

APPENDIX G: MINUTES OF THE MULTI-AGENCY ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTATION MEETING

MINUTES

SHEBOYGAN METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO)
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTATION MEETING FOR THE UPDATE TO THE *YEAR 2045 SHEBOYGAN AREA TRANSPORTATION PLAN (SATP)*

Thursday, April 11, 2019

Wisconsin Department of Transportation – Northeast Region Office (Lake Winnebago Room)
944 Vanderperren Way
Green Bay, Wisconsin

MEETING PARTICIPANTS: Jeffrey Agee-Aguayo (Transportation Planner, Bay-Lake Regional Planning Commission)
Carolyn Amegashie (Wisconsin Department of Transportation Bureau of Technical Services, Madison, by phone)
Mike Friedlander (Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Bureau of Air Management, Madison, by phone)
Matt Halada (Wisconsin Department of Transportation Northeast Region Office, Green Bay)
Brandon Robinson (Community Assistance Planner, Bay-Lake Regional Planning Commission)

PARTICIPANTS EXCUSED: Mitch Batuzich (Federal Highway Administration Wisconsin Division Office, Madison)
Aaron Brault (Sheboygan County Planning and Conservation Department)
Patricia Trainer (Wisconsin Department of Transportation Bureau of Technical Services, Madison)

1. Introduction, Purpose and Expectations

The meeting started at 1:49 p.m. Jeffrey Agee-Aguayo welcomed everyone to the environmental consultation meeting for the Update to the *Year 2045 Sheboygan Area Transportation Plan (SATP)*. Meeting participants introduced themselves for the benefit of everyone in attendance, and those who asked to be excused from the meeting (by the meeting starting time) were also noted. Jeffrey Agee-Aguayo discussed the purpose and expectations of this meeting with all meeting participants, indicating that the group would go through agenda items 2 through 5 (and agenda item 6 if needed). Jeffrey Agee-Aguayo asked those participating by phone to please identify themselves and speak up when making comments.

Update to the *Year 2045 Sheboygan Area Transportation Plan*

2. Overview of the MPO Transportation Plan and Planning Process

Jeffrey Agee-Aguayo distributed and reviewed the outline for the Update to the *Year 2045 SATP* with meeting participants (the outline was also e-mailed to all stakeholders before the meeting). The Update to the *Year 2045 SATP* will contain the following chapters:

- Chapter 1: Introduction;
- Chapter 2: Metropolitan Transportation Planning Process;
- Chapter 3: Profile of the Metropolitan Planning Area;
- Chapter 4: Mission Statement, Goals and Objectives;
- Chapter 5: Existing Condition of the Transportation Network;
- Chapter 6: Transportation and Land Use;
- Chapter 7: Recommended Transportation Plan (this chapter also includes a story map);
- Chapter 8: Mitigation of Environmental Impacts of Major Transportation Projects (the focus of this environmental consultation meeting; this chapter also includes a story map); and
- Chapter 9: Financial Plan.

In addition, the Update to the *Year 2045 SATP* will contain the following appendices:

- Appendix A: Glossary of Terms;
- Appendix B: Documentation of Meeting MAP-21 and FAST Act Planning Requirements Since Approval of the Original *Year 2045 SATP*;
- Appendix C: Assessment of Conformity of the Update to the *Year 2045 SATP* and the *2019 – 2022 Sheboygan Metropolitan Planning Area Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)* with Respect to the State of Wisconsin Air Quality Implementation Plan;
- Appendix D: Financial Plan Supporting Documentation;
- Appendix E: Statement of Impacts of Projects in the Update to the *Year 2045 SATP* on Environmental Justice;
- Appendix F: Public Participation Process for the Update to the *Year 2045 SATP*;
- Appendix G: Minutes of the Multi-Agency Environmental Consultation Meeting (these minutes); and
- Appendix H: Sheboygan MPO Technical and Policy Advisory Committee Membership.

Jeffrey Agee-Aguayo also distributed and reviewed the webpage that has been established for the draft Update to the *Year 2045 SATP* with meeting participants. All

draft chapters and most draft appendices (with the exception of Appendices F and G, which are still in progress) were posted to this webpage as of this meeting. The webpage for the Update to the *Year 2045 SATP* can be found at:

<https://baylakerpc.org/sheboygan-mpo/long-range-transportation-planning/year-2045-sheboygan-area-transportation-plan-satp>

Jeffrey Agee-Aguayo asked if meeting participants had questions or comments on any portion of the draft Update to the *Year 2045 SATP* besides draft Chapter 8; no questions or comments were raised.

3. Discussion of New or Updated Environmental Resource Inventories and Plans

Jeffrey Agee-Aguayo distributed and reviewed draft Chapter 8 of the Update to the *Year 2045 SATP* (Mitigation of Environmental Impacts of Major Transportation Projects) with meeting participants (narrative and maps). Those participating over the phone were able to review the draft chapter either via a link that was provided prior to the meeting or by accessing the draft chapter from the webpage for the Update to the *Year 2045 SATP* noted above.

Jeffrey Agee-Aguayo reviewed the following environmental resource inventory maps that were being included in Chapter 8 of the draft Update to the *Year 2045 SATP* together with an overlay of the major transportation projects being recommended in that draft plan:

- Map 8.1: Land Use (this was last updated in 2015);
- Map 8.2: Watersheds;
- Map 8.3: Environmental Corridors (including: wetlands greater than two acres with a 50-foot setback; 100-year floodplain; areas of steep slope (12 percent or greater); and surface water with a 75-foot setback);
- Map 8.4: Prime Agricultural Soils (including: prime farmland; prime farmland if drained; and farmland of statewide importance);
- Map 8.5: Woodlands;
- Map 8.6: Historical Sites; and
- Map 8.7: Parks and Recreation Sites.

Jeffrey Agee-Aguayo noted that information that went into developing these maps was described on pages 8-2 through 8-4 of Chapter 8 of the draft Update to the *Year 2045 SATP*.

Jeffrey Agee-Aguayo also reviewed other inventories and plans that were consulted but not mapped that have been included in Chapter 8 of the Update to the *Year 2045 SATP*. These other inventories and plans included the following:

- Wisconsin DNR Natural Heritage Inventory (NHI);
- Wisconsin DNR Land Legacy Report;
- Wisconsin Wildlife Action Plan (WWAP);
- State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP);
- Archaeological Sites (provided by the Wisconsin State Historical Society);
- Sheboygan County Natural Areas and Critical Resources Plan;
- Sheboygan County Farmland Preservation Plan; and
- Sheboygan County Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation and Open Space Plan.

In addition, Jeffrey Agee-Aguayo reviewed local comprehensive (“smart growth”) plans consulted but not mapped. Discussion regarding consistency of these plans with the Update to the *Year 2045 SATP* (and in particular, with the major transportation plan recommendations in the Update to the *Year 2045 SATP*) has been included in Chapter 8 of the draft plan. The following local comprehensive plans were reviewed:

- Sheboygan County – plan approved in December 2009 (not changed since the previous environmental mitigation effort); the Sheboygan County Planning and Conservation Department intends to amend this plan in 2019;
- City of Sheboygan – plan update approved in December 2011 (not changed since the previous environmental mitigation effort);
- City of Sheboygan Falls – plan approved in September 2009 (not changed since the previous environmental mitigation effort); the City of Sheboygan Falls intends to start the process of amending this plan some time in 2019;
- Village of Howards Grove – plan was amended via addendum in 2017 (plan updated since the previous environmental mitigation effort);
- Village of Kohler – plan was amended via addendum in 2017 (plan updated since the previous environmental mitigation effort);
- Town of Herman – plan was amended via addendum in 2017 (plan updated since the previous environmental mitigation effort);
- Town of Lima – plan was amended via addendum in January 2019 (plan updated since the previous environmental mitigation effort);
- Town of Mosel – plan was amended via addendum in January 2019 (plan updated since the previous environmental mitigation effort);
- Town of Sheboygan – plan approved in December 2009 (not changed since the previous environmental mitigation effort); the Town of Sheboygan will be working with UW Extension staff to amend this plan (likely via addendum) in 2019;

- Town of Sheboygan Falls – plan approved in November 2009 (not changed since the previous environmental mitigation effort); the Town of Sheboygan Falls will be working with UW Extension staff to amend this plan (likely via addendum) in 2019; and
- Town of Wilson – plan was amended via addendum in 2017 (plan updated since the previous environmental mitigation effort).

Jeffrey Agee-Aguayo stated that the Bay-Lake Regional Planning Commission staff had also developed a story map for draft Chapter 8.

Jeffrey Agee-Aguayo asked if any environmental resource inventories or plans were missing. Jeffrey Agee-Aguayo also asked if any environmental resource inventories or plans had been updated in comparison to the inventories and plans that were used to develop draft Chapter 8.

As far as comments from meeting participants were concerned, Matt Halada commented that on Map 8.2, much of the split between the Sheboygan River and Black River watersheds looked too straight, and suggested that MPO staff look into this and revise these boundaries if necessary. Mike Friedlander stated that he could work with staff at the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Bureau of Air Management to provide a GIS shape file of the 2015 8-hour ozone nonattainment area covering portions of eastern Sheboygan County. Mike Friedlander also suggested that MPO staff examine the State Trails Plan developed by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and check for consistency with bicycle and pedestrian transportation recommendations in the Update to the *Year 2045 SATP*.

4. Review of Major Planned Transportation Improvements and Potential Impacts

Jeffrey Agee-Aguayo reviewed the “Summary of Major Transportation Projects” (pages 8-1 and 8-2) of Chapter 8 of the draft Update to the *Year 2045 SATP*). Meeting participants were also encouraged to review how the major transportation projects interacted with the mapped attributes in Maps 8.1 through 8.7.

The recommended capacity modifying major transportation projects in the draft Update to the *Year 2045 SATP* were as follows:

1. South Taylor Drive
Racetrack Road to Southpointe Drive (including addition of Horizon Drive and Southpointe Drive to meet County Highway OK/South Business Drive)
New 2 Lane Facility
Recommended implementation period: 2019 – 2028

2. South 18th Street
County Highway EE/Weeden Creek Road to County Highway V
New 2 Lane Facility
Recommended implementation period: 2019 – 2028
3. State Highway 23
Western Boundary of the Sheboygan Metropolitan Planning Area to State Highway 32
Various Projects (from the Corridor Preservation and Freeway Designation Study, Including an Interchange at State Highway 23 and County Highway TT)
Recommended implementation period: 2019 – 2028
4. County Highway TT
County Highway PP to State Highway 28
New 2 Lane Facility
Recommended implementation period: 2029 – 2038
5. Interstate Highway 43
At County Highway FF
New Full Interchange
Recommended implementation period: 2029 – 2038
6. Interstate Highway 43
At County Highway PP/Lower Falls Road/Indiana Avenue
New Half Interchange (to and from the south)
Recommended implementation period: 2029 – 2038
7. State Highway 42
County Highway Y to County Highway A/Howards Grove
Reconstruction with Increase from 2 to 4 Lanes
Recommended implementation period: 2039 – 2045

Jeffrey Agee-Aguayo also reviewed the “Summary Impact Analysis for the Major Transportation Projects” (pages 8-19 through 8-23 of Chapter 8 of the draft Update to the *Year 2045 SATP*) with meeting participants. Alternatively, meeting participants could review these impacts in Table 8.1 (found on page 8-27 of Chapter 8 of the draft Update to the *Year 2045 SATP*).

Jeffrey Agee-Aguayo noted that this information also appears in the story map for draft Chapter 8, which can be found at:

<https://baylakerpc.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MinimalGallery/index.html?appid=64ea766ad7bf4b2a95d3cfb9190d6e0f#viewer=9fc7aa36a59d41b4a8bca8f6375361f7>

Jeffrey Agee-Aguayo asked if meeting participants had questions or comments on the major planned transportation improvements and their potential impacts; no questions or comments were raised.

5. Discussion of Environmental Mitigation Policies and Strategies

Jeffrey Agee-Aguayo reviewed the “Environmental Mitigation Policies/Strategies” section of Chapter 8 of the draft Update to the *Year 2045 SATP* (pages 8-23 through 8-26) with meeting participants. This information was also in the story map for draft Chapter 8. This section included the following strategies:

- Strategy 1: Avoid Environmentally Significant Features (Including Wetlands);
- Strategy 2: Employ Local Mitigation Measures; and
- Strategy 3: Utilize Wetland Banks When Local Mitigation Measures Are Not Feasible.

Jeffrey Agee-Aguayo noted that Strategy 2 included the following practices:

- Replace or Supplement an Affected Wetland with a New Wetland;
- Stabilize and Establish Vegetative Buffers along Shorelines; and
- Replace Lost Trees with New Trees.

Jeffrey Agee-Aguayo noted that the air quality conformity analysis (Appendix C) and the environmental justice analysis (Appendix E) were briefly discussed after the environmental mitigation policies and strategies discussion. Jeffrey Agee-Aguayo acknowledged the cooperation of the WisDOT travel forecasting staff and of the WDNR Bureau of Air Management in the completion of Appendix C.

Jeffrey Agee-Aguayo asked if meeting participants had questions or comments on the environmental mitigation policies and strategies; no questions or comments were raised.

6. Other Issues

As far as other issues were concerned, Mike Friedlander invited Matt Halada and the WisDOT Northeast Region to participate in future quarterly meetings of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Transportation Conformity Work Group. Mike Friedlander also wondered if the Manitowoc-Two Rivers area could become an urbanized area following the 2020 Census.

7. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:34 p.m.

Recording secretary,

Jeffrey C. Agee-Aguayo