MARATHON COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING COMMISSION
Wausau Metropolitan Planning Organization Technical Advisory Committee
Minutes – April 8, 2014

Members: Rebecca Frisch, Dave Mack, Scott Turner, Tim Vergara, Keith Donner, Randy Fifrick, Darryl Landeau, Brad Lenz, Dave Meurett, Dwight McComb

Others: Pat Peckham – City Pages

1. Call to Order.
   The presence of a quorum, the agenda being properly signed and posted, the meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. The meeting was in room 2, 212 River Drive, Wausau, Wisconsin.

   Action: The date was incorrectly noted on the agenda as December 12, 2013 and should have been December 10, 2013. MOTION / SECOND BY VERGARA / LENZ TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 10, 2013 MEETING. MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE, NO DISSENT.

3. Trillium Lane Bike Path.
   Discussion: This bike path currently does not exist but the Town of Rib Mountain requested a discussion on the concept of this path. Discussion topics included:
   - Background on the rebuilt portion of Trillium Lane as part of the Highway 51/I39 project;
   - Path supported by the bike/ped committee;
   - The potential to connect the Mountain Bay Trail with routes in Rib Mountain;
   - Potential to use DOT’s and the powerline’s rights of way;
   - The County has no plans to extend CTH R and is in no position to create a path in this area;
   - Keeping this path in the long range planning documents for the urban area;
   - The Town is considering a request for proposals (RFP) for a conceptual document.

   Action: NO ACTION TAKEN.
   Follow Through: None needed at this time.

4. Area-wide Wayfinding.
   Discussion: The Commission had assumed a leadership role on the area-wide Wayfinding Initiative at its January meeting. At that time, it was proposed that a study be conducted, funded through area foundation donations. Since that time, Chamber and Convention and Visitor’s Bureau (CVB) key staff have left the area. Study funding scenarios were distributed along with preliminary budget costs for actual signage by community. Cost for the study was anticipated to be $125,000. Discussion covered:
   - Community interest in continuing the projects:
     - City of Wausau – still interested in Wayfinding but the communities need to identify destinations prior to contracting for a study;
     - Village of Kronenwetter – may be difficult for Kronenwetter to approve funding for the study as it does not receive tourism dollars;
     - Village of Rothschild – some interest; need to have an approved MPO master plan to get an approved wayfinding plan;
     - Village of Weston – has done some signage on its own;
     - City of Mosinee – has a signage plan;
   - Commission assumed leadership role as it is a regional body;
   - Possibly incorporate this effort in the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP);
   - Standardizing the signs in ways similar to the bike route signs;
   - Uniformity would be lost if communities act individually;
   - Ability of the TAC to identify destinations;
   - Need for additional research regarding funding, approval requirements, and informational resources.

   Action: NO ACTION TAKEN.
   Follow Through: Meurett to do research. This will be place on the next meeting agenda.
5. **Southern Loop Arterial Roadway.**
   Discussion: The County’s old arterial plan was developed to divert traffic from the freeway by creating a “loop” around the southern portion of the urban area. The plan’s concept utilized CTH X on the area’s eastside, construct CTH R on the area’s west side, and construct CTH L on south side to connect the two. This plan also included construction of a bridge at Military connecting to Foxglove on the west side. CTH R was constructed. A portion of CTH L was constructed however the Army Corp of Engineers did not want wetlands disturbed by relocating CTH X and this idea was dropped. The need for alternative detour routes has been demonstrated by this winter’s traffic crashes between Business 51 and STH 29. Incident management will be part of the conservation during the development of the LRTP to be completed by 2016 with a planning horizon out to 2050. The development of the LRTP in 2015 could include discussion of bike paths and community needs/concepts.
   **Action:** NO ACTION TAKEN.
   **Follow Through:** The communities were encouraged to start thinking about their needs and concepts to begin the discussions regarding the LRTP.

6. **Next Meeting Date.**
   **Action:** THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE SCHEDULED ON MAY 13, 2014.

7. **Adjourn.**
   There being no further business, **MOTION / SECOND BY LANDEAU / LENZ TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. MOTION CARRIED VOICE VOTE, NO DISSENT.** The meeting was adjourned at 1:58 pm.

Submitted by:
Rebecca Frisch, Director
Conservation, Planning and Zoning
July 3, 2014
ljh