

MINUTES

SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

PLANNING AND RESEARCH COMMITTEE

Tuesday, November 6, 2012

1:30 p.m.

SEWRPC Office Building
Commissioner's Conference Room
W239 N1812 Rockwood Drive
Waukesha, WI 53188

Present:

Excused:

Committee Members:

Daniel S. Schmidt, Chairman
Charles L. Colman
Michael A. Crowley
José M. Delgado
Robert W. Pitts
John Rogers
Nancy Russell
Linda J. Seemeyer
Peggy L. Shumway
Daniel W. Stoffel
David L. Stroik

Gilbert B. Bakke, Vice-Chairman
Kimberly L. Breunig
William R. Drew
David L. Eberle

Staff:

Kenneth R. Yunker
Nancy M. Anderson
Elizabeth A. Larsen
Debra A. D'Amico

Executive Director
Chief Community Assistance Planner
Business Manager
Executive Secretary

ROLL CALL

Chairman Schmidt called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. Roll call was taken and a quorum was declared present. Mr. Yunker noted for the record that Commissioners Bakke, Breunig, Drew, and Eberle had asked to be excused.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 12, 2012

Chairman Schmidt asked if there were any changes or additions to the September 12, 2012, meeting minutes.

On a motion by Mr. Delgado, seconded by Mr. Rogers, and carried unanimously, the minutes of the meeting of September 12, 2012, were approved as published.

CONSIDERATION OF THE FOLLOWING MATERIALS ATTENDANT TO SEWRPC PLANNING REPORT NO. 54, A REGIONAL HOUSING PLAN FOR SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN: 2035

Chairman Schmidt asked Mr. Yunker to provide some background on the “Socio-Economic Impact Analysis of the Regional Housing Plan for Southeastern Wisconsin.” Mr. Yunker explained that an Environmental Justice Task Force (EJTF) was appointed by the Commission in 2007 to provide guidance in assessing the impact of the Commission’s regional plans on low-income and minority populations and persons with disabilities, and to provide guidance with outreach to these groups. One of the recommendations of the EJTF was that a socio-economic impact (SEI) analysis be done of all regional plans, and that the analysis be completed by a consultant. An SEI analysis assesses the impact of plan recommendations on low-income and minority populations and persons with disabilities, and specifically considers whether these population groups may be expected to receive a proportionate share of plan benefits, and a disproportionate share of plan costs, or negative impacts.

Mr. Yunker noted that these considerations are attendant to Federal Title VI and Environmental Justice requirements. He further indicated that an SEI analysis was conducted by Commission staff of the regional freeway reconstruction plan in 2003 and the regional transportation plan in 2006. In accordance with the EJTF request, an SEI analysis was conducted of the regional water supply plan, and a draft analysis was recently completed of the preliminary recommendations of the regional housing plan. Both analyses were conducted by the Center for Economic Development of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (UWM).

Mr. Yunker then introduced Ms. Nancy M. Anderson, Chief Community Assistance Planner of the Commission staff, to present the findings and conclusions of the SEI analysis.

Following are questions and comments that were made during the review of the SEI.

In response to inquiries by Mr. Colman and Mr. Stroik, Mr. Yunker indicated that the SEI analysis is intended to be an independent review of the housing plan recommendations with respect to their potential impact on low-income and minority populations and persons with disabilities. A number of Commissioners expressed concerns with respect to the format of the SEI analysis report. They noted that in each chapter the conclusions with respect to the impact of each group of plan recommendations is a short section or sentence, which is preceded by a long discussion of the topic. No rationale is provided as to the basis for the conclusion, other than the discussion which precedes the conclusion. Commissioners noted their agreement with the SEI analysis conclusions that the preliminary recommendations would have positive impacts on the Region’s minority and low income populations and persons with disabilities.

Discussion ensued regarding how and why UWM was chosen to conduct the SEI analysis of the regional housing plan. Mr. Yunker explained that UWM had done exceptional work when they prepared the SEI analysis of the regional water supply plan, and as a result, they were selected to conduct the analysis of the housing plan.

Mr. Stoffel asked how the SEI analysis will be included in the regional housing plan. Mr. Yunker responded that a summary of the SEI analysis, and in particular, its conclusions will be included as an appendix in the regional housing plan, and a shorter summary will also be included in the recommended plan chapter. Mr. Yunker noted that both the appendix and the summary in the recommended plan chapter will be reviewed by the Planning and Research Committee at their next meeting.

Mr. Yunker then noted that a newsletter summarizing the preliminary housing plan and announcing public meetings has been completed and mailed, and public meetings will begin the next week. Both the preliminary housing plan and the draft SEI analysis will be reviewed at the meetings. He also noted that a meeting is being scheduled with the *Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel* Editorial Board. In response to an inquiry made by Chairman Schmidt, Mr. Yunker said that a meeting will be held in each County, and encouraged Commissioners to attend a meeting as their schedule would permit.

REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF TWO AMENDMENTS TO THE YEAR 2035 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM PLAN DOCUMENTED IN SEWRPC PLANNING REPORT NUMBER 49, A REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM PLAN FOR SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN: 2035

Chairman Schmidt asked Mr. Yunker to review with the Committee the two amendments to the Year 2035 Regional Transportation System Plan documented in SEWRPC Planning Report Number 49, *A Regional Transportation System Plan for Southeastern Wisconsin: 2035*. He then called upon Mr. Yunker to present both amendments.

Mr. Yunker indicated that the first amendment was to add to the regional transportation plan the extension of the Lake Parkway from Edgerton Avenue to STH 100. Mr. Yunker referred Committee members to the SEWRPC Memorandum Report No. 201, *Study of a Lake Parkway (STH 794) Extension from Edgerton Avenue to STH 100 in Milwaukee County* which they received prior to this meeting and continued his briefing using a PowerPoint presentation entitled, *Lake Parkway (STH 794) Extension Study* (copy of the presentation is attached to Official Minutes). During the presentation, he noted that this amendment was a result of a study completed by the Commission staff, which was requested by the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors and the County Executive. He further stated that this amendment was recommended by a Study Advisory Committee on the Lake Parkway Extension composed of State, County, and municipal elected officials; the Commission's Advisory Committee on Regional Transportation System Planning; and, by action of the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors and County Executive.

There being no further questions, comments, or discussion regarding the Lake Parkway extension amendment, Mr. Yunker indicated that the second amendment to add to the regional transportation plan is the widening of USH 45/STH 100 from 4 to 6 traffic lanes between Drexel Avenue and Rawson Avenue. He stated that this amendment was requested by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation and the City of Franklin, following the completion of preliminary engineering and environmental impact studies conducted by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation for USH 45/STH 100, and that this amendment was approved by the Advisory Committee on Regional Transportation System Planning.

There being no further questions, comments, or discussion, it was moved by Mr. Pitts, seconded by Mr. Delgado, and carried unanimously to recommend to the full Commission both the amendment relative to the Lake Parkway extension and the amendment for widening USH 45/STH 100 from 4 to 6 traffic lanes between Drexel Avenue and Rawson Avenue.

REVIEW OF A TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FOR SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN: 2013-2016

Chairman Schmidt requested Mr. Yunker to give a brief overview of the 2013-2016 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Mr. Yunker indicated that the TIP is a Federally required listing of all arterial highway, public transit, and other related transportation projects proposed by State and local governments to be implemented over the next four years in the seven-county Southeastern Wisconsin Region. As the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), the Commission is responsible for the preparation of a TIP for the

Region. The TIP was compiled by Commission staff working in close cooperation with staff from the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) and County and local transportation agencies. He noted that the 2013-2016 TIP was reviewed and unanimously approved by the Commission's Advisory Committees on Transportation System Planning and Programming for the Kenosha, Milwaukee, Racine, and Round Lake Beach urbanized areas at their meeting held on October 2, 2012. He further noted that the Executive Committee had approved this TIP at their meeting on October 18, 2012. He also noted that the TIP is reviewed by Commission staff for consistency with the adopted regional transportation plan, and must be determined to conform to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources' State implementation plan for air quality.

In response to an inquiry by Mr. Colman, Mr. Yunker explained that the TIP does not mandate that a project be implemented, but rather it would permit a project to proceed to implementation with Federal funds. The TIP also allows the review and monitoring of the implementation of projects from the previous TIP, particularly whether projects are ongoing or were completed, deferred, or dropped.

REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF THE OVERALL WORK PROGRAM—2013, SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Chairman Schmidt asked Mr. Yunker to give a brief overview of the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission's *Overall Work Program-2013* (OWP).

Mr. Yunker stated that copies of the 2013 OWP for the Commission had been provided to all Committee members for review prior to the meeting. Mr. Yunker noted that the OWP outlines the work to be conducted by the Commission in 2013, and is consistent with the 2013 budget adopted by the Commission in June. He indicated that among the major work activities proposed are the completion of the regional housing plan, conduct of County jurisdictional highway system plans and public transit operator short range plans, analysis of the regional survey of travel habits and patterns, review and extension of regional population and employment forecasts, and the major update, reevaluation, and extension of regional land use and transportation plans. Mr. Yunker then noted that approval of the OWP is typically considered by the full Commission at its December Quarterly Meeting, but consideration and action by the Executive Committee on behalf of the full Commission is being requested, as the State has requested that the OWP be approved by the Commission no later than November 15, 2012.

There being no further questions or comments, it was moved by Mr. Stoffel, seconded by Ms. Russell, and carried unanimously, to recommend approval of the 2013 Overall Work Program by the Executive Committee on behalf of the full Commission.

CORRESPONDENCE/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Schmidt asked Mr. Yunker if there was any correspondence or announcements. Mr. Yunker reported that there was no correspondence and then noted that at the last Planning and Research Committee meeting there had been discussion regarding the reduction in commercial airline service at General Mitchell International Airport and its implications on the Region's economy. He said that he had recently attended a joint meeting of the Greater Milwaukee Committee and the Metropolitan Milwaukee Association of Commerce where the Airport Director, Barry Bateman, gave a presentation addressing this topic. He stated that Commission staff is in the process of making arrangements to have Mr. Bateman give this presentation at the next Quarterly Commission meeting scheduled to be held on December 5, 2012, in Milwaukee County.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, on a motion by Mr. Delgado, seconded by Mr. Crowley, and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kenneth R. Yunker
Deputy Secretary

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