

CHIPPEWA-EAU CLAIRE

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION



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Minutes of the Chippewa-Eau Claire Metropolitan Planning Organization Policy Council

Wednesday, October 4th, 2023, 5:30 p.m.

Held at: Room 405H, Building 2, Banbury Place, 800 Wisconsin Street, Eau Claire, WI

Members Present (8): Gary Spilde - Village of Lake Hallie (Chair), Jim Dunning – Eau Claire County (Vice-chair), Dean Mueller – Chippewa County, Matt Biren – City of Altoona, Gregory Hoffman – Chippewa Falls, Emily Berge – City of Eau Claire, Rod Eslinger – Town of Halle, Alice Droske – Town of Wheaton,

Members with no representative in attendance present (9): Town of Anson, Town of Brunswick, Town of Eagle Point, Town of Lafayette, Town of Pleasant Valley, Town of Seymour, Town of Tilden, Town of Union, Town of Washington

Staff Present: Eric Anderson, Edwin Rothrock - Chippewa-Eau Claire MPO

Minutes

1. Chairman Spilde called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.
2. Welcome and Introductions
3. Review and Approval of the minutes of the August 23rd, 2023 MPO Policy Council meeting and Public Hearing. Mr. Dunning moved to approve; Mr. Biren seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
4. The minutes of the September 13th, 2023, MPO Technical Advisory Committee meeting were reviewed.
5. Mr. Anderson presented the proposal to amend the 2023 Chippewa-Eau Claire MPO Work Program to add around \$25,000 in unspent 2023 Urban Area funding to the 2024 Work Program. He explained that the money moved from 2023 would need to be spent prior to any of the allocated 2024 funding. Mr. Hoffman moved to approve: Ms. Berge seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
6. Mr. Anderson presented the 2024 Chippewa-Eau Claire MPO Work Program for approval. There was some general discussion about how the projects had been chosen. There were some questions from Members about whether specific projects were included; all that were asked about were included. Ms. Berge made a motion to approve the 2024 Work Program. Mr. Eslinger seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
7. Mr. Anderson presented the proposed 2024-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). He explained that a new TIP had to be approved for even-numbered years. Mr. Hoffman made a motion to approve the TIP. Mr. Biren seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
8. Mr. Anderson presented the Title VI and the Public Participation Plans for approval. He discussed some of the provisions of the plans and how language translation versions of documents would be supplied on request, but that the MPA did not have a high enough percentage of residents that are non-proficient in English to require that all documents be translated. Ms. Berge moved to approve the plans. Mr. Mueller seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
9. Mr. Anderson presented the proposed Adjusted Urban Area Boundary map. He and Mr. Rothrock discussed the process for developing the maps and highlighted areas where there were significant changes from the previous Urban Area map which had been based on 2010 Census data. There was some discussion about areas that had moved into and out of the Urban area. Ms. Droske asked about an addition in the Town of Wheaton west of the newly developed Eau Claire Event Center (a.k.a. Country Jam), specifically whether the Towns in the MPA had been consulted during the development of the map. Mr. Anderson stated that personnel in both Counties, all three Cities, and the Village had all been consulted with, but not with each of the eleven Towns. Ms. Droski

shared that she was disappointed that the Town of Wheaton had not been informed about the changes included in the new map. Staff also discussed that the revision of the MPA boundary was the next step in the multi-tiered changes flowing from the 2020 Census. Mr. Anderson explained that the Town of Wheaton would be included in the discussion around that process. Mr. Hoffman moved to approve the updated Adjusted Urban Area Boundary. Mr. Eslinger seconded the motion. The motion passed with 7 “Aye” votes and one “Nay” vote from Ms. Droski.

10. Other business

- a. Mr. Anderson shared again that Mr. Michael Mills has left the Regional Planning Commission. Mr. Anderson also shared that the recruitment process to hire a replacement is showing promising signs.

11. The next meeting date was tentatively set for January 31st, 2024.

12. Adjournment – Mr. Muller moved to adjourn the meeting; Mr. Hoffman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Spilde adjourned the meeting at 6:32 p.m.