

**Minutes of the
Chippewa-Eau Claire Metropolitan Planning Organization**

Wednesday, April 9, 2014

7:30 p.m.

Suite 401, Banbury Place

800 Wisconsin Street, Eau Claire, Wisconsin

Members Present: Kerry Kincaid, City of Eau Claire (chair); Henry Shakal, Chippewa County

Others Present: Jeff Abboud, WisDOT, NW Region; Dave Walter, City of Altoona

Staff Present: Ann Z. Schell, WCWRPC; Chris Straight, WCWRPC

1. The meeting was called to order by Ms. Kincaid at approximately 7:35 p.m.
2. Ms. Kincaid welcomed those present, and introductions were made.
3. The minutes of the February 12, 2014 meeting were approved as presented. Motion by Mr. Shakal, seconded by Mr. Kranig. The motion carried on a unanimous vote.
4. The minutes of the March 26, 2014 TAC meeting were discussed and accepted.
5. Ms. Schell described Amendment #2 to the 2014-18 TIP, starting with two transit projects that were just approved for funding – CILWW’s mobility manager position and their volunteer driver/voucher transportation programs. She then reviewed the five (5) bridge projects on the list, four of which are local local bridge replacements new to the TIP, the other was a modification to a bridge replacement project already in the TIP. Mr. Abboud and Mr. Shakal added some information on specific bridges. There is also safety project, to be funded under the HSIP-Railroad program, adding signals and gates at the UPRR crossing of Kane Road. There are also two WisDOT highway projects included in the amendment - maintenance at the USH 53/STH 29 interchange, and some resurfacing of the travel lanes and park & ride lot on I-94, from USH 12/STH 29 and STH 312, as well as a new salt shed and ramp gates at the interchange. Two Bicycle/Pedestrian projects were also included, one for the City of Altoona, and one for the City of Eau Claire. Mr. Walter discussed the challenges in getting their project completed.

Mr. Shakal moved to approve Amendment #2 to the 2014-2018 TIP. The motion was seconded by Ms. Kincaid, and passed unanimously.

6. Mr. Straight explained that the MPO is the advisory body for the urbanized area sewer service area plan. Include in these duties is the review and recommendation on amendments to the plan, generally due to proposed encroachments on environmentally sensitive areas. He described the amendment currently before the Council, for approximately 1.1 acres in the Club View Estates development in the City of Altoona. A number of proposed townhome and single family lots encroach upon areas of greater than 20% slope. Mr. Straight went on to present the staff evaluation, stating that a portion of the steep slopes were not natural, but rather the result of fill from the construction of the Spooner Avenue overpass of USH 53. He also noted that drainage would be handled on-site. The staff recommendation, to which the TAC concurred at their March 26th meeting, was to recommend approval of the amendment with the conditions that: (1) all applicable requirements be met and permits garnered, as required by the City of Altoona; and (2) any revisions to the lots in question would be provided to WCWRPC for further review.

Ms. Kincaid asked if builders were notified of erosion control measures needed at the time of construction. Mr. Straight and Mr. Walter replied that the City Building Inspector would be the point of enforcement at that time. Mr. Straight added that the MPO only gets involved in cases of a sewer service extension, and that the City enforces the conditions attached to the approval by the DNR. Ms. Kincaid noted that in the

City of Eau Claire, anything over a 20% slope sends up a red flag. Mr. Straight noted that 12-20% slopes are generally considered buildable, using best management practices, but that steeper are generally only considered developable under very special conditions, as in this case with a very small parcel and other conditions that protect the water quality. Ms. Kincaid asked Mr. Walter if there is a demand for this new residential development. Mr. Walter stated that he expected that they were expecting 100% build out in the near future.

Mr. Shakal made a motion to recommend approval of the amendment of the SSA plan, with the conditions included in the staff report. The motion was seconded by Ms. Kincaid, and passed unanimously.

Mr. Straight also mentioned an upcoming workshop, entitled *Critical infrastructure and Business Recovery after a Long-Term Power Outage: Implications for Chippewa Valley Businesses*, scheduled for May 15th at the Plaza Hotel in Eau Claire, and hosted by Disaster Ready Chippewa Valley, Inc. He distributed a brochure. For further information and registration information for the workshop, visit the DRCV website: <https://sites.google.com/site/disasterreadycv/home> .

7. Ms. Schell reviewed the revised Long-Range Plan goals and objectives, which include the input of the TAC. She noted that these are still open for input from the Council and will be made available for public input, prior to their approval as a part of the full document, which is due for completion at the end of 2015.
8. Under Other Business, Ms. Kincaid and Mr. Shakal congratulated each other on their recent re-elections. Mr. Shakal noted that he would like to see more commitment from other members to attend meetings and participate in the functions of their elected office, such as attending MPO meetings.

Ms. Schell described the changes occurring at the RPC, including the retirement of Jay Tappen, Executive Director, and the appointment of Lynn Nelson, a seasoned planner on the RPC staff, to the position of Executive Director. She also noted that some office shuffling was resulting from this move, and that she would be sharing an office with a new Assistant Transportation Planner, expected to be on board in July.

9. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for July 16, 2014.
10. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:20 p.m.