



# La Crosse Area Planning Committee

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

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## Minutes of Technical Advisory Committee Meeting, July 12, 2017

**Minutes of the meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee** held on Wednesday, July 12, 2017 at 2:30 p.m. in Room 1107 of the La Crosse County Administration Center, 212 6<sup>th</sup> St N, La Crosse, WI.

**Members Present:** Scott Halbrucker, Don Smith, Ron Chamberlain, Jim Krueger, Jarrod Holter, Rolly Bogert, Katie Aspenson, Dean Olson, Becky Lakowske, Jason Gilman, Francis Schelfhout. **Members Excused:** Bobbi Retzlaff, Matt Gallager, Bob Fisher, Ginny Loehr. **Others Present:** Tom Faella, Jackie Eastwood.

### 1) Approval of the Minutes of the May 17, 2017 TAC Meeting:

*Katie Aspenson motioned to approve the minutes of the May 17, 2017 meeting; Jarrod Holter seconded. All were in favor.*

### 2) 2017 Surface Transportation-Urban Program Applications Prioritization:

Tom Faella first provided an update on the status of the current STP-U projects. He stated that all projects are ongoing. Some have moved in schedule, but none has changed in allocation. WisDOT is looking at doing construction review in-house instead of contracting with a design consultant which would free up money for the program. Depending on the decision, the LAPC could have between \$340,000 and \$524,000 for the STP-U program this cycle. The two projects that were submitted total \$505,200. If WisDOT reviews in-house, both projects could be funded in their entirety. Jackie Eastwood reviewed and prioritized the two projects, resulting in the La Crosse project ranking only two points above the Onalaska project. Neither project fit well with the criteria nor rose to the top. Jason Gilman suggested adjusting the local share for both projects based on the amount we get.

Tom Faella stated that because we haven't gotten an actual dollar figure from WisDOT, we could revisit this in September.

*Don Smith motioned to accept the pro rata concept offered by Jason Gilman based on what is available and up to a maximum of 80% federal share, with the opportunity to revisit the recommendation in September. Dean Olson seconded. All were in favor.*

### 3) 2017 – 2020 TIP Amendment:

Tom Faella stated that WETAP funds were made available to Couleecap, requiring a TIP amendment to add the project to the TIP project list.

*Ron Chamberlain motioned to approve the 2017-2020 TIP amendment to include the Couleecap project; Scott Halbrucker seconded. All were in favor.*

### 4) Transportation Demand Management Next Steps:

Tom Faella referred to the summary document that had been passed out saying that the next step in the process is to keep track of what the municipalities said they will/could do over the next year to support TDM and to report the progress to the Policy Board next year. He noted that the City of La Crosse is conducting a similar activity. Jason Gilman emphasized that the City's process is a complement to the LAPC's work with municipalities by developing partnerships with businesses and developing a public/private policy.

**5) Main Activities of the 2018 Planning Work Program:**

Tom Faella stated that every year LAPC staff develop a list of main work activities for the following year. For 2018, the big change is in hiring another transportation planner. In the past, the money has been used to fund local studies, but with additional activities needed to be accomplished by staff, the better way to go would be to hire another planner.

Discussion commenced over the reliability of funding from the State to continue support of another person, the value of the local studies program, and how to present the concept of a new planner to the Policy Board. Tom Faella stated that an additional planner would likely come at the expense of the local studies program, but more regional work could be done in-house.

*Dean Olson motioned to pursue adding a staff person with the condition that funding continues to be available from WisDOT; Scott Halbrucker seconded.*

Discussion ensued over the details of the job duties of the new person. Tom Faella suggested that we could wait another year and make a decision in 2019. Jarrod Holter asked that the Policy Board be shown a list of the projects funded through local studies. Katie Aspenson suggested differentiating the activities that are required to be done from those that are on a wish list.

*With a motion on the table, Becky Lakowske, Francis Schelfhout, Jason Gilman, Jim Krueger, Rolly Bogert, Jarrod Holter, and Katie Aspenson were in favor; Don Smith and Ron Chamberlain were opposed.*

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

Jackie Eastwood stated that the Public Participation Plan (PPP) and the Title VI Plan were available for public comment and could be accessed on the LAPC website. Public comments will be accepted until September 15, 2017. The most change occurred in the PPP, which includes an assessment of current outreach activities and LAPC compliance with the American's with Disabilities Act (ADA), and a public participation improvement plan. The data and the document format were updated in the Title VI Plan.

**7) Other Business, Adjourn, Next meeting to be announced:**

Don Smith described the location of rumble strips on TH 14/61 between La Crosse and La crescent. He stated that the rumble strips were put on the edge of the pavement instead of at the fog line and that he sent an e-mail to MnDOT pointing out the negatives of that design. Francis Schelfhout commented that FHWA has been recommending rumble strips at the fog line so as to alert motorists as soon as possible that they have left the travel lane.

*Katie Aspenson motioned to adjourn at 4:15 pm; Ron Chamberlain seconded. All were in favor.*