



La Crosse Area Planning Committee

Metropolitan Planning Organization
Serving the La Crosse/La Crescent Urbanized Area

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Minutes of the Committee on Transit and Active Transportation, May 9, 2024, Meeting

Minutes of the meeting of the CTAT held in-person and as a virtual meeting on Teams on Thursday, May 9, 2024, at 3:30 pm.

Members Present: Bridget Brown, Jim Longhurst, Jenna Dinkel, Ken Harwood, Jim Krueger, Jenny Morris, Francis Schelfhout, Paula Silha, Cathy Van Maren, Kurt Wayne, **Staff and Others Present:** Erin Duffer, Bob Gollnik, Brian McCoy, and Jacob Sciammas.

Erin Duffer called the meeting to order at 3:30 pm.

1) Approval of minutes of the January 11, 2024 CTAT Meeting:

Jim Krueger motioned to approve the minutes of the January 11, 2024, meeting; Jim Longhurst seconded. All were in favor.

2) Recommendation to approve Supporting the Designation of the Mississippi River Trail (MRT) Within the Limits of LAPC's Metropolitan Planning Area (MPA):

Francis Shelfhout provided an overview of the MRT process and progress to date and is on track for a March 2025 deadline for all final approvals. Resolutions of support have been received by the majority of municipalities in the LAPC area, except for City of La Crosse, which is forthcoming.

Jim Krueger motioned to approve the recommending Support of the Designation of the Mississippi River Trail (MRT) Within the Limits of LAPC's Metropolitan Planning Area (MPA); Jim Longhurst seconded. All were in favor.

3) Presentation and discussion with Drift Share Inc.'s President, Jacob Sciammas.

Jacob Sciammas gave an overview of drift cycle, and fielded questions on future demand and expansion. Jacob discussed interest in another feasibility study to identify needs and patterns of use.

4) Metropolitan Transportation Plan community survey review.

Erin Duffer shared the draft survey questions with the committee and provided background on question development. Cathy Van Maren suggested to inquire about price of parking be included as part of "cost of driving." Cathy also reiterated the importance of including Climate Action Plans for City and County into plan objectives. Erin asked the committee to review the questions and email any suggestions to her.

5) Other updates and information items:

Jenna Dinkel shared that the City of La Crosse is in the final stages of their Bicycle and Pedestrian Mater Plan and that a draft plan will be ready to review.

Erin Duffer provided updates and fielded questions on a number of items:

- TAP Applications and WisDOT Project Ready Federal Redistribution Applications
- Safe Streets 4 All planning grant application
- TCMC, now known as Borealis, service beginning end of the month
- AARP and 1000 Friends of Wisconsin hosting Making Connections in La Crosse event on May 30, 2024. Event kicks off at 9am for a "Ride with the Mayor" and then follows with a panel and reception at UW-L and then a movie screening at the Rivoli at 5:30pm.

Bridget Brown updated members on continuing issues at Jackson Street and West Ave Street in La Crosse where Audible Pedestrian Signal remains a problem, along with a number of other complications, including pole location.

Cathy Van Maren reminded members of National Trails Day on June 1, which will be sponsored by Coulee Region Sierra Club. Cathy also noted that the La Crosse Area Transit Advocate group took a trip on SMRT bus to Viroqua. The group discussed issues with drivers and riders. There is a strong interest in doing whatever possible to maintain and expand SMRT services. Ken Hardwood reiterated the importance of SMRT bus in our rural communities.

Kurt Wayne introduced Brian McCoy and shared that Brian will now serve as the MnDOT representative in the committee moving forward.

6) Future agenda items:

Cathy Van Maren reminded the committee that September 30 through October 6 is week without driving. The committee and staff expressed interest in supporting the week's activities.

7) Adjourn; Next meeting TBA:

Erin Duffer announced the next meeting on July 11, 2024 at 3:30pm.

Jim Krueger motioned to adjourn at 4:55 pm; Jim Longhurst seconded. All were in favor.