



# La Crosse Area Planning Committee

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

Peter Fletcher, Director     Jackie Eastwood, Transportation Planner  
Erin Duffer, Transportation Planner

La Crosse County Administrative Center  
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### Minutes of Technical Advisory Committee Meeting, May 10, 2023

**Minutes of the meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee** held at 2:30 pm on Wednesday, May 10, 2023, in room 1107 of the La Crosse County Administrative Center and by Microsoft Teams.

**Members Present/On Call:** Voting: Stephanie Sward for Matt Gallagher, Ken Harwood, Charlie Handy, Kevin Schubert for Jarrod Holter, Jim Krueger, Paula Sihla, Loren Schwier, Erika Shepard, Kurt Wayne, Andrea Trane Voni Vegar, and Bill Waller. Non-voting: Francis Schelfhout, WisDOT. **Guests and Staff:** Jason Ludwigson, Simon Fichter, Jamie Schoen, Peter Fletcher, Jackie Eastwood, and Erin Duffer.

Peter Fletcher called the meeting at 2:31pm and asked for introductions with new staff present.

**1) Approval of minutes of the March 8, 2023, Meeting:**

*Charlie Handy motioned to approve the minutes of the March 8, 2023, meeting; Stephanie Sward seconded. All were in favor.*

**2) Introduction of MPO Transportation Planner:**

Peter Fletcher introduced Erin Duffer as the new MPO Transportation Planner. She will be replacing Jackie Eastwood upon her retirement at the end of the year.

**3) Recognition of Bob Fisher for years of support to the La Crosse Area Planning Committee and planning in the region:**

Peter Fletcher presented a dedicatory plaque that will be given to Bob Fisher's wife, commemorating his passion, hard work and dedication to LAPC over the years. Bob Fisher passed away in February of this year.

**4) Recommendation to approve amending the 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program:**

Peter Fletcher provided an overview of the amendment, which includes adding eight (8) new projects, removing three (3) existing projects, and updating the project numbers, descriptions, funding source, and/or funding amounts for five (5) other projects.

*Charlie Handy motioned to recommend to the Policy Board to approve amending the 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program; Kevin Schubert seconded. All were in favor.*

**5) Recommendation to approve City of La Crescent FY 2024 Carbon Reduction Program application:**

Peter Fletcher explained the application process for the City of La Crescent to utilize 2023 and 2024 Carbon Reduction Program grant funds for replacing their current police cruiser with a leased, fully electric powered vehicle. Bill Waller of La Crescent stated the intent is to enter into a lease agreement once all federal requirements are met. Ken Harwood asked what vehicle brand will be leased. Bill Waller stated it is an open bidding process (per CRP requirements) and that all brands will be considered.

*Jim Krueger motion to recommend to the Policy Board to approve City of La Crescent FY 2024 Carbon Reduction Program application; Ken Harwood seconded. All were in favor.*

**6) 2023 Local studies program update:**

Peter Fletcher updated the Committee of the local studies program funding changes. This change will include the City of La Crosse planning study for the southern portion of Losey Boulevard. To include this study, the Unified Planning Work Program is proposed to be amended by the Policy Board at the May 17, 2023, meeting.

**7) Other updates and information items:**

Peter Fletcher informed the Committee on an upcoming release of a new Transportation Alternatives Program by WisDOT. It is anticipated the deadline for applications will be in October. Funding is proposed for sidewalks, trails, etc. Peter explained that applications within the Metropolitan Planning Area will have to be prioritized.

Peter Fletcher additionally shared that the Title VI plan update, which occurs every three (3) years, is on the Policy Board agenda at the May 17, 2023, meeting. Peter stated the plan update does not require a public comment period but is available for review on the LAPC website.

Ken Harwood shared the Mississippi River Regional Planning Commission is looking at conducting a survey of major freight.

Kurt Wayne with MnDOT District 6 provided an update on the status of construction phases for the TCMC rail project.

Jim Krueger with the City of La Crosse MTU shared that they are looking at getting diesel electric buses next week and in July will purchase some for La Crescent.

**8) July 2023 agenda items:**

- 2023-2026 TIP Amendment
- MN 2024-2027 TIP Project List

**9) Other business; Adjourn; Next meeting to be announced**

The next meeting will be a special meeting held virtually and is expected to be in June.

*Charlie Handy motioned to adjourn at 3:00 pm; Jim Krueger seconded. All were in favor.*