

Minutes of the Meeting

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON
REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM PLANNING**

DATE: November 5, 2012
TIME: 9:30 a.m.
PLACE: Tommy G. Thompson Youth Center
640 South 84th Street
West Allis, Wisconsin 53214

Advisory Committee Members Present

George E. Melcher Director of Planning and Development,
Chair Kenosha County
Fred Abadi Director of Public Works, City of Waukesha
Scott Brandmeier Director of Public Works and Village Engineer, Village of Fox Point
David Cox Village Administrator, Village of Hartland
Lloyd Grant, Jr. Managing Director, Milwaukee County Transit System
Thomas M. Grisa Director, Department of Public Works, City of Brookfield
Jeffrey Katz (representing Julie A. Anderson)..... Manager of Planning and Engineering,
Highway Department, Racine County
Eric A. Nitschke.....Regional Director, Southeast Region,
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Jeffrey S. Polenske..... City Engineer, City of Milwaukee
Sheri Schmit..... Systems Planning Chief, Southeast Region,
Wisconsin Department of Transportation

Guests and Staff Present

Kenneth R. Yunker Executive Director, SEWRPC
Ryan W. Hoel..... Principal Engineer, SEWRPC
Eric D. Lynde..... Senior Engineer/Planner, SEWRPC
Xylia Rueda Planner, SEWRPC
Jennifer Sarnecki.....Urban and Regional Planning Supervisor, Southeast Region,
Wisconsin Department of Transportation
Kerry Thomas Executive Director, Transit NOW
Alex Walker..... Planner Assistant, SEWRPC

ROLL CALL

Chairman Melcher called the meeting of the Advisory Committee on Regional Transportation System Planning to order at 9:30 a.m. He indicated 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 Advisory Committee present.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MAY 9, 2012, MEETING

Chairman Melcher indicated that the first item on the agenda was the consideration and approval of the minutes for a previous meeting of the Advisory Committee held on May 9, 2012. These minutes were approved as written on a motion by Mr. Cox, seconded by Mr. Brandmeier, and carried unanimously by action of the Advisory Committee.

REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF TWO PROPOSED 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”

At the request of Chairman Melcher, Mr. Yunker reviewed a memorandum documenting two proposed amendments to the adopted year 2035 regional transportation plan. He stated that the first proposed amendment would add to the plan an extension of the Lake Parkway (STH 794) as a four-lane facility from its current terminus at Edgerton Avenue to STH 100 in Milwaukee County. Mr. Yunker indicated that the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors had adopted a resolution on May 24, 2012, later signed by the County Executive on June 1, 2012, requesting that the Commission amend the adopted year 2035 regional transportation plan to include an extension of the Lake Parkway (STH 794) between Edgerton Avenue and STH 100 in Milwaukee County. He indicated that the request was based on the recommendations of a study of a Lake Parkway extension conducted by the Commission staff and guided by the Advisory Committee on the Lake Parkway (STH 794) Extension Study—composed primarily of elected officials—responsible for making the final study recommendations. He noted that the Lake Parkway extension study is documented in SEWRPC Memorandum Report No. 201, *Study of a Lake Parkway (STH 794) Extension from Edgerton Avenue to STH 100 in Milwaukee County*, which was presented to and discussed by the Advisory Committee on Regional Transportation System Planning during its May 9, 2012, meeting.

Mr. Yunker stated that the second proposed amendment would add to the plan the widening of USH 45/STH 100 from four to six traffic lanes between Drexel Avenue and Rawson Avenue. Mr. Yunker noted that the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) has completed the preliminary engineering and environmental study for the reconstruction of the segment of USH 45/STH 100 between St. Martins Road and College Avenue, and that WisDOT has requested that the adopted year 2035 regional transportation plan be amended to reflect their recommended alternative, which includes the widening of USH 45/STH 100 from four to six traffic lanes between Drexel Avenue and Rawson Avenue.

Following Mr. Yunker’s review of the memorandum, Chairman Melcher inquired about the USH 45/STH 100 reconstruction project being terminated at St. Martins Road, rather than Loomis Road (STH 36). Ms. Schmit responded that she would inform Commission staff following the meeting of the reason for terminating the project at St. Martins Road. Mr. Yunker noted that the reason provided by WisDOT would be included in the meeting minutes.

[Secretary’s Note: Following the meeting, Commission staff was informed by WisDOT staff that the intersection of USH 45/STH 100 and Loomis Road would be reconstructed as part of a project to reconstruct STH 100 between Loomis Road and 60th Street, and would include the segment of USH 45/STH 100 between Loomis Road and St. Martins Road.]

There being no further discussion, Chairman Melcher asked for a motion to approve the first proposed amendment to add to the regional transportation plan a Lake Parkway (STH 794) extension between Edgerton Avenue and STH 100. Mr. Grant, Jr. made a motion to approve the proposed amendment to the

adopted year 2035 regional transportation plan to include an extension of the Lake Parkway (STH 794) as a four-lane facility from its current terminus at Edgerton Avenue to STH 100 in Milwaukee County. The motion was seconded by Mr. Abadi and passed on a vote of 8 ayes and 1 nay, with Mr. Nitschke abstaining from the vote. Ms. Schmit noted that her vote against the motion was due to the current substantial needs of reconstructing the area freeway system and maintaining the existing state trunk highway system, and the number of existing north-south state trunk highways in proximity to the proposed Lake Parkway extension. She stated that implementation of the Lake Parkway extension would be a low priority for WisDOT relative to the other large-scale freeway and surface arterial reconstruction projects currently programmed in Southeastern Wisconsin and the rest of the State. She indicated that WisDOT would provide the Commission with a letter outlining their opposition to adding the Lake Parkway extension between Edgerton Avenue and STH 100 to the regional transportation plan. Mr. Yunker stated that the letter would be included with the meeting minutes, and noted that changes to the jurisdictions of the existing state trunk highways in the area would likely be considered as part of the Milwaukee County jurisdictional highway system plan.

[Secretary's Note: Following the meeting, WisDOT staff provided a letter to the Commission staff outlining their reasons for opposing the proposed amendment to the regional transportation plan to include the Lake Parkway extension between Edgerton Avenue and STH 100, as included in these minutes as Attachment 1.]

Chairman Melcher then asked for a motion to approve the second proposed amendment to add to the regional transportation plan the widening of USH 45/STH 100 between Drexel Avenue and Rawson Avenue. Mr. Cox made a motion to approve the proposed amendment to the adopted year 2035 regional transportation plan to include the widening of USH 45/STH 100 from four to six traffic lanes between Drexel Avenue and Rawson Avenue. The motion was seconded by Mr. Brandmeier and was carried unanimously by the Advisory Committee. Mr. Nitschke abstained from the vote.

UPDATE ON MAJOR REEVALUATION OF REGIONAL LAND USE AND TRANSPORTATION PLANS, AND EXTENSION OF PLAN DESIGN YEAR FROM 2035 TO 2050

Chairman Melcher asked Mr. Yunker to provide an update on the upcoming major reevaluation of the land use and transportation plans for the seven-county Southeastern Wisconsin Region, and the extension of the plan design year from 2035 to 2050. Mr. Yunker indicated that he would give the update by reviewing the handout provided to Committee members summarizing a proposed schedule for the upcoming major reevaluation, as included in these minutes as Attachment 2. He stated that the Commission staff will complete this fall the data collection portion of the large-scale travel survey for the Region, which began in 2011 and included a resident household survey, a group-quartered population survey, an external travel survey, a commercial truck survey, and a public transit survey. He added that the Commission staff has nearly completed the year 2010 population and employment zonal data files for the Region, and has completed substantial work to prepare updated population and employment forecasts for the Region, which are expected to be completed in early 2013. He noted that the Commission staff has also initiated inventories and analyses of year 2035 regional land use and transportation plan implementation, and transportation system supply and use, which are also expected to be completed in 2013. Mr. Yunker stated that the development of conceptual designs for a range of regional land use and transportation system scenarios has been initiated. Mr. Yunker noted that the possible land use and transportation scenarios could include a regional future that assumes current trends in land use and transportation system development continue; a regional future building upon the current regional land use and transportation plans, which have focused on achieving a more centralized regional development

pattern, with revitalized existing urban centers, higher land use densities, and the development of a more balanced transportation system, including significant improvement and expansion of public transit; and a regional future postulating a more intensive transit-oriented land use development pattern, based upon the development of fixed-guideway transit systems. He noted that each scenario would be developed and refined over the next year, with each detailed scenario tested and evaluated. He indicated that the upcoming major reevaluation would include extensive public outreach and involvement and that the Advisory Committee would be particularly active over the next few years.

Mr. Grisa inquired about a design year of 2050 being selected for the upcoming major reevaluation, rather than 2045, or 10 years after the design year of the current plan—2035. Mr. Yunker responded that Federal planning regulations require long-range transportation plans to have a design horizon of at least 20 years. He noted that should a design year of 2045 be selected, and the subsequent major reevaluation is not completed by 2025, the adopted plans at that time would no longer have the required 20-year design horizon.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chairman Melcher asked if there were any public comment. There were none.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting of the Advisory Committee on Regional Transportation System Planning was adjourned at 10:00 a.m. on a motion from Mr. Grisa, seconded by Mr. Nitschke, and carried unanimously by the Advisory Committee.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kenneth R. Yunker
Acting Secretary

Attachment 1



Division of Transportation System Development
Southeast Regional Office
141 N.W. Barstow Street
P.O. Box 798
Waukesha, WI 53187-0798

Scott Walker, Governor
Mark Gottlieb, P.E., Secretary
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November 5, 2012

Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission
W239 N1812 Rockwood Drive
Waukesha, WI 53188

Subject: November 5th 2012 Meeting of the Commission's Advisory committee on Regional Transportation System planning

Dear Mr. Yunker:

The purpose of this letter is to provide a formal Wisconsin Department of Transportation position regarding the recommendation to include an extension of the Lake Parkway (STH 794) from its current terminus at Edgerton Avenue to STH 100 in Milwaukee County, as requested by the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors to the Regional Transportation system plan.

The Department does not support the addition of the extension of the Lake Parkway (794) from its current terminus at Edgerton Avenue to STH 100 to the Regional Transportation System plan for the following reasons. The Department has many more needs than it has monies to address the current transportation system. The Extension of the Lake Parkway is greater than 5 miles in length and would categorize as a "Major" Transportation project study. Currently, we have many more studies in progress in the "Major program" that prioritize higher for the department, such as freeway segments greater than 50 years old and carrying more than 200,000 cars per day. Finally, there are several State highways East of I94; adding another state highway is a low priority for the department. .

The Department recognizes its voting effect on the overall decision making of the Advisory Committee on regional transportation System Planning and respectfully requests that this formal position be included in the November 5th, 2012 minutes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Johnson', written over a horizontal line.

Dewayne J. Johnson P.E.
SE Region Director

Attachment 2

SCHEDULE FOR REEVALUATION OF REGIONAL LAND USE AND TRANSPORTATION PLANS

2012 – Complete travel and land use inventories and population zonal data files. Approach completion of employment zonal data files, and regional population and employment forecasts. Initiate inventories and analyses of 2035 land use and transportation plan implementation, and transportation system supply and use. Develop conceptual design of regional land use and transportation scenarios.

2013 – Complete employment zonal data files, population and employment forecasts, inventories and analyses of land use and transportation plan implementation, and inventories and analyses of transportation system supply and use. Complete analyses of regional travel habits and patterns, and development, calibration, and validation of new travel simulation models. Complete development of regional land use and transportation planning objectives and standards. Develop detailed designs for regional land use and transportation scenarios, and initiate scenario testing and evaluation.

2014 – Complete scenario testing and evaluation, and develop, test, and evaluate preliminary recommended land use and transportation plan.

2015 – Complete development and documentation of final recommended regional land use and transportation plans, and conduct air quality conformity analyses.

* * *

RWH/lgh
11/02/12

Schedule-Reevaluation of Regional Land Use and Transportation Plans (00207948).DOC