

STATELINE AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (SLATS MPO)



I-39/90 and I-43 (WI-81/Milwaukee Road) interchange in Beloit under construction (left). I-39/90 looking north with I-43 flyover (right). Completion scheduled late 2021. Photos by WisDOT.

2021-2024 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP)

OCTOBER 26, 2020

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2021-2024 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

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Agencies represented in the SLATS MPO include the following: Village of Rockton, IL; City of Beloit, Wisconsin; Town of Beloit, WI; Illinois Department of Transportation; Rock County, Wisconsin; Rockton Township, IL; City of South Beloit, IL; Town of Turtle, WI; Winnebago County, IL; and Wisconsin Department of Transportation along with Federal Highway Administration; Federal Transit Administration; Beloit Transit System and Stateline Mass Transit District.

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ROCKTON TOWNSHIP

SLATS RESOLUTION 2020-6

APPROVAL OF THE 2021-2024 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the Stateline Area Transportation Study is the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Beloit (WI-IL) Urbanized Area, and the Policy Board has the responsibility to direct, coordinate, and administer the transportation planning process in the urbanized area; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration, 23 U.S.C. 134 and 49 U.S.C. 5303-5306, have determined the necessity for the 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program; and

WHEREAS, the Policy Board has reviewed the transportation projects programmed in the 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program and finds it consistent with the projects in the Transportation Plan; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with 23 CFR 450.334(a) SLATS hereby certifies that the metropolitan transportation planning process is addressing major issues facing the metropolitan planning area and is being conducted in accordance with all applicable requirements of:

§ 450.336 Self-certifications and Federal certifications.

(a) For all MPAs, concurrent with the submittal of the entire proposed TIP to the FHWA and the FTA as part of the STIP approval, the State and the MPO shall certify at least every 4 years that the metropolitan transportation planning process is being carried out in accordance with all applicable requirements including:

- (1) [23 U.S.C. 134](#), [49 U.S.C. 5303](#), and this subpart;
- (2) In nonattainment and maintenance areas, sections 174 and 176(c) and (d) of the Clean Air Act, as amended ([42 U.S.C. 7504](#), 7506(c) and (d)) and [40 CFR part 93](#);
- (3) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended ([42 U.S.C. 2000d-1](#)) and [49 CFR part 21](#);
- (4) [49 U.S.C. 5332](#), prohibiting discrimination on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, sex, or age in employment or business opportunity;
- (5) Section 1101(b) of the FAST Act ([Pub. L. 114-357](#)) and [49 CFR part 26](#) regarding the involvement of disadvantaged business enterprises in DOT funded projects;
- (6) [23 CFR part 230](#), regarding the implementation of an equal employment opportunity program on Federal and Federal-aid highway construction contracts;
- (7) The provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 ([42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.](#)) and [49 CFR parts 27](#), 37, and 38;
- (8) The Older Americans Act, as amended ([42 U.S.C. 6101](#)), prohibiting discrimination on the basis of age in programs or activities receiving Federal financial assistance;
- (9) Section 324 of title 23 U.S.C. regarding the prohibition of discrimination based on gender; and


(10) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794) and 49 CFR part 27 regarding discrimination against individuals with disabilities.

WHEREAS, the SLATS Policy Board and Technical Advisory Committee have reviewed the TIP with regard to Federal fiscal constraint requirements and assure, to the best of their knowledge, that:

1. All cost estimates for all projects programmed in this TIP are reasonably accurate based on accepted construction cost estimating practices, and where appropriate, have considered inflation for projects in the out years;
2. The States have assured that all Federal funds paired with projects in this TIP are available or reasonably expected to be available for those projects; and
3. Projects for which funding is not available are conspicuously identified as illustrative projects.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Policy Board of the Stateline Area Transportation Study approves this **2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program** and directs the staff to submit this document to the Federal Highway Administration, Federal Transit Administration and the Wisconsin and Illinois Departments of Transportation.

Approved this 26th Day of October, 2020



Chair, SLATS Policy Board

ATTESTS:



MPO Coordinator

SUMMARY OF INPUT AND CHANGES

The Draft 2021-2024 TIP was published September 25, 2020. In addition to minor edits, changes reflected in the Final TIP include: Updated 2021 TAM targets for the Wisconsin portion of SLATS.

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

The Stateline Area Transportation Study (SLATS) established in 1974, is the federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Beloit urbanized area (as defined by the US Census Bureau). SLATS spans the state line and includes portions of Wisconsin and Illinois. The purpose of an MPO is to conduct a federally mandated, 3-C (continuing, cooperative and comprehensive) intergovernmental transportation planning process for all urbanized areas over 50,000 in population. The SLATS MPO Metropolitan Planning Area (MPA) comprises more than 100 square miles and has a total population of nearly 69,000.

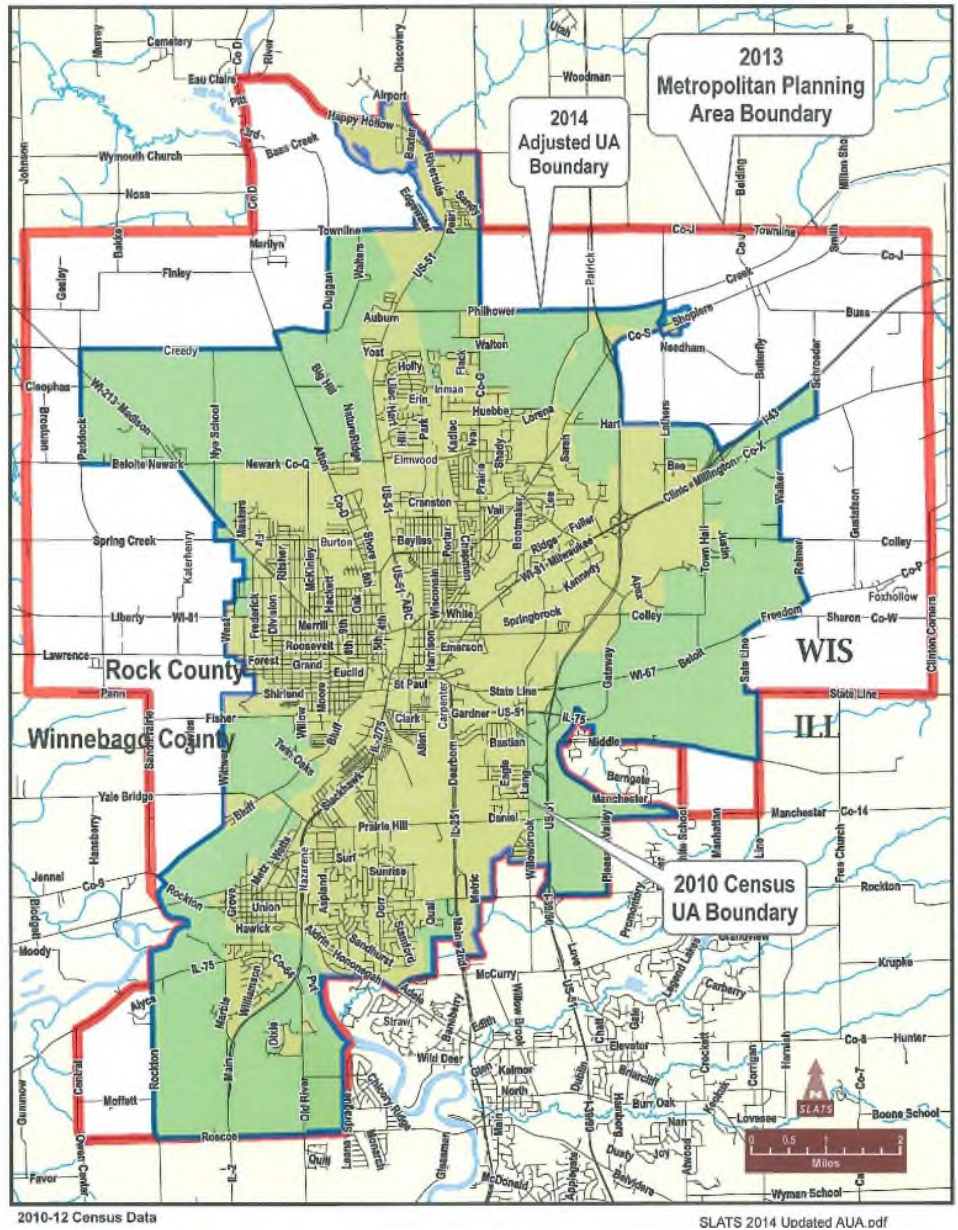
The SLATS MPO is required to develop and update a Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) every five years, a Unified Work Program every year, and a four-year Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), which SLATS updates every year. All federally-funded transportation projects in the MPA must be included in the TIP. The TIP must also include all regionally significant transportation improvements funded by the States and local governments. The TIP must be approved by the MPO Policy Committee and approved by both the State of Wisconsin and State of Illinois Departments of Transportation prior to receiving the Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) and Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) acceptance.

The MPO's planning process must consider the safe and efficient movement of people, services and freight by all modes of travel including streets and highways, public transportation, commuter railways, bicycle and pedestrian as well as intermodal connections for freight and passengers between ground transportation, airports, and railroads. An overarching goal of the transportation system is to encourage harmonious community interaction while protecting the aesthetic and ecological features of the physical environment. The TIP furthers that goal by coordinating and prioritizing all major transportation improvements in the MPA over the next four plus years. Prioritization of projects is based on the following objectives:

- Maximize the cost-effectiveness of transportation system investments
- Promote the development and integration of non-motorized transportation modes
- Improve the mobility of all persons, regardless of social and economic status or physical or mental conditions
- Improve overall safety of the transportation system
- Increase auto and public transit occupancy rates
- Minimize vehicle-miles of travel
- Minimize fuel consumption
- Limit air, noise and water pollution
- Reduce congestion
- Minimize environmental disruptions

EXHIBIT 1 – SLATS MPA and AUA

Stalene Area Transportation Study -- Metropolitan Planning Organization
SLATS 2014 METROPOLITAN PLANNING AREA (Adopted on April 14, 2014)



ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

The SLATS MPO is directed and governed by a Policy Committee (see below) and includes representation from the City of Beloit, Town of Beloit, Town of Turtle and Rock County in Wisconsin, and the City of South Beloit, Village of Rockton, Rockton Township, and Winnebago County in Illinois. Representation on the Policy Committee also includes the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) and the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT).

A Technical Advisory Committee (see below) that includes public works officials, engineers, planners and administrators from the member municipalities and counties, as well as local public transit representatives (Beloit Transit System and Stateline Mass Transit District) advise the Policy Committee on transportation issues of a regional nature. Additional non-voting members are listed below as well, and include FHWA, FTA, WisDOT, IDOT, adjacent MPOs and non-member municipalities with lands included in the SLATS MPA.

The City of Beloit is the lead agency for SLATS and the City of Beloit Engineering Division provides the staff support for the administration of the MPO. SLATS is funded by annual grants or awards from the Federal Highway Administration, the Federal Transit Administration, the States of Illinois and Wisconsin and funding from most of the local governments represented on the Policy Committee.

The SLATS Policy and Technical Advisory Committees include the following chief elected officials/members (or duly appointed representatives). Note that these positions are outlined in the MPO's bylaws most recently updated in 2015.

SLATS MPO POLICY BOARD

1.	City of Beloit	<i>Nancy Forbeck</i>
2.	City of South Beloit	<i>Ted Rehl</i>
3.	Village of Rockton (Policy Board Chair)	<i>Dale Adams</i>
4.	Town of Beloit	<i>Joe Rose</i>
5.	Town of Turtle	<i>Roger Anclam</i>
6.	Rockton Township	<i>Sharon Hecox</i>
7.	Rock County	<i>Alan Sweeney</i>
8.	Winnebago County	<i>Frank Haney</i>
9.	WisDOT SW Region	<i>Stephen Flottmeyer</i>
10.	IDOT Region 2	<i>Masood Ahmad</i>

SLATS MPO TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Technical Advisory Committee currently consists of one voting representative from each of the following agencies:

1.	The City of Beloit Public Works Department	<i>Laura Pigatti Williamson</i>
2.	The City of Beloit Engineering Division	<i>Scot Prindiville</i>
3.	The City of Beloit Community Development Department	<i>Drew Pennington</i>
4.	The Winnebago County Planning Department	

- | | |
|--|------------------------|
| 5. The Winnebago County Highway Department | <i>Frank Hodina</i> |
| 6. The Rock County Planning Department | <i>Andrew Baker</i> |
| 7. The Rock County Highway Department | <i>Duane Jorgenson</i> |
| 8. The Town of Beloit* | <i>Frank McKearn</i> |
| 9. The Town of Turtle* | <i>Dave Bomkamp</i> |
| 10. The Village of Rockton* | <i>Tricia Diduch</i> |
| 11. The City of South Beloit* | <i>Jeff Reininger</i> |
| 12. The Beloit Transit System (BTS) | <i>Teri Downing</i> |
| 13. The Stateline Mass Transit District (SMTD) | <i>Sharon Hecox</i> |
| 14. SW Region Designated Representative WisDOT | <i>Tom Koprowski</i> |
| 15. District 2 Designated Representative IDOT | <i>Rob Bates</i> |

*May include a designated public works, engineering, highway, planning or similar representative

Non-voting membership is extended to:

- | | |
|---|---------------------------|
| 1. The Federal Highway Administration, Wisconsin Representative | <i>Mitch Batuzich</i> |
| 2. The Federal Highway Administration, Illinois Representative | <i>John Donovan</i> |
| 3. FTA Region 5 Chicago Representative | <i>Evan Gross (WI)</i> |
| | <i>Anthony Greep (IL)</i> |
| 4. District 2 Bureau of Urban Program Planning IDOT | <i>Doug Delille</i> |
| 5. Central Planning Office for WisDOT | <i>Megan Zielke</i> |
| 6. Janesville Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (JAMPO) | <i>Alexander Brown</i> |
| 7. Rockford Metropolitan Agency for Planning (RMAP) | <i>Sydney Turner</i> |
| 8. Village of Roscoe | |
| 9. Roscoe Township | |
| 10. Town of Rock | |

TIP OVERVIEW

The TIP is the result of a comprehensive, coordinated, and continuing urban transportation planning process encompassing the entire Metropolitan Planning Area (MPA). The TIP is developed by the MPO in cooperation with States, public transit operators and local communities. The TIP lists all programmed projects in the SLATS MPA that are to be federally funded under Title 23 U.S.C. and 49 U.S.C., and may include projects to be funded entirely with state or local funds. Each community within the MPO is requested annually to submit a list of proposed transportation projects to be included in the TIP. SLATS locally approves the TIP and forwards it to state and federal agencies. The Governors or their designees approve the TIP, which is then made part of the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP).

The TIP is a constantly evolving listing of short and mid-range improvements aimed at achieving a balanced and responsive transportation system for the MPA. All improvements in the TIP must be consistent with and flow from the LRTP and reflect investment priorities. The LRTP addresses improvements that are needed in the next 25-30 years and the public can help determine projects and priorities in that document as well. There must also be a firm commitment to fund and implement all listed projects, especially those

listed in the first year. However, because priorities and other factors can change, the TIP is a flexible and amendable document. That said the TIP must be fiscally/financially constrained. This means that projects cannot be included that do not have a reasonable chance of being funded unless they are specifically noted as unfunded “illustrative” projects. The TIP must also include the use of an inflation factor (currently 1.78%) to inflate costs in the out years (beyond 2021). This inflation factor (provided by WisDOT) is based on the average change in the Consumer Price Index over the previous 10 years. This inflation factor is not intended to capture increases in individual cost items. Those increases should be reflected in the individual project cost estimates as they are updated annually.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

MAP-21 and FAST ACT require incorporation of Performance-Base Planning and Programming (PBPP) in development of the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Long-Range Transportation Plans (LRTP) and Transportation Improvement Plans (TIP). The Statewide and Nonmetropolitan Transportation Planning Metropolitan Transportation Planning Final Rule further defined the TIP shall include, to the maximum extent practicable, a description of the anticipated effect of the TIP toward achieving the 23 CFR 490 performance measures targets identified in the metropolitan transportation plan, linking investment priorities to those performance targets (23 CFR 450.326(d)).

SLATS continues to work with local, State and federal partners to implement a performance based decision making process consistent with FAST Act (previously MAP-21) performance measures described in this section. SLATS will incorporate these measures and targets into future LRTP updates, and into other transportation related planning activities including this annual Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), under guidance, timelines and processes established in cooperation with WisDOT, IDOT, FHWA, FTA and local public transit agencies.

The FAST Act identifies seven national goal areas and requires DOTs and MPOs to develop a performance-based approach to support the national goals. As part of this process, USDOT in consultation with state DOTs, MPOs, and other stakeholders are establishing performance measures corresponding to the national goals. State DOTs and MPOs are free to identify additional measures, but all statewide transportation plans and LRTP’s will need to address the performance measures and targets associated with those measures, at a minimum. Moreover, state DOTs, MPOs, and public transportation service providers are required to establish performance targets and to coordinate development of these targets to ensure consistency. The following table displays national goals and performance measure assessment areas.

23 USC 150: National performance measure goals are:

- **Safety** - To achieve a significant reduction in traffic fatalities and serious injuries on all public roads
- **Infrastructure Condition** - To maintain the highway infrastructure asset system in a state of good repair
- **Congestion Reduction** - To achieve a significant reduction in congestion on the National Highway System
- **System Reliability** - To improve the efficiency of the surface transportation system
- **Freight Movement and Economic Vitality** - To improve the national freight network, strengthen the ability of rural communities to access national and international trade markets, and support regional economic development.

- **Environmental Sustainability** - To enhance the performance of the transportation system while protecting and enhancing the natural environment
- **Reduced Project Delivery Delays** - To reduce project costs, promote jobs and the economy, and expedite the movement of people and goods by accelerating project completion through eliminating delays in the project development and delivery process, including reducing regulatory burdens and improving agencies' work practices
<https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/tpm/about/goals.cfm>

MAP-21/Fast Act Performance Measures as established in 49 USC 625 and 23 CFR 490 are:

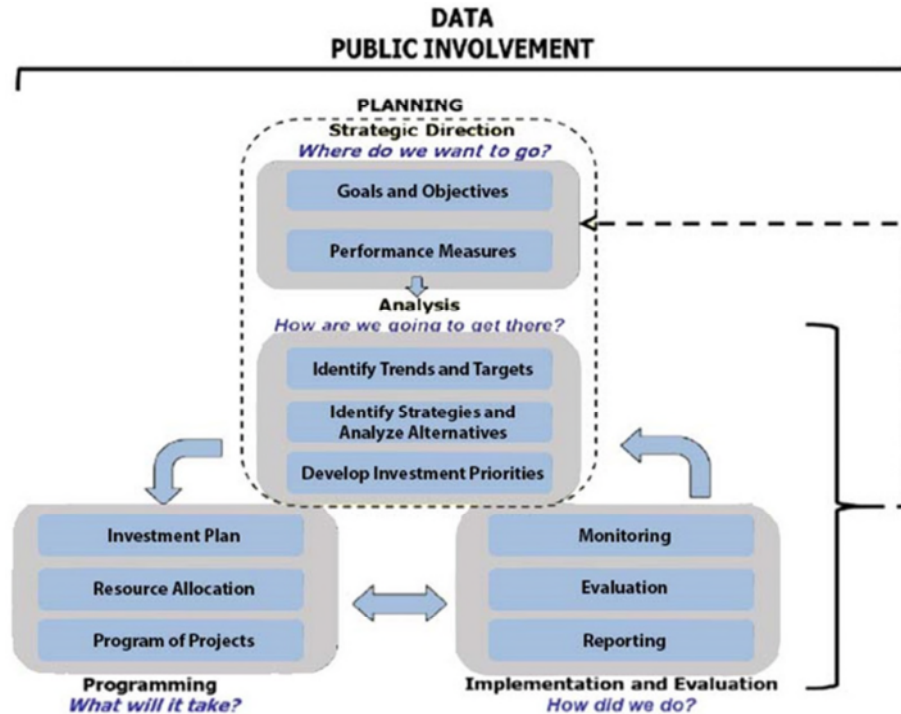
- Transit
 - Rolling Stock: The percentage of revenue vehicles (by type) that exceed the useful life benchmark (ULB).
 - Equipment: The percentage of non-revenue service vehicles (by type) that exceed the ULB.
 - Facilities: The percentage of facilities (by group) that are rated less than 3.0 on the Transit Economic Requirements Model (TERM) Scale.
 - Infrastructure: The percentage of track segments (by mode) that have performance restrictions. Track segments are measured to the nearest 0.01 of a mile.
- Safety
 - Number of fatalities
 - Fatalities per 100 million vehicle miles traveled
 - Number of serious injuries
 - Serious injuries per 100 million vehicle miles traveled
 - Number of non-motorized fatalities and non-motorized serious injuries
- Infrastructure
 - Percentage of pavements of the Interstate System in Good condition
 - Percentage of pavements of the Interstate System in Poor condition
 - Percentage of pavements of the non-Interstate NHS in Good condition
 - Percentage of pavements of the non-Interstate NHS in Poor condition
 - Percentage of NHS bridges classified as in Good condition
 - Percentage of NHS bridges classified as in Poor condition
- System Performance on NHS
 - Interstate Travel Time Reliability Measure: Percent of person-miles traveled on the Interstate that are reliable
 - Non-Interstate Travel Time Reliability Measure: Percent of person-miles traveled on the non-Interstate NHS that are reliable
- Freight Movement
 - Freight Reliability Measure: Truck Travel Time Reliability (TTTR) Index
- CMAQ - Congestion Reduction (CMAQ measures and targets do not apply, as SLATS is not within a non-attainment area for air pollution)
 - Peak Hour Excessive Delay(PHED) Measure: Annual Hours of Peak Hour Excessive Delay (PHED) Per Capita
 - Non-Single Occupancy Vehicle Travel (SOV) Measure: Percent of Non-Single Occupancy Vehicle (SOV) Travel
 - Emissions Measure: Total Emission Reductions

SLATS Performance-Based Planning and Programming Processes

Prior to MAP-21, the SLATS 2011 LRTP incorporated transportation system performance indicators into the long range transportation planning process in an effort to 1) summarize transportation facilities and services within the MPA, 2) describe how those services or facilities change over time and 3) attempt to evaluate the effectiveness or efficiency of the services or facilities in serving the transportation needs of the community. This evaluation included 5 aspects of the transportation system:

1. The physical condition of the roadway system
2. Safety aspects of the transportation system
3. The extent, effectiveness and efficiency of the area's public transit services
4. The effects of transportation on the environment
5. The extent of the availability of transportation alternatives to motorized travel

The current 2016 SLATS LRTP builds on those efforts and moves toward a performance based decision making process consistent with FAST Act (previously MAP-21) performance measures. At the time this LRTP was developed, the FHWA and State DOTs were in the process of establishing performance measure guidelines. The 2040 LRTP begins to establish the foundation for identifying performance measures that will eventually include specific targets/dates. Addressing performance measures and targets in the LRTP will occur as needed in accordance with future updates. Even so, the SLATS 2016 LRTP recognizes that more and more public agencies are using performance measurements to track their progress against defined goals and objectives and are reporting results to internal and external stakeholders and partners. Also, the SLATS LRTP identifies a performance-based planning framework, a strategic approach that uses performance data to support decisions to help achieve desired performance outcomes while reflecting local needs and priorities. The following figure displays the key elements of a performance-based transportation plan.



Source: FHWA Performance-based Planning and Programming Guidebook, Page IV.

According to FHWA, transportation performance management is a “strategic approach that uses system information to make investment and policy decisions to achieve national performance goals.” The key elements of the performance-based planning process include:

- National Goals – Seven national goal areas are codified in legislation.
- Performance Measures – USDOT has established a limited set of performance measures with input through the rulemaking process. State DOTs and MPOs are free to adopt additional locally defined performance measures and targets.
- Performance Targets – State DOTs and MPOs set targets through a coordinated process that also includes transit service providers.
- Performance Plans – The performance-based planning process should be carried forward through the project selection process and linked to the fiscally constrained TIP developed at both the statewide and the metropolitan level. Federal legislation strengthens the link between investment priorities and performance outcomes, as both the Statewide TIP and Metropolitan TIP are now required to describe the anticipated effect of transportation system investments in making progress toward the targets.
 - Additional performance plans now required under Federal legislation that are germane to MPOs include: Metropolitan System Performance Report (included as part of the LRTP); Transit Asset Management Plan; and the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ) Performance Plan.
- Target Achievement – State DOT and MPO planning processes are intended to guide program and project selection to make progress toward the achievement of targets.
- Special Performance Rules – Special rules apply to the performance elements related to safety (high-risk rural roads, older drivers, and pedestrians), Interstate Pavement Condition, and National Highway System Bridge Condition.
- Performance Reporting – State DOTs and MPOs must report to USDOT on progress toward achieving targets and USDOT will assess such progress.

Current MPO Performance Measures

As noted, for the past several years, SLATS has incorporated transportation system performance indicators into long range transportation planning processes in an attempt to assess:

1. The physical condition of the roadway system
2. Safety aspects of the transportation system
3. The extent, effectiveness and efficiency of the area’s public transit services
4. The effects of transportation on the environment
5. The extent of the availability of transportation alternatives to motorized travel

More information can be found in the SLATS Long-Range Transportation Plan(s) located in the SLATS folder of the Document Center at www.beloitwi.gov.

Now that specific performance measures have been defined at the federal level, and targets are being established at the State level, the MPO’s performance-based approach to transportation decision-making and the development of transportation plans, including the integration of performance targets into the planning process to identify needed transportation improvements and inform project selection is being refined and will continue to evolve.

SLATS, along with other MPOs will establish performance targets coordinated with the State(s) and public transportation providers no later than 180 days after the date the State or public transportation provider establishes performance targets. This TIP begins to make progress toward achieving those identified performance targets by including, to the maximum extent practicable, a description of the anticipated effect of the TIP toward achieving the performance measures, and targets established thus far by the MPO, linking investment priorities to those performance targets.

SLATS Safety Performance Measures and Targets (PM1)

The first set of performance measures and related targets that the States and MPOs were required to address under MAP-21 and the FAST ACT are related to **Safety**. The States established their first set of safety targets in 2017, followed by MPOs (within 180 days). In February 2018, SLATS adopted separate resolutions in support of Safety targets established by both WisDOT and IDOT, and typically updates those targets by resolution each October. The current resolution to support WisDOT targets effectively agrees to plan and program projects for the Wisconsin portion of the SLATS MPO Metropolitan Planning Area (MPA) so that they contribute toward the accomplishment of WisDOT's calendar year 2021 HSIP target(s) for the following performance measures:

Number of fatalities – 576.0,
Rate of fatalities – 0.890 per 100 million vehicle miles traveled
Number of serious injuries – 2,897.9,
Rate of serious injuries – 4.482 per 100 million vehicle miles traveled, and
Number of non-motorized fatalities and non-motorized serious injuries – 350.2

The current resolution to support IDOT targets effectively agrees to plan and program projects for the Illinois portion of the SLATS MPO Metropolitan Planning Area (MPA) so that they contribute toward the accomplishment of IDOT's calendar year 2021 HSIP target(s) for the following performance measures

Number of fatalities – 1000.0,
Rate of fatalities – 0.93 per 100 million vehicle miles traveled
Number of serious injuries – 11,556.4,
Rate of serious injuries – 10.79 per 100 million vehicle miles traveled, and
Number of non-motorized fatalities and non-motorized serious injuries – 1,517.6

Safety Targets are updated annually by each State, and SLATS will subsequently adopt or modify those targets within 180 days, and incorporate those updates into the TIP as needed. The 2021 Safety Targets were adopted in October 2020 ahead of the February 2021 deadline, and included in the 2021 TIP. We anticipate including 2022 Safety Targets in the 2022-2025 TIP in fall 2021.

SLATS NHS Pavement and Bridge Conditions Measures and Targets (PM2)

In addition to Safety Targets, the first set of PM2 targets for 2019/21 (WI) and 2020/22 (IL) related to NHS Pavement and Bridge Conditions were established by WisDOT and IDOT in May 2018. MPOs were subsequently required to establish 2-year and 4-year targets for each of the six NHS PM2 performance measures by either agreeing to plan and program projects so that they contribute to the accomplishment of the State's PM2 target(s) or commit to quantifiable PM2 target(s) for the

metropolitan planning area. SLATS agreed to plan and program projects so that they contribute toward the accomplishment of WisDOT’s and IDOT’s 2-year and 4-year PM2 target(s) in October, 2018. The current PM2 measures and targets SLATS adopted per each State are listed below:

Wisconsin

Measure	2-Year Target (2019)	4-Year Target (2021)
Interstate – Percentage pavements in “Good” condition	N/A	≥45%
Interstate – Percentage pavements in “Poor” condition	N/A	≤5%
Non-Interstate NHS – Percentage pavements in “Good” condition	≥20%	≥20%
Non-Interstate NHS – Percentage pavements in “Poor” condition	≤12%	≤12%
Percentage of NHS bridges by deck area in “Good” condition	≥50%	≥50%
Percentage of NHS bridges by deck area in “Poor” condition	≤3%	≤3%

Illinois

Measure	2-Year Target (2020)	4-Year Target (2022)
Interstate – Percentage pavements in “Good” condition	65%	65%
Interstate – Percentage pavements in “Poor” condition	≤5%	≤5%
Non-Interstate NHS – Percentage pavements in “Good” condition	27%	27%
Non-Interstate NHS – Percentage pavements in “Poor” condition	6%	6%
Percentage of NHS bridges by deck area in “Good” condition	28%	27%
Percentage of NHS bridges by deck area in “Poor” condition	13%	14%

SLATS System Reliability Measures and Targets (PM3)

At the same time, in addition to NHS Pavement and Bridge Conditions Measures and Targets, the first set of PM3 targets for 2019/21 (WI) and 2020/22 (IL) related to System Reliability were established by

WisDOT and IDOT in May 2018. MPOs were subsequently required to establish 2-year and 4-year targets for each of the three required NHS PM3 performance measures by either agreeing to plan and program projects so that they contribute to the accomplishment of the State’s PM3 target(s) or commit to quantifiable PM3 target(s) for the metropolitan planning area (Wisconsin and Illinois MPOs outside of the Milwaukee Urbanized Area, the Chicago Urbanized Area and otherwise outside of non-attainment or maintenance areas have three PM3 performance measures and related targets to adopt). SLATS agreed to plan and program projects so that they contribute toward the accomplishment of WisDOT’s and IDOT’s 2-year and 4-year PM3 target(s) in October, 2018. The current PM3 measures and targets SLATS adopted per each State are listed below:

Wisconsin

Measure	2-Year Target (2019)	4-Year Target (2021)
Travel Reliability – Percent of person-miles traveled that are reliable on the Interstate	94.0%	90.0%
Travel Reliability – Percent of person-miles traveled that are reliable on the Non-Interstate NHS	N/A	86.0%
Freight Reliability – Truck Travel Time Reliability Index on the Interstate	1.40	1.60

Illinois

Measure	2-Year Target (2020)	4-Year Target (2022)
Travel Reliability – Percent of person-miles traveled that are reliable on the Interstate	79.0%	77.0%
Travel Reliability – Percent of person-miles traveled that are reliable on the Non-Interstate NHS	85.3%	83.3%
Freight Reliability – Truck Travel Time Reliability Index on the Interstate	1.34	1.37

Investments Supporting Current Targets

PM1 (Safety)

The SLATS TIP includes a number of projects specifically related to safety including Highway Safety Improvement Projects and Railroad Safety Improvements District/State wide in Illinois. Additionally, both Wisconsin and Illinois have programmed a number of infrastructure expansion and preservation projects within the SLATS MPA, all of which incorporate safety improvements. This may be directly by

updating geometrics and design to current standards which can significantly reduce crashes, improving roadway condition and in-turn driving safety, increasing multi-modal options through bus and bike accommodations to make routes safer for all users and reduce congestion, and increasing capacity where needed to improve level of service and safety. Examples of projects with anticipated safety improvements include:

- I-39/90 expansion project from The Stateline to Madison
- Improvements to Illinois 2, Illinois 251, WI-67 and WI-213
- Bridge projects along I-43, Illinois 2 and Illinois 251

These projects are largely determined at the State level, and so by including them in the TIP, the MPO agrees to plan and program projects so that they contribute toward the accomplishment of each State's calendar year HSIP target(s) for safety performance measures. Where the MPO has an opportunity to further support Safety targets established by each State is in local project planning, criteria and selection. For example, using STBG-U funds to recondition or reconstruct a road without including beneficial safety improvements such as upgraded geometric design, upgraded signage, pedestrian signals, bike facilities, bus accommodations, pavement markings and similar, arguably is not programming a project that contributes to the State's safety target. Therefore, SLATS supports and programs projects at the local level in support of State targets that include such improvements. Specific local projects with planned/anticipated safety improvements include:

- CTH D Safety Improvements
- Improvements to Henry Avenue and Park Avenue (projects in the City of Beloit and Town of Beloit)
- Intersection improvements at White Avenue and Prince Hall Drive
- Sidewalk improvements to Inman Parkway (will directly serve Turner School District schools)

Additionally, SLATS has coordinated with DOT and local agencies on several corridor studies and intersection studies to determine appropriate improvements to enhance safety and function. These efforts support State Safety Targets, lay the groundwork for future improvements at the local level and provide local input early in the process.

PM2 (NHS Pavement and Bridge Conditions)

The SLATS TIP includes a few projects specifically related to NHS Pavement and Bridge Conditions. However, with the exception of Cranston Road from US-51 to WI-81 and Prairie Avenue from Cranston Road to WI-81 in Beloit, most NHS routes within SLATS are State highways or Interstate highways. Therefore, most NHS route construction projects are largely determined at the State level. By including them in the TIP though, the MPO agrees to plan and program projects that contribute toward the accomplishment of each State's PM2 targets. Specific projects in the TIP that are expected to contribute to the PM2 targets include:

- I-39/90 expansion project from The Stateline to Madison
- Improvements to Illinois 2, Illinois 251, WI-67 and WI-213
- Bridge projects along I-43, Illinois 2 and Illinois 251

As with Safety, the MPO has the greatest opportunity to support NHS Pavement and Bridge condition targets established by each State is in local project planning, criteria and selection on local NHS routes. Using STBG-U funds to recondition or reconstruct a road or bridge on the NHS invariably improves conditions. However, SLATS currently has no specific local projects with planned/anticipated NHS

pavement or bridge condition improvements (current and planned projects are on non-NHS routes). That said, SLATS continues to coordinate with local agencies, WisDOT and IDOT on projects on the NHS including various corridors and intersections (Illinois 2, USH-51 and CTH Q, Cranston Road, USH 51 and WI-81/WI-213. These studies recommend improvements that could improve pavement and bridge conditions on the NHS, both local and State routes.

(PM3) System Reliability

The SLATS TIP includes projects related to travel reliability on the Interstate and non-Interstate NHS, as well as freight reliability on the Interstate. However, as with PM2, most NHS routes within SLATS are State highways or Interstate highways. Therefore, most NHS route construction projects are largely determined at the State level. By including State projects in the TIP that are expected to improve system reliability, the MPO agrees to plan and program projects that contribute toward the accomplishment of each State's PM3 targets.

It is worth noting that Level of Service (LOS) from the Travel Demand Model (TDM) is generally considered high within the SLATS MPA both in the base year (2010) and future year (2050) analyses, with virtually no (modeled) congestion at present and only a few relatively short stretches of congestion expected in the future. The model runs included both the existing and committed network, including the I-39/90 Interstate expansion to 6 lanes. So while the Interstate may currently operate at a lower LOS, it is expected to operate at a higher LOS once complete in the next couple of years.

Specific projects in the TIP that are expected to contribute to the PM3 targets include:

- I-39/90 expansion project from The Stateline to Madison
- Improvements to Illinois 2, Illinois 251, WI-67 and WI-213
- Bridge projects along I-43, Illinois 2 and Illinois 251

As with other performance targets, the MPO has the greatest opportunity to support System Reliability targets established by each State is in local project planning, criteria and selection on local NHS routes. While SLATS currently has no specific local projects on NHS-routes (current and planned projects are on non-NHS routes), as mentioned SLATS continues to coordinate with local agencies, WisDOT and IDOT on projects on the NHS including various corridors and intersections (Illinois 2, USH-51 and CTH Q, Cranston Road, USH 51 and WI-81/WI-213. These studies recommend improvements that could improve system reliability on the NHS, both local and State routes.

Target-setting Summary

SLATS will continue to coordinate with both WisDOT and IDOT on setting targets for the MPO. In summary:

- 2018 PM1, established by WisDOT/IDOT summer 2017, adopted by SLATS February 2018, incorporated into 2019 TIP or 2018 TIP Amendments after May 27, 2018
- 2019 PM1, established by WisDOT/IDOT summer 2018, adopted by SLATS by February 2019 (done October 2018), incorporated into 2020 TIP, or 2019 amendments after February 2019 (done October 2018 for 2019 TIP)

- 2020 PM1, established by WisDOT/IDOT summer 2019, adopted by SLATS by February 2020 (done October 2019), incorporated into 2021 TIP, or 2020 amendments after February 2020 (done October 2019 for 2020 TIP)
- 2021 PM1, established by WisDOT/IDOT summer 2020, adopted by SLATS by February 2021 (done October 2020), incorporated into 2021 TIP, or 2021 amendments after February 2021 (done October 2020 for 2021 TIP)
- 2019 PM2, Established by WisDOT/IDOT, May 2018, adopted by SLATS by November 2018 (done October 2018), incorporated into 2020 TIP (or 2019 amendments after May 2019)
- 2019 PM3, Established by WisDOT/IDOT, May 2018, adopted by SLATS by November 2018, (done October 2018), incorporated into 2020 TIP (or 2019 amendments after May 2019)

Transit Asset Management (TAM) Targets

Beginning in 2018, Beloit Transit System (BTS) and Stateline Mass Transit District (SMTD), which are both Tier 2 public transit agencies operating with 5307 funding within the SLATS MPA, opted into each State’s Group Transit Asset Management Plan (TAM Plan) process (BTS opted in to WisDOT’s TAM Plan and SMTD opted into IDOT’s TAM Plan). The 2018 TAM Plans were completed by WisDOT and IDOT in late Summer/early Fall 2018, and included 2019 performance management targets for rolling stock, equipment, facilities and infrastructure on behalf of the transit agencies. BTS and SMTD automatically accept the State determined targets by opting into the State TAM Plan process. SLATS has 180 days to adopt the same transit targets or set different targets. SLATS adopted each State’s 2019 TAM targets by resolution in October 2018, 2020 TAM targets in October 2019 and will do so each October for the subsequent year (e.g. SLATS adopted 2021 TAM targets in October 2020).

The current resolution to support WisDOT TAM targets effectively agreed to plan and program projects for the Wisconsin portion of the SLATS MPO Metropolitan Planning Area (MPA) so that they contribute toward the accomplishment of WisDOT’s calendar year 2021 TAM target(s) for the following performance measures applicable to BTS:

Facilities – Percent of Facilities Rated Below 3 on the Condition Scale			
Performance Measure		2020 Target %	2021 Target %
Passenger/Parking Facility		n/a	10
Admin/Maintenance Facility		10	10
Rolling Stock - Revenue Vehicles - % of Revenue Vehicles that have Met or Exceeded their Useful Life Benchmarks			
Performance Measure	Useful Life (Years)	2020 Target %	2021 Target %
Articulated Bus	n/a	n/a	n/a
Automobile	4	77	77
Over-the-road Bus	n/a	n/a	n/a
Bus	12	44	44
Cutaway	7	47	47
Double Decker Bus	n/a	n/a	n/a

Minivan	4	51	51
Other	n/a	n/a	N/A
School Bus	12	100	0
Sports Utility Vehicle	n/a	n/a	n/a
Van	4	27	27
Equipment – Service Vehicles - % of Non-Revenue Vehicles that have Met or Exceeded their Useful Life Benchmarks			
Performance Measure	Useful Life (Years)	2020 Target %	2021 Target %
Automobiles	4	33	33
Trucks and other Rubber Tire Vehicles	4	29	29
Steel Wheel Vehicles	n/a	n/a	n/a

The current resolution to support IDOT targets effectively agreed to plan and program projects for the Illinois portion of the SLATS MPO Metropolitan Planning Area (MPA) so that they contribute toward the accomplishment of IDOT’s calendar year 2021 TAM target(s) for the following performance measures applicable to SMTD:

Agency	FTA Vehicle Type	Useful Life Benchmark (ULB)	Count at or Over ULB	Count Total	FY20 Performance	Number at or Over ULB at End of FY21*	FY21 Target
SMTD	Cutaway	10	0	8	0.0%	0	0.0%

*Note, includes progressing fleet age by one year and confirmed FY21 replacements

Investments Supporting Current TAM Targets

The SLATS TIP includes a number of projects specifically related to transit assets. SLATS annually works with BTS and SMTD through the TIP process to plan and program projects. The current TIP includes 2 new buses for BTS and 3 for SMTD to replace aging fleet, maintain service levels and ultimately support State targets related to vehicle useful life. Additionally, the BTS Operations Facility roof was programmed in the TIP for replacement, and is scheduled to be completed in 2020. Likewise, a number of capital improvements are programmed in the TIP for BTS including the fuel system, bus wash, transit garage facility and bus technology upgrades. Not only are these replacements badly needed, adequately maintaining transit facilities has a direct impact on supporting State targets, and in turn whether or not those targets are met.

Transit Safety Targets

In July 2018, FTA published the Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan (PTASP) Final Rule, which requires certain operators of public transportation systems such as BTS and SMTD that receive federal funds under FTA's Urbanized Area Formula Grants (BTS and SMTD receive 5307 funds) to develop safety plans that include processes and procedures to implement Safety Management Systems (SMS).

While the deadline was originally July 20, 2020, because of COVID-19, FTA published a Notice of Enforcement Discretion on April 22, 2020 effectively extending the PTASP compliance deadline to December 31, 2020,

The plan must include safety performance targets and transit operators also must certify they have a safety plan in place meeting the requirements of the rule. The plan must be updated and certified by the transit agency annually. WisDOT and IDOT will draft the PTASP for small public transportation providers operating fewer than 100 vehicles at peak service hours if the provider chooses to opt-in (rather than drafting its own PTASP). BTS and SMTD have both opted-in to their respective State's PTASP planning process, and anticipate adopting PTASP plans and safety targets by December 31, 2020. As required, SLAST will adopt the PTASP targets within 180 days following adoption by each transit agency.

Statewide and Nonmetropolitan Transportation Planning; Metropolitan Transportation Planning Rule

On and after May 27, 2018 (2 years after the issuance date of this rule), the FHWA and the FTA will take action (*i.e.*, conformity determinations and STIP approvals) on an updated or amended TIP developed under the provisions of this part, even if the MPO has not yet adopted a new metropolitan transportation plan under the provisions of this part, as long as the underlying transportation planning process is consistent with the requirements in the MAP-21.

As such, States, MPOs and public transit agencies were required to develop written procedures to implement the use of performance measures. WisDOT did so through a written policy with MPO and transit agency input. IDOT did so with signed agreements between IDOT, each MPO and each public transit agency. SLATS approved the agreement with IDOT and SMTD on April 16, 2018, and concurred with the agreement with WisDOT and BTS made official May 4, 2018.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

As a matter of practice, citizen involvement and public participation is promoted and encouraged early and throughout the planning process. Our goal is to achieve active participation and build public consensus early in the development of plans and studies, including the TIP. These and other public documents including the Public Involvement Plan (PIP) and LRTP are available for review on the SLATS MPO website www.beloitwi.gov under the "Document Center" and then the "Stateline Area Transportation Study (SLATS)" folder. They may also be viewed at the SLATS MPO Office located in City of Beloit Engineering Division at 2400 Springbrook Court, Beloit Wisconsin. All open houses and official meetings of the Policy and Technical Advisory Committees are open to the public, are at accessible locations and are announced in local media and posted on our website. It should be noted that during SLATS meetings the public will be allowed to participate in the discussion on any item brought before the meeting for information, discussion, or action. Records of all legal notices, meeting notes or minutes and lists of attendees are kept on file at the MPO Office and copies are available for review. All plans and studies will be made available and presented to the public in methods that are reasonably appropriate for the nature and importance of the information being presented. Illustrations are used to help convey technical information when appropriate. Various public interest groups and individual interested citizens will be contacted and offered the opportunity to become involved in these activities.

We understand the importance of having meeting locations and times that are convenient, especially to those potentially directly affected by a particular decision or project. In-person meetings are typically at

the Beloit Public Library, which is on the public transit route during transit operating hours. The SLATS MPO will continue to seek ways, including virtual, to provide effective public and stakeholder involvement in the decision-making process. The public is encouraged to offer suggestions regarding the projects programmed in the TIP, and regarding the funding and timing priorities. The public can also offer suggestions regarding what illustrative projects should be included and which should move forward first as funds become available. Sometimes a project cannot be advanced for a number of possible reasons including availability of funding, right-of-way acquisition or engineering considerations, but sometimes these issues can be addressed and the time for implementation can be lessened, especially if the community is unified and vocal. The public can also provide input on how much funding should be spent on system preservation projects and safety projects, as opposed to system expansion projects.

NOTICE OF TIP DEVELOPMENT TO TRANSIT PROVIDERS

Transportation in the SLATS area is primarily automobile-oriented and most people travel via personal automobiles. However, various forms of public or private mass transportation including buses, paratransit vehicles or taxis are also available. Both the users and operators of these mass transportation services are regarded as important transportation stakeholders. SLATS makes special effort to notify these stakeholders of TIP development to provide the opportunity to participate in the process of transit planning and delivery of services. The following are known providers. All stakeholders are asked to inform SLATS staff of any other providers so that those entities can be placed on the SLATS mailing list and notified of all aspect of the transportation planning process.

- Beloit Transit System, Fixed Route Transit Service, 1225 Willowbrook Road, Beloit, WI
- Stateline Mass Transit District, 110 E. Main St., Rockton IL
- Rock County Specialized Transit, Rock County Council on Aging, 51 S. Main St., Janesville, WI
- Janesville Transit System, Fixed Route Transit Service, 101 Black Bridge Road., Janesville, WI
- Rockford Mass Transit District, 520 Mulberry St, Rockford, IL
- Coach USA (Van Galder Bus) Charter Service, 715 South Pearl St., Janesville, WI
- Durham School Services. School Bus, 1409 Manchester Street, Beloit, WI
- First Student Transit Inc., School Bus/ Charter, 720 N. Blackhawk Blvd., Rockton, IL
- You Buy We Fly, 2019 Wisconsin Avenue, Beloit, WI
- Retired & Senior Volunteer Program, 2433 S. Riverside Dr. Beloit, WI
- Goldie B. Floberg Center, 58 W Rockton Rd., Rockton, IL

Special Note Regarding Public Transit: The TIP development process is used to satisfy the public hearing requirements of Section 5307. Public notice of public involvement activities and time established for public review of the TIP will satisfy the Program-of-Projects (POP) requirements of the Urbanized Area Formula Program. The public involvement procedures associated with TIP development were used to satisfy the Program-of-Projects requirements of Section 5307.

TIP PROCESS

Projects for the TIP are selected and prioritized as follows:

Project Solicitation:

Each year in the summertime, requests for projects to be included in the TIP are solicited from all units of government in the SLATS area including the Wisconsin and Illinois Departments of Transportation. Participants are asked to list all major projects proposed for implementation during the coming four years. Participants are also asked to provide detailed progress reports on projects that were funded and initiated in previous years and are being continued. Projects that have been recently completed are also documented.

Of particular importance to MPOs are two flexible funding programs, the Surface Transportation Block Grant Urban (STBG-U) program and the Surface Transportation Block Grant Transportation Alternatives (STBG-TA) program. STBG money is apportioned to the States annually. In turn, the States are required to allocate parts of these monies into urban, flex, bridge and TA projects. STBG-U monies are also allocated to MPOs on the basis of population. In turn, within the SLATS MPA, the use of these monies requires the cooperative planning/programming efforts of the State(s), the MPO and the local agencies. STBG-U monies can be spent on a wide variety of projects ranging from planning, to highway construction, to transit capital improvements, to bridge projects, safety projects and more. SLATS has programmed STBG-U funding in the current TIP for construction only. In order to maximize funding from cycle to cycle, it is the intention of the MPO that all design be funded 100% locally by the project sponsor.

Similar to the above, STBG-TA monies are allocated to small urban areas and the MPO must be involved in prioritizing the use of these monies. Consequently, an important part of the TIP development process is the effort SLATS puts forth involving the public and the area transportation stakeholders in considering, selection and assigning priority to projects eligible for STBG-U and STBG-TA monies. Multi-jurisdiction projects that benefit the region as a whole or projects that would be difficult for a single MPO stakeholder to accomplish alone or strictly with local funds are encouraged. The following criteria are used to evaluate potential projects:

- **Safety** is based on the number and severity of traffic incidents (crashes and/or fatalities) occurring over the most recent five-year period.
- **Level of Service** is the ability of existing roadways to safely accommodate traffic by comparing the expected traffic counts for the future years for all the proposed projects.
- **Physical Condition** of the street/highway is evaluated noting the type of surface (gravel, seal coat, asphalt, or concrete), the condition of the surface, the age of the improvements and the amount of traffic that currently and is expected to use the roadway.
- **Miscellaneous** criteria that may receive consideration include: demonstrating the ability to reduce traffic incidents, improving air quality, encouraging alternatives to automobile use by including sidewalks, bike trails or transit lanes, improving connectivity, promoting economic development and of course estimated project cost compared to funding availability.

Transit and bicycle or pedestrian projects are considered based on their expected benefit to the community and/or benefit to underserved populations.

Projects that are designated STBG projects are then prioritized by the Policy Board based on the recommendation of the Technical Advisory Committee.

Draft TIP

Concurrent to project solicitation, the Draft TIP is prepared and projects are compiled into a draft table. Projects that are funded are clearly differentiated from projects that are not funded (illustrative).

Summary tables include information on:

- What projects are funded or programmed as opposed to unfunded or illustrative
- What agencies are sponsoring the projects and what agencies are participating
- What types of federal funding are being applied for or used to fund the projects
- Project mode (e.g. road, bridge, bicycle and pedestrian, mass transit)
- Project purpose (e.g. preservation, expansion)
- Cost type (e.g. PE, ROW, construction), year of expenditure and source of funds (e.g. federal, state, local).

In accordance with the Public Involvement Plan (PIP) a public notice is published in the local newspaper announcing the Draft TIP is available for a 30-day public comment period including information on:

- Where the Draft TIP is available for review and comment
- Time and location of any public open house
- When and where the Technical and Policy Committee meeting(s) will be in which the public can attend to observe or offer additional information during the decision-making process
- Contact information for the MPO staff.

Also in accordance with the PIP, comments on the Draft TIP are considered before the Final TIP is approved by the SLATS Policy Committee. Comments received during the public comment period are incorporated into the document. Any substantive changes made to the Draft TIP as a result are summarized in the beginning of this document for the Committees.

Note that the **Annual Listing of Obligated Projects** funded under 23 USC and 49 USC Chapter 53 in the preceding year is compiled and provided on the SLATS web site within the first 90 days of the new year. The annual list for 2020 will be posted by the end of March 2021.

The 30-day public review period on the Draft 2021-2024 TIP began September 25, 2020. Notice of the public review period and notice of the TAC and Policy Board meeting was advertised in the Beloit Daily News on September 25, 2020 and October 2, 2020.

Final Draft:

The final draft, including any public comments received, is forwarded to the Technical and Policy Committees for review. The Technical Committee evaluates the projects for conformance with the L RTP and funding capabilities. The Committee also recommends the ranking of projects to be funded under the Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBG) in relation to each other based on the criteria discussed above.

Adoption and Submittal

Once the Technical Advisory Committee reviews the Final Draft and ranks the STBG projects as applicable, it forwards its recommendation to the Policy Board for adoption. Again, formal notice is provided of when and where the Technical and Policy Board meeting(s) will take place in which the public could attend to observe or offer additional information during the decision-making process. After adoption, the TIP is forwarded to the Wisconsin and Illinois Departments of Transportation to be included in their Statewide Transportation Improvement Programs (STIPs). Only after approval by the State DOTs and inclusion in their respective STIPs can federally funded projects be commenced and implemented.

Notice of the Final TIP review and approval and notice of the Technical Advisory Committee and Policy Board meeting held on October 26, 2020 was advertised in the Beloit Daily News on October 12, 2020 and October 19, 2020. The 2021-2024 TIP was approved by the Policy Board on October 26, 2020.

TIP MODIFICATION AND AMENDMENT

Although SLATS can amend the TIP at any time, and at a minimum must update the TIP every two (2) years, SLATS comprehensively updates the document every year. MPO staff can administratively modify the TIP for non-significant changes. Staff notifies the SLATS TAC and Policy Board at their next meeting of such administrative modifications. Changes that are more significant usually require full public notification in accordance with the PIP and formal amendment by the SLATS Policy Board. See below for clarification of when and how the TIP can be changed or amended.

NO AMENDMENT NEEDED FOR NON-SIGNIFICANT CHANGE

No formal amendment to the TIP is required for the following changes, provided the changes do not trigger the need to re-demonstrate fiscal constraint:

- Changing the implementation schedule for projects within the first four years of the TIP

- Changes to the project scope (i.e., the character of work or the project limits) where the project remains reasonably consistent with the approved project. Otherwise, this would be a minor amendment.
- Changing the funding source (federal, state, or local), funding category (the sub-type or source of Federal, State or local funding), or changing the amount of funding for a project without changing the scope of work or the schedule for the project

MINOR AMENDMENTS

The SLATS Policy Board must approve minor amendments before submitting them to the State DOTs for approval by the Governor(s) and to FHWA/FTA. Appropriate public involvement for minor amendments is required, usually within the context of a SLATS Policy Board meeting, provided SLATS gives advance notice in the formal public notice and agenda of the amendment action and public comment opportunity prior to the scheduled action on the amendment by the Policy Board. Examples of minor amendments include:

- Changing the schedule by adding a preservation project to the first four years of the TIP, including advancing a project for implementation from an illustrative list or from the out-years of the TIP.
- Changing the schedule by moving a preservation project out of the first four years of the TIP.

MAJOR AMENDMENTS

The SLATS Policy Board must approve major amendments before submitting them to the State DOTs for approval by the Governor(s) and to FHWA/FTA. Appropriate public involvement for major amendments is required including both formal public notice and 30-day public comment period. Examples of major amendments include:

- Changing the schedule by adding an expansion project to the first four years of the TIP, including advancing a project for implementation from an illustrative list or from the out-years of the TIP.
- Significantly changing the scope (i.e., the character of work or project limits) of an expansion project within the first four years of the TIP such that the current description is no longer reasonably accurate.
- Significantly changing the funding by changing, adding, or deleting any project to the extent that the change exceeds 50% of the annual program cost or \$1,000,000, whichever is less.

Foremost, the amended TIP must remain fiscally constrained (within revenues reasonably expected to be available).

TIP PROJECTS

As previously mentioned, all federally-funded transportation projects in the MPA must be included in the TIP. The TIP must also include all regionally significant transportation improvements funded by the states and local governments and all modes of travel including streets and highways, public transportation, commuter railways, bicycle, and pedestrian as well as intermodal connections for freight and passengers between ground transportation, airports, and railroads. This TIP makes a good faith effort to list all significant transportation improvement projects programmed (funded) or illustrative in the SLATS MPA. Illustrative projects either do not have funding determined, do not have an implementation schedule and/or are being planned for beyond the four-year time line scheduled. These projects may be moved forward into the four year TIP if funding becomes available.

MAP 1 on the following page shows the location of all the major projects (by quick reference number) programmed in the MPA. For more information about a particular project, refer to TABLE 1 on the pages following MAP 1. TABLE 1 lists all programmed projects for the SLATS 2021 TIP, followed by TABLE 1A, which lists all unfunded and illustrative projects. Both tables list projects by lead agency. In addition to specific projects names, locations, descriptions, TABLE 1 also includes various codes, acronyms, attributes and information related to each project (see TABLE 2 on page 33 for code and acronym descriptions). The first column in TABLE 1 notes the quick reference numbers used on the map. Projects that are not location specific such as area wide safety projects (e.g. not a particular street, bike path, intersection, bridge etc.) are not mapped, but are described in TABLE 1.

MAP 1 also shows the areas served by public transit, including the areas served by the fixed-route services of the Beloit Transit System. Note that Rock County Specialized Transit provides paratransit services to the entire MPA north of the state line. The Stateline Mass Transit District (SMTD) provides demand response service to the entire MPA south of the Stateline.

MAP 1 – SLATS 2021-2024 PROGRAMMED PROJECTS

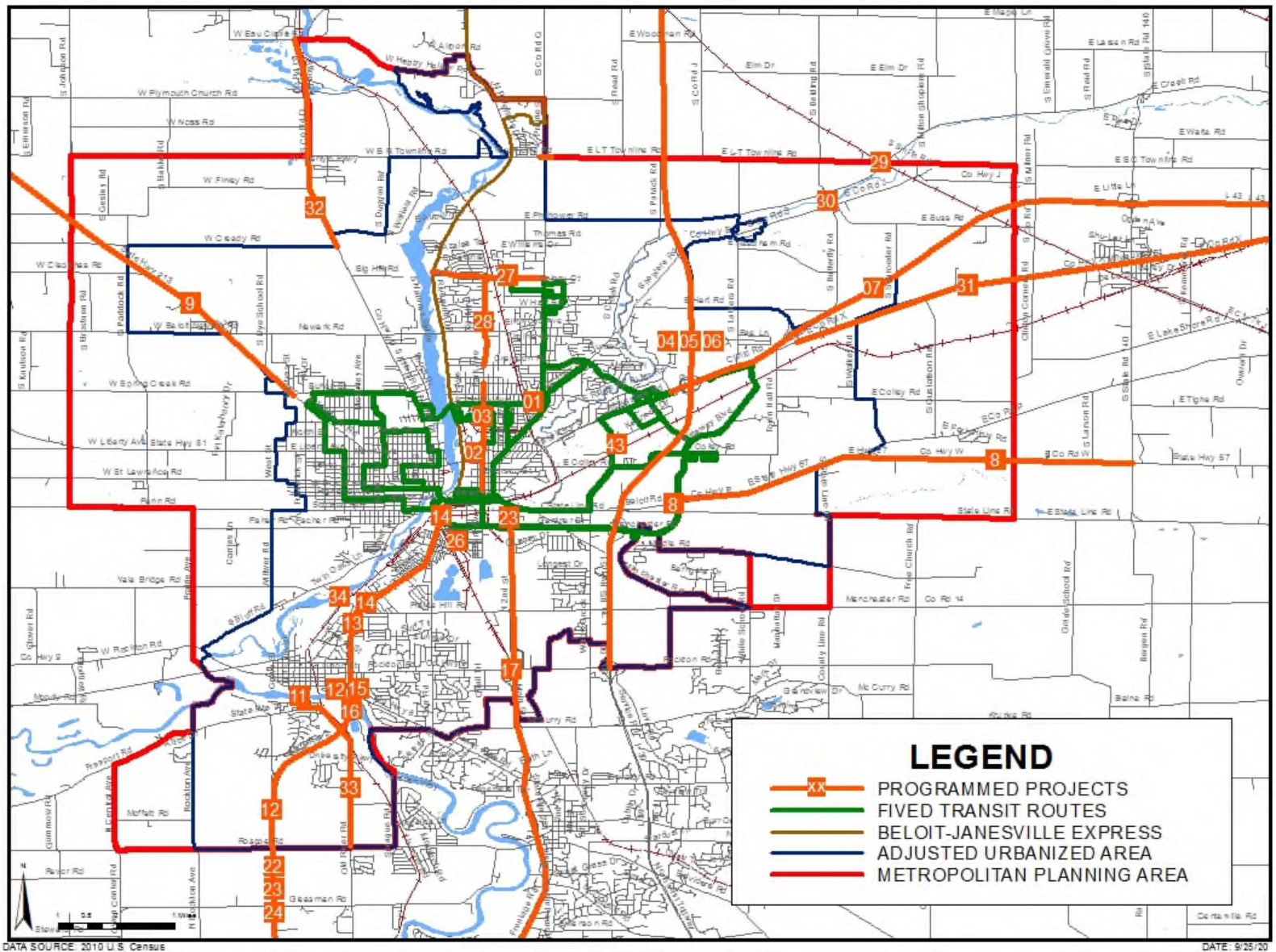


TABLE 2 – CODES AND ACRONYMS FOR USE IN TABLE 1 AND 1A

FUND TYPE		PROJECT MODES	
5307/5310/5339	Bus & Bus Facilities	B&P	Bike and Pedestrian improvements
CMAQ	Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality Improvement	BR	Bridge improvements
D	Special demonstration funds	MT	Projects for mass transportation
EM	Enhanced Mobility of Seniors & Individuals with Disabilities	RD	Roads & highways for motoring traffic
EN	Federal Enhancement Funds	RR	Improvements to RR crossings
ER	Public Transportation Emergency Relief Program	PROJECT PURPOSES	
GRFG	State of Good Repair Formula Grants	E	System or service expansion
HRT	Human Resources Training	EP	Expansion & preservation.
HSIP	Highway Safety Improvement Program	P	System or service preservation
NHPP	National Highway Performance Program (NHPP)	S	A study or evaluation.
RAF	Formula Grants for Rural Areas (5311)	TSM	Efficiency, effectiveness, or safety
RDD	Research, Development, Demonstration & Deployment Projects	COST TYPE	
RHC	Railway-Highway Crossing Program		
SF	Significant Freight Provisions	CON	Actual construction work
SPR	State Planning & Research	O&M	Operate & maintain non-transit facilities
SA	Safety Funds	PE	Planning and/or engineering aspects
SS	Safe Routes to School Funding	ROW	Acquisition of land / ROW
STBG-BR	Surface Transportation Block Grant - Bridge	OPERATIONS	Public transit operations
STBG-U	Surface Transportation Block Grant - Urban	CAPITAL	Public transit capital equipment or facilities
STBG-TA	Surface Transportation Block Grant - Transportation Alternatives	UTL	Major ancillary utility work
STP-FLEX	Surface Transportation Program - Flexible Funding	OTHER	
BRGD	Bridge Funds	cont	Funding is continued from a previous year
TP	Metro & Statewide & NonMetro Transportation Planning	ILLUS	Unfunded Illustrative Project
UAF	Urbanized Area Formula Grants	TARP	Truck Access Route Program
		TEA	Transportation Economic Assistance

Note the TIP Table also includes a number of transit-related projects funded through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES ACT).

IMPLEMENTATION STATUS

TABLE 3 reports projects included in the previous TIP and TIP amendments that have been completed or are expected to be completed in 2020. All other ongoing or deferred projects are included in TABLE 1, along with information and comments regarding the project's status including anticipated programmed year.

TABLE 3 – RECENTLY COMPLETED PROJECTS

SPONSORING AGENCY	TIP NUMBER	STATE ID NUMBER	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	STATUS
City of Beloit	291-15-001	5989-05-25/26	Powerhouse Riverwalk bike and pedestrian path southwest corner US-51 and WI-81	Completed in 2020
State of Illinois	IL-20-005	2-26001-0100	Bridge Preservation (Washing bridges various location District 2)	Completed in 2020
State of Illinois	IL-19-001/IL-20-002	2-97460-1221/1222	Highway Safety Improvement Program projects various District-wide	Completed in 2019/20
State of Illinois	IL-20-003	0-01546-0000	Railroad Safety Improvements various State wide	Completed in 2020
State of Illinois	IL-20-006	2-29595-0100	Illinois 251 resurfacing from S. of Forest Hills Road in Machesney Park to the Wisconsin State Line	Completed in 2020
Winnebago County	2-19-002	HSIP #201712002	County-wide guardrail improvements WCHD Section: 17-00637-00-GR	Completed in 2020
Town of Turtle	291-18-002	3621-00-07/77	Turtle Creek Bridge over Turtle Creek (Smith Road)	Completed in 2020
Village of Rockton	2-14-003	ITEP Application 231012	Rockton Road bike path from Old Meadow Lane to Stone Bridge Trail at IL-251	Completed in 2020
SMTD	2-20-001		Transit operations	Completed in 2020, continuing in 2021
SMTD	2-16-003; 2-17-003		3 Vehicles, 2 Super Medium Duty and 1 Medium Duty paratransit vehicles with lift and related bus equipment (backup camera, radio, surveillance camera, tablet, license and lettering) to maintain existing service	All received, additional grant pending for 3 new buses
BTS	291-20-050		Transit operations	Completed in 2020, continuing in 2021
BTS	291-20-052	WI-2019-001-00	Vehicle, full-size transit coach	Received in 2020
BTS	291-19-051	WI-2019-006-00	Operation facility new roof	Completed in 2020
Forward Service Corporation	291-20-013		Capital - Vehicle Loans and Mobility Management (Rock County)	Completed in 2020, continuing in 2021
Forward Service Corporation	291-20-014		Operating (Rock County)	Completed in 2020, continuing in 2021

FINANCIAL PLAN

FISCAL CONSTRAINT ASSURANCE

Funding for transportation improvements is from a wide variety of sources. All projects with funding shown in the four years of this TIP (2021-2024), as detailed in TABLE 1 have been approved as funded projects. The Lead Agency for the project has reasonable assurances that this funding will be available in the amounts stated. Projects have been paired with funding sources(s) which have been identified and committed to that project through the capital improvements programming processes or a similar budgeting process of the particular agency or governmental unit responsible for the project. An inflation factor (currently 1.78%) is used to inflate costs in the out years of the TIP unless otherwise specified or explained. Currently 2.0% is used to inflate revenues.

Projects or project parts listed in the first year of the TIP (2021) have an even greater degree of funding assurance. Funding for these projects or parts has been “authorized or obligated.” These projects or parts are either underway, are in the bidding process, or are about to be bid.

For Federally-funded projects, TABLE 4 summarizes the amounts of Federal funding “programmed” in this TIP and the amounts of Federal funding “known or reasonably expected to be available” for projects. The two sides of the table are supposed to be identical, thereby demonstrating that the TIP is “fiscally constrained.” Transit funding is subject to further review by the funding providers.

TABLE 4 - FISCAL CONSTRAINT TABLE

TABLE 4 - FISCAL CONSTRAINT TABLE, 2021-2024 SLATS TIP												
AGENCY	REVENUES						EXPENDITURES					
	PROGRAM	2021	2022	2023	2024	TOTAL	PROGRAM	2021	2022	2023	2024	TOTAL
FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION	STP-FLEX					\$0	STP-FLEX					\$0
	STP/STBG/BR	\$57,000	\$4,423,000		\$1,000,000	\$5,480,000	STP/STBG/BR	\$57,000	\$4,423,000		\$1,000,000	\$5,480,000
	STBG-U	\$384,346		\$1,900,497	\$2,000,000	\$4,284,843	STBG-U	\$384,346		\$1,900,497	\$2,000,000	\$4,284,843
	STBG-TA					\$0	STBG-TA					\$0
	NHPP	\$7,494,000	\$18,000,000	\$13,920,000	\$27,278,000	\$66,692,000	NHPP	\$7,494,000	\$18,000,000	\$13,920,000	\$27,278,000	\$66,692,000
	SA	\$279,579				\$279,579	SA	\$279,579				\$279,579
HSIP	\$1,538,000	\$1,452,813	\$3,908,000	\$3,908,000	\$10,806,813	HSIP	\$1,538,000	\$1,452,813	\$3,908,000	\$3,908,000	\$10,806,813	
FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION	5307	\$1,022,885	\$1,043,343	\$1,064,210	\$1,085,494	\$4,215,932	5307	\$1,022,885	\$1,043,343	\$1,064,210	\$1,085,494	\$4,215,932
	5310					\$0	5310					\$0
	5339	\$1,204,701				\$1,204,701	5339	\$1,204,701				\$1,204,701
	5311	\$180,193				\$180,193	5311	\$180,193				\$180,193
CARES ACT	\$955,948				\$955,948		\$955,948				\$955,948	
TOTAL		\$13,116,652	\$24,919,156	\$20,792,707	\$35,271,494	\$94,100,009		\$13,116,652	\$24,919,156	\$20,792,707	\$35,271,494	\$94,100,009

Demonstrating fiscal constraint for Illustrative projects is not needed. Illustrative projects do not have approved funding and are not included in TABLE 4.

OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE

MPOs are required to include Operations and Maintenance (O&M) costs in the TIP. Federal regulation 23 CFR 450.326(j) states, “For purposes of transportation operations and maintenance, the financial plan shall contain system-level estimates of costs and revenue sources that are reasonably expected to be available to adequately operate and maintain Federal-aid highways (as defined by 23 U.S.C. 101(a)(6)) and public transportation (as defined by title 49 U.S.C. Chapter 53).

Table 5 below notes system-level estimates for each municipality within SLATS if available. These estimates were provided by each municipality based on local budgets and CIPs. Costs are not automatically inflated from year-to-year. Typically they are budgeted annually but are subject to change. Likewise, the estimates are municipality-wide meaning that 1) all roads including local streets are included and 2) some municipal boundaries extend beyond the SLATS AUA and/or MPA.

SLATS will continue to work with each municipality to determine the O&M revenues and expenses federal-aid highways only in the future. However, SLATS also recognizes that while municipalities may plan for maintenance on a particular street or streets, priorities, needs and even budgets can change. As such, estimates determined at the time of TIP development for O&M on Federal-aid highways may not reflect what municipalities do or are able to do in reality.

Note that system-level public transportation related O&M revenues and expenses are not included in Table 5; rather (federal, state and local) revenues and expenses for each transit system for operations and capital are included in the main TIP table as fiscally constrained projects.

TABLE 5 – ANTICIPATED OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE EXPENSES BY LOCAL AGENCY

ANTICIPATED OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE EXPENSES				
LOCAL AGENCY	2021	2022	2023	2024
City of Beloit	\$1,600,000	\$1,600,000	\$1,600,000	\$1,600,000
City of South Beloit	\$336,000	\$336,000	\$336,000	\$336,000
Village of Rockton	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
Town of Beloit	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$250,000
Town of Turtle	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$150,000
TOTAL	\$3,336,000	\$3,336,000	\$3,336,000	\$3,336,000
Estimates provided by municipality.				

EXPEDITED PROJECT SELECTION PROCEDURES

The SLATS MPO, WisDOT, IDOT, BTS AND SMTD (public transit operators) hereby agree to the following procedures in advancing projects from the approved TIP for federal funding commitment:

1. The first year of the TIP constitutes an agreed-to list of projects for project selection purposes and no further project selection action is required by the MPO for WisDOT, IDOT or the transit operator(s) to proceed with federal funding commitment.
2. Projects from the second, third or fourth year of the TIP can be advanced by WisDOT, IDOT or the transit operator(s) for federal fund commitment without further project selection action by the MPO.
3. Concerning the federal funding sources identified for individual projects in the TIP, it is agreed that WisDOT and IDOT may unilaterally interchange eligible FHWA funding program sources without necessitating an amendment, subject to the project selection authority federal regulations and state local program procedures reserve for the States and the MPO, and subject to reconciliation under item 5.
4. WisDOT and IDOT can unilaterally interchange FTA Section 5309, Section 5339 and Section 5307 capital funds in urbanized areas between 50,000 and 200,000 population without necessitating a TIP amendment. FTA should be notified of any interchange of funds.
5. To maintain accountability and fiscal constraint as changes occur during implementation of the TIP, the MPO, WisDOT, IDOT and the transit operator(s) will monitor projects in the TIP and account for all significant changes in scheduled years and costs in a TIP amendment at the midpoint of the calendar year. (MPOs on a two year TIP update cycle must also commit to truing up the TIP by amendment at the end of the first year along with declaring the second year of the TIP to be the agreed to list of projects for the second year of operation).

ENVIROMENTAL JUSTICE

Effective transportation decision making depends upon understanding and properly addressing the unique needs of different socio-economic groups. To do so requires active public involvement in transportation planning and decision making processes. Moreover, the 1994 *Executive Order 12898* that states, "Each federal agency shall make achieving environmental justice part of its mission by identifying and addressing, as appropriate, disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of its programs, policies, and activities on minority populations and low-income populations." In 1997, the U.S. Department of Transportation issued its *DOT Order to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations* to summarize and expand upon the requirements of *Executive Order 12898*, followed by the FTA Circular (FTA C 4703.1) released in August of 2012 to provide FTA recipients further guidance in incorporating environmental justice principles into plans, projects and activities that receive funding from FTA.

As such, this TIP recognizes the following goals as part of its transportation project selection process:

- A. Minority and low-income populations should not be burdened with a disproportionate share of the adverse impacts originating from the transportation projects in this TIP.
- B. Minority and low-income populations should be allocated a fair share of transportation expenditures and services programmed in this TIP.
- C. In the process of developing this TIP, a concerted effort should be made to determine what populations are going to be affected by the projects in this TIP.
- D. SLATS should make a concerted effort to ensure the full and fair participation by all minority and low-income groups and affected communities in the transportation decision-making process.

MINORITY POPULATIONS

Demographic information for the SLATS MPA is detailed in TABLE 6 on the next page. Note in the table that overall throughout the MPA, Black or African American individuals comprise the largest minority race at just over 9%. That percentage jumps to nearly 15% in the City of Beloit, slightly higher than the overall U.S. non-Hispanic Black or African American population of about 12%. The next highest single minority race in the MPA is Asian, at 1.1% (slightly higher in South Beloit at 1.6%); however individuals that are more than one race make up 2.4% of the population (slightly higher in Beloit at 3%). The majority of these individuals are White and African American.

Hispanic individuals of all races make up a significant portion of the population at 8,296 individuals or 12% of the MPA population overall, and just over 17% of the population of the City of Beloit, or 6,332 persons. The next highest population of Hispanic individuals resides in South Beloit at 608. Interestingly, the second and third highest percentages of Hispanic persons by population within the SLATS MPA behind the City of Beloit are Rockton Township at just over 10% and the Town of Rock at more than 8%. For comparison, Rockton Township (including incorporated areas) has an overall Hispanic population of about 6.8% and the Town of Rock has an overall Hispanic population of about 4.9%. Just over 90% Hispanic persons residing in The Town of Rock are within the SLATS MPA. Note that the Town of Rock makes up less than 3% of the SLATS population and is no longer a voting or non-voting member of SLATS. This may be an issue for the Policy Committee to consider in the future, particularly since providing meaningful access to programs and activities by LEP persons is paramount in the Language Assistance Plan, which is part of the SLATS Title VI Plan (available for review at the SLATS office and website). Local representation may be a key factor in achieving meaningful access.

TABLE 6 – SLATS MPA DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

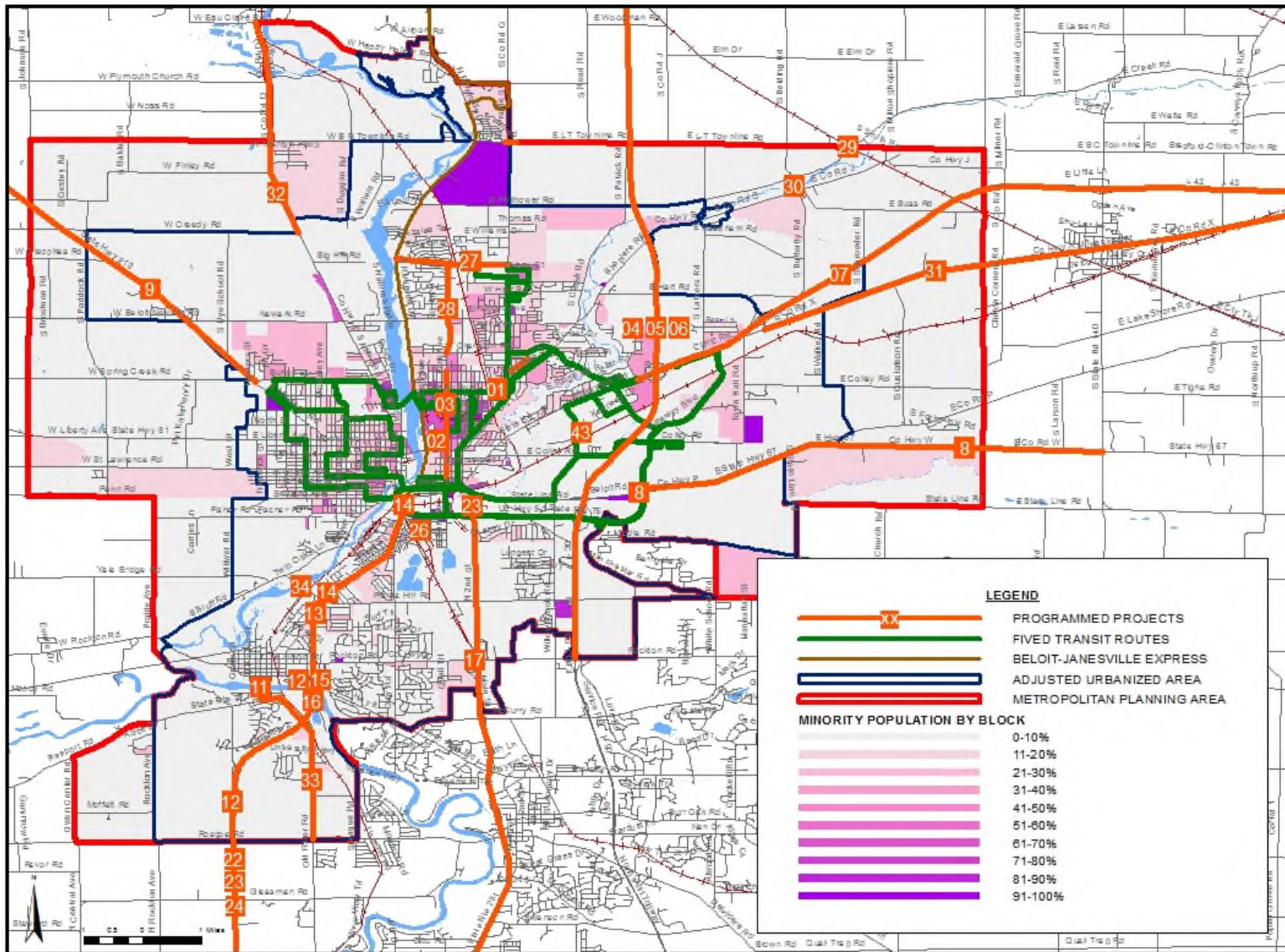
TABLE 6 - SLATS MPA DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE																				
PLACE	TOTAL POPULATION BY PLACE	% BY PLACE	TOTAL MINORITY POPULATION BY PLACE (INCLUDES HISPANIC POPULATION)	% BY PLACE	HISPANIC POPULATION (FROM THE TOTAL - ALL RACES)	% BY PLACE	NON-HISPANIC POPULATION BY RACE													
							WHITE	% BY PLACE	BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN	% BY PLACE	AMERICAN INDIAN OR ALASKAN NATIVE	% BY PLACE	ASIAN	% BY PLACE	NATIVE HAWAIIAN OR PACIFIC ISLANDER	% BY PLACE	SOME OTHER RACE	% BY PLACE	TWO OR MORE RACES	% BY PLACE
CITY OF BELOIT	36,966	53.6%	13,481	36.5%	6,332	17.1%	23,485	63.5%	5,440	14.7%	114	0.3%	409	1.1%	9	0.0%	53	0.1%	1,124	3.0%
TOWN OF BELOIT	7,662	11.1%	1,174	15.3%	511	6.7%	6,488	84.7%	415	5.4%	20	0.3%	66	0.9%	2	0.0%	13	0.2%	147	1.9%
TOWN OF TURTLE	2,388	3.5%	161	6.7%	53	2.2%	2,227	93.3%	63	2.6%	3	0.1%	14	0.6%	0	0.0%	2	0.1%	26	1.1%
TOWN OF ROCK	1,712	2.5%	222	13.0%	143	8.4%	1,490	87.0%	49	2.9%	3	0.2%	7	0.4%	0	0.0%	3	0.2%	17	1.0%
CITY OF SOUTH BELOIT	7,785	11.3%	1,249	16.0%	608	7.8%	6,536	84.0%	310	4.0%	16	0.2%	128	1.6%	3	0.0%	4	0.1%	180	2.3%
VILLAGE OF ROCKTON	7,685	11.2%	584	7.6%	278	3.6%	7,101	92.4%	101	1.3%	9	0.1%	84	1.1%	1	0.0%	5	0.1%	106	1.4%
ROCKTON TOWNSHIP	3,181	4.6%	425	13.4%	321	10.1%	2,756	86.6%	70	2.2%	0	0.0%	7	0.2%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	27	0.8%
VILLAGE OF ROSCOE	6	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	6	100.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
ROSCOE TOWNSHIP	1,522	2.2%	85	5.6%	50	3.3%	1,437	94.4%	5	0.3%	1	0.1%	16	1.1%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	13	0.9%
TOTAL	68,907		17,381.00		8,296		51,526		6,453		166		731		15		80		1,640	
PERCENT OF TOTAL	100.0%	100.0%	25.2%		12.0%		74.8%		9.4%		0.2%		1.1%		0.0%		0.1%		2.4%	

DATA SOURCE: U.S. Census - American Fact Finder Tables QT-P4 Race, Combinations of Two Races, and Not Hispanic or Latino:2010 SF1 100% by Block.

Lastly, note that the overall minority population in the MPA (including Hispanic persons) is just over 25% or 1 in 4 individuals. Individually however, with the exception of the City of Beloit, the various municipalities are less than 25% with South Beloit being the second highest at 16%. The City of Beloit seems to mirror the national numbers with a Hispanic population of about 17% (versus 16% nationally) and an overall minority population including Hispanic persons at just over 36% (the same nationally). With more than 1 in 3 individuals in the City of Beloit being a minority (and 1 in 4 in the MPA), SLATS will continuously strive to consider and address the mobility needs of minorities, and strive to ascertain, avoid or mitigate any disparate impacts of the transportation decisions made on minorities, and work to include minorities in those decision-making processes to further these goals.

MAP 2 on the next page shows the percent minority population by block within the SLATS MPA and AUA. For the purposes of this analysis, minority includes all individuals who identified themselves as a race other than white and/or Hispanic or Latino (of any race) (Data Source: U.S. Census - American Fact Finder Tables QT-P4 Race, Combinations of Two Races, and Not Hispanic or Latino:2010 SF1 100% by Block). The map also shows fixed route transit (BTS and BJE) as well as all programmed and illustrative projects by quick reference number in the TIP. Again, the Beloit Transit System (BTS) provides fixed route bus service throughout the core parts of the SLATS MPA north of the state line, readily serving and providing convenient access to minority populations.

MAP 2 - SLATS DEMOGRAPHICS AND 2021-2024 PROGRAMMED PROJECTS

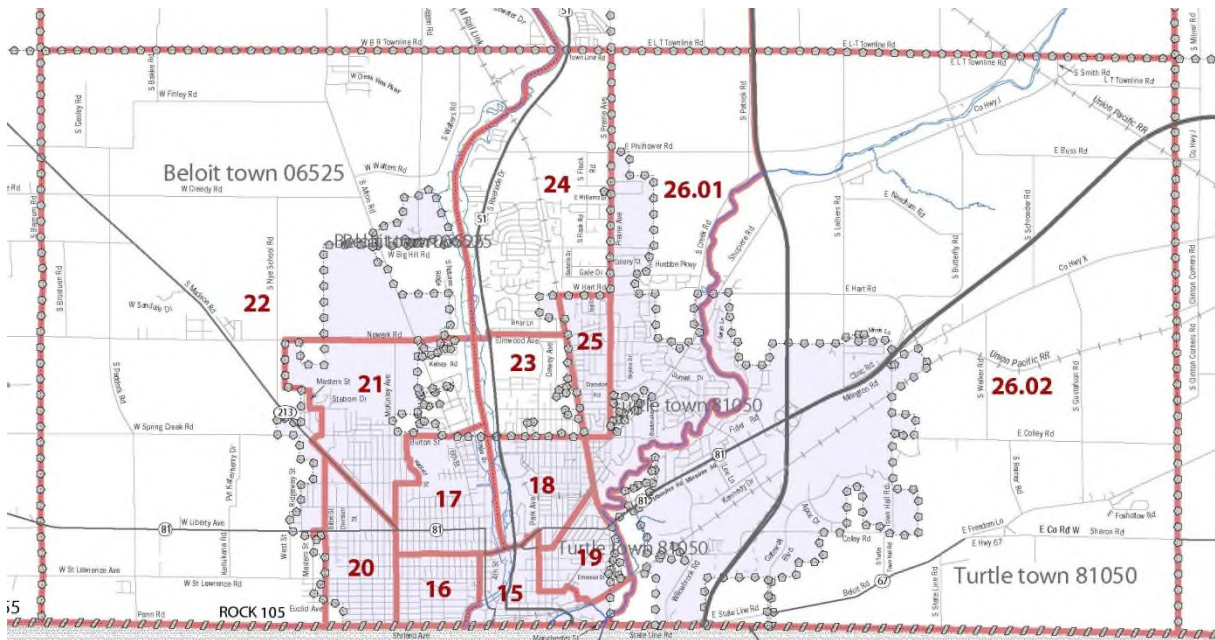


LOW INCOME HOUSEHOLDS

Data estimating the number of low-income households was obtained from the American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Estimates at the Census Tract level. Because Census Tract boundaries do not coincide with the MPA boundaries, we chose to examine Tracts that entirely contain or touch a portion of the MPA. Also, at the Census Tract level, we can make only generally observations regarding the location of households that are low-income. For our purposes, we determined the Median Household Income in the past 12 months (in 2018 inflation-adjusted dollars) from the ACS for Winnebago County in Illinois and Rock County in Wisconsin. Those income levels are \$52,743 +/- \$803 for Winnebago County and \$55,832 +/- \$1073 for Rock County. We compared those levels to Median Household Income by Census Tract (within each County) and determined that the following Census Tracts have a median household income less than the respective County as a whole.

- Census Tracts 15, 16, 17, 18, 21, 23 and 25 in Rock County*
- Census Tract 40.03 in Winnebago County

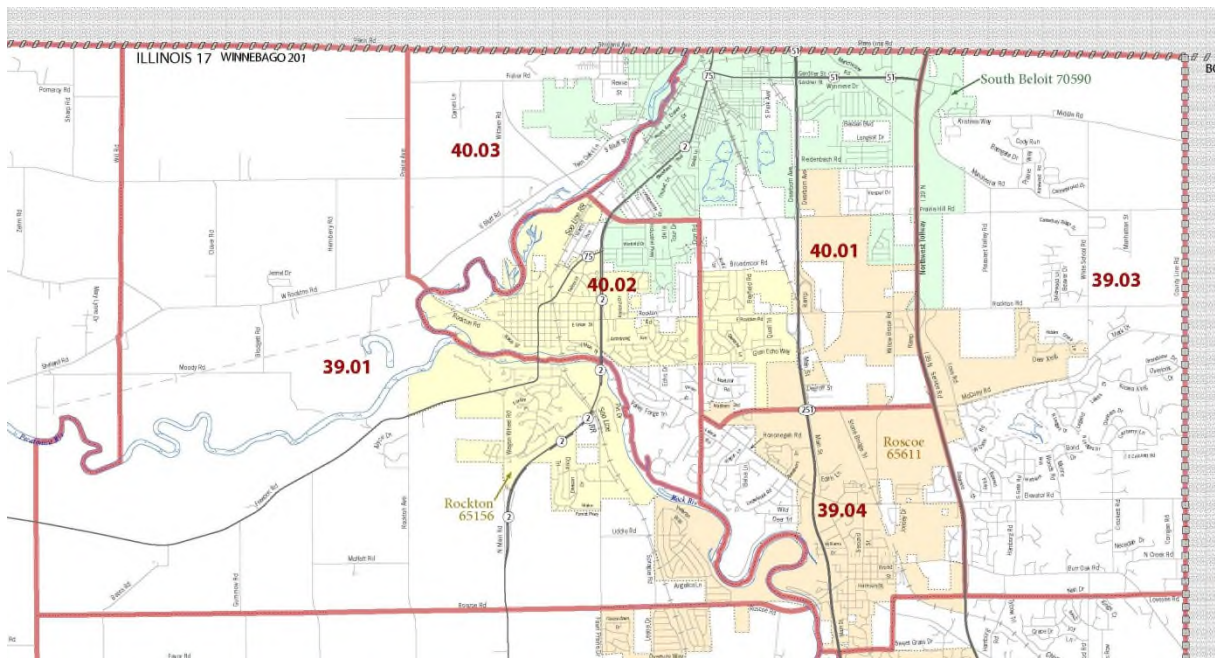
EXHIBIT 2 – ROCK COUNTY 2010 CENSUS TRACTS IN AND AROUND SLATS



DATA SOURCE: US CENSUS BUREAU

*Note that with margins of error, Census Tracts 19,20,22,24 and 26.01 in Rock County also potentially have median household incomes less than the County as a whole, but generally are around the County median income level absent of margin of error and as such are not highlighted in Map 3. Factoring in margins of error, the only Census Tract within the Wisconsin portion of SLATS that has median household incomes higher than Rock County as a whole even factoring in margin of error is 26.02, which encompasses Beloit’s far east side (east of Turtle Creek) and much of the Town of Turtle east of I-39/90.

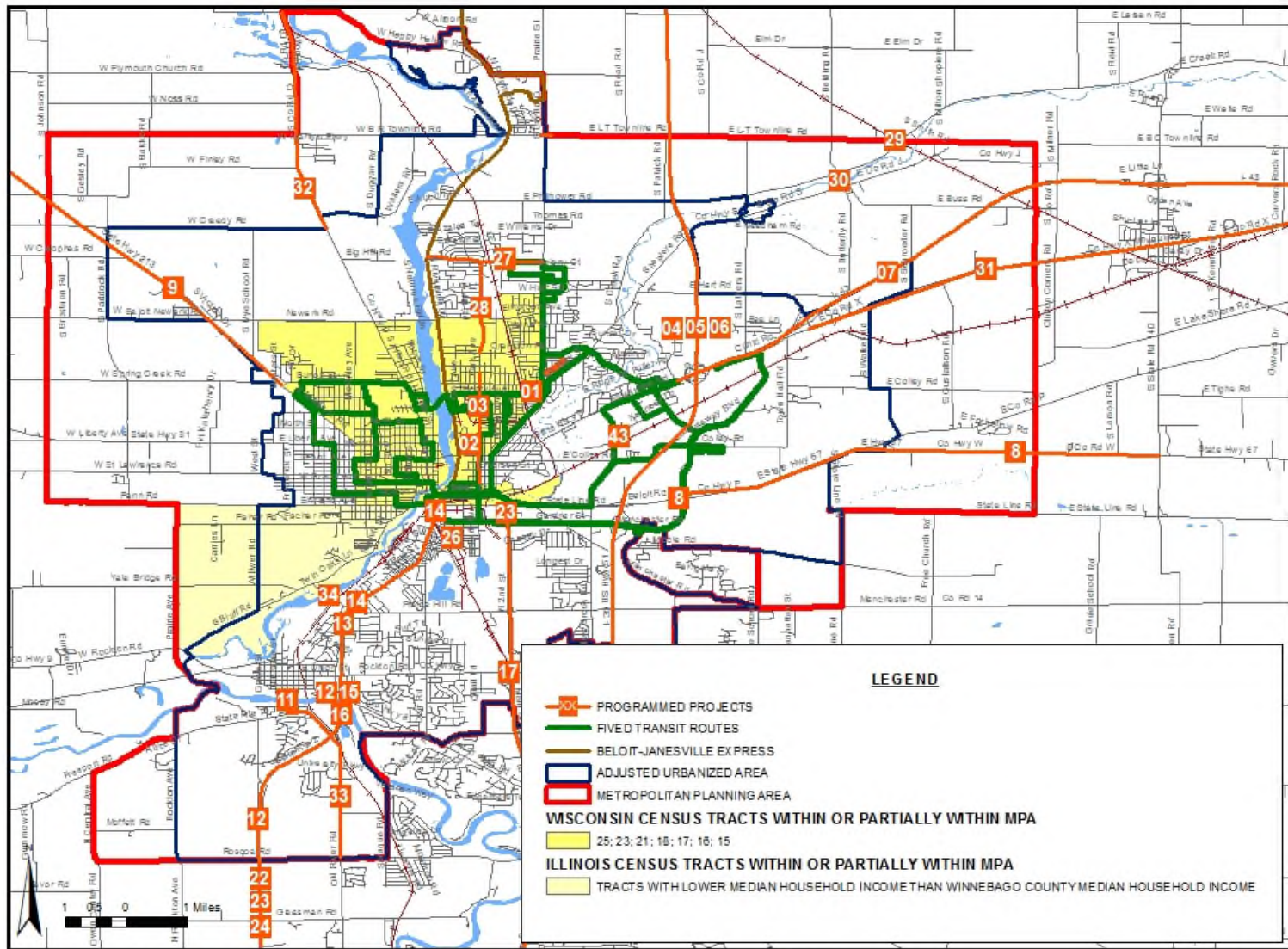
EXHIBIT 3 – WINNEBAGO COUNTY 2010 CENSUS TRACTS IN AND AROUND SLATS



DATA SOURCE: US CENSUS BUREAU

The Census tracts that encompass older portions of the urban core in Beloit and west of the Rock River in South Beloit tend to be lower income when compared to the entire County (Rock on the Wisconsin side and Winnebago on the Illinois side). Alternative forms of transportation including transit and non-motorized are particularly important in these areas. MAP 3 shows those Census Tracts in and around the SLATS MPA where the median household income is less than the county median household income.

MAP 3 – SLATS CENSUS TRACTS WITH LOWER MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME THAN COUNTY 2021-2024 PROGRAMMED PROJECTS



EFFORTS TOWARD PROJECT FAIRNESS

To minimize the negative impacts of transportation projects, planners and engineers should consider potential impacts throughout project planning and development, and involve the public early in the planning process to help identify potential negative impacts and alternatives or mitigation strategies. The goal is not just to move traffic efficiently and safely, but to do so without causing adverse effects. This is especially important in EJ neighborhoods. It is the common practice of SLATS to evaluate all projects programmed in the TIP from the standpoint of discrimination and to identify any disparate impacts on minority or low income (EJ) populations. SLATS will continue this approach and continually seek ways to improve this process and analysis. If projects result in a disparate impact on EJ populations, alternatives will be explored.

As a small MPO with limited resources, most state and federally funded projects have community significance as opposed to benefiting or negatively impacting one neighborhood or area over another. Federally funded road improvements throughout the MPO are generally major collector or arterial in function, or include other modes of transportation such as transit or bicycle and pedestrian facilities, and so the benefit and impacts are generally not localized, rather they are community-wide or regional. Residents and businesses along a particular project such as a road reconstruction project may have short-term inconvenience that requires active and appropriate mitigation and coordination, but the long term benefits typically outweigh the short-term inconvenience with improved safety, access, pavement conditions, traffic management, and potentially additional access modes (sidewalks, bicycle improvements, transit routes and stops), parking and additional amenities. Also, transportation improvements often bring new commerce and private investment to a neighborhood, and can provide better access that will benefit the neighborhood. As such, sometimes the long term benefits to an EJ population outweigh the short term costs, adding challenging dimension to performing an EJ analysis. Again, coordinating with the adjacent and directly affected residents and businesses ahead of construction in an effort to address and mitigate any concerns is vital, particularly if additional right-of-way is needed.

When transportation improvements are less regional and more localized, it is important that low income and minority neighborhoods are provided a fair proportion of beneficial transportation improvements as opposed to concentrating transportation improvements in non-EJ neighborhoods. A balanced transportation plan and improvement program strives to increase opportunities for safe and efficient travel in all parts of the community, regardless of race, ethnicity, or income levels, particularly with regard to alternative forms of transportation. If EJ populations lack access to an automobile, there is a greater need for public transit, sidewalks, bikeways and of course safe, pedestrian friendly streets and intersections.

To avoid undue adverse impacts on EJ populations the following factors are considered important:

- A. It is a fair assumption that any project with an element of expansion is likely to have a greater effect on nearby residents or businesses than projects that are simple maintenance, pavement resurfacing, or even reconstruction. Extra care should be taken regarding environmental justice when planning, designing and constructing projects that involve roadway expansion and the taking of additional right-of-way (ROW).

- B. When planning and locating new roadways, planners and design engineers should consider the effect of bisecting minority or low-income neighborhoods. If a neighborhood is split by a new roadway, the cohesiveness and social support structure of the neighborhood may be degraded, especially for persons with low incomes, language difficulties, and special needs for family or community support.
- C. The effects of traffic noise, congestion and pollution should be considered for all projects.
- D. The effects of increased vehicular traffic or increase vehicle speed should be considered, especially where large numbers of children or elderly persons are present. For pedestrians, especially the young and old, widened roadways and larger curb radii can be more dangerous to cross. It is important for roadways to be and remain bicycle and pedestrian-friendly, especially in areas with higher numbers of pedestrians and populations less reliant on automobile use to meet their everyday transportation needs.
- E. In areas with transit-dependent populations, new roadways or improvements should be transit-friendly along existing or potential transit routes. For example, bus turnouts on heavily traveled roads should be added to improve safety for both the motoring and transit public. Sufficient ROW for bus stop shelters is also important, especially during inclement weather.
- F. Consider the effects on EJ populations and neighborhoods of connecting two previously unconnected roadways (e.g. cut-thru traffic, higher traffic volume and speed and congestion).
- G. Sometimes adverse impacts cannot be avoided and projects must proceed for the overall benefit of the greater community. In these cases, every effort should be made to identify, minimize and mitigate the impacts, including if circumstances preclude the affected person from finding suitable, affordable and comparable housing.

TRANSPORTATION NEEDS OF EJ POPULATIONS

The communities within SLATS provide a relatively high level of public transit service throughout the MPA as well as links to the Janesville area to the north, and the Machesney Park and the Rockford area to the south. On the Wisconsin side, the Beloit Transit System (BTS) provides fixed route bus service throughout the core parts of the SLATS MPA north of the state line, readily serving and providing convenient access to minority populations. BTS also subcontracts with Rock County Specialized Transportation (RCST) to provide paratransit services for eligible persons with special mobility limitations who are unable to use the fixed route services. RCST will transport clients anywhere throughout Rock County, WI. BTS also cooperates with the Janesville Mass Transit System to provide a valuable link between the two communities. The Beloit/Janesville Express buses provide daily trips between Janesville and Beloit with stops along key points in between.

On the Illinois side, Stateline Mass Transit District (SMTD) provides demand-response, curb-to-curb public transit service to all persons residing within the municipalities of Rockton, Roscoe, South

Beloit, Rockton Township and Roscoe Township. SMTD does not provide fixed-route bus services at this time. SMTD service is not limited to medical trips but qualifying medical trips can be made to and from medical facilities outside the normal SMTD service area. Although SMTD will accommodate any trip purpose or traveler within the Service Area, in most years the vast majority of all trips were to seniors and persons with disabilities. SMTD interconnects with the services offered by the Beloit Transit System and the Janesville Transit System (through the Beloit Janesville Express Bus) to the north and with the services offered by the Rockford Mass Transit District to the south. The above mass transit services have been an integral participant in the SLATS planning process for years.

SLATS also plans for the mobility needs of all residents, with potentially greater impact for minority and low-income populations, through the emphasis placed on bicycle and pedestrian systems. The SLATS Long-Range Transportation Plan has contained an extensive bike and pedestrian element for more than a decade, and was created with input gathered at numerous public meetings from potential users of the bicycle and pedestrian systems. Although there is a sizable contingent of bicycle users from middle and upper income groups, and although investing in bicycling has a number of community-wide benefits, bicycle users that lack access to an automobile, may rely more heavily on bicycle and pedestrian facilities to meet their daily transportation needs (trips to work, school, health care shopping and such). This TIP contains significant bicycle and/or pedestrian facility improvements.

EFFORTS TO EVALUATE THE IMPACTS OF PROJECTS

Regarding funding for projects contained in the TIP, it is worth noting that small MPOs with limited and/or State directed funds rely on the State(s) to help ensure non-discrimination and evaluate the impacts of projects on EJ populations, at least with major roadway projects where little Federal or State funding is determined locally. To illustrate:

- 81.3% of new Federal funds for all projects in SLATS are designated for roadway and bridge projects, with an additional 11.8% for safety projects (including local and district wide). The vast majority of these projects are determined more at a State level as opposed to the MPO or local level, and although they are regionally significant and important, make up the vast majority of all the federally funded projects. Note that these percentages are based on federal funding programmed in the 2021-2024 TIP and does not include federal funding programmed prior to 2021 for projects that may still be continued in the current TIP.
- New (2021 and later) federal funding for standalone bike and pedestrian facilities in SLATS is currently 0% percent. However, the 2021 TIP does include new bicycle facilities funded through the State and local government including the Park Avenue Bike Lanes Project in Beloit. Bicycle and pedestrian facilities provide modes of transportation that can greatly benefit those that lack access to an automobile, and provide many more benefits to communities (improve health, safety, quality of life, minimize automobile trips, reduce infrastructure costs, reduce congestion, combat sprawl, reduce emissions and so on). Again this percentage is based on new federal funding programmed in the 2021-2024 TIP and does not include federal funding programmed prior to 2021 for projects that may still be

continued in the current TIP. That said, federal bicycle and pedestrian funding in SLATS is minimal, particularly compared to roadways.

- Transit funding in SLATS makes up about 7.0% of the total Federal funding. Like bicycle and pedestrian facilities, transit is a transportation mode that can greatly benefit those that lack access to an automobile. Similarly to bicycle and pedestrian facilities, the importance to those who rely on public transit as a primary means of transportation to school, work, shopping or health care (particularly if auto or other means is not readily available) is significant. Transit spending is higher than bicycle and pedestrian facility spending, but still a relatively low percentage of the total State and Federal funding programmed for SLATS. Maintaining current service levels with available funding is difficult, but even so, Beloit Transit and SMTD continually look for ways to expand, improve and coordinate service. For instance, BTS is finalizing updates to the fixed route system to improve coverage, frequency and access to employment centers such as the Gateway Business Park. SMTD continues to grow its demand-response service, and explore options for fixed or deviated fixed-route service in the northern Illinois communities within SLATS. Although it is a small percentage of total transportation funding, adequate transit funding is essential to effectively serve EJ populations. Even a small reduction in funding would have significant impacts on service.

CONCLUSIONS

Overall there is no evidence of discrimination or disparate impacts on EJ populations in the SLATS MPA. Roadway projects programmed are dispersed and generally serve the entire community including EJ populations. This dispersion of projects indicates that no single area or population group is receiving the benefits of or the adverse effects of roadway improvements. An exception is the work related to the Interstate 39/90 expansion. These projects (particularly the Interstate expansion) are of regional significance that cannot be compared to the others and must be evaluated by the State of Wisconsin..

Fixed-route transit services are prevalent in the denser urban areas of Beloit and effectively serve minority and low-income areas. Census Tracts with the highest number of low-income households also have excellent public transit service. Additionally, paratransit or demand-response services are available in the MPA.

Lastly, while there are certainly areas within the MPA that have larger EJ populations, it is worth noting a significant degree of racial and ethnic integration existing in the MPA. While many minorities are located in the older, more densely populated parts of the MPA, a large number of non-minority persons also reside in these areas. This does not preclude the potential of having a disparate impact on EJ populations, only that such impact would likely affect a significant number of non-EJ populations as well, reinforcing the idea that such impacts are not intended or discriminatory.

CERTIFICATION

In accordance with 23 CFR 450.334(a) SLATS hereby certifies that the metropolitan transportation planning process is addressing major issues facing the metropolitan planning area and is being conducted in accordance with all applicable requirements of:

§ 450.336 Self-certifications and Federal certifications.

(a) For all MPAs, concurrent with the submittal of the entire proposed TIP to the FHWA and the FTA as part of the STIP approval, the State and the MPO shall certify at least every 4 years that the metropolitan transportation planning process is being carried out in accordance with all applicable requirements including:

- (1) [23 U.S.C. 134](#), [49 U.S.C. 5303](#), and this subpart;
- (2) In nonattainment and maintenance areas, sections 174 and 176(c) and (d) of the Clean Air Act, as amended ([42 U.S.C. 7504](#), 7506(c) and (d)) and [40 CFR part 93](#);
- (3) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended ([42 U.S.C. 2000d-1](#)) and [49 CFR part 21](#);
- (4) [49 U.S.C. 5332](#), prohibiting discrimination on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, sex, or age in employment or business opportunity;
- (5) Section 1101(b) of the FAST Act ([Pub. L. 114-357](#)) and [49 CFR part 26](#) regarding the involvement of disadvantaged business enterprises in DOT funded projects;
- (6) [23 CFR part 230](#), regarding the implementation of an equal employment opportunity program on Federal and Federal-aid highway construction contracts;
- (7) The provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 ([42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.](#)) and [49 CFR parts 27](#), 37, and 38;
- (8) The Older Americans Act, as amended ([42 U.S.C. 6101](#)), prohibiting discrimination on the basis of age in programs or activities receiving Federal financial assistance;
- (9) Section 324 of title 23 U.S.C. regarding the prohibition of discrimination based on gender; and
- (10) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 ([29 U.S.C. 794](#)) and [49 CFR part 27](#) regarding discrimination against individuals with disabilities.

Furthermore, the MPO certifies the TIP contains only projects consistent with the Long-Range Transportation Plan for the urbanized area(s).