

WASHINGTON COUNTY
MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 27, 2007

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Radermacher at 1:02 p.m. at the Public Agency Center, Room 3224. Those present included:

Members Present:

Lawrence Hoffman..... County Board Supervisor
David Radermacher..... County Board Supervisor
Linda Walter..... Health Department Director
Linda Olson..... Director, Aging and Disability Resource Center
Ken Pesch..... Highway Department

Excused Absence:

James Schwartz..... County Board Supervisor

Staff:

Debora Sielski..... Assistant Administrator for Planning
Washington County Planning and Parks Department

Joanne Wagner..... Office Manager
Washington County Planning and Parks Department

FIRST ORDER OF BUSINESS:

Call Meeting to Order/Review Agenda

Chairman Radermacher called the meeting to order. Quorum present.

SECOND ORDER OF BUSINESS:

Approval of October 23, 2007 minutes

Motion by Walter, seconded by Hoffman to approve the minutes from the October 23, 2007 meeting as submitted with no additions or corrections. Motion carried.

THIRD ORDER OF BUSINESS:

**Review and approval of Draft Chapter XI -
Transportation Element**

Sielski gave overview of Chapter XI. It was agreed that any questions or concerns would be discussed as she reviewed the text rather than waiting until the end.

Page 3 – Radermacher had a concern regarding the last bullet point on the page regarding the widening of portions of STH 60, 164 and 167, CTH Q and CTH Y, and portions of Main Street and Decorah Road in the City of West Bend from two to four lanes. Stated he is very concerned about the widening of Highway 164 to four lanes. The Town of Richfield is on record as being opposed to it in its Smart Growth Plan. He believes the Town of Erin and the Cedar Lake Rehabilitation and Protection District are also opposed to it.

There is much opposition to the widening of Highway 164 for many obvious reasons. Asked if there is anything we could do here. Sielski stated that the pages from two through eight are a summary of the Regional Transportation Plan. When we get into page eight, we get to the outline of programs and recommendations that are specific to our County Comprehensive Plan. Radermacher stated he will wait until we get to that point to continue this discussion.

Hoffman referred the Committee to Page 5, (second bullet point) where it talks about increasing the number of park-ride lots, there are seven lots rather the six lots that are indicated. Discussion ensued regarding park-rides in the County.

Sielski asked the Committee to look over all of the programs listed and let her know of any that are already in place. She will then add "continue to" to the text for those programs, as she really wants to distinguish between any new programs and something that the County is already doing.

Pesch stated he saw something in this text about shifting freight onto the rail system off of the highway system. Sielski stated they talked about that at the Highway Committee. It is covered in the middle of page 9 – fifth objective from the bottom (under General Transportation Issue). Hoffman stated that this topic has been talked about considerably at the Railroad Consortium Group.

Motion by Hoffman, seconded by Pesch to add a policy to support and encourage the use of rail transportation to move more freight traffic to reduce the traffic volumes by continuing the good relationship with the Railroad Consortium. Motion carried.

In regard to the Streets and Highways Issue, Sielski stated that at last night's Land Use and Transportation Element Workgroup meeting (LUT), a policy was added regarding the consideration of farming equipment in the process of upgrading the streets and highways. They requested wider shoulders in order to make it easier to move around when driving farming equipment, including roundabouts. Sielski stated she was specifically asked to talk to Pesch about roundabout size. Pesch stated that they are designed for "legal loads" and will not handle super-wide farm equipment. Discussion ensued regarding road and highway widths and the problems that farmers have in driving farm equipment on the roads.

Under Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Issue, Pesch suggested that on page 13 - under the second goal, in the second objective; – add the word "motor" in front of "vehicle travel and to promote a healthy lifestyle." Also under Streets and Highway Issue, add "pedestrians and farm equipment" to the policy to design, reconstruct and operate County highways.

On page 15, third program from the bottom of the page, Radermacher suggested to change wording to "evaluate" rather than "monitor".

Shared ride/multiple rider concept was discussed. Discussion ensued regarding planning for multi-passenger use lanes like they have in Milwaukee. Olson suggested adding a policy with the following wording - "consideration be given to encourage high occupancy vehicle lanes" in the streets and Highways Issues Section. **Motion by Walter, seconded by Olson to create a policy saying "encourage and support high occupancy vehicle lanes". Motion carried.**

Also on page 15, the fourth bulleted program down under the Interregional Transportation Issue, Olson suggested that instead of specifically listing the Washington County Commuter Express Bus System, just say Washington County Public Transit Services to allow more flexibility.

At this time, the attached maps were reviewed. The maps are still in a preliminary draft stage. Neither map 1 nor map 2 has been approved by the Jurisdictional Highway Committee. The Jurisdictional Highway Committee will review the maps at their January 17th meeting and will likely make more changes. Radermacher requested that the wording at bottom of maps 1 & 2 be changed to "the adopted Richfield Smart Growth Plan is opposed to the planned widening of STH 164 between CTHQ and STH 167."

On page 9: Radermacher requested a motion in opposition to the Regional Plan in our plan regarding the widening of Highway 164. This would be under "Continue to help develop and support implementation of the Regional Transportation System Plan, the County Jurisdictional Highway System Plan, and the County Transit Development Plan except for the widening of Highway 164." **Motion by Hoffman that we go in opposition to the Regional Plan in our plan regarding the widening of Highway 164. This would be under "Continue to help develop and support implementation of the Regional Transportation System Plan, the County Jurisdictional Highway System Plan, and the County Transit Development Plan except for the widening of Highway 164." Motion died for lack of a second.**

Motion by Hoffman, seconded by Olson to approve Draft Chapter XI – Transportation Element. Motion carried unanimously.

FOURTH ORDER OF BUSINESS:

Discussion of Multi-Jurisdictional Advisory Committee Action on Draft Chapter X - Housing Element, and possible action

Sielski gave an overview of recent discussions and activity by various Workgroups on Chapter X. Reminded TAC of the change they recommended ("create" a County Housing Council rather than "study the possibility of"). The Multi-Jurisdictional Advisory Committee was very concerned about that issue as well as several other issues that were in that chapter. They would not approve that chapter and it was sent back to the Housing Workgroup. Sielski stated that she had a special meeting on November 19th with specific representatives of various workgroups and committees to discuss these issues. There is a meeting tomorrow night for the Housing Workgroup where Sielski will be presenting this information. Sielski stated she wanted TAC to have an opportunity to take a look at these changes and provide input on them (see memo dated November 26, 2007 attached). Sielski stated that it will be up to the Housing Workgroup to decide whether to keep that program the way it is, or make a motion to change the program. If TAC chooses to add to the items as shown on the memo, they are welcome to do so.

Olson asked if we, as a group, could state that the intent of that Housing Council was not to regulate, but was a non-regulatory body - and was intended to be an informational assistance only entity. Perhaps we could call it a "County Housing Resource Center" which is a more subtle title for something like that. Sielski stated she will take any action recommended by TAC to the Housing Workgroup tomorrow night for their consideration as well.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Hoffman that this goes back to the Housing, Utilities, Community Facilities, and Economic Development Workgroup with the clarification that the original intent of the Technical Advisory Committee was not to create a regulatory entity, but a non-regulatory body. Suggest calling this a County Housing Resource Center to provide assistance only. Motion carried unanimously.

Sielski will add this motion to the end of the first item (program) on memo dated November 26th, to show the action taken by this Committee.

FIFTH ORDER OF BUSINESS:

Public Comment

No one present from the public.

SIXTH ORDER OF BUSINESS:

Future Meeting Dates and Times

Sielski anticipates that TAC will only need to meet three more times before the end of the project. Would like TAC to begin looking at program priorities, and identify the priority level of each program. Sielski will provide a spreadsheet with various programs and have TAC identify what priority they see them fitting in.

Decided on two meetings in January. January 10th and 24th, at 9:30 a.m. for both meetings.

February meeting scheduled for February 26th at 8:30 a.m.

SEVENTH ORDER OF BUSINESS:

Adjournment

Motion by Pesch seconded by Hoffman to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debora Sielski
Assistant Administrator for Planning

Approved by _____
David N. Radermacher, Chairperson

Date _____