

SECTION 2: TRANSPORTATION SECURITY

INTRODUCTION

SAFETEA-LU stresses the need to improve transportation system security and requires security to be a standalone planning factor. Transportation security refers to personal and system-wide security, and planning for incidents should address an area's vulnerability to attacks and natural disasters. Security planning should also include methods of preventing and reacting to attacks and disasters.

SAFETEA-LU legislation includes the new independent planning factor of security in the metropolitan transportation planning process. The *Year 2035 SATP* includes a brief discussion of security that must be expanded in order to be compliant with SAFETEA-LU. The purpose of this section is to define the role of the Bay-Lake Regional Planning Commission in transportation system security planning and to discuss efforts made to fulfill requirements involving the new separate security planning factor in SAFETEA-LU.

Federal guidance requires that the metropolitan transportation planning process independently consider the security of the transportation system for all motorized and non-motorized users of that system. In order to achieve this objective, the Bay-Lake Regional Planning Commission has focused its transportation security planning on coordination with the Sheboygan County Emergency Management Coordinator, with the Sheboygan Parking and Transit Utility, with the Sheboygan County Memorial Airport, and with other local agencies (when necessary).

As a Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), the Bay-Lake Regional Planning Commission is responsible for preparing the Long-Range Transportation Plan and the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), and is not the appropriate lead agency in regional security planning. The Bay-Lake Regional Planning Commission is best suited to support and coordinate with local agencies responsible for emergency management, disaster preparedness, and homeland security, and provide these agencies with any transportation-related information that they may require.

COORDINATION WITH EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCIES

The Bay-Lake Regional Planning Commission has coordinated with the emergency management staff at the Sheboygan County Sheriff's Department, which is the agency responsible for emergency management, disaster preparedness and homeland security in most of the Sheboygan metropolitan planning area.

Emergency management staff is responsible for providing professional mitigation and response and recovery services in the event of local emergencies or disasters. Emergency management staff completes disaster preparedness plans, coordinate emergency responses, and work to educate the public on how to respond to emergency scenarios.

The Emergency Management Coordinator at the Sheboygan County Sheriff's Department works to coordinate with the cities, villages and towns in the county. Examples of committees or other groups where such coordination has occurred include: the Sheboygan County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC); the Sheboygan County Emergency Operations Center (EOC); the Sheboygan County EMS Council; and the Sheboygan County Hazardous Materials (HAZMAT) Team.

The same Bay-Lake Regional Planning Commission staff responsible for the Sheboygan MPO program also assisted in the preparation of All Hazards Mitigation Plans for the City of Sheboygan and for Sheboygan County. The main contact for the City of Sheboygan plan (which is actually a *natural* hazards mitigation plan) is the city's public works department. The main contact for the Sheboygan County plan is the Emergency Management Coordinator at the Sheboygan County Sheriff's Department. The *City of Sheboygan Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan* was approved by the city's Common Council in March 2005, and was approved by FEMA (upon the recommendation of Wisconsin Emergency Management) shortly thereafter. The *Sheboygan County All Hazards Mitigation Plan* was adopted by the Sheboygan County Board in February 2008, was recommended for approval by Wisconsin Emergency Management, and is now awaiting final approval by FEMA.

The emergency management staff in Sheboygan County has also encouraged each city, village and town in the county to create an evacuation plan. These plans (which focus on highlighting key roads for evacuation in the event of an emergency) are general in scope, and do not focus on one specific evacuation event.

SECURITY EFFORTS OF SHEBOYGAN TRANSIT

The Sheboygan Parking and Transit Utility (Sheboygan Transit) is the one agency that provides public transit service to the Sheboygan metropolitan planning area. Sheboygan Transit is required to address security in its planning efforts. Transit security can include coordination with county and municipal law enforcement and other emergency management personnel, the security of transit infrastructure, and the security of transit riders.

The Federal Transit Administration created several security program action items for transit agencies to complete; these action items include a written security plan, employee training and emergency drills.

Sheboygan Transit is included in the City of Sheboygan emergency plan. Through that ongoing process, Sheboygan Transit completed a Security and Emergency Preparedness Capabilities Assessment. It was noted that Sheboygan Transit could participate by providing: surplus transportation for relief emergency response personnel; shelter or respite for emergency personnel; evacuation assistance for ambulatory and/or non-ambulatory persons; and temporary shelter for evacuees. In addition, Sheboygan Transit is willing and able to provide personnel for vehicle operations, dispatch, mechanics and administration.

Key personnel of Sheboygan Transit are participating in National Incident Management System (NIMS) training. In addition, Sheboygan Transit operates on the same radio system used by Sheboygan County and the City of Sheboygan. Sheboygan Transit regularly incorporates security issues in employee training and engages in emergency drills.

Sheboygan Transit has an extensive security training program for its bus drivers. In addition, Sheboygan Transit is taking steps to secure its facilities. Sheboygan Transit plans to install a fence and security upgrade to secure Sheboygan Transit's administrative and operations center in 2010. This measure will help protect Sheboygan Transit's facilities from vandalism and theft. This capital item is recommended in the Recommended Plan chapter of the *Sheboygan Transit Development Program (TDP)*, which is nearly complete, and is also being recommended in the *2008 – 2011 TIP*.

Sheboygan Transit has improved the security for its users by installing cameras on several of the

buses in its fleet. These cameras are used to deter criminal activity, such as disorderly conduct, assault and theft.

The coordination of security operations and emergency response activities is necessary to assist Sheboygan Transit in using its limited resources more effectively and in improving security performance.

SECURITY EFFORTS OF THE SHEBOYGAN COUNTY MEMORIAL AIRPORT

After September 11, 2001, the federal government and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) required airports and other transportation hubs and systems to enhance security with trace detection inspections for explosives. As an airport that does not offer commercial passenger service, the Sheboygan County Memorial Airport is exempt from having magnetometers, x-ray machines, or explosion detection inspections (since there is little or no checked luggage). However, the airport has secure fences around its perimeter, and there are secure entrances to all areas involving air traffic. In addition, since some airport customers have utilized the Sheboygan County Memorial Airport for international business travel (primarily to Canada and to points in Europe), U.S. Customs inspectors are occasionally brought in from Green Bay and from Milwaukee to conduct customs inspections of incoming passengers.

UPCOMING LONG-RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN

As the next long-range transportation plan is developed, the Bay-Lake Regional Planning Commission will continue to coordinate with the emergency management staff at the Sheboygan County Sheriff's Department, with other emergency management personnel in the Sheboygan metropolitan planning area, and with the Sheboygan Parking and Transit Utility and the Sheboygan County Memorial Airport to ensure the security of the transportation system.