

MEETING NOTICE

APPLETON (FOX CITIES) METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO) TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

DATE: Tuesday, April 30, 2024

TIME: 3:00pm

PLACE: In-person-Outagamie County Highway Department – 1313 Holland Rd, Appleton

AGENDA

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Public Comment
3. Staff Updates
4. **Discussion and Action on the 2024-2029 Surface Transportation Block Grant-Urban Projects for the Appleton (Fox Cities) Metropolitan Planning Organization**
***** Project Scoring Breakdown - Included**
5. Approving the Appleton (Fox Cities) Metropolitan Planning Organization State of the System Report
6. Discussion on the Draft Metropolitan Transportation Plan Goals
7. Next Meeting Date
8. Adjourn

Any person wishing to attend this meeting or hearing who, because of a disability, requires special accommodations should contact the East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission at (920) 751-4770 at least three business days prior to the meeting or hearing so that arrangements, within reason, can be made.

TO: Appleton (Fox Cities) MPO Technical Advisory Committee
FROM: Transportation Staff
DATE: April 30, 2024
RE: Staff Updates

Roadways

- 1. Greenhouse Gas Performance Measure:** On April 2, 2024, the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Kentucky ruled that the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) lacks the authority to regulate greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions through performance measure mandates. Similarly, on March 27, 2024, the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Texas invalidated the rule. In light of these recent court decisions, states and MPOs are not required to set GHG performance measures or targets. Thus, the MPO will not be required to set targets for GHG as initially presented at previous Transportation Advisory Committee meetings.
- 2. Transportation Improvement Program:** In the coming weeks, ECWRPC staff will be reaching out to local communities regarding illustrative projects for the 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The 2025-2028 TIP will be brought to the Appleton (Fox Cities) MPO Policy Board for consideration in October 2024.
- 3. Carbon Reduction Program:** It is anticipated that a new Carbon Reduction Program cycle will be rolling out in the spring of 2024. More information will be shared as it becomes available.

Active Transportation

- 1. Counters:** ECWRPC staff are preparing the calendar for bicycle and pedestrian counts. Communities wishing to collect data on bicyclists and pedestrians on local on-road and off-road facilities can contact Kim Biedermann, Principal Transportation Planner, at kbiedermann@ecwrpc.org.
- 2. Active Transportation Infrastructure Investment Program (ATIIP):** The ATIIP is a new competitive discretionary grant program created under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to construct projects to provide active transportation facilities in the form of active transportation networks or active transportation spines. The application cycle closes on June 17, 2024. More information can be found at <https://www.transportation.gov/rural/grant-toolkit/active-transportation-infrastructure-investment-program-atiip>.

Safe Routes to School

- 1. Bike Fleet:** Staff applied for and were awarded grant funding through Fox Cities Greenways to purchase new bicycles for our bike fleet. Seventeen bicycles were purchased with the grant funds.
- 2. Bike Safety Education:** In May, staff will be completing bike safety education with three more schools in the Appleton (Fox Cities) MPO. Students in 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades at the schools will participate in the educational programming.
- 3. Little Chute Action Plan:** Staff have been conducting audits at Little Chute schools and taking inventory of the infrastructure within the district boundaries. The action plan is scheduled for completion in August 2024.
- 4. Bike to School Day:** Toolkits were delivered to 25 schools in the Appleton (Fox Cities) MPO. National Bike to School Day is Wednesday, May 8th, but schools can plan to host an event any day in May, which is Bicycle Safety Month.
- 5. Built Environment and Active Transportation to and from School Study (BEATS):** In February, the Commission issued a Request for Proposals to study how policies, programs, and the built environment impact whether children travel to and from school using active transportation as well as injury and fatality rates. Three proposals were received. A selection committee scored the three proposals, which resulted in Traffic Analysis & Design, Inc. (TADI) being selected to complete the study.

TO: Transportation Committee

FROM: Transportation Staff

DATE: April 30, 2024

RE: Discussion and Action on the 2024-2029 Surface Transportation Block Grant-Urban Projects for the Appleton (Fox Cities) Metropolitan Planning Organization

The Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) - Urban Program Cycle for 2024-2029 program cycle opened on June 3, 2023 and closed on October 27, 2023. STBG projects are funded up to 80% federal funding and 20% local match, with a requirement that selected projects must be at least 50% federally funded.

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation submitted its SFY 2024 Federal Expenditure Plan to the Joint Committee on Finance in December 2023. The Joint Committee on Finance had an opportunity to provide comments and/or modifications to the plan. The Wisconsin Department of Transportation was informed in early January 2024, that the plan had been approved with no modifications. Allocations were received by the MPOs in March 2024.

The Appleton (Fox Cities) MPO had ten projects that were submitted with over \$50 million requested in federal funds for the Surface Transportation Block Grant – Urban Program.

The total allocation for this cycle for the Appleton (Fox Cities) MPO is \$ 4,191,027; the total amount of Federal funding requested from both projects equals that amount.

East Central staff ranked the projects based on the criteria within the Appleton (Fox Cities) MPO Transportation Improvement Program 2024-2027 (<https://www.ecwrpc.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/2024-Fox-Cities-TIP.pdf>). Please see the attached spreadsheet with the project ranking for the 2024-2029 Surface Transportation Block Grant – Urban for the Appleton (Fox Cities) Metropolitan Planning Organization.

Staff Recommendation: Staff recommends the City of Kaukauna – Kenneth Avenue project will be funded up to \$ 4,191,027 in federal funding with design in FY 2026 and construction in FY 2029.

*** PROJECT SCORING BREAKDOWN

Jurisdiction	2024-2029 STP-Urban Projects	Plan Consistency	Preserve Existing System		Capacity (Volume/Capacity Ratio)		Safety		Multimodal	Planned Programming		Total Score
Appleton Fox Cities Allocation = \$ 4,191,027												
C. Kaukauna	Kenneth Ave./3rd St. (.1 Mile West of Reaume St. to W. 10th St.)	5	PASER 4	5	0.09	0	22	5	5	2023 TIP	1	21
V. Greenville	Greenwood Rd. (School Rd. to STH 15)	5	PASER 3	5	0.12	0	15	5	3	2021 TIP	3	21
T. Neenah	Oakridge Rd. (CTH CB to East Town Line)	5	PASER 3	5	0.28	1	14	3	3	2021 TIP	3	20
V. Kimberly	Kennedy Ave. (FVLS Railroad Crossing to Railroad St.)	5	PASER 3	5	0.31	1	16	3	5	2023 TIP	1	20
Calumet Co.	CTH KK (CTH N to State Park Rd)	5	PASER 5	3	0.94	4	75	3	3	2023 TIP	1	19
Outagamie Co.	CTH JJ (Gillett St. to STH 47)	5	PASER 4-6	4	0.36	1	21	3	3	2021 TIP	3	19
V. Greenville	Greenwood Rd. (Parkview Dr. to Everglade Rd.)	5	PASER 3-5	5	0.12	0	4	3	3	2021 TIP	3	19
Calumet Co.	CTH AP (E Plank Rd to N Coop Rd)	5	PASER 6-7	1	0.10	0	20	3	5	2022 TIP	2	16
V. Harrison	Midway Rd. (N. Coop Rd. to Noe Rd.)	3	PASER 6	3	0.20	0	23	5	3	2022 TIP	2	16
V. Harrison	Manitowoc Road (CTH N to Lake Park Road)	5	PASER 5	3	0.14	0	18	3	3	2023 TIP	1	15

TO: Appleton (Fox Cities) MPO Technical Advisory Committee
FROM: Rachel Roth, GIS Analyst I
DATE: April 30, 2024
RE: Approving the 2023 Appleton (Fox Cities) Metropolitan Organization State of the System Report

The Appleton (Fox Cities) Metropolitan Planning Organization State of the System Report is updated on an annual basis by East Central staff. This report is designed to evaluate the status of the MPO transportation system and track the progress of performance measures through datasets and maps for Calendar Year 2023. This is the third year of updating the report.

Several changes have been made to the 2023 State of the System Report per the Transportation Management Area certification review requirements. These changes include incorporating historical data and trendlines for all performance measures in the report to support Transportation Performance Management and Performance Based Planning and Programming efforts. Additionally, a new MPO Funding and Projects chapter has been added to the report.

Staff collected and analyzed data for the report to monitor six components of the transportation system:

- the roadway network,
- the transit system,
- the bicycle and pedestrian network,
- the Safe Routes to School program,
- airports, and
- freight.

A link to the draft report can be found here: <https://www.ecwrpc.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/Draft-2023-State-of-the-System-Fox-Cities-MPO.pdf>

Please note this is a draft report, and at the time this memo is being distributed, staff are working to edit a few errors that have been brought to our attention.

Staff Recommendation: Staff recommends approval of the 2023 Appleton (Fox Cities) Metropolitan Planning Organization State of the System Report.

TO: Appleton (Fox Cities) MPO Technical Advisory Committee
FROM: Chris Colla, Associate Transportation Planner
DATE: April 30, 2024
RE: Discussion on the Draft Metropolitan Transportation Plan Goals

Connect Fox Cities 2050 – the Appleton (Fox Cities) Metropolitan Transportation Plan – is currently in the development stage of selecting goals and measures. These goals and measures nest underneath the vision and pillars that were previously discussed at TAC meetings. Additionally, these goals are separate from the Congestion Management Process goals presented previously, and may have some slight overlap.

An overview of the nesting structure is the following:

- vision provides an overarching direction for the region
- pillars are the major focus areas for the region
- goals are more specific descriptions of desired trends and apply at the MPO scale

Each goal is attached to one or more measures that provide a quantifiable value, which can be tracked over time to monitor trends and progress towards achieving the goal. This system of ongoing monitoring and evaluation is intended to both ease updates to the plan in the future and address corrective actions issued by Federal Highway Administration in the August 2023 certification review.

The Connect Fox Cities 2050 draft goals follow this memo.

Staff Recommendation: This memo is informational; all feedback on these goals and metrics is welcomed.

Draft **Connect Fox Cities 2050 Goals**

Integrated Public Health

Support active living and improved quality of life by creating connected, safe, and healthy communities through the alignment of transportation and land use policies and practices.

Measures

- Increased the percent of housing units within ¼ mile of parks
- Increased ft/mi of sidewalks, bike paths, trails (data broken out separately)
- Increase the percent of housing units within x minutes of Hospitals/Clinics via (mode/s)
- Increase the percent of housing units within x minutes of Grocery Store via (mode/s)

Safety

Collaborate with communities and stakeholders to increase awareness of safety issues and to create greater understanding on safety skills and best practices.

Measures

- Reduced number of motorized fatalities and serious injuries
- Reduced number of non-motorized fatalities and serious injuries
- Increased ft/mi of sidewalks, bike paths, trails (data broken out separately)
- Reduced conflict points between vulnerable users and motorists

Coordinated Housing & Land Use

Better connect land use and housing policies and practices to promote sustainable, safe, and more inclusive communities.

Measures

- Increased number of housing units
- Decreased number of vacant residential units
- Decreased percentage of housing disadvantaged residents (“Housing disadvantaged” refers to households who spend 30% or more of income spent on housing)
- Decreased vacant/underutilized parcels in urban areas

Specialized Transportation Options

Fill first/last mile gaps in transportation system through transportation alternatives and mode share through providing equitable transportation services that meet the needs of all residents.

Measures

- Increase the number of equitable transportation services, facilities, and programming
- Increase ft/mi of sidewalks, bike paths, trails (data broken out separately)
- Decrease first-mile, last-mile gaps
- Increase number of transit stops serviced by sidewalks

Economic Development

Support the economic development of the region through investment in transportation that supports tourism, commerce, economic activities, real estate development, and the efficient movement of goods.

Measures

- Increased taxable value of land along major corridors and/or districts
- Increase/maintain maximum truck travel time reliability
- Decreased percentage of housing disadvantaged residents (“Housing disadvantaged” refers to households who spend 30% or more of income spent on housing)
- Increased freight transportation via rail and air
- Increased in passenger air travel

Multimodal/Transit

Increase multimodal transit options and infrastructure, and prioritize active transportation alternatives that support equity, connectivity, accessibility, health, and safety of the community.

Measures

- Increased annual transit ridership
- Increased ft/mi of sidewalks, bike paths, trails (data broken out separately)
- Decreased work commute time for households with 0 cars
- Increased maximum level of travel time reliability and truck travel time reliability
- Increased number of non-SOV travel (all trips)
- Decreased average transit work commute times from EJ neighborhoods to major job hubs
- Increased percent of population residing within ¼ mile of fixed-route service
- Decreased average commute to work time via auto
- Decreased average commute to work time via transit
- Decreased number of sidewalk gaps within ¼ mile of schools
- Increased transit on time performance
- Decreased vehicle miles traveled
- Increased Complete Streets policies

Environmental

Avoid, minimize, and mitigate negative impacts on the environment and natural resources by implementing and promoting sustainable and environmentally-friendly policies and practices.

Measures

- Maintain percent of total acres of wetlands, woodlands, and farmland
- Increased green infrastructure
- Increased number of non-SOV travel (all trips)
- Increased collaboration with sewer service plans during road contrition/reconstruction projects