



LA CROSSE AREA PLANNING COMMITTEE

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

SERVING THE LA CROSSE (WI)/LA CRESCENT (MN) URBANIZED AREA

Minutes of Committee on Transit and Active Transportation, July 10, 2025

Minutes of the meeting of the CTAT held in-person and as a virtual meeting on Teams on Thursday, July 10, 2025, at 3:30 pm.

Members Present: Bridget Brown, Rick Diermeier, Jenna Dinkel, Jim Longhurst, Jason Ludwigson, Brian McCoy, Jenni Morris, Chelsey Bolden, Maggie Smith, Cathy Van Maren.

Staff and Others Present: Erin Duffer, Travis Key, Bob Gollnik, Dillon Mader, Nikki Kvam.

Erin Duffer called the meeting to order at 3:33pm.

1) Approval of the minutes of the March 13, 2025, CTAT meeting.

Jim Longhurst motioned to approve the minutes of the March 13, meeting; Jenna Dinkel seconded. All were in favor.

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

Jenna Dinkel Motioned to recommend approval of Version Two of Supporting the Designation of the Mississippi River Trail (MRT) Within the Limits of LAPC's Metropolitan Planning Area (MPA); Bridget Brown seconded. All were in favor.

3) 2025 TAP grant application solicitation update.

TAP applications are set to open soon, and the application portal will be exclusively online this round. Important notice for the group; MPOs must submit applications before the deadline for review. This may warrant a special meeting in October to rank submitted projects if an extension cannot be granted. Erin is coordinating with WisDOT for an extension to rank the projects in November and will update the CTAT.

Jim Longhurst asks if an application being submitted after CTAT had ranked the project was possible. Erin D. confirmed that it was possible and part of the reason that this requirement could pose issues if no exception is granted to MPOs.

4) RTA Feasibility Study update.

LAPC received one bid from SRF and they were selected as the consultant for this study with a modified proposal and contract agreement. SRF will be coming to CTAT in September to give an overview of the project and scope as the project will be well underway at that point. Bob reiterates that even though SRF was the only consultant to submit an application, LAPC staff felt that they were more than sufficiently qualified to complete this study.

Erin Duffer goes over proposed timeline from SRF. Bob Gollnik adds that a legal/regulatory analysis was done by a pre-law student in collaboration with Professor Sam Scinta from the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse.

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Cathy Van Maren adds that state transit advocates and peers are very interested in this project- Bob Gollnik adds that at the next meeting, SRF will have more detailed scope information to share with the group.

5) MTP update.

Erin Duffer updated on engagement efforts for the MTP, highlighting the key goals and findings as they relate to active transportation. A presentation was shared with CTAT members containing the drafted goals and objectives for the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) for comments, questions, or concerns.

6) Regional Bike map update.

Travis Key shared that he is working on updating the regional bike map covering the planning area for the public to use and for planning documents. The last regional bike map was updated in 2008. Travis is working with Jenna at the City of La Crosse for design and future distribution. A draft copy of the map brochure was shared with the group for comments.

7) Other updates and information items:

a. Week Without Driving 2025

Mayor of the City of La Crosse, Shaundel Washington-Spivey has agreed to host a press event to kickoff Week Without Driving. Now referred to as the Week Without Driving Experience rather than 'challenge'. To support WWD, MTU and SMRT bus has agreed to offer free fares for one day each during the week of September 29th to October 5th. Cathy Van Maren also asks for new sponsors and ideas for events. LAPC voices their interest in hosting an event.

b. Member Updates

Jenna Dinkel relays that the dates for the bike rodeo and ride with the mayor have been set.

Cathy Van Maren adds that the La Crosse Transit Advocates are hosting a 'Transit and Treats' event at the People's Food Coop and asks that planners and transit operators attend to have discussion and answer questions for attendees.

The Flyway trail phase 2 is underway and slated to be open by late August. Both phases 1 and 2 will be paved.

8) Other business; Adjourn; next meeting TBA.

Jenna Dinkel motioned to adjourn at 4:15pm; James Longhurst seconded. All were in favor.

Next meeting is set for September 11, 2025.

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