



La Crosse Area Planning Committee

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

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Minutes of LAPC Meeting, March 21, 2018

Minutes of the meeting of the La Crosse Area Planning Committee held on Wednesday, March 21, 2018 at 4:30 pm in room 1107 of the La Crosse County Administrative Center, 212 6th St N, La Crosse, WI.

Members Present: Jerry Monti, alternate, Town of Onalaska; Joe Chilsen, City of Onalaska; Mike Weibel for Linda Seidel, Town of Medary; Tim Candahl, Town of Shelby; Nancy Proctor, Village of Holmen; Tara Johnson, La Crosse County. **Members Excused:** Terry Schaller, Town of Campbell; Tim Kabat, City of La Crosse; David Marshall, alternate, City of La Crosse; Rolly Bogert, Town of Onalaska. **Others Present:** Francis Schelfhout; Mike Giese; Bob Fisher; Jim Krueger; Chuck Lee; Pat Wilson; Carolyn Dvorak; Julie and Rick Diermeier; Tom Faella; Jackie Eastwood.

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

1) Approval of Minutes of the January 17, 2018 LAPC Meeting:

Nancy Proctor motioned to approve the minutes of the January 17, 2018 meeting; Tara Johnson seconded. All were in favor.

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

Bob Fisher introduced himself and stated that he represented a couple of rail passenger groups in the area—the Wisconsin Association of Rail Passengers and All Aboard Wisconsin. Mr. Fisher related the recommendation of the TAC to fully fund two local studies and to fund the Amtrak study with the balance. He asked that the Policy Board fully fund the train study, with the shortfall from local studies funds coming from LAPC reserve funds.

Rick Diermeier introduced himself and stated that he was a member of the LAPC CTAT, the La Crosse Sustainability Commission, and the Outdoor Recreation Alliance. Mr. Diermeier spoke in favor of *Resolution 03-2018 Creating a Policy to Prioritize Safety and to Support Vision Zero Activities*, asking that the Policy Board approve the resolution.

3) 2017 Surface Transportation-Urban Program Update:

Tom Faella stated that we still have no news about the 2017 allocation. Michael Erickson has stated that WisDOT has no stated schedule for the 2017 funding program.

4) Resolution 2-2018 Amending the LAPC 2018-2021 Transportation Improvement Program:

Tom Faella stated that three flood relief projects and a Transportation Economic Assistance program project were added to the TIP.

Tim Candahl motioned to approve Resolution 2-2018 Amending the LAPC 2018-2021 Transportation Improvement Program; Jerri Monti seconded. All were in favor.

5) Resolution 3-2018 Supporting Vision Zero Policies:

As an introduction to the Policy Board taking up the Vision Zero resolution, Jackie Eastwood presented an overview of the history of Vision Zero, its impact in the United States, why the LAPC should adopt a policy, and what LAPC staff will be doing next, including approaching the City of La Crosse.

Tara Johnson motioned to approve Resolution 03-2018 Creating a Policy to Prioritize Safety and to Support Vision Zero Activities; Nancy Proctor seconded.

Joe Chilsen suggested using UWL students for project research if needed. Tara Johnson liked the recommendation to target the City of La Crosse because of the identified risk areas. Joe Chilsen and Tara Johnson volunteered to speak with mayor Kabat on the matter.

With a motion on the table, Joe Chilsen called for a final vote. All were in favor.

6) Transportation Alternatives Program:

Tom Faella stated that the TAP projects were prioritized by the CTAT on March 8th and that our area is not allocated a set amount. We rank the projects and send the ranking to WisDOT for consideration. Mr. Faella proceeded to describe each of the five projects in the order in which they were ranked:

- ① La Crosse County SRTS
- ② City of La Crosse SRTS Plan
- ③ STH 16 Trail Connector
- ④ 2nd St buffered bike lane
- ⑤ La Crosse River bicycle/pedestrian bridge

Mr. Faella stated that the ranking was close. Jackie Eastwood added that because the City of La Crosse submitted two projects and La Crosse County submitted three, they were required to rank their own projects also and the results of the CTAT ranking mirrored the priorities of the City and County.

Tim Candahl then asked Francis Schelfhout about the design of STH 35/USH 14/61 project. Mr. Candahl stated that Shelby and La Crosse would like to see a separated trail to Goose Island. Mr. Schelfhout related the information from a public information meeting held on February 21 [information can be found on the [WisDOT website](#)].

7) LAPC Local Studies Program:

Tom Faella stated that three projects had been submitted: an intersection control study in Holmen; an economic impact analysis of the bicycle network in La Crosse; and phase 2 of the Amtrak Second Empire Builder study. The amount available in local studies funds is \$77,515, which leaves a shortfall of \$6,085. The TAC recommended that the two local projects (Holmen and La Crosse) be fully funded, with the balance of \$33,915 to go to the Amtrak study. In response to Bob Fisher's public comment, Tara Johnson asked about the status of the LAPC reserve funds to which Tom Faella responded that we have about \$200,000. The last time the LAPC used reserve funds was last year for LIDAR. We have also used reserve funds for the Coulee Vision 2050 plan and for aerial photography.

Tara Johnson motioned to fund the Holmen study at \$11,600, the La Crosse study at \$32,000, and the Amtrak study at \$33,915, with an award of the balance of \$6,085 to the Amtrak study at the end of the year if the money becomes available; Nancy Proctor seconded. All were in favor.

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

Tara Johnson asked that a future agenda item be for the LAPC to consider new public safety facilities and to take up the conversation from a regional perspective. She suggested Karl Green be part of that conversation.

Tim Candahl voiced his frustration with the inaction of getting a trail put in along Mormon Coulee Creek. Tom Faella offered staff assistance with applying for federal funds.

Nancy Proctor motioned to adjourn at 5:10 pm; Mike Weibel seconded. All were in favor.