



**MINUTES  
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MEETING  
East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission**

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS:** *Dick Koeppen, Nick Kesler, John Zorn (Alt for Steve Abel), Thomas Kautza, Robert Keller, Joe Moore (Perm Alt for Keith Heisler), Vacant, Lee Hammen, Ron McDonald, Nick Weber*

Date: Tuesday, January 9, 2024 (Virtual)

1. Mr. Keller welcomed attendees to the meeting and called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.
2. **Roll Call** - Introduction of Alternates, Staff and Guests

Committee Members Present:

Nick Kesler..... Calumet County  
 John Zorn (Alt. for Steve Abel) ..... Fond du Lac County  
 Lee Hammen, Vice Chair (call-in)..... Outagamie County  
 Dick Koeppen (call-in) ..... Waupaca County  
 Robert Keller, Chair ..... Winnebago County  
 Nick Weber ..... WisDOT – NE Region Rep  
 Joe Moore (*Perm Alt for Keith Heisler*)..... Fond du Lac County  
 Ron McDonald ..... Valley Transit

Committee Members Excused:

Vacant..... Menominee County  
 Tom Kautza ..... Shawano County

ECWRPC Staff and Guests Present:

Melissa Kraemer Badtke. .... Executive Director  
 Craig Moser ..... Deputy Director  
 Kim Biedermann ..... Principal Planner  
 Mike Zuege ..... GIS Manager  
 Casey Peters ..... Associate Planner  
 Leann Buboltz..... Administrative Coord

3. **Approval of Agenda / Motion to Deviate** – A motion by Mr. Koeppen and second by Mr. Hammen to approve of the agenda as posted. Motion carried unanimously.
4. **Public Comment** – No public comment.
5. **Approval of the October 17, 2023** Transportation Committee Meeting Minutes – A motion was made by Mr. Zorn and second by Mr. Kesler to approve of the minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**6. Announcements and Updates**

A. Staff Report presented by Kim Biedermann-Principal Planner

**Roadways**

1. **Congestion Management Process and Long Range Transportation Plan:** Ms. Biedermann shared that one of the key deliverables that ECWRPC staff will be working on throughout 2024 are the Congestion Management Process for the Appleton (Fox Cities) MPO and a Long Range Transportation Program for each of the three MPOs (Appleton (Fox Cities), Oshkosh, and Fond du Lac). She noted that these are federal requirements, providing a vision and framework for the investment of federal and state dollars to meet the needs of the future transportation network.

2. **PASER Studies:** ECWRPC staff conducted Pavement Surface Evaluation and Rating (PASER) studies for the towns of Auburn and Empire in the fall of 2023. Ms. Biedermann stated that PASER studies provide a system to visually rate conditions along segments of roadways.

### **Active Transportation—Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning**

1. **Grant Award: Community Connectors Program – College Avenue Project:** ECWRPC partnered with Outagamie County's Development & Land Services Department to apply for the Community Connectors Grant Program and was selected as one of 15 teams from across the country as the inaugural cohort for this program. Ms. Biedermann reported that the team's project focus is the College Avenue Corridor from Mall Drive in Appleton to Richmond Street in Grand Chute. The Core Team consists of Outagamie County, ECWRPC, Town of Grand Chute, City of Appleton, Appleton Area School District, Fox Cities Convention and Visitors Bureau, WisDOT, and the Boys and Girls Club of the Fox Valley. Partner Organizations include ECWRPC Safe Routes to School, Appleton COTS, Pillars, Inc., Valley Transit, Appleton International Airport, and Outagamie County Public Health Division. Members of the team attended a gathering in Atlanta, GA, November 13 -15, 2023 to kick off the project.
2. **Fond du Lac Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan:** Ms. Biedermann reported that work is continuing on the plan with a goal to have the plan adopted in early 2024. She noted that in the summer of 2023, an interactive site was launched to gain feedback from the public, which can be found at <https://ecwrpc.mysocialpinpoint.com/fond-du-lac-mpo-bike-ped-plan/>. ECWRPC staff will continue to develop the plan and bring it forward to the Fond du Lac MPO TAC and Policy Board for consideration in March 2024.

### **Safe Routes to School**

1. **Shawano Safe Routes to School Action Plan:** Ms. Biedermann shared with the members that work is continuing on this plan with a targeted completion in spring 2024. She reported that school surveys will be sent out in early January to learn more from the school community about the traffic concerns they have around the school.
2. **The Built Environment and Active Transportation Study:** The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) recently updated their policy statement on child pedestrian safety. It was reported that in order to reduce the number of fatalities from childhood pedestrian injury, promote active transportation, and increase physical activity, the AAP calls for communities to adopt and promote policies, programs, and legislation that result in a safer environment for youth pedestrians. Ms. Biedermann shared that staff submitted a Request for Proposal to study how policies, programs, and the built environment affects whether children travel to school using active transportation, injury and fatality rates, and physical activity.

### **Transit and Specialized Transportation**

1. **Valley Transit Rider Survey and Neenah Transfer Center Project:** Ms. Biedermann reported that the work for this project is complete and final draft documents have been delivered to ECWRPC staff.
2. **GO Transit (City of Oshkosh) Transit Development Plan:** ECWRPC and GO Transit are working with SRF Consulting Group on the agency's Transit Development Plan. Ms. Biedermann shared that recently, staff have completed the third steering committee meeting, and are moving forward to the recommendations draft stage. She noted that the plan is anticipated to be completed in April 2024.

### **Special Projects**

1. **Oshkosh MPO EV Readiness Plan:** Ms. Biedermann shared with the members that ECWRPC and the City of Oshkosh continue to work with the contracted consultant (SRF) on the EV Readiness Plan. She reported that a community survey was distributed with nearly 500 responses collected. The first round of in-person community engagement was conducted in December 2023, with a stakeholder group meeting and a community engagement meeting.

## **7. Business / Action Items**

- A. **Proposed Resolution 02-24:** Adopting WisDOT Transportation Performance Measures and Targets for PM1: Safety for the Appleton (Fox Cities) Metropolitan Planning Organization. Ms.

Biedermann gave a brief overview of the Transportation Performance Management (TPM). She shared that it is a strategic planning approach set by the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration to help decision makers better understand the impacts of transportation investment decisions. The goal of Transportation Performance Measures is to ensure objective data and research inform investment and policy decisions to maximize the performance of the transportation. Ms. Biedermann also noted that this is to establish the new safety targets for the Appleton MPO, which are the same that are established by the state.

A motion was made by Mr. Zorn and a second by Mr. Hammen to approve of **Proposed Resolution 02-24**: Adopting WisDOT Transportation Performance Measures and Targets for PM1: Safety for the Appleton (Fox Cities) Metropolitan Planning Organization as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

- B. **Proposed Resolution 03-24**: Adopting WisDOT Transportation Performance Measures and Targets for PM1: Safety for the Oshkosh Metropolitan Planning Organization. Ms. Biedermann shared that this request covers the Oshkosh MPO where the goal of Transportation Performance Measures is to ensure objective data and research inform investment and policy decisions to maximize the performance of the transportation. Ms. Biedermann also noted that this is to establish the new safety targets for the Oshkosh MPO, which are the same that are established by the state.

A motion was made by Mr. Hammen and a second by Mr. Kesler to approved of **Proposed Resolution 03-24**: Adopting WisDOT Transportation Performance Measures and Targets for PM1: Safety for the Oshkosh Metropolitan Planning Organization as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

- C. **Proposed Resolution 04-24** Amending the 2024 Transportation Improvement Program for the Appleton (Fox Cities) Metropolitan Planning Organization. Mr. Casey Peters reported that following the approval of the 2024 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for the Appleton (Fox Cities) Metropolitan Planning Organization, the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) has provided updates on several projects in the 2024-2027 funding cycle. He noted that the projects need to be amended in the TIP to assign TIP ID numbers and ensure fiscal constraint. A full breakdown of all the projects being amended can be found below:

Table 1: Appleton (Fox Cities) MPO – Amendment Project Listing (2024-2027).

- TIP #252-22-053: Buchanan Rd. at Apple Creek Bridge – Corrected funding amounts and year
- TIP #252-22-057: IH 41 Expansion – Significant increase in project funding
- TIP #252-23-053: Racine Street WCL RR Xing Sig/Gate – Corrected funding amount WisDOT has requested new TIP ID numbers for the following projects.

Inclusion of these projects into the TIP also require a major amendment

- TIP #252-24-024: STH 76 from STH 15 to S. Junction STH S – New Project
- TIP #252-24-025: USH 10 from Fire Lane 7 to CTH N – New Project

The updated performance measures for PM1: Safety, as adopted by the Appleton (Fox Cities) MPO, must be amended into the 2024 TIP. The TIP will utilize these values to determine progress towards meeting these safety targets within our region. This was open for a 15-day public comment period; no comments were received.

A motion was made by Mr. Koeppen and a second by Mr. Kesler to approve of **Proposed Resolution 04-24** Amending the 2024 Transportation Improvement Program for the Appleton (Fox Cities) Metropolitan Planning Organization. Motion carried unanimously.

- D. **Proposed Resolution 05-24** Amending the 2024 Transportation Improvement Program for the Oshkosh Metropolitan Planning Organization. Mr. Casey Peters shared with the members that the updated performance measures for PM1: Safety, as adopted by the Oshkosh MPO, must be amended for inclusion in the 2024 TIP. The TIP will utilize these values to determine progress

towards meeting these safety targets within our region. This was open for a 15-day public comment period; no comments were received.

A motion was made by Mr. Hammen and a second from Mr. Kesler to approve of **Proposed Resolution 05-24** Amending the 2024 Transportation Improvement Program for the Oshkosh Metropolitan Planning Organization. Motion carried unanimously.

## 8. Informational/Discussion Items

- A. County Roundtable Discussion (*as time permits*) –
  - 1. Mr. Keller – Winnebago County shared that Executive Jon Doemel proposed a change in the budget process this year where expenditures are not listed; using a priority based (expenditures listed by Program)
  - 2. Mr. Koeppen – Waupaca County shared that due to health issues he will not be running again for reelection. He expressed that he held the County Chair for 20 years as well as serving on the ECWRPC. The members acknowledged and thanked Mr. Koeppen for his service and wished him well.
- B. North Central WisDOT Updates – Mr. Nick Weber shared that coming up is the Bicycle Pedestrian Safety Webinar that is free for all those that are interested. - <https://projects.511wi.gov/weeklyupdates-nc/>
- C. Northeast WisDOT Updates - <https://projects.511wi.gov/weeklyupdates-ne/>

## 9. Establish Time and Place for Next Commission Meeting

- A. **Transportation Committee Meeting:** The next Transportation Committee Meeting will take place on Tuesday, April 9, 2024 at 1:30 p.m. Further details will be forthcoming.
- B. **Commission Meeting:** The next Commission meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 24, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. TBD- An agenda and meeting materials will be forthcoming.

**10. Adjourn** – A motion was made by Mr. Koeppen and second by Mr. Kesler to adjourn with the time noted 1:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by

Leann Buboltz – Administrative Coordinator  
ECWRPC