

MINUTES
BAY-LAKE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
SHEBOYGAN METROPOLITAN AREA
TECHNICAL AND POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEES

February 22, 2018

Sheboygan County Administration Building (Room 119), Sheboygan

MEMBERS PRESENT: Steven Bauer, Policy Advisory Committee Chairperson,
Presiding

Policy Advisory Committee: Charles Born (Town of Lima)
Matt Halada for Will Dorsey (WisDOT Northeast Region,
Green Bay)
George Marthenze for Tom Wegner (Sheboygan County)
Rick Meyer for John Ehmann (Town of Wilson)

Technical Advisory Committee: Aaron Brault (Sheboygan County Planning and Conservation
Department)
Brett Edgerle (Village of Kohler)
Diane Paoni (WisDOT Bureau of Planning and Economic
Development, Madison, by phone)
Steve Sokolowski (City of Sheboygan Department of Planning
and Development)

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Jerry Benzschawel (City of Sheboygan Falls Department of
Public Works)
David Biebel (City of Sheboygan Department of Public Works)
Bill Blashka for Daniel Hein (Town of Sheboygan)
Derek Muench (Shoreline Metro)
David Smith (Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation Advocate)
Mayor Mike Vandersteen (City of Sheboygan)

OTHERS PRESENT: Nancy DesJardins (Town of Wilson)

STAFF PRESENT: Josh Schedler and Jeffrey Agee-Aguayo (Bay-Lake Regional
Planning Commission)

1. The meeting was called to order at 1:01 p.m. by Policy Advisory Committee Chairperson
Steven Bauer.

Members of both committees and staff in attendance introduced themselves for the benefit of
everyone in attendance.

Members of both committees and staff present noted committee members who had asked to be excused from the meeting.

2. **Moved** by George Marthenze and seconded by Charles Born that both committees approve the agenda for the February 22, 2018, joint Technical Advisory Committee/Policy Advisory Committee meeting. Motion carried, with all voting aye on a voice vote.

3. **Moved** by Charles Born and seconded by Aaron Brault that both committees approve the minutes of the January 25, 2018, joint Technical Advisory Committee/Policy Advisory Committee meeting. Motion carried, with all voting aye on a voice vote.

4. Policy Advisory Committee Chairperson Steven Bauer asked if there was any public input; none was received.

5. Members of both committees and others in attendance went through a nominal group exercise to establish goals and objectives for the Update to the *Year 2045 Sheboygan Area Transportation Plan (SATP)*.

Jeffrey Agee-Aguayo reviewed the nominal group process handout that was sent to members of both committees. Jeffrey Agee-Aguayo noted that Chapter 4 (Mission Statement, Goals and Objectives) of the previous plan (the original *Year 2045 SATP*) was sent out to members of both committees for reference.

Committee members then went through the nominal group exercise; results were reported on a laptop computer, with items projected onto a screen in the meeting room. Only one group was needed for this exercise.

Silent Generation of Ideas

Participants were provided with note cards and, as needed, with pens. Each participant, in a silent and independent manner, wrote in brief and specific terms the issues and concerns that were of most concern to them in regard to the future of land use and transportation in the Sheboygan Metropolitan Planning Area. Occasionally, an issue outside the metropolitan planning area (but which had a likely impact on the area) was raised.

Round-Robin Listing of Items

Each participant, when it was their turn, stated concisely one item from their list. One item was recorded at a time, and was assigned a number. This occurred in a round-robin fashion.

The items listed by participants were as follows:

1. Less annexation of farmland for industrial use.
2. Make other forms of transportation more attractive besides the automobile/Sustainable forms of transportation.
3. STH 23 – 4 lanes from Plymouth to Fond du Lac.
4. Plan for transportation changes in the future (driverless cars, Uber, electric vehicles, charging stations, shared vehicles, plan future roads).
5. Work on beautification efforts at the gateways to urbanized area communities.
6. CTH EE/Weeden Creek Road reconstruction, a joint effort between municipalities and the county.
7. Better facilitation/communication of emergency vehicles and railroad lines.
8. Continued open communication between federal, state, county and local governments.
9. Continued ability of outside groups to obfuscate safety upgrades through litigation.
10. Concentration of mega farms and slurry pits next to residential areas.
11. STH 23 – Plymouth to Sheboygan Falls – more overpasses.
12. Better job of utilizing more WisDOT informational boards.
13. Better local land use decisions when developments are brought to the board.
14. Continue infill/redevelopment in existing urban areas.
15. Construction of additional roundabouts for safety.
16. I-43 Business Park expansion – new traffic pattern needed.
17. Increasing expense of underutilized transit system.
18. Low income housing, lack of infrastructure for transportation.
19. Additional segregated bike lanes, rails-to-trails.

20. Increasing cost of maintaining current and new roads.
21. Promote connections and multi-access developments.
22. Bad rail crossings, vision triangles at crossings, communication with rail.
23. Land use decisions, pro-environmental decisions.
24. Slower speed limit when a paved shoulder is along a road.
25. Continue to promote and enhance the airport, fire protection and safety.
26. Continue to promote rail traffic to reduce truck traffic.
27. Eliminate the use of compression brakes.

Discussion of Items

Discussion of items primarily occurred within the round-robin listing of items. The above listed items were discussed in terms of what needed further elaboration or clarification. The originator of the item had an opportunity to briefly clarify the meaning of their item if another participant asked for clarification. Items were occasionally combined as part of this discussion process where this made sense.

Silent Listing and Voting

Participants were asked to select their five most important issues (by number) from those listed. Additional note cards were distributed to participants for this purpose.

Participants were then asked to select their most important issue among their five most important issues and assign that issue a “5.” Next, they were asked to select their least important issue among their five most important issues and assign it a “1.” Next, they were asked to select their second most important issue among their five most important issues and assign it a “4.” Next, they were asked to select their less important of the two issues remaining and assign it a “2.” Finally, their remaining issue was assigned a “3.”

Commission staff then tabulated the results of the vote.

Reporting Out

After tabulations were made, Commission staff presented the five (six with a tie in this case) most important issues to the participants. The results were as follows:

1. Item #3 – “STH 23 – 4 lanes from Plymouth to Fond du Lac.” (19 points).
2. Item #1 – “Less annexation of farmland for industrial use.” (12 points – tie).
2. Item #4 – “Plan for transportation changes in the future (driverless cars, Uber, electric vehicles, charging stations, shared vehicles, plan future roads).” (12 points – tie).
4. Item #2 – “Make other forms of transportation more attractive besides the automobile/Sustainable forms of transportation.” (8 points).
5. Item #8 – “Continued open communication between federal, state, county and local governments.” (7 points – tie).
5. Item #14 – “Continue infill/redevelopment in existing urban areas.” (7 points - tie).

It was noted that Item 13 scored 6 points, while Items 6, 7, 9 and 25 scored 5 points. In addition, Items 15, 20 and 23 scored 4 points, while Items 5, 11 and 12 scored 3 points, and Items 17, 21, 24 and 26 scored 2 points. No items scored 1 point. Items 10, 16, 18, 19, 22 and 27 did not score any points.

All items (including note cards) were collected at the end of the nominal group exercise.

Jeffrey Agee-Aguayo indicated that results from this exercise would be used to develop new goals and objectives as part of the process to prepare the Update to the *Year 2045 SATP*. Certain items (federal metropolitan planning factors, consistency with WisDOT’s latest *Strategic Highway Safety Plan*, and integration of goals and objectives from Sheboygan County’s latest *Pedestrian and Bicycle Comprehensive Plan*) will also be included in the goals and objectives. Jeffrey Agee-Aguayo also noted that he would make every attempt to include all ideas presented through this exercise in the updated goals and objectives for the Update to the *Year 2045 SATP*, regardless of whether they made the top five ideas.

Jeffrey Agee-Aguayo concluded this agenda item by stating that he hoped to have a new draft “Mission Statement, Goals and Objectives” chapter for the Update to the *Year 2045 SATP* available for review at the next meeting.

6. Matt Halada did not have a report on WisDOT Northeast Region planning activities and construction projects in Sheboygan County at this meeting, but indicated that he would have a report on these activities and projects at the next meeting.

Jeffrey Agee-Aguayo then gave an update on MPO activities to everyone in attendance.

Jeffrey Agee-Aguayo stated that he transmitted Amendment #2 to the *2016 Coordinated Public Transit – Human Services Transportation Plan for Sheboygan County* to the WisDOT Transit Section on January 26, 2018.

Jeffrey Agee-Aguayo indicated that the Bay-Lake Regional Planning Commission approved several minor amendments to the *Sheboygan Metropolitan Planning Area Transportation Improvement Program (TIP): Calendar Years 2018 – 2021* at a meeting of its Executive Committee on January 26, 2018. These amendments were transmitted to WisDOT on January 29, 2018, and have been posted to the Sheboygan MPO webpage. (*Note: WisDOT approved these amendments while staff were traveling to this meeting on February 22, 2018*).

Jeffrey Agee-Aguayo noted that he and other Commission staff met with the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (WDHS) Northeast Region Director on January 31, 2018. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss connections between public health and various types of planning, including transportation planning.

Jeffrey Agee-Aguayo commented that he participated in a teleconference with FHWA Wisconsin Division and WisDOT Central Office (planning and travel forecasting) staff on February 5, 2018. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss the proper base year (2010 vs. 2015) for travel forecast modeling and transportation conformity regulations and guidance associated with the Update to the *Year 2045 SATP*.

Jeffrey Agee-Aguayo stated that the Commission was authorized to begin the transit development program (TDP) update for Shoreline Metro in late January, and added that he has been working with Shoreline Metro to form the review committee for this planning document.

Jeffrey Agee-Aguayo indicated that he and Josh Schedler provided assistance to Shoreline Metro in terms of analyzing various characteristics of the population age 50 and over in the City of Sheboygan, including citywide and census block group data portrayed in maps and tables.

Jeffrey Agee-Aguayo noted that the final 2017 performance indicator report had been posted to the Sheboygan MPO webpage.

Jeffrey Agee-Aguayo commented that he and Josh Schedler recently provided GIS line work and other attributes in order to include Shoreline Metro in the WisDOT Northeast Region travel demand forecast model.

Jeffrey Agee-Aguayo stated that Commission staff has been working on completing draft Chapters 2 (Metropolitan Transportation Planning Process) and 3 (Profile of the Metropolitan Planning Area) of the Update to the *Year 2045 SATP*. Draft Chapter 2 is complete, while draft Chapter 3 is about halfway complete.

Finally, Jeffrey Agee-Aguayo indicated that he had produced two 2017 pavement condition (PASER) maps that would be distributed to the requesting jurisdictions (the Town of Sheboygan and the City of Sheboygan Falls) immediately following this meeting. Rick Meyer requested a similar map for the Town of Wilson. Members of both communities in attendance briefly discussed pavement ratings in the area.

7. The next meeting of the Sheboygan MPO Technical and Policy Advisory Committees was scheduled for **Thursday, April 26, 2018, at 1:00 p.m.**

8. **Moved** by Charles Born and seconded by Brett Edgerle that the joint meeting of the Sheboygan MPO Technical and Policy Advisory Committees be adjourned. Motion carried, with all voting aye on a voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Recording secretary,

Jeffrey C. Agee-Aguayo

