamini also reported that the Charter Street power plant on the UW campus will soon be burning bio-fuels, which will require numerous trainloads of biomass products per day. She said that it is not yet clear which tracks the trains will be using, but that it could affect rail traffic in the Central Park/isthmus area. Ald. Chris Schmidt said that most of the biomass facilities being discussed were west of Madison, but that could change. Eric Sundquist said that the southwest bike path near the plant could be closed for some time, so he asked that LRTPC be kept up to date on the project's progress.

7 [08484](#) **INFORMATION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS BY CHAIR AND COMMISSION MEMBERS**

- Note: No Discussion of Specific Items

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

8 [08486](#) **SCHEDULE OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

David Trowbridge said that the June 17th meeting (5:00 p.m., Room LL-110) would likely include continued discussion of potential transportation demand management (TDM) initiatives in the City of Madison, and potentially a review of the Verona Road Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement (SDEIS).

Eric Sundquist noted that he would not be at the June 17 meeting.

9 **ADJOURNMENT**

The Committee adjourned its meeting at 6:35 p.m.