



La Crosse Area Planning Committee

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

Peter Fletcher, Director Jackie Eastwood, Transportation Planner
La Crosse County Administrative Center
212 6th Street North ☐ Room 1200 ☐ La Crosse, WI 54601-1200
PH: 608.785.5977 Website: www.lapc.org

**LA CROSSE AREA PLANNING COMMITTEE
Minutes of November 20, 2019
Administrative Center – Room 1107**

MEMBERS PRESENT:	Mike Poellinger (Chair), Patrick Barlow, Tara Johnson (exc. 5:31 p.m.), Mike Giese, Martin Gaul, Dennis Manthei, Linda Seidel, Tim Candahl (exc. 4:47 p.m.), Rolly Bogert, Terry Schaller, Joe Chilsen (exc. 5:21 p.m.)
MEMBERS EXCUSED:	None
OTHERS PRESENT:	Steve O'Malley, Peter Fletcher, Jackie Eastwood, Francis Schelfhout, Dave Bonifas, Adam Lorentz, Jason Gilman, Terri Pavlic

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Mike Poellinger called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT: There was no public comment.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 18, 2019 LAPC MEETING

MOTION by Gaul/Manthei to approve the minutes of the September 18, 2019 La Crosse Area Planning Committee meeting. **Motion carried unanimously.**

APPROVE 2020 WORK PROGRAM (RESOLUTION 11-2019)

The planning work program and resolution were reviewed at the September LAPC meeting. Since that time, a work program review meeting with both DOTS was held, and the reviewing agencies approved of the draft planning work program. Only a couple of minor changes since the September meeting have been made: the local studies program discussion regarding aerial photography was updated as well as contact information for federal and state agencies. There is a \$325,000 budget included within the document; 37% of funding is going to program support and administration of the MPO; 24% for long range transportation planning and the interim MTP update taking place in 2020; 12% for short range planning and multimodal transportation; 5% for TIP (Transportation Improvement Program) and 22% for the local studies program including the aerial flight. The TAC recommended approval at their last meeting. **MOTION** by Barlow/Bogert to approve. **Motion carried unanimously.**

APPROVE AMENDMENT TO THE 2019-2022 TIP (RESOLUTION 12-2019)

This resolution is to approve an amendment to the 2019-2022 TIP (Transportation Improvement Program). The amendment is for \$421,500 being obligated in 2019 toward the purchase of a clean diesel bus for MTU. **MOTION** by Gaul/Manthei to approve. **Motion carried;** Schaller abstained.

APPROVE AMENDMENT TO THE 2020-2023 TIP (RESOLUTION 13-2019)

This resolution is an amendment to the 2020-2023 TIP. Three changes were noted: The project for the MTU clean diesel bus obligated in 2019, and capital acquired in 2020; a Pavement Marking Project was added, and La Crescent Transit Funding of \$55,000 was



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increased to \$112,000. The TAC recommended approval. **MOTION** by Gaul/Manthei to approve. **Motion carried**; Schaller abstained.

DISCUSSION AND CLARIFICATION – 2021 LOCAL SHARE DUES INFLATION RATES

The local share dues to the LAPC have not been increased since 2004. At the last meeting, dues for the LAPC were discussed and an increase was approved raising the annual dues based on the rate of inflation, but no specific inflation rate indicator was selected. Peter Fletcher showed information from the Bureau of Labor Statistics based on the Consumer Price Index, as well as information on the inflation rate the MPO utilizes received from the Wisconsin DOT. The Wisconsin DOT inflation rate represents the consumer price index annual inflation rate averaged over the previous 10 years. **MOTION** by Gaul/Johnson to have the annual increase of local share dues calculated using the Wisconsin DOT Inflation rate received by the MPO. **Motion carried unanimously.**

REVIW/DISCUSS BYLAWS (WEIGHTED VOTING)

Peter Fletcher indicated that they are in the process of reviewing the LAPC bylaws. In this process, they noticed that the weighted voting process is based on the 2000 census data and has not been updated since. The current bylaws do not explain how weighted vote numbers were established. Peter formulated three different weighted voting options based on the 2010 Census for the LAPC to consider: Options A & B are both based on municipality population ranges; Option C is based on Equalized Value ranges. **MOTION** by Gaul/Johnson to approve Option A; **Motion fails on an 8/1 vote**; Gaul voted yes; Candahl excused.

MOTION by Gaul/Seidel to use Option B, changing the weighted votes as follows: City of La Crosse to 30 instead of 27; the City of Onalaska to 16 instead of 17; and the Village of Holmen to 10 instead of 12. **Motion carries on a 6/3 vote**: Ayes were Manthei, Johnson, Poellinger, Chilsen, Seidel, Gaul; Nays were Barlow, Bogert, Schaller; Candahl excused.

LAPC Weighted Vote by Population Range - 2010 Census*

LAPC Municipality	Census 2010 Population	Percent of Population by LAPC Municipalities 2010	Weighted Vote Determined by Municipality Population Range	Weighted Votes	
Town of Medary	1,461	1.4%	0 to 4,000	4	
Town of Campbell	4,314	4.2%		8	
Town of Shelby	4,715	4.5%		8	
Village of West Salem	4,799	4.6%		4,001 to 8,000	8
City of La Crescent	4,830	4.7%			8
Town of Onalaska	5,623	5.4%			8
Village of Holmen	9,005	8.7%	8,001-12,000	10	
City of Onalaska	17,736	17.1%	12,001 to 30,000	16	
City of La Crosse	51,320	49.4%	30,001 to 60,000	30	
Totals	103,803	100.0%		100	

*LAPC approval November 20, 2019



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TOWN COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE – PROPOSAL

Peter Fletcher has had the opportunity to meet with several member community boards and councils in the MPO area. The LAPC has four dues paying member Towns: Campbell, Medary, Onalaska and Shelby.

The Town's comprehensive plans were completed 10-15 years ago, and are outdated – per Wisconsin state planning law. These Towns have limited/no planning staff, and grant funding is no longer available, so plan updates are put off due to lack of funding.

Peter discussed his new LAPC Town Comprehensive Plan Update Program Proposal:

- LAPC (through reserve “local” funds) makes available \$6,000 annually for one dues paying member Town to update the Town's comprehensive plan utilizing a planning consultant (contract).
- Voluntary program.
- Only LAPC dues paying Town's are eligible.
- If the Town utilizes the planning services of the Mississippi River Regional Planning Commission (MRRPC) to update their plan, the MRRPC will match the LAPC's funds with an additional \$6,000 in staff time.
- If utilizing the MRRPC there would be no out of pocket expense for the Town to update their comprehensive plan.
- The only requirements of this program are that the Town comprehensive plan update addresses the MPO Long Range Transportation Plan goals (for consistency) as well meeting state planning law requirements.

Benefits of the Program:

- Town comprehensive plans are updated with no “out-of-pocket” cost to Towns.
- Helps Towns remain in compliance with state planning law.
- Towns see a tangible benefit for being a dues paying member of the LAPC.
- Consistent comprehensive plan update schedule (every five years).
- Consistent plan update process.
- LAPC improves relationship with Towns.
- Comprehensive plan quality management through review process.
- Provides the LAPC with the opportunity to give input during the planning process.
- LAPC Long Range Transportation Plan and Town comprehensive plan consistency (everyone on same page).
- Keeps Towns engaged in comprehensive planning and plan documents (versus adopting a plan and not review and/or update it for 10-15 years).

MOTION by Gaul/Schaller to approve the program proposal. **Motion carried unanimously**; Candahl and Chilsen excused.



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FIRE/EMS STUDY UPDATE

Administrator Steve O'Malley distributed a list of municipalities and agencies who have indicated that they are interested in proceeding with the Fire/EMS Sharing Study. He will also send this list out via email. The agencies/municipalities interested in participating:

Holmen Area Fire, City of Onalaska Fire, City of La Crosse Fire, Town of Medary, City of La Crescent, Town of Shelby, Farmington.

Hamilton, Barre and Campbell have declined to participate. No answer received yet from Bangor-Burns Fire or Coon creek Fire.

A first meeting date will be set in January 2020. Watch for an email from Mr. O'Malley.

OTHER BUSINESS

Peter Fletcher has been meeting with various LAPC member community's councils and boards. He's met with the City of La Crosse, City of La Crescent, Village of West Salem, Town of Campbell and the Town of Medary to date.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

- TIP amendment
- Bylaws.

NEXT MEETING DATE: January 15, 2020 at 4:30 p.m.

ADJOURN

MOTION by Manthei/Schaller to adjourn the meeting at 5:40 p.m. **Motion carried unanimously;** Barlow, Candahl and Chilsen excused.

Disclaimer: The above minutes may be approved, amended or corrected at the next committee meeting.

Recorded by Terri Pavlic