

Chairperson: Supervisor Michael Mayo, Sr.
Clerk: Carol Mueller, 278-4228
Research Analyst: Julie Esch, 278-4430

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION, PUBLIC WORKS AND TRANSIT

Wednesday, January 21, 2009 - 9:00 A.M.
Milwaukee County Courthouse - Room 201-B

MINUTES

SCHEDULED ITEMS:

PRESENT: Supervisors Borkowski, Weishan, Jursik, Larson, Sanfelippo and Mayo (Chair)

EXCUSED: Supervisor Clark

Presentations - 2

1. 08-T23 From the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT), a verbal report on the I94 south quadrant of the Mitchell Interchange reconstruction. **(Laid over from 12/08) (INFORMATIONAL UNLESS OTHERWISE DIRECTED BY THE COMMITTEE.)**

APPEARANCES:

Bob Gutierrez, Wisconsin Department of Transportation

Donna Brown, Wisconsin Department of Transportation

Brad Swenson, HBNT

The following registered and spoke at the meeting:

Ben Rucka, Greenfield Promotions

Magan Patel, Hospitality Inn & Suites

Todd Reardon, 27th Street Business District

Stephen DeLassus,

Ton Spear, Oak Street LLC

Steven Koller, Import Minded Inc.

Michael Storey, Chancery Restaurant

Chris Thiel, Milwaukee Public Schools

Mr. Gutierrez gave a lengthy presentation on the "Mitchell Interchange," which includes the freeway from the Plainfield curve and the spur to General Mitchell International Airport down to just south of the Illinois state line. The three main goals of the WisDOT are to improve safety, accommodate future traffic and minimize environmental impacts. He gave a brief timeline of the overall project.

Mr. Swenson spoke to the Committee on the community sensitive design areas (CSD). He explained how the current look of the Marquette Interchange would carry through on the balance of this project with craftsmen style architecture being used. Retaining walls will have stone-look patterns as well as the sound

SCHEDULED ITEMS (CONTINUED):

walls. Cross bridges will continue to have the city street name but will include designs pertaining to Milwaukee. The current ramp on South 27th Street coming from Chicago will be closed. Banners and way-finding signs will be used to direct traffic to local businesses from College Avenue to Oklahoma Avenue. Medians will have trees and plantings.

Questions and answers on specific closures on College Avenue and 27th Street ensued.

The Committee allowed those that registered to speak. The majority of the concerns were regarding the inability of the WisDOT to reconsider the closing of the South 27th Street off ramp coming from Chicago. The speakers are seeking Milwaukee County's help so they won't lose their businesses or jobs in the area due to this major change.

A question and answer period ensued. Supervisor Weishan was acting chair for the remainder of this item.

Supervisor Borkowski feels the WisDOT has shown no flexibility in this matter. He refuses to believe the Mayor, County Executive and elected officials aren't concerned and fighting for the affects this change could cause. This ramp closure could be the difference between businesses staying open coupled with the potential loss of jobs in the area at a time when unemployment is at one of its highest levels.

The Committee took no action on this informational item.

2. 08-T14 From the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT), a verbal report on the Zoo Interchange reconstruction. **(INFORMATIONAL UNLESS OTHERWISE DIRECTED BY THE COMMITTEE.)**

APPEARANCES:

Tracy Gilliam, Wisconsin Department of Transportation
Brad Heimlich, Consultant

Mr. Gilliam explained the public hearing process to date regarding the Zoo Interchange. He spoke to the change in size from a six-lane route to an eight-lane route.

Due to some confusion and the lack of visuals in the presentation, the Chairman requested the item be rescheduled for the March cycle.

The Committee took no action on this informational item.

SCHEDULED ITEMS (CONTINUED):

Transit – 3

3. 08-T26 From the Director, Transportation and Public Works, and the Managing Director
(09-70) of the Milwaukee County Transit System (MCTS), an update on MCTS Capital and Operating Funding Requirement for 2010-2012. **(INFORMATIONAL UNLESS OTHERWISE DIRECTED BY THE COMMITTEE.)**

APPEARANCES:

Anita Gulotta-Connelly, Managing Director, Milwaukee Transport Services
Lloyd Grant, Deputy Director, Milwaukee Transport Services

Ms. Connelly spoke to the Committee on the potential deficit for Transit in the upcoming years. Federal money that was targeted for the purchase of buses has been used for operating expenses for the last few years. In brief, total costs are made up of operating and capital costs. This is offset through revenues from fare boxes, in addition to federal, state and county funding. The current bus fleet is between 14 and 16 years old. Unless there is a dedicated funding source in the very near future, Milwaukee County will have to make some difficult choices in 2010 related to the provision of transit service. The cost to just maintain the status quo for 2010 will be \$16 million more than is currently budgeted. The possible choices would be increasing fares or reduction in service.

Questions and comments ensued.

Supervisor Weishan requested a written response from the County Executive on the Department's report.

Supervisor Borkowski was Chairman for the remainder of this item.

Supervisor Mayo introduced the following motion: Create a workgroup of County Board staff, the Department of Administrative Services Fiscal and Budget Administrator (or designee), the Director of the Department of Transportation and Public Works (or designee) and the Managing Director of the Milwaukee County Transit System (or designee) to review the transit system's immediate and ongoing fiscal needs (operating and capital) and provide recommendations to the Transportation Public Works and Transit Committee for its consideration; and the workgroup shall first review transit capital funding needs in anticipation of economic stimulus and/or other anticipated grant funding that may become available in the near future.

Supervisor Mayo amended his request at a point after "Transportation Public Works and Transit Committee for its consideration, to include the words "in the April cycle." Supervisor Larson made a friendly amendment to have a member of the "University of Wisconsin Milwaukee's Economic Development Department

SCHEDULED ITEMS (CONTINUED):

included as a member of the workgroup.” Supervisor Mayo accepted the friendly amendment.

MOTION BY: (Sanfelippo) Approve the motion including the due date in the April cycle for the report from the workgroup and include a representative from UWM Economic Development Department as a member of the workgroup. **(Vote 5-0)**

AYES: Mayo, Weishan, Larson, Sanfelippo and Borkowski (Chair) – 5

NOES: - 0

EXCUSED: Jursik – 1

4. 09-T01 (09-71) From the Interim Director, Transportation and Public Works, and the Managing Director of the Milwaukee County Transit System (MCTS) a report on the restoration of the Vliet Street Service starting March 29, 2009.

(INFORMATIONAL UNLESS OTHERWISE DIRECTED BY THE COMMITTEE.)

APPEARANCE:

Anita Gulotta-Connelly, Managing Director, Milwaukee Transport Services

The funding for this route was restored in the 2009 Adopted Budget. The new route number will be #33.

MOTION BY: (Borkowski) Receive and place on file the said report. **(Vote 4-0)**

AYES: Borkowski, Larson, Sanfelippo and Mayo, (Chair) – 4

NOES: - 0

EXCUSED: Jursik and Weishan -2

5. 08-474 From the Vice Chairman of the Milwaukee County Transit Services Advisory Committee, a report of the Committee's recommendations regarding the development of Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) with Federal Transit Administration funds.

APPEARANCES:

Mike Vebber, Transit Services Advisory Committee (TSAC)

LeAnn Minor, Transit Services Advisory Committee (TSAC)

Mr. Vebber told the Committee how the Advisory Committee reviewed the different plans from the Mayor, County Executive and Mr. Cudahy regarding the connector. All three plans included an east-west route. Therefore, the Advisory Committee recommends the connector route should be an east-west route using the \$91.5 million of Federal Transit Administration funds. Any remaining funds, if any, could be used for streetcars or future expansion to the connector. Secondly, they recommended that a member from TSAC become a non-voting member of the Connector Study group.

SCHEDULED ITEMS (CONTINUED):

Ms. Minor relayed their third recommendation, the need for public input, via surveys made available on current bus routes.

MOTION BY: (Borkowski) Receive and place on file the recommendations from the Transit Services Advisory Committee. **(Vote 5-0)**

AYES: Borkowski, Weishan, Larson, Sanfelippo and Mayo (Chair) – 5

NOES: - 0

EXCUSED: Jursik – 1

Transportation and Public Works – 2

6. 09-42 From the Director, Transportation and Public Works, requesting authorization to enter into a three-year lease agreement with two one-year renewal options with China Taste Restaurant located at 749 North 27th Street.

APPEARANCE:

Faye Roberts, Department of Transportation and Public Works

Ms. Roberts explained the China Taste restaurant is under new ownership and this is a new lease with an increase in rental fees.

MOTION BY: (Borkowski) Approval. **(Vote 5-0)**

AYES: Borkowski, Weishan, Larson, Sanfelippo and Mayo (Chair) – 5

NOES: - 0

EXCUSED: Jursik - 1

7. 09-43 From the Director, Transportation and Public Works, requesting approval of the Departments staff and consultant use plan for 2009 Capital Improvement projects and selected major maintenance projects. **(Also to the Committee on Finance and Audit.)**

APPEARANCES:

Greg High, Director, Architectural, Engineering and Environmental Services
Mildred Hyde-Demoze, Community Development Business Partners (CDBP)

Mr. High told the Committee this report is provided annually to the Board. There are no significant changes from the Adopted 2009 Capital Improvement Budget. The spreadsheets attached to the report contain the most current information including signature authority delegation and the project manager.

Supervisor Weishan questioned who the consultants/vendors are on projects that exceed \$50,000. Mr. High responded by informing the Committee that there is a list of qualified disadvantaged business enterprise (DBE) pre-approved consultants

SCHEDULED ITEMS (CONTINUED):

that are used for the majority of projects. The only possibility that a contract could exceed \$50,000 would be from the major maintenance projects contained on page four of the spreadsheets.

Ms. Hyde-Demoze verified the CDBP Department is consulted regarding possible vendors and uses a list of qualified DBE vendors.

MOTION BY: (Weishan) Remove the Be It Further Resolved Clause, lines 31-35. **(Vote 5-0)**

AYES: Borkowski, Weishan, Larson, Sanfelippo and Mayo (Chair) – 5

NOES: - 0

EXCUSED: Jursik – 1

MOTION BY: (Borkowski) Approve as amended. **(Vote 5-0)**

AYES: Borkowski, Weishan, Larson, Sanfelippo and Mayo (Chair) – 5

NOES: - 0

EXCUSED: Jursik – 1

Fund Transfers

8. 08-1 A summary of fund transfers for 2008 and 2009 being presented to the Finance and Audit Committee. **(INFORMATIONAL UNLESS OTHERWISE DIRECTED BY THE COMMITTEE.)**

The Committee took no action on this informational item.

Airport - 2

9. 08-345 **Adopted Budget Amendment 1A011**, directing the Airport Director to provide a report to the Committee on Transportation, Public Works and Transit for consideration at the January 2009 meeting on the recommended plan for the extension of the current Master Lease Agreement so that specific policy direction can be provided to ensure both the long-term viability of airline operations and the best interest of the citizens of Milwaukee County. **(INFORMATIONAL UNLESS OTHERWISE DIRECTED BY THE COMMITTEE.)**
(a)(c)

APPEARANCE:

Barry Bateman, Director, General Mitchell International Airport (GMIA)

Mr. Bateman explained the current Airport Master Lease expires in 2010 and includes Lawrence J. Timmerman field. The Airport will be developing a replacement lease that will update the residual and compensatory costs. In addition they will look at “use it or loose it” clauses, competition goals and incentive updates.

SCHEDULED ITEMS (CONTINUED):

MOTION BY: (Borkowski) Receive and place on file the report dated December 11, 2008 titled "Informational Report Regarding the Master Lease Agreement With the Airlines Serving General Mitchell International Airport."

(Vote 5-0)

AYES: Borkowski, Weishan, Larson, Sanfelippo and Mayo (Chair) – 5

NOES: - 0

EXCUSED: Jursik – 1

The Committee may adjourn into closed session under the provisions of Wisconsin Statutes, Section 19.85(1)(g), for the purpose of the Committee receiving oral or written advice from legal counsel concerning strategy to be adopted with respect to pending or possible litigation with regard to the following matter(s). At the conclusion of the closed session, the Committee may reconvene in open session to take whatever actions it may deem necessary:

10. 09-T02 From the Interim Director, Transportation and Public Works, regarding Sterling Aviation.

APPEARANCES:

Barry Bateman, Director, General Mitchell International Airport (GMIA)
Timothy Karaskiewicz, Principal Assistant Corporation Counsel
William Domina, Corporation Counsel

MOTION BY: (Borkowski) Adjourn into closed session under the provisions of Wisconsin Statutes, Section 19.85(1)(g), for the purpose of the Committee receiving oral or written advice from legal counsel concerning strategy to be adopted with respect to pending or possible litigation (Vote 5-0)

AYES: Borkowski, Weishan, Larson, Sanfelippo and Mayo (Chair)–5

NOES: - 0

EXCUSED: Jursik – 1

The Committee adjourned into closed session at approximately 11:40 a.m. The Committee did not reconvene back into open session.

SCHEDULED ITEMS (CONTINUED):

This meeting was recorded. Committee files contain copies of the subject reports, communications, resolutions, and ordinances, which may be reviewed upon request to the Chief Committee Clerk. The official copy of these minutes, along with the audio recording of this meeting, are available in the County Board Committee Services Division.

Length of meeting approximately: 9:05 a.m. until 11:55 p.m.

Carol Mueller

Committee Clerk

Staff Present:

Ms. Anita Gulotta-Connelly, Managing Director, Milwaukee Transport Services
Mr. Lloyd Grant, Deputy Director, Milwaukee Transport Services
Ms. Faye Roberts, Department of Transportation and Public Works
Mr. Greg High, Director, Architectural, Engineering and Environmental Services
Ms. Mildred Hyde-Demoze, Community Development Business Partners
Mr. Jack Takerian, Interim Director, Facilities Management
Mr. Barry Bateman, Director, General Mitchell International Airport (GMIA)
Mr. Timothy Karaskiewicz, Principal Assistant Corporation Counsel
Mr. William Domina, Corporation Counsel
Mr. Brian Dranzik, Budget and Policy Administrator, Transportation, Public Works
Ms. Julie Esch, County Board Research Analyst

DEADLINE FOR TRANSPORTATION, PUBLIC WORKS AND TRANSIT COMMITTEE

The next regular meeting for the Transportation Committee is **March 4, 2009**. **Items for the agenda must be in the Committee Clerk's possession by the end of the business day on Tuesday, February 17, 2009.**

ADA accommodation requests should be filed with the Milwaukee County Office for Persons with Disabilities, 278-3932 (voice) or 278-3937 (TTY), upon receipt of this notice.