



# La Crosse Area Planning Committee

*Metropolitan Planning Organization  
Serving the La Crosse/La Crescent Urbanized Area*

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## Minutes of LAPC Meeting, July 19, 2017

**Minutes of the meeting of the La Crosse Area Planning Committee** held on Wednesday, July 19, 2017 at 4:30 pm in Room 1107 of the La Crosse County Administrative Center, 212 6<sup>th</sup> St S, La Crosse, WI.

**Members Present:** Joe Chilsen, City of Onalaska; Rolly Bogert, Town of Onalaska; Nancy Proctor, Village of Holmen; Tim Candahl, Town of Shelby; Mike Poellinger, City of La Crescent; Tara Johnson, La Crosse County; David Marshall for Tim Kabat, City of La Crosse. **Members Excused:** Terry Schaller, Town of Campbell; Tim Kabat, City of La Crosse; Mike Weibel, Town of Medary; Dennis Manthei, Village of West Salem. **Others Present:** Mike Giese, Stephanie Averbeck, Krista Heinz, Chris Hubbuch, Jason Gilman, Francis Schelfhout, Sharon Hampson, Joann Schaller, Chuck Lee, Tom Faella, Jackie Eastwood.

**Call to Order:** Joe Chilsen called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm.

**1) Approval of Minutes of the May 17, 2017 LAPC Meeting:**

*Mike Poellinger motioned to approve the minutes of the May 17 meeting; Nancy Proctor seconded. All were in favor.*

**2) Public comment relative to agenda items, with 5 minute time limit per comment:**

The opportunity to provide public comment was called three times. No comments were received.

**3) 2017 Surface Transportation-Urban Program Applications Prioritization:**

Tom Faella stated that this year we don't yet have an exact dollar figure for the amount of available funding. We have a range between \$386,000 and \$524,000. Two applications were submitted for funding—the City of Onalaska for six vans at \$204,000 and the City of La Crosse for pavement replacement on Green Bay St for \$496,000. If we get the full \$524,000, we could fund both projects at 80%. The TAC recommended that we fund the two projects at the same federal/local share based on the final funding allocation.

*Mike Poellinger motioned to approve funding both projects at equal percentages of what we receive from WisDOT; Nancy Proctor seconded. All were in favor.*

**4) Resolution 3-2017 Amending the 2017-2020 TIP:**

Tom Faella provided an overview of the three projects added to the TIP. Tara Johnson asked for clarification on the Couleecap project to which Mr. Faella responded that Couleecap is receiving a WETAP grant to continue an existing program.

*Mike Poellinger motioned to approve Resolution 3-2017 amending the 2017-2020 TIP to include the USH 53 Black River Bridge, CTH B Black River Bridge, and Couleecap projects; Tim Candahl seconded. All were in favor.*

**5) Transportation Demand Management Next Steps:**

Tom Faella stated that the three TDM meetings produced good discussion, which he summarized into a document listing the measures each municipality suggested it could implement. The TAC will assist with implementation and monitoring activities and then report back to the Policy Board next year. Tara Johnson asked what the TAC would be doing and if there would be separate workgroups to address overlap. Mr. Faella agreed that there should be coordination to avoid duplicating activities, but he thinks that can be accomplished through the TAC and CTAT and not through new committees or workgroups.

**6) Main Activities and Budget of the 2018 Planning Work Program:**

Tom Faella stated that he put together a budget and list of work activities for LAPC staff for 2018. The final budget and list of activities will be incorporated into the work program, which will be approved in September. Mr. Faella notified the Board that the TAC discussed hiring a new planner at its July 12 meeting. Mr. Faella included a new planner in the 2018 budget because the LAPC had been talking about it for a number of years, and WisDOT has been providing extra planning dollars. The reaction at the TAC was mixed. Two major points were raised that questioned the prudence of hiring a new planner: 1) Will the extra money from WisDOT continue? And 2) Will hiring a new planner mean losing funding for the local studies program? Mr. Faella proceeded with highlighting the 2018 activities.

*Mike Poellinger motioned to approve the work program activities with the caveat that the work program activity to hire a new planner be brought back to the Policy Board before the hiring process begins; Rolly Bogert seconded. Discussion commenced.*

Tara Johnson commented that she is not comfortable with hiring a new staff person at this time. Mike Poellinger commented that he sees the hiring as a year-long process and could be done in 2019—enough time to see if the funding would be there. Tim Candahl said he would like to see a job description. Ms. Johnson added that it would be helpful to understand what money the local studies may have leveraged and would like to understand more of what we'd be giving up before agreeing to the tradeoff. Mike Poellinger stated that in the case of La Crescent, they were able to leverage grant monies. Nancy Proctor and Joe Chilsen both voiced leaning towards keeping the local studies program.

*With a motion on the table by Mike Poellinger and seconded by Rolly Bogert, the motion was voted down unanimously.*

*Mike Poellinger motioned to prepare the 2018 Planning Work Program for approval at the September LAPC meeting, without a new planner and retaining the local studies program; Nancy Proctor seconded. All were in favor.*

**7) Kickoff of Public Review of Public Participation Plan and Title VI Plan:**

Jackie Eastwood stated that this Title VI Plan is an update to the 2014 Plan and basically updates the data. The Title VI Plan ensures that the LAPC does not discriminate based on race, ethnicity, etc. in its plans and programs. The Public Participation Plan (PPP) has been updated to include an evaluation of our outreach activities, an assessment of our ADA practices, and a public participation improvement plan. A public comment period began on July 7 and will conclude on September 15. The PPP requires a 45 day public comment period, but we're providing significantly more time than that.

Questions were asked as to how public notice was announced to which Ms. Eastwood responded that she sent an e-mail out to our extensive public list. Tom Faella added that the notice was posted on our website and sent to the media.

**8) Other business; Adjourn; Next meeting to be announced:**

*Mike Poellinger motioned to adjourn at 5:27 pm; Nancy Proctor seconded. All were in favor.*