

Chippewa-Eau Claire MPO  
Policy Council

January 31, 2024

Meeting Packet

# CHIPPEWA-EAU CLAIRE

## METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION



800 Wisconsin Street, Mail Box 9  
Eau Claire, WI 54703  
715.836.2918 wcrpc.org

### MEETING NOTICE

## Chippewa-Eau Claire Metropolitan Planning Organization Policy Council

Wednesday, January 31, 2023  
5:30 p.m.

Meeting Location:  
Chippewa-Eau Claire MPO  
Banbury Place, 800 Wisconsin St.  
Building 2 – Room 405H (4th Floor)  
Eau Claire, WI

### AGENDA

1. Call to order
2. Welcome and introductions
3. Approval of minutes of October 04, 2023 Policy Council meeting
4. Review of minutes of January 10, 2024 TAC meeting
5. Review and approval of Amendment #1 (projects) to the Chippewa-Eau Claire MPO Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) 2024-2028
6. Review and approval of Chippewa-Eau Claire MPO Metropolitan Planning Area Boundary
7. Review of the 2023 Chippewa-Eau Claire MPO Summary Report
8. Other Business
9. Establish next meeting date (tentatively May 01, 2024)
10. Adjournment

# CHIPPEWA-EAU CLAIRE

## METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION



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**Minutes of the  
Chippewa-Eau Claire Metropolitan Planning Organization Policy Council**  
*Wednesday, October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023, 5:30 p.m.*  
*Held at: Room 405H, Building 2, Banbury Place, 800 Wisconsin Street, Eau Claire, WI*

**Members Present (8):** Gary Spilde - Village of Lake Hallie (Chair), Jim Dunning – Eau Claire County (Vice-chair), Dean Mueller – Chippewa County, Matt Biren – City of Altoona, Gregory Hoffman – Chippewa Falls, Emily Berge – City of Eau Claire, Rod Eslinger – Town of Halle, Alice Droske – Town of Wheaton,

**Members with no representative in attendance present (9):** Town of Anson, Town of Brunswick, Town of Eagle Point, Town of Lafayette, Town of Pleasant Valley, Town of Seymour, Town of Tilden, Town of Union, Town of Washington

**Staff Present:** Eric Anderson, Edwin Rothrock - Chippewa-Eau Claire MPO

### Minutes

1. Chairman Spilde called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.
2. Welcome and Introductions
3. Review and Approval of the minutes of the August 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023 MPO Policy Council meeting and Public Hearing. Mr. Dunning moved to approve; Mr. Biren seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
4. The minutes of the September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023, MPO Technical Advisory Committee meeting were reviewed.
5. Mr. Anderson presented the proposal to amend the 2023 Chippewa-Eau Claire MPO Work Program to add around \$25,000 in unspent 2023 Urban Area funding to the 2024 Work Program. He explained that the money moved from 2023 would need to be spent prior to any of the allocated 2024 funding. Mr. Hoffman moved to approve: Ms. Berge seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
6. Mr. Anderson presented the 2024 Chippewa-Eau Claire MPO Work Program for approval. There was some general discussion about how the projects had been chosen. There were some questions from Members about whether specific projects were included; all that were asked about were included. Ms. Berge made a motion to approve the 2024 Work Program. Mr. Eslinger seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
7. Mr. Anderson presented the proposed 2024-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). He explained that a new TIP had to be approved for even-numbered years. Mr. Hoffman made a motion to approve the TIP. Mr. Biren seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
8. Mr. Anderson presented the Title VI and the Public Participation Plans for approval. He discussed some of the provisions of the plans and how language translation versions of documents would be supplied on request, but that the MPA did not have a high enough percentage of residents that are non-proficient in English to require that all documents be translated. Ms. Berge moved to approve the plans. Mr. Mueller seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
9. Mr. Anderson presented the proposed Adjusted Urban Area Boundary map. He and Mr. Rothrock discussed the process for developing the maps and highlighted areas where there were significant changes from the previous Urban Area map which had been based on 2010 Census data. There was some discussion about areas that had moved into and out of the Urban area. Ms. Droske asked about an addition in the Town of Wheaton west of the newly developed Eau Claire Event Center (a.k.a. Country Jam), specifically whether the Towns in the MPA had been consulted during the development of the map. Mr. Anderson stated that personnel in both Counties, all three Cities, and the Village had all been consulted with, but not with each of the eleven Towns. Ms. Droski

shared that she was disappointed that the Town of Wheaton had not been informed about the changes included in the new map. Staff also discussed that the revision of the MPA boundary was the next step in the multi-tiered changes flowing from the 2020 Census. Mr. Anderson explained that the Town of Wheaton would be included in the discussion around that process. Mr. Hoffman moved to approve the updated Adjusted Urban Area Boundary. Mr. Eslinger seconded the motion. The motion passed with 7 “Aye” votes and one “Nay” vote from Ms. Droski.

10. Other business
  - a. Mr. Anderson shared again that Mr. Michael Mills has left the Regional Planning Commission. Mr. Anderson also shared that the recruitment process to hire a replacement is showing promising signs.
11. The next meeting date was tentatively set for January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024.
12. Adjournment – Mr. Muller moved to adjourn the meeting; Mr. Hoffman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Spilde adjourned the meeting at 6:32 p.m.

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## **Minutes of the Chippewa-Eau Claire Metropolitan Planning Organization Technical Advisory Committee**

Meeting held virtually using Zoom, Wednesday, January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024, 1:30 p.m.

Members present: Fred Anderson – Chippewa County Highway Department, Taylor Greenwell – City of Altoona Planning, Brandon Cesafsky – City of Chippewa Falls Public Works, Brad Hentschel – City of Chippewa Falls Planning, Ned Noel- City of Eau Claire Community Development, Katrina Berg – City of Eau Claire Planning, Jon Johnson – Eau Claire County Highway Department, Rod Eslinger – Eau Claire County Planning & Development, Ty Fadness – Eau Claire Transit, Karl Buck – Federal Highway Administration, Wesley Vlcek - Town of Brunswick, Jennifer Meyer - Town of Union, Alice Droski – Town of Wheaton, Jeff Aboud – WisDOT NW Region

Staff present: Eric Anderson – Director Chippewa-Eau Claire Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), Edwin Rothrock - Chippewa-Eau Claire MPO, Scott Allen – WCWRPC Director

### **Minutes**

1. Mr. Eric Anderson called the meeting to order at 1:31 pm.
2. Introductions were made.
3. The minutes of September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023, MPO TAC meeting were approved by all present following a motion by Mr. Eslinger, seconded by Mr. Cesafsky.
4. Mr. Eric Anderson presented Amendment #1 (Projects) to the 2024-2028 Transportation Improvement Plan for the Chippewa-Eau Claire MPO. A motion to recommend this amendment be adopted by the MPO Policy Council was made by Mr. Hentschel, seconded by Mr. Anderson, all members present voted “Aye.”
5. Mr. Eric Anderson presented three changes that had been suggested by MPO members to the draft Chippewa-Eau Claire Metropolitan Planning Organization Area Boundary map. The draft had been distributed earlier to the MPO TAC members for their consideration and feedback. Three suggestions for changes were received:
  - 1) Remove a section area southwest of the intersection of CTH II and Balsam Road from the MPO area.
  - 2) Add an area northwest of the intersection of Count Line Road (10<sup>th</sup> Avenue) and 40<sup>th</sup> Street, extending the boundary to 20<sup>th</sup> Street.
  - 3) Add an area northeast of the intersection of Deerfield Road and Hillview Road, east along the line of Deerfield Road to Otter Creek, then north along Otter Creek to Otter Creek Road.

It was agreed that each suggested change would be discussed and voted on separately.

- Area 1 – The area suggested for removal has sections defined as being reserved for agricultural uses. The area also includes a successful agritourism site. There were concerns about whether the roadway (CTH II) would be included within the Metropolitan Planning Area (MPA) if the road was upgraded due to traffic pressure from future residential growth along the corridor. It was agreed that the road in this area would continue to be included in the MPA. Area 1 was recommended for removal from the MPO Area Boundary on a vote of 7 in favor of removal, 5 against removal, with 2 abstentions.
- Area 2 – Concerns were shared that inclusion of the suggested additional area would enhance the possibility that the area would be annexed by the City of Eau Claire. Concerns were also shared that the Town of

Includes the Cities of Altoona, Chippewa Falls, and Eau Claire, the Village of Lake Hallie, and the Towns of Anson, Brunswick, Eagle Point, Hallie, Lafayette, Pleasant Valley, Seymour, Tilden, Union, Washington, and Wheaton

Union, within which the area lies, had not had a chance for their Board to consider this change. There was a discussion about how 20<sup>th</sup> Street was already being considered for future upgrades due to increased traffic pressure from the Eau Claire Events District (aka Country Jam Grounds) and how inclusion within the MPA might facilitate planning for the upgrade. It was also discussed that this vote was only a recommendation to the MPO Policy and there would be opportunities to discuss with interested people prior to consideration by the MPO Policy Council. Area 2 was recommended for addition to the MPO Area Boundary on a vote of 10 for inclusion, 2 against inclusion, with 2 abstentions.

- Area 3 – It was discussed that development along US 53 was already extending towards the area recommended for addition to the MPO Area Boundary. Otter Creek was discussed as a natural boundary to eastward development. Area 3 was recommended for addition to the MPO Area Boundary on a vote of 11 in favor of inclusions, with 3 abstentions.

6. Review 2023 MPO Annual Summary Report – Mr. Eric Anderson gave a brief description of the report, but in the interest of not extending an already overly long meeting, asked members to review the report and provided him with any feedback.
7. Other Business – Mr. Abboud mentioned that new Bike/Ped guidelines in the Public Right-of-Way Accessibility Guidelines (PROWAG) will be incorporated into the updated WisDOT Department Facilities Development Manual over the next 18 months. He encouraged TAC members to familiarize themselves with the upcoming changes and to begin to incorporate those changes into upcoming local projects. He stated that he will send links to the upcoming changes to MPO staff that can then be distributed to TAC members.
8. Establish next tentative meeting date as April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024.
9. At 3:13 pm, a motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Cesafsky, seconded by Ms. Meyer, and passed by all.

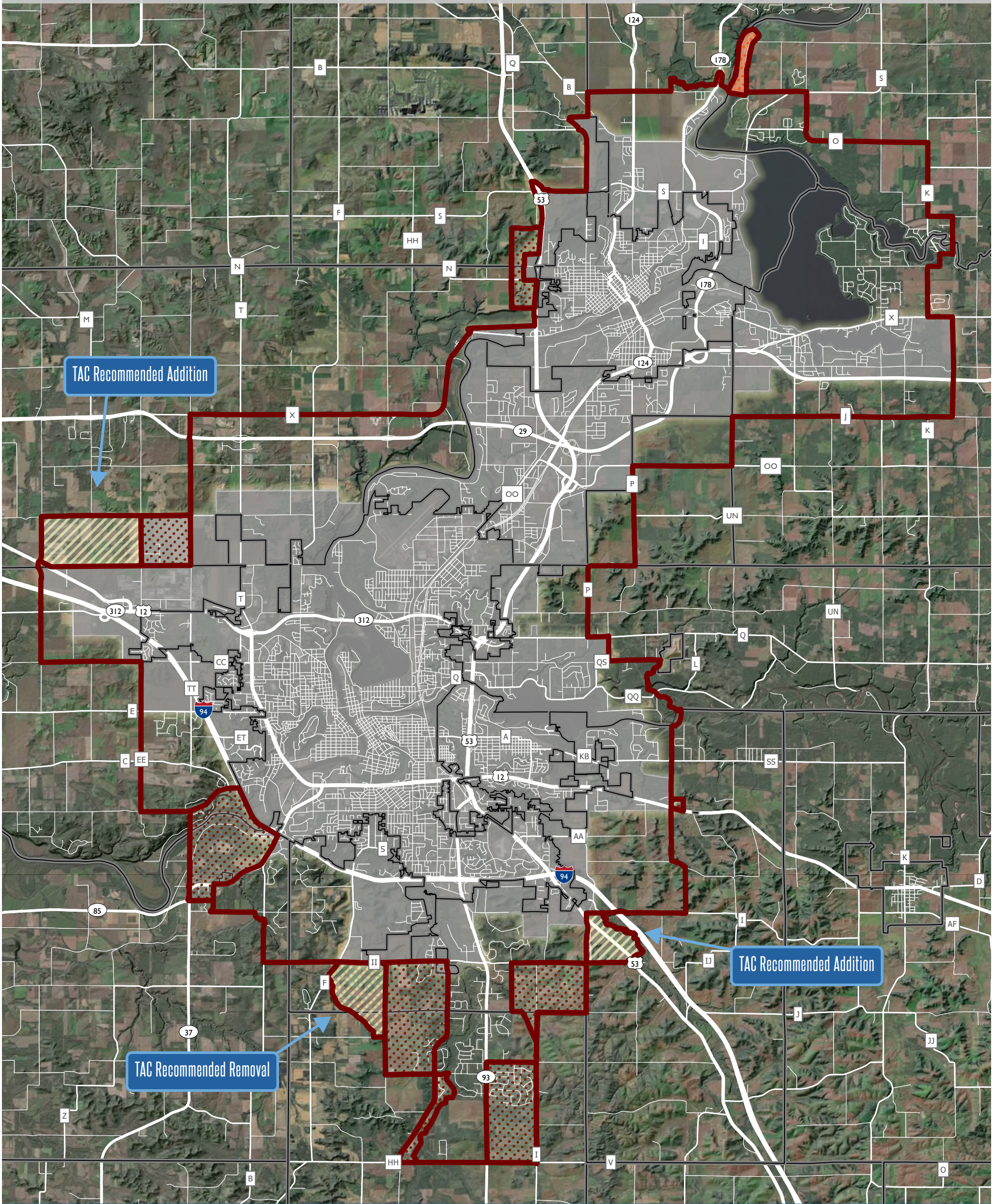




# 2020 MPA Boundary (Draft)

CHIPPEWA-EAU CLAIRE  
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

\*Including possible future growth areas from 2024 to 2043



- Metropolitan Planning Area (2010)
- TAC Recommendation
- MPA Addition
- MPA Removal

Adjusted Urban Area (2023)

Municipal Boundary

Road and Highway

January 2024

1:120,000

