



CITY OF WAUWATOSA

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COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Tuesday, October 21, 2008

Council Chambers

PRESENT: Alds. Birschel, Ewerdt, Hanson, Herzog, Jay, Krol, Maher, McBride, Meaux, Nikceвич, Purins, Stepaniak, Walsh – 13

EXCUSED: Alds. Donegan, Organ, Treis

ALSO PRESENT: J. Didier, Mayor; J. Archambo, City Admin.; A. Kesner, City Atty.; W. Kappel, Pub. Works Dir.; W. Wehrley, City Engin.; N. Welch, Comm. Devel. Dir.

Ald. Krol as Chair called the meeting to order 7:04 p.m.

Zoo Interchange update

Donna Brown, Project Director, Zoo Interchange Project, reported that they have had numerous meetings regarding the project as well as a booth at State Fair Park. Some of the concerns voiced at those meetings were congestion, addressing future growth potential, and impact on local roads.

Ms. Brown reported that the steering committee met throughout the summer. Their primary focus has been to evaluate, identify and create opportunities for minority firms and employees. They have also worked on coordinating with other large Wisconsin Department of Transportation projects. They have focused on identifying and locating all utilities in the corridor, and held meetings with all potentially impacted utilities. They are going to submit conceptual alignment plans to the railroads.

Ms. Brown noted that they have completed an Environmental Impact Statement including a wetland inventory, historic structures/sites analysis, and identifying the location of endangered species. They have met regularly with the Department of Natural Resources (DOT), the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District (MMSD), and local planners and review agencies.

Ms. Brown noted that they have completed the West Suburban Traffic Impact Analysis (TIA) and alternative development plans including modernization with consideration for the number of freeway lanes, a refined core interchange with and without EB IH 94 access to Greenfield Avenue.

Ms. Brown announced that there would be two public information meetings: 1) October 27th from 2 to 7 p.m. at State Fair Park in the Tommy Thompson Youth Center and 2) October 30th from 4 to 8 p.m. at the Wauwatosa West High School cafeteria. She added that they will continue their refinement of alternatives and provide outreach to neighborhoods, businesses, and organizations. They will also be working on continued environmental analysis and completion of the draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

Ms. Brown outlined their future plans. In 2009 they will complete EIS. In 2010-2012 they will complete their final design. In 2012-2016 they will reconstruct the interchange.

Ald. Purins noted that spot improvements were not under consideration and replace in kind was also removed. Ms. Brown responded that replace in kind has been replaced by the draft EIS.

Ald. Herzog commented that out of the number of options for the bridge over Meinecke, he would like to see that bridge retained.

Ald. Stepaniak asked about the status of the TIA during construction and after construction. Ms. Brown responded that they are finishing refinement of the recommendations. The next step is to provide information on those impacts with modernization alternatives. They will have the full picture and recommendations at the December 4th meeting.

Ald. Maher asked if the design is still consistent with the design from the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SEWRPC) given the changes that have been made. Ald. Maher was assured that the plans are still in compliance with the SEWRPC plan and everything will be done to accommodate that plan.

The meeting adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

Carla A. Ledesma, City Clerk
City of Wauwatosa

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