

SAFETEA-LU Regional Coordinated
Public Transit-Human
Services Transportation Plan

For The La Crosse
Transportation Service Area 2008-2013

(La Crosse, Buffalo, Trempealeau, Monroe, Jackson, Vernon, and Crawford Counties)



**Prepared by the Mississippi River Regional
Planning Commission**

August 21, 2008

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Introduction

In August of 2005, Congress passed the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient, Transportation, Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU), reauthorizing the surface transportation act. As part of this reauthorization, grantees under the New Freedom Initiative, Job Access and Reverse Commute (JARC) and Elderly and Disabled Transportation Program (5310) were required to meet certain planning requirements in order to receive funding. Federal transit law requires that projects selected for funding under the various programs be “derived from a locally developed, coordinated public transit-human services transportation plan” and that the plan be developed through a process that includes representatives of public, private, and non-profit transportation and human services providers and participation by members of the public. In 2006, counties prepared plans meeting the federal requirements. It is now required that the 2006 plans be updated and the purpose of this document is to serve as the 2008 updated plan.

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) in collaboration with a workgroup of Regional Planning Commission planners developed a new transportation coordination planning process for the 2008 update based on the final guidance on coordination from the Federal Law SAFETEA-LU. The focus of the 2008 process is on developing multi-county regional plans. A regional transportation coordination plan will include assessments of available services, gaps in service and service needs for individuals with disabilities, older adults, and people with low incomes. From the assessment data, a transportation coordination plan with implementation strategies will be developed.

Based on input from the 2006 SAFETEA-LU planning process a Regional Transportation Coordinating Committee (RTCC) has been formed in the La Crosse transportation service area. In 2006, the seven counties (La Crosse, Buffalo, Trempealeau, Monroe, Jackson, Vernon, and Crawford Counties) in the La Crosse transportation service area prepared individual county Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plans. Since the 2006 planning meetings a more regional approach to transportation coordination has been developed and is being implemented. The 2008 update to SAFETEA-LU coordinated plans is being done regionally with the development of a Regional Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan. The plan has been developed through the framework of the RTCC. It is intended that all transportation activities conducted on a regional, county or agency level will be consistent and derived from the strategies developed in this plan. Based on successful efforts in the region to begin to regionally coordinate transportation it seemed counter productive and inefficient to develop individual county plans that essentially would reiterate the same strategies. The most important aspect in the development of this plan is that all parties involved (regardless of county or agency affiliation) have worked together and have created the regional strategies and the action steps illustrated in this plan.

Coordination Planning Process

The 2008 coordination planning process was conducted regionally for the seven counties that make up the La Crosse Transportation Service Area (Buffalo, Crawford, Jackson, La Crosse, Monroe, Trempealeau, and Vernon Counties). Peter Fletcher, the Transportation Planner, for the Mississippi River Regional Planning Commission, facilitated the planning process and public meeting activities. It is important to point out that the counties that make up the La Crosse Transportation Service Area have formed a Regional Transportation Coordinating Committee (RTCC) in the past year, which put the region ahead as far as regional transportation coordination and the development of the SAFETEA-LU “Locally Developed Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan. The RTCC over the past year has become and will continue to be the “Coordination Plan Keeper” and plan “Champion”. The coordination planning process required by SAFETEA-LU in reality has been on going in the La Crosse Transportation

Service Area over the past year as quarterly meetings of the RTCC address transportation needs, gaps, as well as strategies and activities to reduce gaps and meet the transportation needs of the region. To formally meet the requirements of the SAFETEA-LU locally Developed Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Planning Process a regional meeting was conducted on July 31, 2008.

Public Meeting

On July 31, 2008 a regional transportation coordination meeting was held in West Salem, Wisconsin. The meeting notice was published in the regional newspaper and over 150 invitations (list of meeting invitees, participants and meeting notice is attached as Appendix A) were sent out to transportation providers, agencies and advocates. Approximately 50 people attended the meeting and participated in the planning process. A review of the coordination process was provided to participants as well as information on the regions demographics. The group then had a discussion on service gaps and needs in the region. The second part of the meeting involved two break out sessions. The first break out session involved individuals being grouped by county and reviewing the 2006 plan and determining where progress has been made. The second break out session focused on regional activities and identifying regional transportation coordination activities. The meeting record which summarizes the meeting activities is attached as Appendix B. At the conclusion of the meeting participants were given meeting evaluation forms in an effort to evaluate the effectiveness of the meeting and planning process. In general the evaluations were positive and participants felt the meeting was productive. Appendix C attached contains the individual meeting evaluation forms.

Demographic Information

An important component of the planning process is the analysis of the regions demographics and associated trends. Table one illustrates the regions Age 65+ population and projects the future population out to the year 2030. As the information demonstrates, the regions Age 65+ population will increase by more than 80% by the year 2030. It is obvious that such an increase will significantly increase the need for public transportation and further illustrates the need for a coordinated transportation system. Appendix D-1 through D-4 attached includes a map of each county showing the Age 65+ population distribution by census tract.

Table 1 Population Projections Age 65+ - 2000-2030

County	65+ 2000	65+ 2005	65+ 2010	65+ 2015	65+ 2020	65+ 2025	65+ 2030	% Increase 65+ 2000- 2010	% Increase 65+ 2010- 2020	% Increase 65+ 2020- 2030	% Increase 65+ 2000- 2030
Buffalo	2,313	2,333	2,416	2,689	3,084	3,563	3,867	4.5	27.6	25.4	67.2
Crawford	2,753	2,736	2,883	3,240	3,801	4,334	4,699	4.7	31.8	23.6	70.7
Jackson	2,844	2,801	2,912	3,209	3,622	4,200	4,617	2.4	24.4	27.5	62.3
La Crosse	13,440	13,788	14,673	17,101	20,540	24,249	26,947	9.2	40.0	31.2	100.5
Monroe	5,690	5,773	6,159	7,076	8,207	9,490	10,680	8.2	33.3	30.1	87.7
Trempealeau	4,435	4,347	4,499	4,893	5,615	6,359	7,143	1.4	24.8	27.2	61.1
Vernon	4,769	4,684	4,847	5,362	6,141	7,112	7,726	1.6	26.7	25.8	62.0
Region	43,406	43,794	46,119	52,118	60,934	70,794	78,489	6.3	32.1	28.8	80.8

Source: WI DOA Final Pop. Proj. for Wisconsin Counties by Age: 2000-2030

Table 2 illustrates the counties and regions median household income and poverty rates. In general the counties in the region median household incomes are less than the state and nation. Poverty rates in two counties (Buffalo and Trempealeau) are lower than the state rate, but the remaining five counties have a higher poverty rate than the State of Wisconsin.

County	Median Household Income 2004	Persons Below Poverty 2004 (%)
Buffalo	\$42,126	9.3%
Crawford	\$36,196	11.6%
Jackson	\$39,650	11.3%
La Crosse	\$42,202	11.9%
Monroe	\$41,669	11.7%
Trempealeau	\$42,203	9.4%
Vernon	\$37,587	12.4%
Wisconsin	\$46,142	10.9%
Nation	\$44,334	12.7%

Source: US Census Quickfacts for Wisconsin 2004

Table 3 shows a breakdown of percent of disabled persons in the region by two age categories and the number of disabled persons ages 21-64. In the region there are over 21,000 disabled persons between the ages of 21-64. The percent of disabled persons age 65+ in the region is 37.9. If we utilize the projection of the Age 65+ population for the region from Table 1 and multiply that by the region's current rate of disabled persons ages 65+ it can be projected that by the year 2030 the region will have close to 30,000 residents that are Age 65+ and disabled.

County	Number of Disabled Persons Ages 21-64	% of Disabled Persons Ages 21-64	% of Disabled Employed	% of Disabled Persons Ages 65+
Buffalo	1,240	16.4	67.9	35.8
Crawford	1,487	16.3	56.6	36.9
Jackson	2,088	20.6	54.1	40.7
La Crosse	8,015	13.4	61.5	35.4
Monroe	3,904	17.9	60.7	43.4
Trempealeau	2,599	17.5	67.8	35.5
Vernon	2,283	15.7	58.1	37.6
Regional Total	21,616	16.8	61.0	37.9

Source: 2000 US Census

Table 4 illustrates the commuting patterns of workers. As the information demonstrates La Crosse County is an employment hub for the region. The data further substantiates the need and importance of regional transportation coordination.

Worker County of Residence	Total Employees in Each County	Total Employees Traveling to La Crosse County for Work	% Employees Traveling to La Crosse County for Work
La Crosse Co. WI	55,971	51,206	91.5
Vernon Co. WI	12,930	2,719	21.0
Monroe Co. WI	19,927	1,825	9.2
Trempealeau Co. WI	13,863	1,352	9.8
Jackson Co. WI	8,750	256	2.9
Crawford Co. WI	8,127	164	2.0
Buffalo Co. WI	7,129	71	1.0
Juneau Co. WI	11,220	61	0.5
Richland Co. WI	8,794	23	0.3
Sauk Co. WI	28,694	428	1.5
Total	175,405	58,105	100

Assessment of Available Services

In order to conduct an assessment of available services, when public meeting invitations were sent out a request for provider information was also included. The provider information was requested in a format that the RTCC developed in its ongoing efforts to collect and maintain a regional provider database that providers and agencies in the region can access. A total of 38 provider response forms detailing the service provided were returned. Provider response forms are attached as Appendix E.

Over all, the region is served by many transportation providers as illustrated by the response forms. In assessing the available services, the challenge that continually faces the region and transportation providers is “space”. The region for the most part is very rural and providing transportation services to a rural community is challenging and expensive. Based on initial analysis, it appears that the number of vehicles and seats on the vehicles is not a significant issue. The challenge remains serving a rural region. In the region, existing services for the most part are not coordinated across county boundaries or regionally (some informal cooperation between agencies has taken place but with minimal success). The RTCC recognizes that in the future to better address the “spatial challenge” coordination of transportation services is vital in order to meet the increasing transportation needs of the region’s population.

Identification and Analysis of Service Gaps and Service Needs

At the regional transportation coordination meeting a general discussion among meeting participant’s focused on identifying service gaps and needs. The gaps and needs identified were derived from the experiences of the meeting participants and from a review of demographic data for the region. The information collected is listed below.

Service Gaps and Service Needs

- The homeless population is a growing population and the group lacks access to transportation services
- Individuals on SSI are not able to work and are also ineligible to get loans to purchase vehicles for their transportation needs.
- There is a lack of appropriate reimbursement for transportation to individuals on Medical Assistance.

- Impact of rising fuel costs etc - Taxi's and other forms of transportation are out of reach for many residents due to the cost.
- There is a need for more wheel chair spaces on mini-buses.
- A more coordinated effort of informing people about transportation services available is needed
- Spatial mismatches in transportation - as many people need transportation to and from work during regular shift hours scheduled by employers and there is no service available
- Lack of awareness by the general public and employers of the transportation needs for low income individuals
- Literacy is a problem for some populations that need transportation services.

In general, transportation providers do an adequate job of meeting the needs of the regions population. However, as illustrated there are service gaps and needed services in the region. Some of the gaps and needs are not able to be locally controlled such as fuel prices, reimbursement rates, etc. However, several items listed can be addressed locally and the challenge remains of how to address them. It is believed that coordination of regional services, information, education, marketing, etc. will go a long way in addressing the needs of the region. The next section of the plan "Strategies and Actions" lays out in general how regionally the service gaps and service needs can begin to be addressed.

Strategies and Actions

The following five year action plan was developed based on the Regional Transportation Coordinating Committees past efforts and input from the meeting conducted as part to the 2008 update to the SAFETEA-LU "Locally Developed Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan". It is important to point out that roadblocks to implementation of the strategies have been identified. For the strategies to be successful the roadblocks will have to be overcome. In numerous cases the roadblocks are not locally controlled, meaning that in order for local regional coordination to be truly successful rules, policies, and requirements of numerous non-regional entities will have to be modified or changed.

Strategies ¹	Action Steps	Person(s) Responsible ²	Timeline By When?	Roadblocks to Implementation ³
Regional Communication/ Coordination of Transportation Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Maintain an active Regional TCC with regular meetings •Coordination of elderly disabled transportation services •Focus on coordinated transportation services to get people to work (employment buses, carpooling, etc.) •Explore one call regional ride scheduling •Develop regional brand name for coordinating transportation service •Continue to work cooperatively with neighboring counties (Juneau, Richland, Sauk) and neighboring regions 	A Regional Transportation Coordinating Committee has been formed and will be responsible for the coordination and completion of the action steps	On going through 5 year plan period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •cost to get to centralized meeting site •need volunteers, financial •lack of communication •revenue •shift workers –need a ride home •employer buying to programs •criteria for ridership •funding •travel habits •funding rules/requirements

¹ **Strategies:** The purpose of identifying strategies is to remedy the needs and gaps.

² **Person(s) Responsible:** Identify all potential partners and specific names.

³ **Roadblocks to Implementation:** Examples include lack of community support, financial constraints, political climate, etc.

Strategies ¹	Action Steps	Person(s) Responsible ²	Timeline By When?	Roadblocks to Implementation ³
Regional Technology Development and Information Sharing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Sharing locally developed transportation technology (tracking, accounting programs, SAMS reporting) ●Explore local/regional routing software ●Develop and maintain a regional data depository ●Regional summary of transportation options 	A Regional Transportation Coordinating Committee has been formed and will be responsible for the coordination and completion of the action steps	1-5 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●computer literacy ●cost of not having full bus ●software interface ●personnel to develop ●grant funding rules - lease vs. purchase ●data maintenance ●cost of technology
Local and Regional Communication of Services to Transportation Consumers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Explore shared marketing approaches to reaching consumers ●Increase regional awareness of the La Crosse County sponsored "Find a Ride" ●Increase awareness of "Rideshare" for carpooling purposes 	A Regional Transportation Coordinating Committee has been formed and will be responsible for the coordination and completion of the action steps	Begin in years 1-2 then ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●cost ●web access (providers and consumers) ●consumer literacy
Transportation Funding and Sustainability of Transportation Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Continue to pursue STRAP, New Freedom, WETAP, 5310 Funding ●Maintain/increase existing funding levels ●Expand employee and business support for rides 	A Regional Transportation Coordinating Committee has been formed and will be responsible for the coordination and completion of the action steps	On going through the 5 year plan period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●political support for funding ●open criteria for qualifying for grants ●competitiveness among local providers ●complicated processes (grants) ●need grant writers
Regional Information/Education on Transportation Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Medical Facility outreach ●Employer outreach (survey) ●Local, State, and Federal elected officials outreach ●Uniform understanding of program requirements/rules ●Uniform understanding of insurance requirements ●More information on internet ●Gather information on tele-medicine ●Homeless providers - outreach 	A Regional Transportation Coordinating Committee has been formed and will be responsible for the coordination and completion of the action steps	Begin in years 1-2 then ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●complexity of information ●complexity of rules ●getting people to the table ●elected officials being able to fund programs ●someone needed to represent all providers

Impact of Regional Transportation Planning and County Transportation Initiatives

As discussed previously, a Regional TCC was developed based on the La Crosse Transportation Service Area with the intent of coordinating transportation on a regional basis understanding that counties and agencies will continue to provide transportation services that are responsive to their consumers needs. It is also understood, that transportation programs and initiatives will still be developed within agencies/counties as consumer needs dictate. However, since the formation of an active Regional TCC has developed agencies and counties are more aware that they are part of a regional transportation system and will evaluate their services in both a local and regional context.

Conclusion

Regional transportation coordination is taking place in Western Wisconsin. County and agency boundaries are becoming less significant in the provision of transportation services, while consumer destinations and needs are becoming more important. It is the hope of the La Crosse Area Regional TCC that lessons learned locally will also be learned at the state and federal level (particularly by the funding and program rule makers) as true transportation coordination and service provision will not be achieved until that day comes.

APPENDIX A

REGIONAL MEETING INVITE LISTING

JULY 31, 2008 REGIONAL MEETING ATTENDEE LISTING

PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE FOR

JULY 31, 2008 PUBLIC MEETING

INVITE LIST FOR REGIONAL SAFETEA-LU HUMAN SERVICES TRANSPORTATION COORDINATION MEETING - 07/31/2008

Each person/agency listed was sent two invitations to attend the Regional SAFETEA-LU Human Services Transportation Coordination Meeting.

The first notice was sent on June 28, 2008 and the second notice was sent on July 14, 2008.

RSVP	First Name	Last Name	Title	Address	Address 2	Place	State	Zip Code
y	Lola	Longyshore	Buffalo County - Aging Unit	407 South Second Street	PO Box 517	Alma	WI	54610-0517
n	Del	Twidt	Buffalo County Board Chairman	407 S. 2nd Street		Alma	WI	54610
	Roxann	Halverson	Buffalo County Clerk	407 S. 2nd Street		Alma	WI	54610
			Buffalo County Department of Health & Human Services	407 South 2nd Street	P.O. Box 517	Alma	WI	54610
	Kevin	Johnson	Buffalo County Veterans Service Officer	PO Box 492	407 S. Second Street	Alma	WI	54610
			WI Job Ctr - DVR	Crawford Co Admin Bldg	225 N. Beaumont Rd, Suite 124	Prairie du Chien	WI	53821
y	Kathleen	Leard	Crawford County Aging Office-Senior Resources	225 North Beaumont Road	Suite 318	Prairie du Chien	WI	53821
n	Tom	Rehmus	Crawford County ARC, Inc.	DBA / Opportunity Center	730 North State Street	Prairie du Chien	WI	53821
y	Tom	Cornford	Crawford County Board	324 S. Ohio Street		Prairie du Chien	WI	53821
y	Ron	Leys	Crawford County Board Chairman	225 N Beaumont Rd		Prairie du Chien	WI	53821
n	Janet	Geisler	Crawford County Clerk	225 N Beaumont Rd		Prairie du Chien	WI	53821
			Crawford County Faith in Action	705 South Buchanan Street		Prairie du Chien	WI	53821
y	Chris	Johnson	Crawford County Mobility Manager	225 N. Beaumont Rd, Suite 318		Prairie du Chien	WI	53821
n	James	Hannah	Crawford County Veterans Service Officer	225 North Beaumont Road, Suite 137	225 North Beaumont Road, Suite 137	Prairie du Chien	WI	53821
n	Cindy	Jelinek	Crawford County Veterans Service Officer			Prairie du Chien	WI	53821
n	Chris	Glawe	Social Service Aide, Crawford County Human Services	Crawford County Administration Building	225 N. Beaumont Rd, Suite 326	Prairie du Chien	WI	53821
n	Barb	Hernesman	WI Job Ctr-Crawford County	Crawford Co Admin Bldg	225 N. Beaumont Rd	Prairie du Chien	WI	53821
y	Virgil	Butteris		1000 S. Wacouta Avenue		Prairie du Chien	WI	53821
n	Mary Jane	Faas		1006 E. Iowa Street		Prairie du Chien	WI	53821
n	June	Leirrom		12782 Leirmo Road		Ferryville	WI	54628
n	Marge	Lenz		1417 S. 18th Street		Prairie du Chien	WI	53821
	Barbara	Schroeder		504 Seneca Heights Avenue		Gays Mills	WI	54631
y	Mary Ann	Knapp		P.O. Box 55		Gays Mills	WI	54631
n			Falls Taxi Inc.	325 Woodlawn Avenue		Black River Falls	WI	54615
n	Beth	Smetana	Jackson Co Dept of Health & Human Services	420 Hwy 54 West		Black River Falls	WI	54615
y	Scott	Omernick	Jackson County Aging Unit	420 Highway 54 West	PO Box 457	Black River Falls	WI	54615
y	Dennis	Eberhardt	Jackson County Board Chairman	307 Main Street		Black River Falls	WI	54615
n	Kyle	Deno	Jackson County Clerk	307 Main Street		Black River Falls	WI	54615
n	Karen	Foust	Jackson County Interfaith Caregivers	407 Main Street	PO Box 354	Black River Falls	WI	54601
	Margaret	Gavin	Jackson County Veterans Service Officer	Courthouse	307 Main Street	Black River Falls	WI	54615
n	Carmen	Olson	WI Job Ctr - Jackson County	808 Red Iron Road		Black River Falls	WI	54615
n	Gary	Pralle	Bethany Lutheran Homes, Inc.	2575 South 7th Street	Suite 220	La Crosse	WI	54601
			Comfort Keepers La Crosse	2101 Victory Street, Suite B		La Crosse	WI	54601

RSVP	First Name	Last Name	Title	Address	Address 2	Place	State	Zip Code
y	Amy Jo	Gabrielson	Wisconsin Mobility Manager	Coulee CAP	2101 Victory Street	La Crosse	WI	54601
y	Tom	Faella	Director, Metropolitan Planning Organization	La Crosse County Admin. Ctr, Room 3050	400 4th Street N	La Crosse	WI	54601
			Hmong Mutual Assistance Association Inc.	1100 Kane Street		La Crosse	WI	54601
	Steve	O'Malley	La Crosse County Administrator	County Administrative Center, Room 1170	400 4th Street N	La Crosse	WI	54601
y	Noreen	Kuroski	La Crosse County Aging Unit	400 North 4th Street	Room 2260	La Crosse	WI	54601
y	Cathy	Lundstad	La Crosse County Aging Unit	La Crosse Co Admin. Center, Room 2260	400 4th Street N	La Crosse	WI	54601
y	Steve	Doyle	La Crosse County Board Chairman	County Administrative Center, Room 1150	400 4th Street N	La Crosse	WI	54601
n	Marion	Naegle	La Crosse County Clerk	County Administrative Center, Room 1210	400 4th Street N	La Crosse	WI	54601
y	Nancy	Schmidt	La Crosse County CMO	1407 St. Andrew St.		La Crosse	WI	54603
y	Chris	Sander	La Crosse County Health and Human Services	Health and Human Services Bldg	300 4th St N	La Crosse	WI	54601
n	Jim	Gausmann	La Crosse County Veterans Service Officer	La Crosse County Admin Ctr, Room 1340	400 4th Street N	La Crosse	WI	54601
y	Keith	Carlson	La Crosse Municipal Transit Utility	2000 Marco Drive		La Crosse	WI	54601-5200
	Marge	Antoniewicz	Laidlaw		2321 Commerce St	La Crosse	WI	54601
y	Jay	Hein	Riverfront Activity Center, Inc.	3000 South Avenue		La Crosse	WI	54601
y	Amy	Grotzke	WDA Director, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation	333 Buchner Place, Wing B		La Crosse	WI	54603-3122
				333 Buchner Place, Wing B		La Crosse	WI	54603-3122
	Ann	Wales	WI Job Ctr - La Crosse County	402 N 8th Street		La Crosse	WI	54601
y	Steve	Johnson	La Crosse County Job Center	402 N. 8th Street		La Crosse	WI	54601
n	Michael	Bonello	Administrator	Morrow Memorial Home	331 S. Water St.	Sparta	WI	54656
	Gene	Phillips	Dept. of Human Services	14301 County Hwy. B		Sparta	WI	54656
	Roxanne	Powell	Div of Vocational Rehabilitation	WI Job Center - Monroe County	14305 Co Hwy B	Sparta	WI	54656
y	Jean	Bardeen	Families First	P.O. Box 707		Tomah	WI	54660
n	Patty	Clark	Handishop Industries, Inc.	1411 North Superior Avenue		Tomah	WI	54660
n	Joe	Greene	Handishop Industries, Inc.	1411 North Superior Avenue		Tomah	WI	54660
			Faith in Action Volunteers	1118 W. Veterans		Tomah	WI	54660
y	Vicki	LaDue	Lutheran Social Services	620 Industrial Drive	Suite #6	Sparta	WI	54656
	Dennis	Hubbard	Monroe County Board Chairman	202 S. "K" Street		Sparta	WI	54656
n	Susan	Matson	Monroe County Clerk	202 S. "K" Street		Sparta	WI	54656
			Monroe County Job Ctr - Sparta	Community Services Ctr, Bldg B	14305 County Hwy B, Box 19	Sparta	WI	54656
	Terry	Shreve	Monroe County Job Ctr - Tomah	1310 Townline Road	PO Box 847	Tomah	WI	54660
y	Laura	Moriarty	Monroe County Senior Services	14305 CTH B, Community Services		Sparta	WI	54656-4509
n	Kathleen	Gausmann	Monroe County Veterans Service Officer	14345 Co. Hwy B, Room 2		Sparta	WI	54656
n	Eileen	Ripley	Morrow Memorial Home		331 S. Water St.	Sparta	WI	54656
n	Lauri Ann	Grosskoph	Rolling Hills Nursing Home	14345 co. Hwy. B		Sparta	WI	54656
			Sparta Area Cancer Support Inc. (SACS)	P.O. Box 130		Sparta	WI	54656
y			WI Job Ctr-Monroe County	120 E. Milwaukee Street		Tomah	WI	54660
			Aatlas Medical Transport	W16484 St Rd 95		Blair	WI	54616
n	Mark	Jones	Abby Vans	W5621 Todd Rd.		Neillsville	WI	54456
y	Beverly	Scott	Access Transit, Inc.	226 Hood Street		La Crosse	WI	54601
y	Cecil	Adams	African American Mutual Assistance Network Inc. (AAMAN)	317 4th St. South	Suite 317	La Crosse	WI	54601
			Badger Assoc. of the Blind and Visually Impaired, Inc.	912 N. Hawley Rd.		Milwaukee	WI	53213
			Black Coyote Lines LLP	1479 Elon Road		Waterville	IA	52170
			Carevan, Inc.	7117 Clinton Road Suite No 3		Loves Park	IL	61111
n			Caring Hearts Home Care and Transportation	W5942 Baker Road		Holmen	WI	54636

RSVP	First Name	Last Name	Title	Address	Address 2	Place	State	Zip Code
n			Central Wisconsin CAC	1000 Hwy 13	PO Box 430	Wisconsin Dells	WI	53965
y			Coulee Region Retired and Senior Volunteer Program	2920 East Ave South, Suite 104		La Crosse	WI	54601
n	Grace	Jones	CouleeCap, Inc.	201 Melby Street		Westby	WI	54667
	Dena	Thundercloud	Director of Transportation	Ho Chunk Nation	W9814 Airport Road	Black River Falls	WI	54615
			Disability Rights for Wisconsin		16 North Carroll Street, Suite 300	Madison	WI	53703
	Cindy	Gluch	Disabled American Veterans	500 East Veterans Street		Tomah	WI	54660
	Lynn	Breedlove	Executive Director	Wis. Coalition for Advocacy	16 N. Carroll, # 400	Madison	WI	53703
	Jennifer	Ondrejka	Executive Director	Wis.Council on Developmental Disabilities	201 W. Washington Ave, Suite 110	Madison	WI	53703
	Jerry	Hanoski	Executive Director, Western WI WDA	Workforce Connections, Inc.	402 N. 8th St, PO Box 2908	La Crosse	WI	54602-2908
			Franciscan Health System, Inc.	700 West Avenue South		La Crosse	WI	54601
			Gemini Helping Hands	800 Wisconsin Street, Mail Box 16		Eau Claire	WI	54703
			Geri-Vans, Inc.	W4599 Pope Road		Merrill	WI	54452
			GO Carefree Shuttle	3147 Youngdale Avenue		La Crosse	WI	54603
n	Cheryl	Kletzke	Gundersen Lutheran Coulee Trails	126 1/2 W Jefferson St		Viroqua	WI	54665
	Geoge	Lewis	Ho Chunk Nation	PO Box 667		Black River Falls	WI	54665
			Ho-Chunk Nation Tribal Aging Unit	16250 Helmet Road		Tomah	WI	54660
			Ho-Chunk Nation Tribal Aging Unit	W8825 Decorah Road		Black River Falls	WI	54615
			Holy Family Memorial Care Van	2300 Western Avenue		Manitowoc	WI	920-320-2220
			Home Instead Senior Care	917 4th Street South, Suite 103		La Crosse	WI	54601
y	Kathie	Iverson-Noble	Independent Living Resources	4439 Mormon Coulee Road		La Crosse	WI	54601
n	Michael	Blumenfeld	Legislative Advocate	16 N. Carroll, # 800		Madison	WI	53703
			North Med Transportation	N10169 Butterfield Rd		Hixton	WI	54635
y	Richard	Running	Onalaska Shared Ride Taxi System	520 E. Decker St.		Viroqua	WI	54665
n	Dan	Johnson	Physical Disabilities Resources Coordinator	Office of Independence & Employment	PO Box 7851	Madison	WI	53707-7851
n	Dave	Burnell	Pine Creek Transportation Services	N7260 S. Davis Rd.		Taylor	WI	54659
y			Road to Recovery C/O Gundersen Lutheran	1900 South Avenue		La Crosse	WI	54601
			South Ridge Medical	E5163 Nesseltd Rd		Westby	WI	54667
			Tender Care Transport	1592 118th Street		Chippewa Falls	WI	54729
			Tender Care Transport	5995 North Shore Drive		Eau Claire	WI	54703
	Ed	Brown	Brown Bus Service	1610 Academy St.		Elroy	WI	53929
y			Veterans Affairs Medical Center-Tomah	500 East Veterans Street		Tomah	WI	54660
y	Anna	Cardarella	Western Dairyland	23122 Whitehall Road	PO box 125	Independence	WI	54747
n	James	Schwartz	Western Dairyland EOC	P.O. Box 125		Independence	WI	54747
n			Wheels of Independence, Inc.	2703 Industrial Street		Wisconsin Rapids	WI	54495
y	John	Jolley	Pathways to Independence					
y	Kim	Kania	Causeway Interfaith Volunt. Caregivers	2575 S. 7th St.		La Crosse	WI	54601
y	Beth	Sullivan	Workforce Connections	401 N. 8th St.	PO Box 2908	La Crosse	WI	54602-2908
y	Patricia	Cartmil	American Cancer Society	2427 N. Hillcrest Parkway	Suite 7	Altoona	WI	54720
			Wisconsin Council for Advocacy		16 North Carroll Street, Suite 300	Madison	WI	53703
			Wisconsin Council On Developmental Disabilities	201 W. Washington Avenue, Suite 110		Madison	WI	53703
n	Teresa	Pierce	Workforce Connections	402 North 8th Street	PO Box 2910	La Crosse	WI	54602
y	Julia	Barth	Workforce Connections	402 N. 8th Street		La Crosse	WI	54601
	Judy	Wongling	ABC Works	PO Box 178		Caledonia	MN	55921

RSVP	First Name	Last Name	Title	Address	Address 2	Place	State	Zip Code
n	Mary	Pieper	ABLE	216 E South St		Caledonia	MN	55921
	Monica	Hennesey-Mohan	City of Winona	207 Lafayette St, PO Box 379		Winona	MN	55987
	Justin	Bartlett	Ready Bus Line Company	1369 County Highway 6		LaCrescent	MN	55947
n	Erlene	Welshons	Semcac	204 S Elm St, PO Box 549		Rushford	MN	55971
n	Connie	Krenzke	Valley View Nursing Home	510 E Cedar St, PO Box 98		Houston	MN	55943
n	Stacy	Parker	Grandview Care Center, Inc.	620 Grand View Avenue	PO Box 27	Blair	WI	54616
y	Joanne	Kulig-Gast	Senior Services of Trempealeau	36245 Main St	PO Box 67	Whitehall	WI	54773
	Barb	Semb	Trempealeau County Board Chairperson	36245 Main Street	PO Box 67	Whitehall	WI	54773
n	Paul	Syverson	Trempealeau County Clerk	36245 Main Street	PO Box 67	Whitehall	WI	54773
n	Mary	Gullicksrud	Trempealeau County Healthcare Center	23062 Whitehall Road		Independence	WI	54747
n	Bill	Thoma	Trempealeau County Veterans Service Officer	36245 Main Street	PO Box 67	Whitehall	WI	54773
n	Curtis	Johnson	Tri-County Memorial Hospital, Inc	18601 Lincoln Street		Whitehall	WI	54773
	Pam	Taylor	WI Job Ctr -Trempealeau Cnty	36084 Walnut St	WWTC-Independence Campus	Independence	WI	54747
	Chris	Nordberg	Chief Executive Director	Bethel Home & Services, Inc.	614 S ROCK AVE	VIROQUA	WI	54665
y	Pat	Peterson	Director, Vernon Co Aging Unit	Erlandson Office Building	318 Fairlane Drive, Suite 219	Viroqua	WI	54665
n	Anthony	Shay	Div of Vocational Rehabilitation	WI Job Center - Vernon County	220 South Main Street, Room 120	Viroqua	WI	54665
y	Tracy	Hanson	Vernon Area Rehabilitation Center, Inc.	VARC Inc	1133 Nelson Parkway	Viroqua	WI	54665
n	Dawn	Simonson	Vernon Area Rehabilitation Center, Inc.	VARC Inc	1133 Nelson Parkway	Viroqua	WI	54665
n	Tom	Spenner	Vernon County Board Chairman	400 Courthouse Square		Viroqua	WI	54665
	Ron	Hoff	Vernon County Clerk	400 Courthouse Square, Ste 108		Viroqua	WI	54665
n	Pam	Eitland	Vernon County Human Services	318 Fairlane Drive		Viroqua	WI	54665
y	Jean	Klousia	Vernon County Human Services	318 Fairlane Drive	Suite 100	Viroqua	WI	54665
y	Linda	Wilke	Vernon County Unit On Aging	Erlandson Office Building	318 Fairlane Drive, Suite 219	Viroqua	WI	54665
y	Evelyn	Williams	Vernon County Veterans Service Officer	318 Fairlane Drive, Suite 225		Viroqua	WI	54665
	Elvin	Hanson	Western Wisconsin Technical College	220 South Main	P O Box 431	Viroqua	WI	54665-0431
n	Kathy	Neidert	WI Job Ctr - Vernon County	220 S Main Street	WWTC - Viroqua Campus	Viroqua	WI	54665
n	Erin	Barstad	WI Job Ctr - Vernon County	220 S Main Street, Room 120	WWTC - Viroqua Campus	Viroqua	WI	54665
y	Herbert	Cornell		E5552 Cornell Lane		Coon Valley	WI	54623-8012
n	Lee	Nerison		S3035 County Highway B		Westby	WI	54667
y	Sue	Nueman	Franciscan Health System, Inc.					
y	Natalie	Hackbarth	Gundersen Lutheran					

**ATTENDEE LIST FOR REGIONAL SAFETEA-LU HUMAN SERVICES TRANSPORTATION
COORDINATION MEETING - 07/31/2008**

County	First Name	Last Name	Title	Address	Address 2	Place	State	Zip Code
Buffalo	Lola	Longyhore	Buffalo County - Aging Unit	407 South Second Street	PO Box 517	Alma	WI	54610-0517
Crawford	Kathleen	Leard	Crawford County Aging Office-Senior Resources	225 North Beaumont Road	Suite 318	Prairie du Chien	WI	53821
Crawford	Chris	Johnson	Crawford County Mobility Manager	225 N. Beaumont Rd, Suite 318		Prairie du Chien	WI	53821
Jackson	Scott	Omernick	Jackson County Aging Unit	420 Highway 54 West	PO Box 457	Black River Falls	WI	54615
Jackson	Dennis	Eberhardt	Jackson County Board Chairman	307 Main Street		Black River Falls	WI	54615
Juneau	Linda	Gratz	Juneau County	Wisconsin Job Center	211 Hickory Street	Mauston	WI	53948
La Crosse	Tom	Faella	Director, Metropolitan Planning Organization	La Crosse County Admin. Ctr, Room 3050	400 4th Street N	La Crosse	WI	54601
La Crosse	Charles	Spiker	La Crosse County	County Administrative Center, Room 1150	400 4th Street N	La Crosse	WI	54601
La Crosse	Noreen	Kuroski	La Crosse County Aging Unit	400 North 4th Street	Room 2260	La Crosse	WI	54601
La Crosse	Cathy	Lundstad	La Crosse County Aging Unit	La Crosse Co Admin. Center, Room 2260	400 4th Street N	La Crosse	WI	54601
La Crosse	Nancy	Schmidt	La Crosse County CMO	1407 St. Andrew St.		La Crosse	WI	54603
La Crosse	Chris	Sander	La Crosse County Health and Human Services	Health and Human Services Bldg	300 4th St N	La Crosse	WI	54601
La Crosse	Steve	Johnson	La Crosse County Job Center	402 N. 8th Street		La Crosse	WI	54601
La Crosse	Keith	Carlson	La Crosse Municipal Transit Utility	2000 Marco Drive		La Crosse	WI	54601-5200
La Crosse	Jay	Hein	Riverfront Activity Center, Inc.	3000 South Avenue		La Crosse	WI	54601
La Crosse	Amy	Grotzke	WDA Director, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation	333 Buchner Place, Wing B		La Crosse	WI	54603-3122
La Crosse	Amy Jo	Gabrielson	Wisconsin Mobility Manager	Coulee CAP	2101 Victory Street	La Crosse	WI	54601
Monroe	Jean	Bardeen	Families First	P.O. Box 707		Tomah	WI	54660
Monroe	Laura	Moriarty	Monroe County Senior Services	14305 CTH B, Community Services		Sparta	WI	54656-4509
Regional	Barbara	Gaston	African American Mutual Assistance Network Inc. (AAMAN)					
Regional	Cecil	Adams	African American Mutual Assistance Network Inc. (AAMAN)	955 Hwy 61 East Unit 123		Winona	MN	55987
Regional	Patricia	Cartmil	American Cancer Society	2427 N. Hillcrest Parkway	Suite 7	Altoona	WI	54720
Regional	Kim	Kania	Causeway Interfaith Volunt. Caregivers	2575 S. 7th St.		La Crosse	WI	54601
Regional	Lynette	Kopp	Coulee Region Retired and Senior Volunteer Program	2920 East Ave South, Suite 104		La Crosse	WI	54601
Regional	Sue	Nueman	Franciscan Health System, Inc.					
Regional	Natalie	HackbARTH	Gundersen Lutheran					
Regional	Sharon	Johnson	Gundersen Lutheran AODA	1900 South Avenue		La Crosse	WI	54601
Regional	Alicia	Oliver	Independent Living Resources	4439 Mormon Coulee Road		La Crosse	WI	54601
Regional	Vicki	Riley	Lutheran Social Services					
Regional	Brooke	Bayer	Onalaska Shared Ride Taxi System	520 E. Decker St.		Viroqua	WI	54665
Regional	John	Jolley	Pathways to Independence					
Regional	Dave	Cornell	Ready Bus Line					
Regional	Don	Kotek	Supervisor, Linen/Courier Services	Franciscan Skemp	700 West Ave South	La Crosse	WI	54601
Regional	Farjhad	Sanjari	Veterans Affairs Medical Center-Tomah	500 East Veterans Street		Tomah	WI	54660
Regional	Anna	Cardarella	Western Dairyland	23122 Whitehall Road	PO box 125	Independence	WI	54747
Regional	Jacob	Konitzer	Western Dairyland (Intern)	23122 Whitehall Road	PO box 125	Independence	WI	54747
Regional	Beth	Sullivan	Workforce Connections	401 N. 8th St.	PO Box 2908	La Crosse	WI	54602-2908

County	First Name	Last Name	Title	Address	Address 2	Place	State	Zip Code
Regional	Julia	Barth	Workforce Connections	402 N. 8th Street		La Crosse	WI	54601
Regional	Lynn	Miller		5225 Grandwood Place		La Crosse	WI	54601
Trempealeau		Kulig-Gast	Senior Services of Trempealeau	36245 Main St	PO Box 67	Whitehall	WI	54773
Trempealeau		Vold	Trempealeau County Board					
Vernon	Pat	Peterson	Director, Vernon Co Aging Unit	Erlandson Office Building	318 Fairlane Drive, Suite 219	Viroqua	WI	54665
Vernon	Tracy	Hanson	Vernon Area Rehabilitation Center, Inc.	VARC Inc	1133 Nelson Parkway	Viroqua	WI	54665
Vernon	Herbert	Cornell	Vernon County Board	E5552 Cornell Lane		Coon Valley	WI	54623-8012
Vernon	Jean	Klousia	Vernon County Human Services	318 Fairlane Drive	Suite 100	Viroqua	WI	54665
Vernon	Linda	Wilke	Vernon County Unit On Aging	Erlandson Office Building	318 Fairlane Drive, Suite 219	Viroqua	WI	54665

July 31, 2008 Meeting Attendance List for 2008 Locally Developed Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan (Buffalo, Crawford, Jackson, La Crosse, Monroe, Trempealeau and Vernon Counties) at Hazel Brown Leicht Memorial Library, West Salem, WI 54669

**07/31/2008 MEETING NOTICE FOR REGIONAL SAFETEA-LU HUMAN SERVICES
TRANSPORTATION COORDINATION MEETING PUBLISHED IN LA CROSSE TRIBUNE**

**2008 LOCALLY DEVELOPED COORDINATED PUBLIC
TRANSIT-HUMAN SERVICES TRANSPORTATION PLAN
PUBLIC MEETING**

A Public Transit Service-Human Services Transportation Plan coordination meeting for the multi-county region of Buffalo, Crawford, Jackson, La Crosse, Monroe, Trempealeau and Vernon will be held on Thursday, July 31st, 2008 beginning at 10:00 A.M. The meeting will take place at the Hazel Brown Leicht Memorial Library, Mary and Jerome Klos Community Room, 201 Neshonoc Road, West Salem, Wisconsin. The meeting is being held to prepare a SAFETEA-LU locally developed coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan.

Those persons unable to attend the meeting and would like to submit comments in advance may send them to the following address by July 28, 2008.

*Peter Fletcher
Mississippi River Regional Planning Commission
1707 Main St., Suite 435
La Crosse, WI 54601
E-mail: peter@mrrpc.com*

APPENDIX B

MEETING MINUTES FROM 07/31/2008 REGIONAL MEETING

**2008 Locally Developed Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan
Meeting
for
Buffalo, Crawford, Jackson, La Crosse, Monroe, Trempealeau and Vernon Counties
Hazel Brown Leicht Memorial Library
201 Neshonoc Court
West Salem, WI 54669
07/31/08
Meeting Minutes**

Welcome & Introductions

Approximately 50 participants were welcomed to the meeting and each participant introduced themselves and gave a brief description of their agencies purpose or interest.

Overview of SAFETEA-LU and the purpose of the planning meeting:

Peter Fletcher gave an overview of SAFETEA-LU highlighting the following points as to why the meeting is being conducted:

- ***On August 10, 2005, President Bush signed the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU).***
- SAFETEA-LU authorizes the Federal surface transportation programs for highways, highway safety, and transit for the 5-year period 2005-2009
- ***Future funding requests for the Job Access and Reverse Commute (JARC), New Freedom, and 5310 programs must be consistent with a "locally developed coordinated public transit-human services transportation plan".***
- ***The plan update must be developed through a process which includes representatives from public, private, and nonprofit transportation and human service providers, as well participation from the public.***
- WisDOT has designated the Regional Planning Commissions (RPCs) to coordinate the update process for each county or region.

As a result of the meeting and preparation of a regional coordinated public transit-human services transportation plan Counties and agencies will meet the requirements of SAFETEA-LU and projects will be eligible for federal funding provided they are consistent with the strategies identified in the regional plan.

Demographics

Peter Fletcher then gave an overview of regional demographics and characteristics of the population. Information was distributed on poverty rates, income levels, number of disabled persons, population projections of age 65+, and commuting patterns of the regions workforce.

Service Gaps and Needs

Peter Fletcher, Mississippi River Regional Planning Commission Transportation Planner, asked meeting attendees for input on any transportation gaps in the region. He said that one gap is the lack of awareness by the general public and employers of the transportation needs for low income individuals. He said most of these individuals need transportation every day and cannot rely on fixed route transportation services. He said there is a better awareness of the transportation needs for the elderly and disabled populations but because of the rural setting of

Buffalo, Crawford, Jackson, La Crosse, Monroe, Trempealeau and Vernon counties it's a challenge to get services to these population groups.

Steve Johnson of La Crosse County said another gap is the homeless population. He said this is a growing population group that lacks access to transportation services. He said this population group is very unique to serve and there is a definite drop off of service to this group.

Another gap mentioned was that individuals on SSI are not able to work and are also ineligible to get loans to purchase vehicles for their transportation needs.

Noreen Kuroski said there is a lack of appropriate reimbursement for transportation to individuals on Medical Assistance. She reiterated the problem of the homeless and low income individuals that lack transportation and have no money or funds to use for a taxi or bus etc. to get to a job interview to gain employment. She said there is not a good system for dealing with those individuals. She said we have to have a plan to give those people a leg up.

The fact was brought up that many counties have an aging population requiring more transportation services to meet their medical needs and along with that is a huge hit to county budgets because of rising fuel costs etc. Taxi's and other forms of transportation are out of reach for many residents due to the cost.

Cecil Adams said that literacy is also a problem for some populations that need transportation services. Scott Omernick said Children and Family Services also provide transportation services to families and foster families while working to get those families back together.

It was also mentioned that there is a need for more wheel chair spaces on mini-buses. The working poor making just enough to get by but not enough to get any type of aid is also a problem. Nancy Schmidt said there needs to be a more coordinated effort informing people about transportation services available. Ms. Kuroski concurred that we need to educate the citizenry about transportation services available. She said there are situations where individuals are taking higher priced forms of transportation when the La Crosse MTU would be more affordable. She said we have to address the needs of those trying to get out of poverty. She said we need to develop more ways to work together. She said the current mileage rate of 58.5¢ per mile is killing county budgets. Ms. Kuroski said she also realizes none of this will be easy.

Anna Cardella said there are also many spacial mismatches. She said fixed transit runs on bankers hours when many people need transportation to and from work during regular shift hours scheduled by employers and there is no service available.

Plan Preparation

Meeting participants then were divided into various groups for two break out sessions to develop "Action Plan" strategies, action steps, identify roadblocks, and establish timelines and responsibilities. Once completed discussion on how the plan would be finalized and sent to participants for final input.

Meeting adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.