

**Minutes of the Technical Advisory Committee**  
of the Chippewa-Eau Claire Metropolitan Planning Organization  
Wednesday, August 12, 2015, 1:30 p.m.  
WCWRPC offices, Eau Claire, Wisconsin

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**Members Present:** Jeff Abboud, Wisconsin DOT; Lori Engen, Eau Claire County Highway; Mike Golat, City of Altoona; Lance Gurney, Eau Claire County; Janelle Henning, Town of Washington; Dwight McComb, FHWA; Rick Rubenzer, City of Chippewa Falls; David Solberg, City of Eau Claire; Bruce Stelzner, Chippewa County

**Staff Present:** Ann Schell, WCWRPC; Jason Duba, WCWRPC; Chris Straight, WCWRPC

**Others Present:** Matt Appel, Advanced Engineering Concepts

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1. The meeting was called to order at approximately 1:30 p.m.
2. Welcomes and introductions were made.
3. The minutes of the April 29, 2015 meeting were unanimously approved following a motion by Mr. Rubenzer, seconded by Mr. Stelzner.

4. SSA Plan Amendment Proposal – Altoona CBRF, City of Altoona

The City of Altoona has submitted a request for a Type IV – Plan Amendment. It is requested that the Sewer Service Plan map be updated to eliminate 0.0662 acres of an Environmentally Sensitive Area of slopes greater than 20% from portions of a 6.59 site located south of Briar Lane, east of 3rd Street E, and north of N. Hillcrest within the City of Altoona. The Environmentally Sensitive Area and the SSA Plan Map shall be amended in the said location to allow the construction of a two CBRF facilities and an apartment building. WCWRPC prepared a RPC staff report summarizing the proposed amendment, which was presented by Senior Planner Straight. WCWRPC identified no findings pertaining to the amendment request which conflict with the relevant SSA Plan criteria, except that all required environmental permits have not yet been obtained. Representatives from the City and project engineer were present and noted that a change will be made to the site plan, but the total building envelope will be reduced and no additional areas of steep slope would be encroached upon; Mr. Straight will add this to the RPC staff report.

MOTION to recommend approval of the SSA Plan Amendment for Altoona CBRF as described in the WCWRPC staff report with those conditions recommended by WCWRPC on page 7 of the report. Mr. Stelzner made the motion, Mr. Rubenzer seconded, and it passed unanimously. Mr. Golat recused himself from the vote.

5. SSA Plan Amendment Proposal – Butler Cabin, City of Altoona

The City of Altoona has submitted a request for a Type IV – Plan Amendment. It is requested that the Sewer Service Plan map be updated to eliminate 0.0721 acres of an Environmentally Sensitive Area of slopes greater than 20% from portions of a 8.49 site located south of U.S. Highway 12 within the Hillcrest Greens Development (formerly Hillcrest Golf Course) located in the City of Altoona. The Environmentally Sensitive Area and the SSA Plan Map shall be amended in the said location to allow the construction of multi-family residential and associated site improvements. WCWRPC prepared a RPC staff report summarizing the proposed amendment, which was presented by Senior Planner Straight. WCWRPC identified no findings pertaining to the amendment request which conflict with the relevant SSA Plan criteria, except that all required environmental permits have not yet been obtained and questions regarding delineation of the 100-year floodplain. Representatives from the City and project engineer were present and discussed how the 100-year floodplain

had been delineated on site plan map. Mr. Straight noted that the 100-year floodplain boundary shown on the D-FIRM maps available via WDNR and FEMA were much closer to the proposed development, but a site plan map showing this boundary was not available, so he was unable to confirm. Mr. Straight had inquired of the City whether some type of LOMA, LOMC, or other correction completed to officially change the floodplain boundary, but this appeared not to be the case, so was not certain what to recommend in terms of a related condition.

MOTION to recommend approval of the SSA Plan Amendment for Butler CBRF as described in the WCWRPC staff report with those conditions recommended by WCWRPC on page 8 of the report, with the addition of a fourth condition that the developer shall determine the need for a floodplain Letter of Map Amendment (LOMA) and should file a LOMA if needed. Mr. Straight will add this fourth condition to the RPC staff report. Mr. Stelzner made the motion, Mr. Gurney seconded, and it passed unanimously. Mr. Golat recused himself from the vote.

6. Ms. Schell and Mr. Abboud led a review and recommendation of Amendment #7 to the 2014-2018 TIP. The main points included:
  - Transit
    - Replacement bus (35 foot hybrid) for Eau Claire Transit
    - Two replacement vehicles (ADA side-load minivans) for the City of Chippewa Falls
  - Highway
    - Signal improvements at various intersections on USH 12, USH 53, and STH 93
    - Mr. Abboud explained that WisDOT has special ITS funding for the requirement to place a signal head over each lane.

The recommendation of Amendment #7 was unanimously approved following a motion by Mr. Golat, seconded by Mr. Gurney.

7. Ms. Schell led a discussion of ranking of STP-Urban projects for 2019-2020.
  - The total available is \$1,467,016.
  - Five projects were submitted and ranked based on the established criteria. The Park Ave project ranked highest.
  - The first motion, made by Mr. Stelzner and seconded by Mr. Golat, was to fund the Park Ave project at the requested federal share of \$1,053,000 (73.28% of total project cost). This motion passed unanimously.
  - The members discussed various options for using the remaining \$414,016. Ultimately, based on factors like funding requirements and timeframe, it was decided that the CTH S project was the best choice. Mr. Gurney moved to apply the remaining funds to the CTH S project (51.91% of the \$797,500 total project cost), the motion was seconded by Mr. Rubenzer, and the motion passed unanimously.
8. Ms. Schell led a review of the TIP 2016-2020 project table. Minor revisions were observed on a street name and funding period.
9. Ms. Schell led a discussion of the highway model output. The R<sup>2</sup> calibration factor has been brought up from 0.72 to 0.83. The FHWA guidance is for 0.88. TAC members observed a number of road segments where it was surprising to see low LOS or high LOS, depending

on the circumstances. Such observations can be shared with the WisDOT modelers in Madison in the ongoing effort to improve the model.

10. Everyone in attendance discussed the transportation system in the area, beginning with the committed and planned projects from the last Long Range Plan. The list of projects was updated with projects that have been completed, are underway, or are still to come. Then there was discussion of future projects, both planned and under consideration. Factors like development pressure were also discussed.
11. Mr. Duba led a review of progress on the Long Range Plan. This consisted of reviewing a series of maps that will be contained in the plan. The maps included land use, environmental characteristics, and aspects of the transportation system, such as traffic volume, traffic control measures, bridges, and high crash rate intersections. Various issues were identified and will be addressed.
12. Mr. Abboud reviewed the National Highway System (NHS) for the urbanized area. He stated that roads included in the NHS must meet increased design standards. Many of the roads in our area were likely included in the NHS because they are principal arterials. The routes can be taken off the NHS after going through a justification process.  
  
The discussion then shifted to the Functional Classification of roads in the area. A process for revising the Functional Classification will start soon and it needs to include representatives from the various jurisdictions and relevant professions like urban planners. This is an important process because it affects access to federal money.
13. Ms. Schell reviewed the 2016 Work Program development. The development of the Work Program has not commenced, so members are encouraged to submit suggestions for projects and plans for the staff to work on. With the Long Range Plan complete, more time should be available for local assistance.
14. Other business:
  - Ms. Schell discussed the transit center selection study that has had its first meeting. Members of the committee expressed the desire that the transit center be a mixed use building, not just a bus station.
  - Mr. Abboud expressed that federal ADA sidewalk requirements are still in place even after the repeal of Trans 75 (the state's Complete Streets law).
  - Mr. Duba showed and explained the regional bike map and shared copies. The map received a printing of 15,000 copies and distribution throughout the area.
15. The next TAC meeting has been tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, September 30, 2015.
16. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:40 p.m.