

SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

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Dept of Public Works

Serving the Counties of:

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September 23, 2008

Mr. Richard M. Jones
Commissioner of Public Works/City Engineer
City of Racine
730 Washington Avenue
Racine, WI 53403

Dear Mr. Jones:

As a member of the Technical Steering Committee appointed by the Intergovernmental Partnership of the Cities and Counties of Kenosha, Milwaukee, and Racine, the Wisconsin Department of Transportation, and the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission for the Kenosha-Racine-Milwaukee (KRM) Commuter Rail extension, you are aware of the additional technical and planning work for the KRM project that will be necessary to permit the project to be submitted in mid-2009 to the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Transit Administration (FTA). The FTA will utilize this additional study to determine whether to permit the KRM project to enter preliminary engineering, and continue to implementation and be eligible to receive a Federal discretionary grant for its capital funding. The work will include updating and refining capital and operating costs, refining ridership forecasts, refining the proposed KRM operations plan, preparing a revised project financial plan, and continued and enhanced coordination with Metra, Union Pacific Railroad, and Canadian Pacific Railway.

This next phase of the KRM project is to be conducted in accordance with the *Cooperative Agreement to Conduct Advanced Planning, Environmental Studies, and Other Activities Attendant to the Proposed Commuter Rail Passenger Train Service in the Kenosha-Racine-Milwaukee Corridor* which was executed on March 9, 2005, between the Mayors of the Cities of Kenosha, Milwaukee, and Racine, the County Executives of the Counties of Kenosha, Milwaukee, and Racine, the Secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Transportation, and the Chairman of the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission. As identified in the attached cooperative agreement, funding for the next phase will come from available Federal and State resources, with local funds to be provided by the Cities and Counties concerned in the form of in-kind staff services.

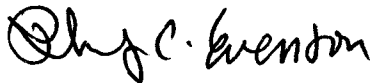
It is envisioned that this advanced development phase will have a cost of \$1,000,000 and will again be funded under an 80/10/10 formula – 80 percent Federal, 10 percent State, and 10 percent local. The Commission staff has secured on behalf of the Intergovernmental Partnership \$800,000 in funds from the Federal Transit Administration, and has applied for \$100,000 in funds from the Wisconsin Department of Transportation Commuter Rail Grant Program. The remaining \$100,000 is the local share to be divided equally between the Cities and Counties of Kenosha, Racine, and Milwaukee. This amounts to \$16,677 per County and City to be provided in in-kind services or cash to meet the matching requirements of the secured State and Federal funds.

Mr. Richard M. Jones
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Please sign and return this letter to the Commission staff, committing the City's portion of the local share of the next phase of the KRM project - \$16,667 – to be provided in in-kind services, or if the City prefers, in cash.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call Mr. Kenneth R. Yunker of the Commission staff directly.

Sincerely,



Philip C. Evenson
Executive Director

PCE/lw
#136413

Enclosure

By: _____
Richard M. Jones, Commissioner of Public Works/
City Engineer, City of Racine

_____ Date

COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT TO CONDUCT ADVANCED
PLANNING, ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES, AND OTHER ACTIVITIES
ATTENDANT TO THE PROPOSED COMMUTER RAIL PASSENGER TRAIN SERVICE IN THE
KENOSHA-RACINE-MILWAUKEE CORRIDOR

This COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT, hereinafter referred to as the "Agreement," is entered into this 9th day of March, 2005, by and between the Chief Elected Officials of the Counties and Cities of Kenosha, Milwaukee, and Racine, hereinafter referred to as the "Chief Elected Officials," the Wisconsin Department of Transportation, hereinafter referred to as "WisDOT," and the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission, hereinafter referred to as "SEWRPC."

WHEREAS, the Chief Elected Officials and WisDOT desire to undertake advanced planning, environmental studies, and other related activities attendant to the extension of Metra Commuter Rail Public Transit Service in the lakeshore travel corridor extending from Kenosha to Racine and to Milwaukee; and

WHEREAS, SEWRPC is empowered under the provisions of Section 66.0309(12)(b) of the Wisconsin Statutes to cooperate with other units and agencies of government in the making of studies and plans; and

WHEREAS, Federal and State funds are presently available, together with in-kind matching funds from the local and county governments represented by the Chief Elected Officials, to undertake the required advanced planning, environmental, and related work.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing premises the parties agree jointly and severally, as follows:

ARTICLE I Creation and Purpose of Partnership

The Chief Elected Officials, the WisDOT, and the SEWRPC hereby create an Intergovernmental Partnership (hereinafter referred to as the "Partnership") intended to operate in the spirit of cooperation authorized by Section 66.0301 of the Wisconsin Statutes.

The purpose of the Partnership is to undertake those activities found necessary to position the proposed Metra Commuter Rail Public Transit Service project in the Kenosha-Racine-Milwaukee (KRM) Corridor, such that the proposed project will be able to be approved by the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Transit Administration, for entry into the preliminary engineering stage of the project development process. These activities include: advanced planning work attendant to the proposed Metra service extension, including refinement of the proposed commuter rail service and the commuter bus alternatives previously examined; the preparation of a draft environmental impact statement attendant to the proposed Metra service extension project; the preparation of the Federal Transit Administration specified and required "New Starts" report and other supporting information; and the pursuit of relationships with the business communities in the Kenosha-Racine-Milwaukee Corridor leading to the identification of appropriate local funding sources for the envisioned commuter rail service.

ARTICLE II. Role of the Chief Elected Officials

The Chief Elected Officials agree to actively support the various activities needed to accomplish the purpose of the Partnership. More particularly, the Chief Elected Officials agree to the following:

1. Appoint a representative to serve on the KRM Steering Committee identified in Article V below.
2. Actively work with local business community and other interests in identifying one or more appropriate local funding sources to support the proposed commuter rail service.
3. Work cooperatively with the business community and other interests in building any support for the implementation of local funding sources that may be required from the Governor and the Wisconsin Legislature.
4. Develop and implement a strategy to overcome any obstacles to the proposed commuter rail service extension that may be expressed by Metra, thereby securing Metra's participation as a technical advisor to the KRM Steering Committee.
5. Authorize appropriate staff to expend time on commuter rail planning and related activities such that sufficient in-kind services are appropriately identified within the cost accounting structure of the county or local government concerned to meet the matching requirements of State and Federal funds used in support of the furtherance of Partnership activities.

ARTICLE III. Role of WisDOT

The WisDOT agrees to conduct the following activities:

1. Facilitate the provision of available Federal and State funds to support the planning, environmental, and related activities identified in this Cooperative Agreement.
2. Designate an appropriate individual to serve on the KRM Steering Committee created in Article V below.
3. Provide other staff technical support to the activities of the Partnership as may be required.
4. Work with the Chief Elected Officials to help identify potential local sources of funding.
5. Work with the Chief Elected Officials to help overcome any obstacles identified by Metra.

ARTICLE IV. Role of SEWRPC

The SEWRPC agrees to conduct the following activities:

1. Act as fiscal agent for the Partnership in securing available Federal and State funds to support the activities envisioned under this Cooperative Agreement.
2. Provide staff technical support to the Partnership, including staffing the activities of the KRM Steering Committee.
3. Develop and carry out, through the KRM Steering Committee and with the retention of one or more consultants, a technical scope of work for the appropriate planning and environmental studies required to ensure that the envisioned commuter rail project will be in a position at the end of the timeframe identified in Article VII below to be able to be approved for preliminary engineering by the Federal Transit Administration, including the preparation and publication of a "New Starts" report and supporting materials.

ARTICLE V. Creation of Kenosha-Racine-Milwaukee Steering Committee

There is hereby created a seven member KRM Steering Committee charged with the responsibility of providing appropriate oversight to all of the activities envisioned to be accomplished by the Partnership. The Chief Elected Officials and the WisDOT will each appoint an appropriate individual to serve on that Steering Committee, with the SEWRPC to provide staff support to the Committee. The Committee will elect from its membership a Chair. The Chair will serve as the primary communications contact with both SEWRPC in regard to the planning and environmental studies required to achieve the Partnership objectives, and with the Chief Elected Officials with regard to the local funding, Metra, and other activities required to achieve the Partnership objectives.

ARTICLE VI. Funding of Partnership Activities

Basic funding for support of the Partnership activities will come from available Federal and State financial sources, with local funds to be provided by the City and Counties concerned in the form of in-kind services. The available Federal funds consist of a grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Transit Administration Section 5309 Capital Investment Program. The available State funds consist of a grant from the WisDOT Commuter Rail Grant Program. The SEWRPC will act as agent for the Partnership to secure such funds and to generally administer the fiscal affairs of the Partnership. On behalf of the Partnership, SEWRPC will enter into contracts with any consultants selected by the KRM Steering Committee to carry out the required work.

ARTICLE VII. Timeframe for Work Activities

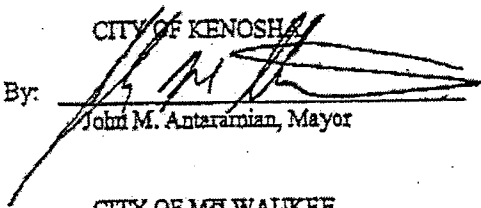
It is envisioned that the work activities of the Partnership will commence upon execution of this Agreement and will be carried out for a period approximating eighteen months thereafter. The Steering Committee will issue periodic progress reports during this time to all parties concerned.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Chief Elected Officials, WisDOT, and SEWRPC have executed this Agreement.

Attesting Witness

CITY OF KENOSHA

By:

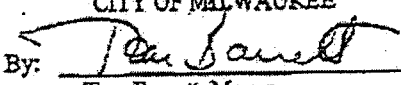

John M. Antaramian, Mayor

2-25-05
Date

Attesting Witness

CITY OF MILWAUKEE

By:


Tom Barrett, Mayor

2/25/05
Date

Attesting Witness

CITY OF RACINE

By:


Gary Becker, Mayor

2/25/05
Date

Attesting Witness

COUNTY OF KENOSHA

By:


Allan K. Kehl, County Executive

2/25/05
Date

Attesting Witness

COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE

By:


Scott K. Walker, County Executive

2-25-2005
Date

Attesting Witness

COUNTY OF RACINE

By:


William L. McReynolds, County Executive


2/25/05
Date

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Attesting Witness



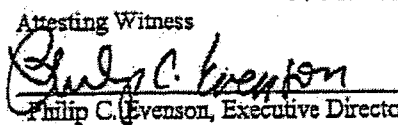
By:


Frank J. Busalacchi, Secretary

3/8/05
Date

SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Attesting Witness


Philip C. Evenson, Executive Director

By:


Thomas H. Bucstrin, Chairman

2/25/05
Date