



November 1, 2010

To: Phil Van Kampen, Chairperson
From: Kamran Mesbah, Deputy Director
Re: 2011 Budget

This responds to your inquiry regarding various budgetary scenarios for the Commission in 2011.

Scenario #1 (The Panel approved a 2011 budget similar to this scenario): The BPP does not agree upon a budget. According to the local resolutions leading to CARPC creation, this effectively means that CARPC may only certify \$686,645 from Dane County – identical to 2010. Because reserve funds which were available in 2010 to make up for a lower charge to Dane County (0.132 mills) would not be available in 2011, this budget would force CARPC to forego hiring an Executive Director, maintains existing staff but necessitates approximately 8 furlough days, removes all research expenses related to questions raised by the Technical Advisory Committee regarding volume control standards (\$10,000), cuts FUDA intern expenses in half (from \$21,000 to \$10,550), cuts computer equipment expenditures in half (\$3,000 which is budgeted to upgrade the GIS workstation on which we are dependent for all of our mapping work), and decreases office supply and travel expenses (a large part of our travel expenses are related to community meetings and site inspections).

Scenario #2: The BPP agrees to the “maximum” 0.17 mills (\$888,171), which provides for the “rented” planner and increases the budgeted \$20,000 operating reserve to \$114,000. This amount is within the guidelines suggested by the Government Finance Officers Association. It must be noted that this scenario still does not provide adequate funds to fill the E.D. position. Our analysis indicates that the current structure (0.17 mills limit and no new fees) does not allow the position to be filled with current staffing. For example, at 0.17 mills, in 2012, with an E.D. we will have a shortfall of approximately \$140,000.

Scenario #3: Sustainable Funding. The planning function for the previous RPC (not including MPO-related transportation planning expenses) was supported by the statutory 0.3 mill rate cap. This statutory level of funding, based on annual work load and budget proposal, and subject to Budget & Personnel Panel review, revision and consent, would provide sustainable funding for the CARPC.