

**MINUTES OF THE JOINT MEETING**

**SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**

**Advisory Committee on Transportation System  
Planning and Programming in the Milwaukee Urbanized Areas**

DATE: April 3, 2009  
TIME: 9:30 A.M.  
PLACE: Milwaukee County Downtown Transit Center  
Harbor Lights Room  
909 East Michigan Street  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Milwaukee Urbanized Area Members Present

Voting Members

Brian Dranzik..... Fiscal and Policy Administrator,  
Chairman Department of Transportation and Public Works, Milwaukee County  
Tom Barrett..... Mayor, City of Milwaukee  
(Representing City of Milwaukee)  
John M. Bennett.....City Engineer-Director of Public Works, City of Franklin  
Rollin Bertran..... Traffic Engineering, Department of Transportation and Public Works,  
Transportation Division, Milwaukee County  
Scott Brandmeier .....Director of Public Works/Village Engineer, Village of Fox Point  
Allison Bussler..... Interim Director, Department of Public Works, Waukesha County  
Roy De La Rosa .....Director, Intergovernmental Relations, Milwaukee County  
Robert R. Dreblow .....Highway Commissioner, Ozaukee County  
Thomas M. Grisa ..... Director of Public Works, City of Brookfield  
Robert C. Johnson..... Transit Director, Waukesha Metro Transit, City of Waukesha  
William A. Kappel.....Director of Public Works, City of Wauwatosa  
David Karnes ..... Project Engineer, Department of Transportation and Public Works,  
(Representing Milwaukee County) Milwaukee County  
Michael Lewis.....City Engineer, City of West Allis  
Michael J. Maierle .....Manager of Long-Range Planning, City of Milwaukee  
Jeffery J. Mantes ..... Commissioner, Department of Public Works, City of Milwaukee  
Michael J. Martin .....Director of Public Works, Village of Hales Corners  
Jeffrey S. Polenske..... City Engineer, City of Milwaukee, Milwaukee County  
Jack Takerian ..... Interim Director, Department of Transportation and Public Works,  
(Representing Scott Walker) Milwaukee County  
Clark Wantoch ..... Administration and Transportation Design Manager,  
(Representing Paul Vornholt) City of Milwaukee

Non-Voting Members

Kenneth R. Yunker ..... Executive Director, SEWRPC

Guests and Staff Present

Fred Abadi ..... Director of Public Works, City of Waukesha  
Tim Barbeau..... Engineer, Village of Butler, R.A. Smith National  
Brian Bliesner ..... Local Program Engineer Chief,  
Bureau of Project Development,  
Wisconsin Department of Transportation  
Dustin Block ..... Reporter, Daily Reporter  
Charlene Brady ..... Board Supervisor, Washington County  
Peter Daniels ..... Project Engineer, City of West Allis  
Jon Edgren ..... Highway Commissioner, Washington County  
Daniel Goetz ..... Board Supervisor, Washington County  
Lois C. Gresl..... Major Projects Manager, City of Milwaukee  
Henry Hamilton III ..... Environmental Justice Task Force (Chair),  
Milwaukee Branch, NAACP  
Christopher T. Hiebert .....Chief Transportation Engineer, SEWRPC  
Thomas Kempinski ..... Village President, Village of Germantown  
Michael Loughran .....Planning and Development Manager, City of Milwaukee  
Dan Ludwig ..... Public Works Director, Village of Germantown  
N. Lynnette McNeely..... Attorney, Law Offices of Thomas J. Awen, NAACP  
David Nguyen ..... Major Projects Manager, Office of Recovery and  
Reinvestment, Wisconsin Department of Transportation  
Ann Olson ..... Legislative Policy Advisor, Waukesha County  
Tim Rhode ..... Village Administrator, Village of Butler  
Xylia N. Rueda..... Research Analyst, SEWRPC  
David A. Schornack ..... Village Administrator, Village of Germantown  
Robert Schmidt .....Local Program Manager, Division of Transportation System Development,  
Wisconsin Department of Transportation  
David Simpson..... City Engineering/Director of Public Works Projects, City of Muskego  
Jodie Tabak ..... Spokeswoman for the Mayor of Milwaukee, City of Milwaukee  
Thomas W. Tollaksen ..... Village Manager, Village of River Hills  
Martin Weddle ..... Research Analyst, County Board, Milwaukee County  
Bill Wehrley..... City Engineer, City of Wauwatosa  
Scott Williams.....Reporter, Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

**ROLL CALL**

Chairman Dranzik called the meeting of the Advisory Committee on the Transportation System Planning and Programming for the Milwaukee Urbanized Area to order at 9:30 a.m. He noted that a sign-in sheet was being circulated for the purposes of taking roll and recording the names of all persons in attendance at the meeting, and declared a quorum of the Committee present.

**CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF THE THREE REMAINING PROJECTS IN THE MILWAUKEE URBANIZED AREA APPROVED BY THE GOVERNOR AND THE WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE JOINT FINANCE COMMITTEE FOR AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT OF 2009 FUNDING IN THE STAGE I SOLICITATION**

Mr. Yunker reviewed the three remaining projects in the Milwaukee Urbanized Area approved by the Governor and the Wisconsin State Legislature Joint Finance Committee in the Stage 1 solicitation for American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Federal Highway Administration Surface Transportation Program – Milwaukee Urbanized Area (ARRA FHWA STP-MUA) funding: reconstruction with additional traffic lanes of CTH Q between USH 41 and Pilgrim Road in Washington County (\$3,500,000), reconstruction with additional traffic lanes of CTH Y between CTH Q and STH 175 in Washington County (\$3,658,000), and the rehabilitation of the River Road bridge over Indian Creek in the Village of River Hills (\$307,734). He noted that the Advisory Committee at its March 20, 2009, meeting, acted to defer selection of these three remaining Stage 1 solicitation projects until a listing of eligible Stage 2 solicitation projects is made available by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) for review by the Advisory Committee. This action was taken by the Advisory Committee based on the understanding from WisDOT staff present at the meeting that deferring the selection of these projects until eligible Stage 2 solicitation projects are available for review would still permit them to be under construction in 2009. Mr. Yunker stated that following the March 20, 2009, meeting, WisDOT staff had informed Commission staff that the three remaining Stage 1 solicitation projects need to be approved by April 6, 2009, if the construction is to occur in 2009. The following questions and comments were raised in the ensuing discussion:

1. Mayor Barrett stated that the three projects should be funded with the \$354.5 million in discretionary ARRA FHWA STP funds available statewide, instead of being funded with the \$38.7 million of ARRA FHWA STP funds allocated to the Milwaukee urbanized area. Mr. Yunker noted that WisDOT staff had indicated to Commission staff that should the remaining three Stage 1 solicitation projects be approved for ARRA FHWA STP funding by the Advisory Committee, the funding source for the projects would be the \$38.7 million in ARRA FHWA STP funds allocated to the Milwaukee urbanized area.
2. Mr. De La Rosa stated that projects located in economically distressed areas should be given priority in selecting projects for ARRA FHWA STP-MUA funding.
3. Mr. Takerian asked whether the three remaining Stage 1 solicitation projects approved by the Governor and the Wisconsin State Legislature's Joint Finance Committee had submitted an application for the ARRA funds. Mr. Bliesner replied that the bridge project selected in the Stage 1 solicitation had been approved for Federal bridge replacement funds but its implementation had been deferred because of an over-programming of those funds. He also noted that Washington County had submitted applications for the CTH Y and CTH Q reconstruction projects during the Stage 1 solicitation.
4. Mr. Takerian suggested that the Advisory Committee continue to defer selection of the three remaining Stage 1 solicitation projects until WisDOT has made available to the Advisory Committee a listing of eligible Stage 2 solicitation projects, and inquired about WisDOT's desired timeframe for Advisory Committee selection of the three remaining Stage 1

solicitation projects. Mr. Bliesner responded that the three remaining Stage 1 solicitation projects would need to be selected by April 6, 2009, so that the projects could be let and constructed in 2009.

5. Mr. Takerian asked whether WisDOT could fund the three remaining Stage 1 solicitation projects from the \$38.7 million of ARRA FHWA STP-MUA allocation should the projects not be selected for funding by the Advisory Committee. Mr. Nguyen responded that the State would only approve the projects for ARRA funding implementation if the Advisory Committee approved the projects for FHWA ARRA STP-MUA funding. Mr. Yunker added that, as the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Milwaukee urbanized area, the Commission looks to the Advisory Committee for project selection for Federal funding for projects within the urbanized area. He noted that Commission has always accepted the recommendations of the Advisory Committee.
6. Mr. Goetz stated that the two projects in Washington County are ready now for implementation, and noted that the projects would create jobs and economic stimulus in 2009. Mr. Kempinski noted that the segments of CTH Q between USH 41 and Pilgrim Road and CTH Y between CTH Q and STH 175 in Washington County need to be reconstructed based on their current condition. He added that the right-of-way acquisitions required to implement these projects has been completed.
7. Responding to a question by Mr. Grisa, Mr. Yunker stated that the Advisory Committee determines which projects are selected for use of the \$38.7 million in ARRA FHWA STP-MUA funding. Mr. Grisa then asked whether the Advisory Committee could approve the Stage 1 solicitation projects with the stipulation that the funding to implement them comes from the \$354.5 million of discretionary ARRA FHWA STP funding received by the State that is available for projects statewide. Mr. Yunker replied that the Advisory Committee does not have the authority to approve projects under the State's discretionary ARRA FHWA funds, but could request that WisDOT consider funding these three State 1 solicitation projects out of the State's discretionary funds. Mayor Barrett noted that the State Legislature's Joint Finance Committee had already approved the three projects for funding.
8. In response to an inquiry by Ms. Bussler, Mr. Yunker noted that WisDOT expedited the selection of projects for use of the ARRA FHWA funding under the Stage 1 project solicitation to meet timeframes specified to implement projects in draft versions of the ARRA legislation, which were more restrictive than the timeframes eventually specified in the final ARRA legislation. Mr. Nguyen added that the longer timeframes to implement projects within the final ARRA legislation allowed WisDOT to solicit another stage of candidate projects for ARRA FHWA STP funding. Mr. Bliesner stated that the Advisory Committee should have had an opportunity to review the projects in the Milwaukee urbanized area prior to their approval by the Joint Finance Committee.
9. Mr. Brandmeier noted that the projects in question meet the Governor's criteria for funding under the ARRA legislation—projects are eligible for FHWA STP funding in 2009, design of projects can be completed to allow implementation in 2009, and projects would not otherwise have been completed during 2009. He added that they were approved for funding by the State Legislature's Joint Finance Committee, and suggested that they should be funded with the \$354.5 million in discretionary ARRA FHWA STP funding

10. Mr. Takerian asked whether it was possible to reimburse the Milwaukee urbanized area the amount that would be spent on these projects with the State's discretionary funds should the Committee approve the three projects for ARRA FHWA STP-MUA funding. Mr. Nguyen responded that it was possible that WisDOT could reimburse the Milwaukee urbanized area, but the projects are local projects in the Milwaukee area and are intended to be funded with Milwaukee area funds.
11. Mayor Barrett stated that the City had attempted to submit projects during the Stage I solicitation, but none of their candidate projects were deemed eligible. He noted that there were no projects in the City of Milwaukee in the Governor's list submitted to the State Legislature's Joint Finance Committee. He said that he had been informed by State officials that none of the projects approved by the State Legislature's Joint Finance Committee would be funded out of the \$38.7 million in ARRA funds designated for the Milwaukee Urbanized Area

Mayor Barrett motioned that the Advisory Committee on Transportation System Planning and Programming in the Milwaukee Urbanized Area recommend to the Wisconsin Department of Transportation that the three remaining Stage 1 solicitation projects—reconstruction with additional lanes of CTH Q between USH 41 and Pilgrim Road in Washington County, CTH Y between CTH Q and STH 175 in Washington County, and the rehabilitation of the River Road bridge over Indian Creek in the Village of River Hills—be funded within the \$354.5 million in ARRA FHWA STP discretionary funds received by the State of Wisconsin. Ms. Bussler seconded the motion. Mr. Dranzik asked whether there were any comments or questions prior to Advisory Committee voting on the issue. The following comments and questions were raised by Committee members:

1. Mr. Schornack stated that should the three remaining Stage 1 solicitation projects not be approved by the Advisory Committee for a portion of the \$38.7 million in ARRA FHWA STP-MUA funds, the projects would likely not be implemented.
2. Responding to a question by Mr. Johnson, Mr. Yunker stated that the Advisory Committee would be able to review the three remaining Stage 1 solicitation projects with the eligible Stage 2 solicitation projects, should WisDOT refuse to fund the three Stage 1 projects using discretionary funding, but noted that any delay in selecting these projects for ARRA FHWA STP-MUA funding may result in the construction of the Stage 1 projects not being initiated in 2009.
3. Mr. Tollaksen noted that if the Advisory Committee deferred the selection of the three remaining Stage 1 solicitation projects, the potential creation of jobs by these projects may be delayed until 2010. Mr. Kempinski added that the intent of the ARRA legislation was to implement projects as soon as possible. He requested that the Advisory Committee select these projects for ARRA FHWA STP-MUA funding. Mr. Takerian cautioned the Advisory Committee concerning selecting the three remaining Stage 1 solicitation projects for ARRA FHWA STP-MUA funding.
4. Mr. Hamilton noted that the ARRA legislation required priority be given to projects located within economically distressed areas. Mr. Goetz noted that the project contracts for the two

Washington County projects could specify that a percentage of the workers on the project reside within economically distressed areas.

5. Mayor Barrett read from a letter sent from the State Legislative Fiscal Bureau to members of the State Legislature's Joint Finance Committee regarding the Governor's request for use Federal economic stimulus funding for 49 local transportation projects, which include the three projects in question (see Attachment A). He noted that based on the letter it appears that WisDOT does not intend to fund local projects (including the three projects in question) with funds from the \$354.5 million in discretionary ARRA FHWA funding allocated to the State.
6. Mr. Grisa suggested that the Advisory Committee approve the three remaining Stage 1 solicitation projects and request that WisDOT reimburse the Milwaukee urbanized area with State discretionary ARRA funds. Mr. Dreblow agreed and suggested that elected officials in the Milwaukee urbanized area put pressure on the State to reimburse the funds.

Mr. Brandmeier made a motion to amend the earlier motion specifying that the Committee approve the three projects to be funded within the \$38.7 million of ARRA FHWA STP-MUA funds, and request reimbursement from the State's \$354.5 million in discretionary ARRA FHWA STP funds. Mr. Dreblow seconded the motion.

Responding to an inquiry by Mr. Yunker, Mr. Brandmeier stated that the purpose of his motion is to allow the three remaining Stage 1 solicitation projects to begin construction in 2009. Mr. Yunker noted that Mr. Brandmeier's proposal would approve the funding of the three remaining projects with ARRA FHWA STP funds allocated to the Milwaukee urbanized area, and that there would be no guarantee that WisDOT would refund the urbanized area for the projects with the State's \$354.5 million in discretionary ARRA FHWA STP funds. Mr. Brandmeier then withdrew his motion, and made a new motion to amend the earlier motion that the Committee allow the State to determine which source of ARRA funds to use to fund the projects. This motion by Mr. Brandmeier was not seconded.

There being no further discussion on the original motion by Mayor Barrett, Chairman Dranzik asked for the motion to be put to a vote. The motion that the Advisory Committee on Transportation System Planning and Programming in the Milwaukee Urbanized Area recommend to the Wisconsin Department of Transportation that the three remaining Stage 1 solicitation projects—reconstruction with additional lanes of CTH Q between USH 41 and Pilgrim Road in Washington County, CTH Y between CTH Q and STH 175 in Washington County, and the rehabilitation of the River Road bridge over Indian Creek in the Village of River Hills—be funded within the \$354.5 million in ARRA FHWA STP discretionary funds received by the State of Wisconsin passed with a vote of 14 ayes and 5 nays, with Mr. Dreblow, Mr. Grisa, Mr. Lewis, Mr. Martin, and Mr. Brandmeier voting against the motion.

Chairman Dranzik suggested that the Commission staff write a letter to WisDOT notifying them of the Advisory Committee's recommendation to not fund the projects with ARRA FHWA STP-MUA funds, and to instead fund the projects with the State discretionary ARRA FHWA STP funding.

[Secretaries Note: A copy of the letter transmitted to WisDOT by Commission staff is included as Attachment B to these minutes.]

Responding to an inquiry from Ms. Bussler, Mr. Yunker explained that according to discussions with WisDOT staff, the Joint Finance Committee had not been aware that the funding was coming out of the ARRA FHWA STP funds allocated to the Milwaukee Urbanized Area.

Mr. Yunker stated that based on the deadlines specified in the ARRA legislation, the Advisory Committee needs to develop in a short timeframe the process for selecting projects for use of ARRA FHWA STP-MUA funding. He noted that the deadline for local governments to submit projects under the Stage 2 project solicitation is April 8, 2009, after which WisDOT staff will review the applications for eligibility and deliverability. WisDOT would then transmit the list of eligible projects to the Commission for selection of projects to receive ARRA funding. He noted that WisDOT staff has not indicated when they expect to complete their review. Mr. Yunker added that Commission staff will hold a public meeting in April to solicit public input on the process to select the Stage 2 solicitation projects for ARRA FHWA STP-MUA funding, and the Advisory Committee will need to meet again in late April and May to make their project funding decisions.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Committees, the meeting was adjourned on a motion from Mr. Kappel, seconded by Mr. Dranzik, and carried unanimously by the Committees.

Respectfully submitted,

Kenneth R. Yunker  
Acting Secretary

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