

090256



Division of Transportation
System Development
Southeast Regional Office
141 N.W. Barstow Street
P.O. Box 798
Waukesha, WI 53187-0798

Jim Doyle, Governor
Frank J. Busalacchi, Secretary
Internet: www.dot.wisconsin.gov
Telephone: (262) 548-5903
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E-Mail: waukesha.dtd@dot.state.wi.us

August 26, 2009

Mr. Terry J. MacDonald, Staff Assistant
City Of Milwaukee
City Clerk's Office
200 East Wells Street, Room 205
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Mr. MacDonald:

Thank you for your August 6, 2009 letter commenting on the Zoo Interchange Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) project alternatives. Secretary Frank Busalacchi asked that I reply on his behalf.

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation has received your Certified Resolution File # 090256 regarding the City of Milwaukee's position on the proposed reconstruction of the Zoo Interchange Project. We appreciate your comments on the various project study alternatives.

Your comments and concerns will be taken into consideration as we move forward in identifying a preferred alternative and developing the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the project.

Thank you again for your feedback on this important project. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Donna Brown, our project director at (262) 548-8713.

Sincerely,

Dewayne J. Johnson, P.E.
SE Region Director

cc: Secretary Frank Busalacchi

City of milw 90469
DTSP RD

Meier, Joan - DOT

From: MacDonald, Terry [tmacdo@milwaukee.gov]
Sent: Thursday, August 06, 2009 10:36 AM
To: DOT EXEC Secretary's Ofc
Subject: City of Milwaukee Certified Copy of Public Works File #090256
Attachments: Certified Copy of File #090256.pdf

Good Morning:

Attached you will find a certified copy of legislation recently approved by the Milwaukee Common Council. Please review.

If you need any further information, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Terry J. MacDonald, Staff Assistant
City of Milwaukee, City Clerk's Office
200 East Wells St., Room 205
Milwaukee, WI 53202
414-286-2233
Fax: 414-286-3456
Terry.Macdonald@milwaukee.gov



City of Milwaukee

Office of the City Clerk

200 E. Wells Street
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202

Certified Copy of Resolution

FILE NO: 090256

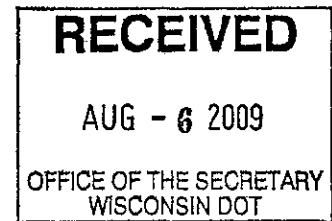
Title:

Substitute resolution expressing the City of Milwaukee's position on the proposed reconstruction of the Zoo Interchange.

Body:

Whereas, The Wisconsin Department of Transportation has released a draft environmental impact statement for the proposed reconstruction of the Zoo Interchange (the junction of Interstates 94 and 894 and U.S. Highway 45) that describes 4 alternatives for the project with the following costs:

- | | |
|--|----------------|
| 1. Do nothing | \$0 |
| 2. Rebuild interchange in its current configuration | \$960 million |
| 3. Rebuild the interchange with 6 lanes and safety improvements (6-Lane Modernization Alternative) | \$2.16 billion |
| 4. Rebuild the interchange with 8 lanes and safety improvements (8-Lane Modernization Alternative) | \$2.31 billion |



; and

Whereas, An expansion of the Zoo Interchange to 8 lanes will encourage motor vehicle use and dependence, thereby increasing air pollution and reliance on foreign oil supplies, and leaving the Milwaukee-area economy and residents of the region at the mercy of gasoline price fluctuations; and

Whereas, The Zoo Interchange reconstruction plans make no provisions for improved mass transit in or around the Interchange and ignore the public's growing preference for a balanced, multi-modal transportation system that gives travelers and shippers a variety of options for personal and business travel and cargo transport; and

Whereas, An audit of the City's residential street paving program by the City Comptroller found that over one-fifth of Milwaukee's residential streets are in poor condition and that the cost of bringing all residential streets up to fair or good condition could be as much as \$780 million over 25 years; and

Whereas, It is fundamentally unjust for the federal and state governments to saddle local property taxpayers with the burden of paying to maintain and reconstruct existing local streets and bridges while at the same time funding the expansion of Interstate highways; and

Whereas, The Common Council finds that the costs to the City of Milwaukee, its residents and taxpayers of reconstructing and expanding the Zoo Interchange to 8 lanes far outweigh the benefits of the additional lanes; and

Whereas, The Common Council further finds that the \$150 million that may be spent to expand the Zoo Interchange from 6 lanes to 8 lanes could be more wisely used to provide additional aid to local governments for street and bridge maintenance, thereby preserving and improving the region's existing infrastructure; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, By the Common Council of the City of Milwaukee, that the City of Milwaukee takes the following position with respect to the proposed reconstruction of the Zoo Interchange:

1. The preferred alternative is to rebuild the interchange under the 6-lane Modernization Alternative, which minimizes the total cost of the interchange reconstruction project and the number of property acquisitions in the City of Milwaukee.
2. The preferred alternative for the east leg of the interchanges is the E1 alternative identified in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement, which utilizes "Texas U-turns" to provide I-94 access to and from 76th Street and 84th Street. The 6-lane E1 alternative eliminates the need for the acquisition of 20 residential properties and one commercial property.
3. The preferred alternative for the north leg of the interchange is the N1 alternative identified in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement, which utilizes frontage roads to provide freeway access to and from the local street system. The N1 alternative also introduces a new roadway crossing US 45 between Wisconsin Avenue and Watertown Plank Road, thereby creating a more direct link between the Milwaukee County Research Park and the Milwaukee Regional Medical Center and providing some traffic relief to the existing street system.
4. The Wisconsin Department of Transportation should provide access to I-94 from Blue Mound Road, as long as further property acquisitions can be avoided (note: the remaining alternatives under consideration for the north leg of the interchange provide for Blue Mound Road access to I-894 and US 45, but not I-94).
5. The money saved by reconstructing the Interchange with 6 lanes, rather than proceeding with the option that expands it to 8 lanes, should be appropriated to local governments for the maintenance and reconstruction of existing local roads and bridges.
6. The number of structures in the city of Milwaukee acquired and demolished for this project should be kept to a minimum.
7. Any reconstruction of the Zoo Interchange should make provisions for a transit and bicycle-trail right-of-way that extends from the former West Allis Air Line railroad right-of-way on the southern edge of the Interchange northward toward the Milwaukee County Grounds and

Swan Boulevard to preserve the option of installing mass transit service and bicycle facilities from downtown Milwaukee to the County Grounds at a future time.

8. As a mitigation measure, the Wisconsin Department of Transportation should provide a westerly extension of the Hank Aaron State Trail along the former West Allis Air Line railroad.

9. As a traffic mitigation measure, commuter rail service should be operated along the Canadian Pacific mainline between Milwaukee and Watertown throughout the duration of the construction phase of the Zoo Interchange project.

; and, be it

Further Resolved, That the City Clerk is directed to send copies of this resolution to Governor Doyle, the City of Milwaukee's representatives in the Wisconsin Legislature and Secretary of Transportation Busalacchi.



I, Ronald D. Leonhardt, City Clerk, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a(n) Resolution Passed by the COMMON COUNCIL of the City of Milwaukee, Wisconsin on July 28, 2009.

Ronald D. Leonhardt

Ronald D. Leonhardt

August 06, 2009

Date Certified