

CHIPPEWA-EAU CLAIRE

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION



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Minutes of the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) of the Chippewa-Eau Claire Metropolitan Planning Organization

Meeting held in the Eau Claire Room at Banbury Place, 800 Wisconsin St., Eau Claire WI with online access via Zoom, April 19, 2023, 1:30 p.m.

Members present: Fred Anderson – Chippewa County Highway Department, Dave Walter – City of Altoona Engineering, Rick Rubenzer – City of Chippewa Falls, Brad Hentschel – City of Chippewa Falls, Ned Noel – City of Eau Claire Planning, Leah Ness – City of Eau Claire Engineering, Jon Johnson (*Zoom*) – Eau Claire County Highway Department, Rod Eslinger – Eau Claire County Planning & Development (and Town of Hallie), Tina Deetz – Eau Claire Transit, Karl Buck – FHWA, Wes Vleck – Town of Brunswick, Dave Stabler (*Zoom*) – Town of Lafayette, Dan Hanson – Town of Pleasant Valley, Jean Eisold – Town of Seymour, Jennifer Meyer - Town of Union, Janelle Henning – Town of Washington, Steve Harmon – Town of Wheaton, Gary Spilde – Village of Lake Hallie, Sara Husen (*Zoom*) – WisDOT, Dena Ryan (*Zoom*) – WisDOT NW Region

Staff present: Eric Anderson – Director Chippewa-Eau Claire Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), Edwin Rothrock - Chippewa-Eau Claire MPO, Chris Straight - WCWRPC

Minutes

1. Mr. Anderson called the meeting to order a 1:32 pm.
2. An attendance Roll Call was conducted.
3. The minutes of January 11, 2023, MPO TAC meeting were **approved by all present** following a motion by Ms. Henning, seconded by Mr. Rubenzer.
4. Mr. Straight presented the Supplemental Staff Report for the Sewer Service Area (SSA) “Orchard Hills” Amendment based on the modified request submitted by the City of Eau Claire. The presentation provided some background information for the benefit of those TAC members who were not familiar with the SSA plan and the history of this Amendment request. Mr. Straight then focused on the changes to the plan directly attributable to the updated request from the City, specifically, the change to the donor area. Mr. Straight also relayed the request from the WDNR that the MPO only consider the changes in the update, since the WDNR has all the feedback from the MPO’s original advisory decision. The recommendation from the staff report was to recommend approval of the Amendment request.

TAC members then engaged in a discussion of the modified amendment. The meaning of the word “void” was discussed, as was the consideration of whether the Amendment was being used in the “furtherance or hindrance of an annexation” as addressed in the SSA Plan. Also discussed was whether the City’s modified request dated January 20th, 2023, provided sufficient information to address the WDNR’s concerns stated in their November 28th, 2022, letter. There was also discussion of whether the “donor” area was appropriate to be swapped with the “receiving” area due to the varying potential for development density of the two areas. Also mentioned was the high percentage of Environmentally Sensitive Areas (ESAs) in the modified donor area and the possibly positive impact on overall water quality were those ESAs to be removed from the SSA. It was also questioned whether the MPO TAC should make a recommendation at this time given that the time limit for the Town of Washington to contest the annexation had not passed. Consensus was not reached on these discussion items.

At the end of the discussion, Ms. Henning moved to recommend to the MPO Policy Council the Denial of the Amendment Request. Mr. Hanson seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. The results were 7 votes for recommending Denial, 8 votes against recommending Denial, with 6 abstentions. The Motion Failed.

Mr. Hentschel moved to recommend to the MPO Policy Council Approval of the Amendment Request. Mr. Walter seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. The results were 8 votes for Recommending Approval, 7 votes against Recommending Approval, and 6 abstentions. The motion to Recommend Approval Passed.

5. Mr. Anderson presented the proposed Amendment #10 (Projects) to the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for the Eau Claire Urbanized Area, 2022-2026. After a motion to recommend this amendment be adopted by the Policy Council was made by Ms. Deetz, seconded by Ms. Ness, **all members present voted "Aye."**
6. Mr. Anderson presented the proposed Amendment #11 (Performance Measures: PM1 Safety) to the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for the Eau Claire Urbanized Area, 2022-2026. A motion to recommend this amendment be adopted by the Policy Council was made by Ms. Ness, seconded by Mr. Spilde. **All members present voted "Aye."**
7. Mr. Anderson presented the proposed Amendment #12 (Performance Measures: TAM and PTASP) to the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for the Eau Claire Urbanized Area, 2022-2026. A motion to recommend this amendment be adopted by the Policy Council was made by Mr. Rubenzer, seconded by Mr. Harmon. **All members present voted "Aye."**
8. Mr. Anderson presented the staff Rankings and recommendations for allocation of the approximately \$281,000 provided to the MPO from funds made available through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill under the Carbon Reduction program. 5 projects were submitted, but one from Eau Claire County could not be funded within the allowed 50-80% range, so it was eliminated from consideration. The remaining 4 projects, all for streetlight upgrades to LED lamps, were recommended for approval. The total of those projects, when funded at the maximum of 80%, totaled to \$279,200. MPO staff recommended approval of that funding level for the 4 projects. A motion to approve the funding as recommended was made by Mr. Rubenzer and seconded by Mr. Eslinger. **All members present voted "Aye."**
9. Mr. Anderson led a discussion of ideas for promoting Vision Zero planning within the MPO. He suggested producing flyers, posters, and handouts that discuss existing conditions, goals, and various strategies for reducing deaths from vehicular crashes within the MPA in pursuit of attaining zero deaths. The members were supportive of this approach. Staff will come back to the TAC with mock-ups of these pieces in future meetings.
10. Other Business - none
11. Establish the next meeting date tentatively as August 9, 2023.
12. Ms. Henning moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Rubenzer. **All voted "Aye."** The meeting adjourned at 3:17 pm.