Minutes of the Nineteenth Joint Meeting of the

ADVISORY COMMITTEES ON REGIONAL LAND USE PLANNING 
AND REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

DATE: April 26, 2018
TIME: 9:30 a.m.
PLACE: West Allis City Hall
7525 W. Greenfield Avenue
West Allis, Wisconsin

Members Present

Committee on Regional Land Use Planning
Robert Bauman .......................................................... Alderman, City of Milwaukee
Andy Buehler .................................................. Director of Planning and Development, Kenosha County
Harlan Clinkenbeard .......................................................... City Planner, City of Pewaukee
Jason Fruth .......................................................... Planning and Zoning Manager, Waukesha County
Micki Klappa-Sullivan (alternate for Karen Sands) .................................. Manager of Engineer Planning
Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District
Vanessa Koster .......................................................... Planning Manager, City of Milwaukee Department of City Development
Michael Maierle (alternate for Amy Connolly) .................................. Transit and Parking System Manager, City of Racine
Maria Pandazi (alternate for Jennifer Andrews) .................................. City Planner, City of Waukesha
Mark Piotrowicz .......................................................... Director of Development, City of West Bend
Sheri Schmit .......................................................... Deputy Director, Southeast Region, Wisconsin Department of Transportation
Todd Stuebe .......................................................... Director of Community Development, City of Glendale

Committee on Regional Transportation Planning
Brian Dranzik .......................................................... Commissioner, Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission
Chairs Directors
Fred Abadi .......................................................... Director of Public Works, City of Waukesha
Daniel Boehm .......................................................... Managing Director, Milwaukee County Transit System
Donna Brown-Martin .......................................................... Director, Bureau of Planning and Economic Development,
Division of Transportation Investment Management, Wisconsin Department of Transportation
Amanda Cervantes (alternate for Nik Kovac) .................................. Legislative Assistant, City of Milwaukee
Bill Christianson (alternate for Dennis Yaccarino) .................................. Senior Fiscal Planning Specialist
Department of Administration, City of Milwaukee
David Cox .......................................................... Village Administrator, Village of Hartland
Peter Daniels .......................................................... City Engineer, City of West Allis
Julie Esch (alternate for Andrew Weddle-Henning) .................................. Interim Director of Transportation/
Highway Commissioner, Milwaukee County
Michael Friedlander (alternate for Gail Good) .................................. Program and Policy Analyst,
Bureau of Air Management, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Carolynn Gellings .................................. Manager of Engineering Services, Waukesha County Department of Public Works
Thomas Grisa .......................................................... Director of Public Works, City of Brookfield
CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Dranzik called the joint meeting of the Advisory Committees on Regional Land Use Planning and Regional Transportation Planning to order at 9:35 a.m., welcoming those in attendance. He stated that roll call would be accomplished through circulation of a sign-in sheet and asked Committee members and Commission staff to introduce themselves.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE JOINT MEETING OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEES ON REGIONAL LAND USE PLANNING AND REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM PLANNING HELD ON JANUARY 18, 2018

Mr. Dranzik asked if there were any questions or comments on the January 18, 2018, meeting minutes. There were none. On a motion by Mr. Cox seconded by Mr. Clinkenbeard, the January 18, 2018, meeting minutes were approved unanimously.
REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO VISION 2050 ESTABLISHING TARGETS RELATED TO FEDERAL PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS FOR HIGHWAY SAFETY

Mr. Dranzik noted that the Committee members received copies of the document entitled “First Amendment to VISION 2050: A Regional Land Use and Transportation Plan for Southeastern Wisconsin, Establishing Targets for Federal Performance Measures: Highway Safety” prior to the meeting, which describes a proposed amendment to VISION 2050. He asked Mr. Muhs to review the proposed amendment. Mr. Muhs reviewed the executive summary within the amendment document, noting that Table ES.1 in the amendment document shows the preliminary recommended years 2046-2050 regional targets for each of the five national safety performance measures, which are proposed to be incorporated into VISION 2050 as an amendment. The targets and the process to establish the targets were initially reviewed and approved for public comment at the January 18, 2018, meeting of the Committees. Staff solicited public comments on the targets through April 13, 2018, and received no comments.

Following the review, Mr. Dranzik asked if there were any questions or comments. There were none. He stated that the Commission staff is asking for the Committees’ approval of the proposed amendment to VISION 2050 contained in the document entitled “First Amendment to VISION 2050: A Regional Land Use and Transportation Plan for Southeastern Wisconsin, Establishing Targets for Federal Performance Measures: Highway Safety,” noting that the proposed amendment would then be considered for adoption by the Regional Planning Commission at their next meeting. He then asked for a motion to approve the proposed amendment. Mr. Clinkenberg moved and Mr. Cox seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

PRESENTATION BY WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION STAFF REGARDING ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS SERVING THE PLANNED FOXCONN MANUFACTURING CAMPUS

Mr. Dranzik indicated the next agenda item was a presentation by Mr. Brett Wallace, Foxconn Project Director for the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT), regarding roadway improvements serving the planned Foxconn manufacturing campus. He noted that two handouts—a PowerPoint presentation summarizing the ongoing roadway improvements serving the planned Foxconn manufacturing campus (available here) and a timeline for WisDOT Foxconn projects (available here)—were distributed to members at the meeting (these materials are available on both Committee pages through the SEWRPC website).

He then asked Mr. Wallace to review the handouts. Mr. Wallace noted that WisDOT Secretary Dave Ross is interested in economic development across the State of Wisconsin and that the Foxconn development is an opportunity to demonstrate that the State and WisDOT are able to handle the demands of a large and complex project in an accelerated manner. He summarized the Foxconn roadway projects, including the I-94 North-South Freeway and the Foxconn Development Roads. The I-94 North-South Freeway work is scheduled to be completed by 2021 assuming the State receives a Federal INFRA grant. The work on the Foxconn Development Roads is funded solely by State funding and involves reconstructing six roadway segments and converting 31 lane-miles to 86 lane-miles. The first let for a reconstruction segment is scheduled for June 12, 2018, with the work on all of the development roads scheduled to be completed by 2021. The specific schedule is subject to change based on additional information regarding Foxconn’s needs. The following comments and discussion occurred during Mr. Wallace’s presentation:
1. Mr. Bauman asked whether the estimated $166 million cost for the Foxconn Development Roads included private utility relocation. Mr. Wallace indicated that utility relocation was not included in the cost to WisDOT per the agreement between WisDOT, Racine County, and the Village of Mount Pleasant. Under the agreement, WisDOT agreed to take temporary jurisdiction of several local roadways, with Racine County and Mount Pleasant taking on the responsibility for utility coordination and right-of-way acquisition. Mr. Bauman asked if the private utility companies would be absorbing the cost of any utility relocation. Mr. Wallace indicated that the private utility companies would only potentially be responsible for utility relocation costs within the existing right-of-way, and that he expected there would be minimal utility relocation costs associated with the roadway work since most of any necessary utility-related work would be to add new infrastructure for the proposed development.

2. Mr. Bauman asked whether WisDOT was considering public transit improvements to serve the Foxconn campus. Mr. Wallace indicated that WisDOT has been serving as staff for the Eastern Racine County Transportation Task Force, and one of the challenges for the Task Force is how best to connect people to the influx of jobs with Foxconn and associated development. He noted that Racine County and SEWRPC would be involved in identifying any potential public transit solutions, and stated that Racine Mayor Cory Mason identified one of the immediate needs as linking the Racine RYDE transit system to Foxconn. Mr. Wallace also noted that it is important to determine the specific needs of Foxconn.

Mr. Bauman asked whether WisDOT was planning to fund any public transit improvements. Mr. Wallace responded that the Task Force would be providing near-term recommendations to the State and funding would likely be a part of those recommendations. Mr. Bauman asked whether the Amtrak Hiawatha improvements currently being studied by WisDOT were a high priority for the Department. Mr. Wallace replied that he could not speak to whether they were a priority for WisDOT, but noted that staff anticipates completing the study this year and that Amtrak Hiawatha improvements could be part of the solution for connecting people to jobs in and around the Foxconn campus.

3. Mr. Wade asked for more information on how the Eastern Racine County Transportation Task Force was created, its membership, and interests. Mr. Wallace stated that the Task Force was created by Racine County Executive Jonathan Delagrave in response to the Foxconn development and that it is made up of public officials from Racine County; the City of Racine; and the Villages of Caledonia, Mount Pleasant, and Sturtevant. He noted that an objective of the Task Force is to consider transportation options for Foxconn. Mr. Clinkenbeard suggested that it may be appropriate to establish a similar task force in Milwaukee County. Mr. Wallace noted that the Task Force was being staffed by WisDOT, but that it was created by County Executive Delagrave. Mr. Wade stated that public transit and workforce transportation were significant issues prior to Foxconn and encouraged WisDOT to consider workforce transportation solutions up front rather than waiting. Mr. Wallace indicated WisDOT recognizes that workforce transportation is important, as does Foxconn, and noted that WisDOT is working with the Department of Workforce Development and others to address the issue.

4. Mr. Boehm noted that Milwaukee County Transit System (MCTS) ranks in the top 12 nationally in terms of access to jobs and is highly efficient in its use of existing resources. However, MCTS does not have the resources to serve jobs outside the County.
5. Ms. Koster suggested it was important to look at transit holistically and asked whether park-ride lots and electric plug-in stations were being considered. Mr. Wallace responded that relocating the existing park-ride lot west of I-94 along STH 11, which is currently closed due to construction, is part of the I-94 project. There are also ongoing discussions between the State and Foxconn about short-term and/or long-term shuttle lots. He noted that electric plug-in stations could be added to any lots.

6. Mr. Maierle indicated he had heard that plans for the Foxconn campus assumed 30 percent of workers would be commuting by modes other than single-occupancy vehicles, and asked if that was accurate. Mr. Wallace responded that he was unsure how high the percentage was, but that he would not be surprised if it was that high. Mr. Maierle expressed discontent that public transit and carpooling was not included in Mr. Wallace’s presentation and suggested that WisDOT needs to strongly consider public transit and carpooling as part of the Foxconn development. He asked whether the Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) Grant being sought by WisDOT could be used for high-occupancy vehicle (HOV) lanes or public transit improvements. Mr. Wallace responded that the INFRA grant application was for the reconstruction of I-94 North-South, not for HOV lanes and public transit. He stated that a multimodal evaluation needs to be conducted, and that more information is needed, particularly a master plan for the Foxconn campus.

7. Mr. Boehm asked whether any lanes of the Foxconn Development Roads were being dedicated to transit. Mr. Wallace responded that WisDOT is still working with Foxconn to determine their specific needs and that the situation is complicated, but that it is possible there could be dedicated transit lanes. Mr. Boehm suggested that dedicated transit lanes and transit signal priority should be accounted for in the roadway design. Mr. Bauman asked whether the Foxconn Development Roads need to be included in the Commission’s transportation improvement program (TIP) and whether the Advisory Committees would be asked to act on amending VISION 2050 to include the Foxconn development roads. Mr. Muhs responded that the Foxconn Development Roads are being funded solely with State funds and projects requiring Federal action must be consistent with the regional plan and included in the TIP. He noted that because these projects will be constructed with State funds, Federal action will not be required until USDOT needs to determine if VISION 2050 and the TIP conform with the requisite air quality regulations that ensure that adding vehicle capacity to these surface arterials would not cause regional emissions to exceed existing budgets. As WisDOT has committed to operating these roadways at no greater than the existing capacities until the plan and TIP are amended later in 2018, no Federal action is required at this time. Staff is proposing two meetings later in 2018 for the Committees to consider a potential VISION 2050 amendment related to proposed land use and transportation system changes to accommodate and incorporate the impacts associated with serving the proposed Foxconn campus. That amendment would include the Foxconn development roads at their proposed capacities.

Mr. Bauman noted that WisDOT would be letting some of the Foxconn Development Roads work soon, and asked if it was too late to include dedicated transit lanes or HOV lanes. Mr. Wallace indicated there may be enough capacity on some roadways for dedicated transit lanes or HOV lanes, noting Braun Road as an example, and that how the roadways would be used is still subject to local needs and the needs of Foxconn. Mr. Clinkenbeard noted that Commission plan recommendations regarding improving and expanding public transit have historically lacked implementation and asked if WisDOT could make a commitment to implementing these recommendations. Mr. Wallace responded that WisDOT is not currently in a position to make any
commitments, noting that many different parties need to be involved in identifying transportation solutions. Mr. Korban suggested that, just as WisDOT is considering other modes and technologies, the Department should also acknowledge public transit as an option, and public transit should be at the forefront as WisDOT and others work to identify transportation solutions.

Mr. Dranzik excused himself from the meeting due to a prior engagement and asked Ms. Esch to serve as Chair for the remainder of the meeting.

PRESENTATION PREVIEWING POTENTIAL AMENDMENT TO VISION 2050 RELATED TO LAND USE CHANGES AND TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS RELATED TO THE PLANNED FOXCONN MANUFACTURING CAMPUS

Ms. Esch indicated the next agenda item was a presentation by Mr. Lynde regarding a potential amendment to VISION 2050 addressing land use changes and transportation improvements related to the planned Foxconn manufacturing campus. She noted that a handout—a PowerPoint presentation previewing the potential VISION 2050 amendment (available here)—was distributed to members at the meeting (this presentation is available on both Committee pages through the SEWRPC website). She then asked Mr. Lynde to review the handout. The following comment was provided during Mr. Lynde’s presentation:

1. Mr. Maierle thanked the Commission staff for their efforts to prepare the transit recommendations being developed for the VISION 2050 amendment, particularly in meeting with City of Racine and Village of Mount Pleasant representatives to discuss potential transit improvements related to the Foxconn campus.

Mr. Lynde noted that the Commission staff was not requesting Committee action on this item at this meeting, and anticipated scheduling two meetings of the Committees later in the year to consider a proposed amendment. He indicated that staff was proposing to schedule a meeting on Wednesday, August 15, to ask the Committees to review and consider a draft amendment so that staff can present it for public comment. Staff was proposing to schedule a subsequent meeting on Wednesday, October 17, to consider public comment on the amendment and review and consider a revised draft amendment so that staff can present it to the Commission for adoption. He noted both meetings would be held at 9:30 a.m. at the West Allis City Hall and asked the Committee members to mark their calendars for both meetings and inform Commission staff of any conflicts with the dates.

[Secretary’s Note: Following the meeting, staff proposed a new date of Thursday, October 18, for the second meeting due to conflicts raised by Committee members, and informed the Committees of the new date via email.]

DISCUSSION OF GENERAL PUBLIC MEETING LOCATIONS FOR PROPOSED VISION 2050 AMENDMENT

Ms. Esch noted that the Committee members received copies of a handout entitled “General Public Meeting Locations for Potential Amendment to VISION 2050 Related to Improvements Serving the Foxconn Manufacturing Campus” prior to the meeting. She asked Mr. Lynde to review the handout. Mr. Lynde reviewed the handout and asked Committee members if they had any comments, including suggestions for additional specific locations staff should consider for any of the public meetings. Mr. Maierle suggested the public meeting in eastern Racine County could be held at the historic train station in the City of Racine.
PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Esch asked if there were any public comments. There were none.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Esch thanked everyone for attending and the meeting was adjourned at 11:17 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin J. Muhs
Recording Secretary