1. INTRODUCTIONS

The meeting was called to order at 4:40 p.m. by Committee Chair Brian Ohm. Committee members and staff introduced themselves.

Members Present: Eileen Bruskewitz, Dave Cieslewicz, George Dreckmann, Terry Enge, Tim Nixon, Brian Ohm (Chair), and Jim Ripp.

Member(s) Absent: Ann Falconer, Judy Olson, Scott McDonell and Howard Teal.

Staff Present: Doug Dalton, WisDOT, Bureau of Planning; Bob McDonald, Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO); Jim Mueller, Dane County Parks Department; John Norwell, Dane County Highway and Transportation Department; Michael Rewey, WisDOT, District 1; Jeanie Sieling, Dane County Planning and Development Department; and Todd Violante, Dane County Planning and Development Department.

Others Present: Pascal Bleam, Citizen; Sharon Bleam, Citizen; Matt Dreis, Boy Scouts of America (BSA); Mike Dreis, BSA; Phil Dreis, Citizen; Jason Fry, BSA; Elizabeth Gill, Mariners Cove; John Gill, Mariners Cove; Bob Gilson, Citizen; Sharon Gilson, Citizen; Jacob Krause, BSA; Gerry Novotny, BSA; Paul Novotny, BSA; Dolly O'Loughlin, Northside Planning Council (NPC)/Brentwood Neighborhood Association; Mark Opitz, City of Middleton, Assistant City Planner and Zoning Administrator & Dane County Board Supervisor, District 26; Isaac Padros, BSA; Mike Padros, Citizen; Ann Peckham, Citizen; Jim Powell, NPC; Joseph Richards, BSA; Kyle Shelton, BSA; Terry Shelton, BSA; Charlie Shimeall, BSA; Dan Shimeall, BSA; Paul Van Rooy, NPC; and Ted Voth, Jr., NPC/Sheridan Triangle Neighborhood Association.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PRIOR MEETINGS

Motion by Dreckmann/Bruskewitz to approve the minutes from the February 27, 2001 meeting: Motion carried 7-0.
Motion by Nixon/Bruskewitz to approve the minutes from the November 28, 2000 meeting: Motion carried 7-0.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Ohm called the Committee's attention to an item of correspondence from the Northside Planning Council (NPC). Each of the Committee members was given a copy of the correspondence. Jim Powell of NPC welcomed the Committee members to the Northside and summarized the letter. In a nutshell, the letter expressed some concerns about a potential North Beltline/North Mendota Parkway. Although the NPC "has not yet taken a position for or against a North Beltline/Parkway," it did note three major issues that need to be addressed: 1) traffic in Madison's Northside neighborhoods; 2) development in municipalities bordering Madison's Northside; and 3) impacts of various alternatives on natural resources north of Lake Mendota. Furthermore, NPC requested that NMPAC consider holding a community forum on Madison's Northside at both the beginning of the planning process and toward the end of the process to review draft alternatives.

Ted Voth, Jr. also spoke on behalf of NPC and welcomed the Committee members to the Northside and the Warner Park Community Recreation Center.

John Gill of Mariners Cove rose to comment that the traffic at Skipper Bud's was bad and needed to be improved.

4. UPDATE ON THE RFP AND CONSULTANT HIRING PROCESS

Todd Violante of the Dane County Planning and Development Department gave a brief presentation to the Committee regarding the status of the Request for Proposals (RFP) and consultant hiring process.

The timeline for the hiring process is as follows:

- Feb. 9, 2001: Date of issue of the RFP
- Feb. 23, 2001: Last day for vendors to submit written inquiries
- Mar. 2, 2001: Mail notification to vendors of supplements or revisions to
- Mar. 22, 2001: Proposals due by 2:00 p.m. from consultant
- Mar. 30, 2001: Notification of selection of top candidates
- Apr. 9-13, 2001 (est.): Oral presentation/demonstration by invited consultant
- Apr. 16-20, 2001 (est.): Notification of intent to award sent to consultant
- Apr. 27, 2001 (est.): Contract start date

The County had received three consultant proposals as of March 22, 2001, the application deadline stated in the RFP. The proposals were being reviewed, and interviews were being scheduled for Thursday, April 19, 2001. Three firms submitted proposals: HNTB; Planning & Design Institute (PDI) in conjunction with BRW, Inc. and Applied Ecological Services; and Vandewalle & Associates in conjunction with Strand & Associates. All three firms submitting proposals were being scheduled for an interview.
5. CONTINUATION OF PRESENTATION AND PRELIMINARY DISCUSSION OF RESOURCE AMENITIES AND OTHER LAND USE FEATURES IN THE NORTH MENDOTA PARKWAY PLANNING AREA

A. PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

Jim Mueller of the Dane County Parks Department gave a presentation summarizing the Dane County Parks and Open Space Plan. Jim presented a map highlighting the park and open space features in the North Mendota Planning Area. These features included, but are not necessarily limited to: the Yahara River corridor; Waunakee Marsh; the Dorn Creek wetlands area; Six Mile Creek; the Belfontaine Conservancy; Schumacher Farm Park; and existing and proposed trail loops. Jim noted that there has been a great deal of park and open space planning in this area to protect natural resources and recreational amenities. These plans include the existing Dane County Parks and Open Space Plan (currently being updated), the Northern Lake Mendota Regional Plan (a cooperative planning effort sponsored by the City of Middleton, Dane County, and the Town of Westport), and the community plans of the individual municipalities in the study area. Perhaps the most important message to glean from Jim's presentation is that there are a number of critical natural resource amenities in the North Mendota Planning Area that will need to be inventoried and included in the consultant planning efforts.

B. LAND USE & ZONING

Todd Violante of the Dane County Planning and Development Department presented information on land use and zoning in the North Mendota Planning Area. The presentation focused primarily on zoning, with the assumption that zoning is usually (although not always) a good general indicator of the underlying land uses present.

The salient points of the presentation included:

1) A zoning ordinance is the primary legal instrument with which a land use plan is implemented.
2) Dane County's Zoning Ordinance resides in Ch. 10 of the Dane County Code of Ordinances (DCCO).
3) Planning and zoning are highly interdependent. There's a significant link between planning and zoning in Dane County as established in s. 10.255(1)(c) of the DCCO: "The zoning committee [ZNR] shall use plans and maps developed by individual towns and approved by the county board as criteria for zoning recommendations to the county board."
4) A zoning ordinance is comprised of two parts: 1) a map, and 2) text. The map assigns every parcel within the subject jurisdiction to a zoning district. The text articulates the land uses allowed in each district and how structures associated with the allowed uses may be situated on a parcel (e.g. setbacks from lot lines, bulk requirements, lot coverage, etc.).
5) There are four general classes of districts in Dane County: (1) Agriculture (most predominant); (2) Residential; (3) Commercial; and (4) Industrial.
6) Dane County's zoning jurisdiction is only within the unincorporated portions of the county.
7) Dane County and the towns share zoning authority and are partners in the zoning approval process.
8) There are 25 zoning districts in Dane County: 10 residential districts; 6 commercial districts; 4 agricultural districts; and 5 “other” districts (e.g. recreational, conservancy, etc.).

In addition to this introduction to zoning in Dane County, data was presented to the Committee on the zoning district composition of the two primary towns in the North Mendota Planning Area: Springfield and Westport. The two towns are significantly different in terms of their existing land use and zoning patterns. Springfield has a much greater proportion of its land area held in agricultural uses and zoned for agricultural preservation (90 percent). Westport still contains a large area zoned for agricultural preservation (50 percent), but also contains a slightly higher proportion of land in other zoning districts, particularly those in the residential, commercial, and recreational districts. Another significant distinction is that 21 percent of Westport’s township area is comprised of lands within the Village of Waunakee.

6. NORTH MENDOTA PARKWAY IN THE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION CONTEXT, INCLUDING A DISCUSSION OF THE FUNCTIONAL ROADWAY CLASSIFICATIONS

Bob McDonald, the Transportation Planning Manager for the City of Madison and lead staff to the Madison Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MAMPO), presented information on programmed transportation improvements in the North Mendota Planning Area and outlined the subject area’s roadway network from a functional roadway classifications perspective. Bob highlighted projects that are included in Dane County’s most current Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Bob handed out a summary of the 2001-2001 TIP. There are few projects in the study area that are included in the TIP. Programmed study area projects include: reconstruction of and conversion from a two-lane highway to a divided four-lane highway of USH 12; reconstruction of CTH CV; and reconstruction of a small section of Woodland drive at the Village of Waunakee (which is outside of the MPO planning boundary).

Bob then talked about the modeled roadway system. The MPO transportation planning model (TRANPLAN) only includes the arterial and collector roadways, not local roadways. Thus, forecasts based on the model only provide information on the impacts to the arterial and collector roadway network. The modelled network in the study area consists of the following: CTH M is considered an Arterial; CTH K is considered a Major Collector; CTH Q and STH 19 are considered Rural Minor Arterials. Bob emphasized that there is a very strong, two-way relationship between land use and transportation: Land use clearly affects transportation, but transportation also affects land use. He used the example of USH 14 between the City of Madison and the Village of Oregon: There are very few access points to USH 14 along this stretch of the highway, and subsequently, there is very little development along the corridor. When there are numerous, unrestricted access points along a highway, the potential exists for an increase in development along the corridor.

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1 Only the section of USH 12 within the MPO’s jurisdiction is shown in the TIP; the portion of USH 12 outside of the MPO’s jurisdiction yet within Dane County is still going to be reconstructed, but it cannot be shown in the TIP since it is not within the MPO’s planning boundary, which does not extend all the way out to the County boundary lines.
7. PROGRAMMED IMPROVEMENTS ALONG CTH M

John Norwell, the Dane County Highway Commissioner, presented information on improvements programmed for CTH M. John also provided countywide data on traffic volumes on Dane County highways in order to put study area traffic volumes into some sort of comparative context. Norwell distributed handouts depicting changes in traffic volumes on key study area roadways; the data emphasizes that traffic volumes are booming all over the County on both the State and County highway systems. In general, traffic volumes are much greater and growing at a faster rate the closer the roadway is to the Madison Urban Area. Most of the growth on CTH M is nearest to the City of Middleton.

Capital improvements will be made to CTH M in 2006, but the RFP for the design engineering has already been let. John highlighted these planned improvements to CTH M. Most of the improvements are intersection tweaks including the installation of traffic signals and turning lanes in key locations. Some limited segments will be converted from two lanes to four, particularly at the east and west ends of CTH M, closer to the City of Middleton on the west end and close to STH 113 at the east end.

8. HOUSEKEEPING ITEMS

A. DISCUSSION OF POTENTIAL ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETING AGENDAS

The next meeting will be dedicated to a discussion of some of the cooperative intergovernmental planning efforts that have recently occurred in the study area.

B. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting of the Committee will be held on Tuesday, May 22, 2001 at 4:30 p.m. at the Town of Westport Hall, located at 5387 Mary Lake Road in the Town of Westport, in the northwestern quadrant of the intersection of CTH M and Mary Lake Road, about one mile west of the intersection of CTH M and STH 113/Northport Drive.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Dreckmann/Enge to adjourn at approximately 6:25 p.m. The motion was approved 7-0.

The minutes were prepared by Todd Violante of the Dane County Planning and Development Department. Please note that these minutes are based on the notes of the recorder and subject to change by the Committee at a subsequent meeting.