

## ARCHIVAL WEBSITE

This site was actively used over the period 2009-2011 as the website for the Southeastern Regional Transit Authority (SERTA), which was created by the Wisconsin State Legislature and Governor in the 2009-2011 Wisconsin State budget to oversee the development of a KRM commuter rail service. In June 2011, the State Legislature and Governor repealed the State law creating SERTA, requiring SERTA to dissolve in September 2011. As such, links within the site relating to submittal of comments and questions, and sign-up for email updates have been de-activated.



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The Southeastern Regional Transit Authority (SERTA) was created by the Wisconsin State Legislature and Governor in July 2009, with SERTA given the responsibility under State law to oversee the development of commuter rail service in Kenosha, Racine, and Milwaukee Counties.

In June 2011, the Wisconsin State Legislature and Governor repealed the State law creating SERTA, requiring SERTA to dissolve by September 28, 2011.

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## Statutory Responsibilities

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The SERTA legislation was set forth in [Section 59.58\(7\) of State Statutes](#). In summary, SERTA was provided the following responsibilities:

- Authority to construct, operate, and manage a KRM commuter rail line
  - Sole authority to apply to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) for approval to advance to preliminary engineering and potentially obtain a Federal discretionary grant, [with the application to be submitted by June 29, 2010](#)
- Authority to enact up to an \$18 vehicle rental fee per transaction (indexed to inflation) in Kenosha, Milwaukee, and Racine Counties
  - Up to \$2 of fee may be used for administrative expenses
- Authority to use remaining balance of funds from the former “temporary” and “limited authority” Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Transit Authority to assist in KRM commuter rail planning
- Authority to issue up to \$50 million in bonds to provide the local share of funds necessary to initiate KRM commuter rail service
- Kenosha and Racine County transit operators are required to provide their annual and long-term transit plans to SERTA as they become available

With the passage of the 2011-13 Wisconsin State Budget (2011 Wisconsin Act 32), which repealed Section 59.58(7) and required SERTA to dissolve, the statutory responsibilities of SERTA are eliminated effective September 28, 2011.

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## BYLAWS OF THE SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

Adopted – December 18, 2009

### PREAMBLE

These Bylaws, consistent with the Statutes of the State of Wisconsin, define and regulate the activities of the Transit Authority for Kenosha, Milwaukee, and Racine Counties and officers established by, and responsible to the Authority, and have been adopted by the Board of the Authority for that purpose. Where the word “Authority” appears hereinafter, it shall be construed to mean the “Southeastern Regional Transit Authority.” These Bylaws are intended to govern the activities of the Authority as the Authority responds to its statutory charge of constructing, operating, and managing a commuter rail line.

### ARTICLE I – NAME AND LOCATION OF AUTHORITY

Section 1 – NAME -- The Transit Authority for Kenosha, Milwaukee, and Racine Counties established under State Law shall be named the “Southeastern Regional Transit Authority.”

Section 2 – OFFICES -- The offices of the Authority shall be at the offices of the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SEWRPC), which will act as staff and administrative and fiscal agent for the Authority until permanent staff have been retained. The SEWRPC offices are located at W239 N1812 Rockwood Drive, P. O. Box 1607, Waukesha, Wisconsin 53187-1607.

### ARTICLE II – MEETINGS

Section 1 – REGULAR MEETINGS – The Authority shall regularly meet on the third Monday of each calendar month, unless such meeting date shall coincide with a holiday formally recognized by the State of Wisconsin. In the event that a holiday is observed on a third Monday of a month, the Chair of the Authority shall select an alternate meeting day.

Section 2 – SPECIAL MEETINGS – Special meetings may be called at any time by the Chair of the Authority. Special meetings shall also be called by the Chair upon written request of five or more Board members.

Section 3 – MEETING LOCATIONS – The regular meetings of the Authority shall be held in the Sijan Room of General Mitchell International Airport unless unavailable, and all meetings shall be held in facilities open to the public.

Section 4 – NOTICES OF MEETINGS – The Secretary of the Authority shall mail to each member of the Board, either via electronic mail or the U.S. Postal Service, a meeting notice not less than seven (7) days before the holding of any regular Authority meetings and one (1) day for special or emergency meetings; and such notice shall state a time and place of such meeting and the business to be undertaken. The notice shall also be posted on the SERTA website.

Section 5 – QUORUM – As required by the State enabling legislation, five of the nine members of the Authority are required to make up a quorum at any meeting. If five or more members of the Authority desire to discuss Authority business outside of the regular or special meetings of the Authority, such members shall request that the Secretary of the Authority appropriately post a notice of such a meeting. All meetings of the Authority shall be conducted in accordance with the requirements of the Wisconsin Open Meetings Law.

Section 6 – MEETING PAYMENTS – Each member of the Authority’s Board attending any meeting of the Board shall be entitled to receive a payment of \$0 for attending such meeting. In addition, each member of the Authority’s Board shall be entitled to payment of travel costs as determined by the Board on a case-by-case basis.

Section 7 – SUBCOMMITTEES – The Board may create subcommittees of the Board to facilitate completion of its work.

### ARTICLE III – OFFICERS

Section 1 – NUMBER AND TERM – The officers of the Authority shall be comprised of a Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer. The officers shall be selected by action of the Board of the Authority at a regular meeting and shall serve a term of no more than two (2) years. The election of each officer shall require the affirmative vote of five of the nine members of the Authority. Should any office become vacant for any cause, the Authority Board shall select a successor at the next regularly scheduled meeting or at a special meeting called for that purpose.

Section 2 – CHAIR – The Chair of the Authority shall preside at all meetings of the Authority Board. The Chair shall work with the Authority staff to present to the Authority all matters requiring attention. Subject to any contrary requirements in these Bylaws, the Chair shall be guided by Roberts Rules of Order in the conduct of meetings.

Section 3 – VICE-CHAIR – The Vice-Chair shall preside at all meetings of the Authority Board in the absence of the Chair or in the event that the Chair is incapacitated or unable to serve.

Section 4 – SECRETARY/DEPUTY SECRETARY -- The Secretary of the Authority shall keep and distribute minutes of all meetings of the Authority Board, shall countersign all documents required to be executed, and shall keep and preserve all resolutions, transactions, findings, and determinations of the Authority Board. In the absence of the Secretary or as requested by the Secretary, the Deputy Secretary, who shall be the SEWRPC Executive Director, shall perform the duties of the Secretary.

Section 5 – TREASURER/DEPUTY TREASURER -- The Treasurer of the Authority shall keep all the funds of the Authority and shall place them in a depository authorized by the Authority, and shall keep an accurate record of all receipts and disbursements. In the absence of the Treasurer or as requested by the Treasurer, the Deputy Treasurer, who shall be the SEWRPC Business Manager, shall perform the duties of the Treasurer. The Treasurer shall report all receipts and disbursements at least once each calendar quarter to the Authority Board.

#### **ARTICLE IV – STAFFING AND PERSONNEL**

Section 1 – STAFF ARRANGEMENTS -- The staff of the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission, and in particular, the Commission's Executive Director, and Business Manager, shall serve as staff to the Authority, until the authority retains its own staff.

Section 2 – CONSULTANTS AND ADVISORS -- The Authority Board, may retain consultants and other advisors as may be necessary to help meet the statutory charge given to the Board.

#### **ARTICLE V – FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS**

Section 1 – REVENUE SOURCE -- All of the revenue required to support the operations of the Authority shall come from the vehicle rental fee authorized under the enabling legislation of the Authority. The Deputy Treasurer shall be responsible for making all necessary arrangements for the transfer of that revenue from the Wisconsin Department of Revenue to a depository bank selected by the Authority Board. The Board may borrow against anticipated funds if deemed necessary by the Board to complete its work.

Section 2 – CHECKS, DRAFTS, AND VOUCHERS -- The Treasurer of the Authority is authorized and directed to issue such checks, drafts, and vouchers as may be necessary for the payment of bills and expenses incurred for and on behalf of the Authority in meeting its statutory charge. All disbursements of the Authority shall be by check drawn on the Authority's depository bank and co-signed by the Chair and Treasurer. All disbursements made on behalf of the Authority shall be reported to the Authority Board at least once each calendar quarter.

Section 3 – INVESTMENT OF FUNDS -- The Deputy Treasurer shall maintain on behalf of the Authority, an account in the Local Government Investment Pool maintained by the State Treasurer of Wisconsin and shall place in that Investment Pool all funds not required for the immediate use of the Authority.

Section 4 – FISCAL YEAR -- The fiscal year of the Authority shall be the calendar year.

Section 5 – REPORTS AND AUDITS -- No less than once each calendar quarter, the Treasurer shall present a fiscal report to the Authority Board for its review and approval. The Authority's accounts shall be kept in a manner consistent with generally accepted accounting principles. The Deputy Treasurer shall be responsible for securing an annual audit of the Authority's accounts after conferring with the Treasurer as to the selection of an auditor.

#### **ARTICLE VI – RECORDS AND MATERIALS**

Section 1 – RETENTION OF RECORDS -- The SEWRPC shall keep the records of the Authority until the Authority retains its own staff. The Regional Planning Commission shall transfer the records to the staff of the Authority.

#### **ARTICLE VII – AMENDMENTS**

Section 1 -- These Bylaws may be amended by the Authority Board at any regular meeting of the Authority or at any special meeting called by the Chair of the Authority for such purpose. Amendment of bylaws will require two meetings, one for introduction of amendments, and the second for Board action on such amendments.

#### **ARTICLE VIII – COMPLIANCE WITH WISCONSIN LAW**

Section 1 – INCONSISTENCIES -- In the event that these Bylaws, or any provision herein contained, should in any manner be contrary to the provisions of the Wisconsin Law, the provisions of the Wisconsin Law shall prevail.

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### Members and Staff

The members of SERTA are as follows:

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John Antaramian	City of Kenosha Representative
Earl Buford	City of Milwaukee Representative
Jon Henderson	Racine County Representative
Lee Holloway, Chairman Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors	Milwaukee County Representative
Jody Karls	City of Racine Representative
Chris Layden	City of Milwaukee Representative
Michael Mayo, Sr., Milwaukee County Board Supervisor	Milwaukee County Representative
Karl Ostby	Kenosha County Representative
Julia Taylor	Governor's Representative

Acting as temporary staff to SERTA is the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission:

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Kenneth R. Yunker	Executive Director
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## Meetings and Materials

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This section of the website includes all meeting agendas, minutes, and materials of SERTA.

### Past Meetings:

- Monday, July 25, 2011
  - [Agenda](#) (including links to Exhibits)
  - [Minutes](#)
- Monday, August 2, 2010
  - [Agenda](#) (including links to Exhibits)
  - [Minutes](#)
- Monday, May 17, 2010
  - [Agenda](#) (including links to Exhibits)
  - [Minutes](#)
  - [Presentation – MCTS at a Crossroads](#)
- Monday, March 15, 2010
  - [Agenda](#) (including links to Exhibits)
  - [Minutes](#)
- Monday, February 8, 2010
  - [Agenda](#) (including links to Exhibits)
  - [Minutes](#)
- Monday, January 11, 2010
  - [Agenda](#)
  - [Minutes](#)
  - [Presentation – New Starts Application to the Federal Transit Administration for KRM Commuter Rail](#)
  - [Short-term SERTA Communications Strategy](#)
- December 18, 2009
  - [Agenda](#) (including links to Exhibits)
  - [Minutes](#)
- November 23, 2009
  - [Agenda](#) (including links to Exhibits)
  - [Minutes](#)
  - [Presentation – Briefing on SERTA Responsibilities and Recent History of RTA Consideration in Southeastern Wisconsin](#)
  - [Presentation – KRM Commuter Rail](#)
  - [Presentation – Public Transit Funding](#)

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## Submit Comments

The following are ways that interested persons and groups can learn more about the progress of SERTA, and can share comments and perspectives:

- This website will be a source of comprehensive information regarding SERTA. The website includes notifications of upcoming meetings and agendas, minutes, and materials as they become available.

## Comments

Use the box below to submit any comments you may have about SERTA (comments will become part of the public record for SERTA). All written comments will be reviewed by SERTA.

## Contact Information

First Name: \*

Last Name: \*

E-mail address: \*

Organization:

PO Box/Street address:

City: \*

State: \*

Zip:

\* Denotes a required field

Press the "Submit" button when finished.

*(submit button has been removed for archive)*

The following is contact information should a person wish to ask questions or obtain additional information:

E-Mail: *(email address has been removed for archive)*  
Phone: (262) 547-6721  
Fax: (262) 547-1103  
U.S. Mail: Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission  
P.O. Box 1607  
Waukesha, WI 53187-1607

Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission staff contact:

Kenneth R. Yunker, Executive Director

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## Reports of Interest

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The following are reports relating to the work of SERTA. If you have a suggestion of a report to be added to this page, please e-mail :

### KRM Commuter Link

#### Newsletters

- [KRM Newsletter No. 4](#) (September 2009)
- [KRM Newsletter No. 3](#) (January 2007)
- [KRM Newsletter No. 2](#) (Summer 2006)
- [KRM Newsletter No. 1](#) (February 2006)

#### Reports from Current Phase

As part of the Environmental Impact Statement and Project Development phase of the KRM Alternatives Analysis, a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) has been prepared by the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission, on behalf of an Intergovernmental Partnership (IGP) of the Counties and Cities of Kenosha, Racine and Milwaukee, the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WISDOT), and the Regional Planning Commission. The DEIS is one necessary component of this phase, and has been approved by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA).

- [KRM Draft Environmental Impact Statement](#) (July 2009)

An application was recently submitted by the Southeastern Regional Transit Authority (SERTA) to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) requesting permission to initiate preliminary engineering for a KRM commuter rail line as part of the FTA's discretionary "New Starts" funding program. The "New Starts" application was prepared on behalf of SERTA by the KRM project consultant team, under the guidance of Regional Planning Commission staff, which currently serves as temporary staff to SERTA. Should the FTA approve the "New Starts" application, the SERTA Board of Directors would decide whether or not to initiate preliminary engineering on a KRM commuter rail line. FTA permission to enter preliminary engineering is necessary to continue project development on a KRM commuter rail line, and to potentially obtain an FTA "New Starts" discretionary grant to provide the Federal share of costs associated with implementing the line. A Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) would also be prepared during preliminary engineering.

- [KRM New Starts Application to the Federal Transit Administration for KRM Commuter Rail](#) (June 2010)

#### Previously Completed Reports from 2006/2007

- [Definition of Alternatives](#) (September 2006)
- [Transit-Oriented Land Use Technical Report](#) (January 2007)
- [Capital and Operating & Maintenance Cost Estimates](#) (January 2007)
- [Evaluation of Alternatives](#) (January 2007)
- [Ridership Forecasting Report](#) (September 2007)

#### Benefits of Public Transit and Commuter Rail

- [The Socio-Economic Benefits of Transit in Wisconsin](#) (2003)
- [Economic Assessment of the Transit System in Milwaukee](#) (2004)
- [Potential Benefits of KRM Commuter Rail Identified by KRM Leadership Committee](#) (2006)
- [What Are Reasonable Expectations When Commuter Rail Comes to the KRM Corridor?](#) (2006)
- [Community Economic Impact Study of the Proposed Kenosha-Racine-Milwaukee \(KRM\) Commuter Rail](#) (2007)

#### Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Transit Authority Report to Governor and Wisconsin Legislature

- [Recommendations to the Governor and Legislature in November 2008](#)



## Former Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Transit Authority Meetings and Materials

This section of the website includes all meeting agendas, minutes, and materials of the former “temporary” and “limited authority” Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Transit Authority.

- March 30, 2009 (teleconference)
  - [Agenda](#)
  - [Minutes](#)
- March 2, 2009 (teleconference)
  - [Agenda](#)
  - [Minutes](#)
- February 27, 2009 (teleconference)
  - [Agenda](#)
  - [Minutes](#)
- November 10, 2008
  - [Agenda](#)
  - [Minutes](#)
- October 23, 2008 (teleconference)
  - [Agenda](#)
  - [Minutes](#)
- August 18, 2008
  - [Agenda](#)
  - [Minutes](#)
  - [Table - Comparison of Regional Transit Authorities and Public Transit Systems in Metropolitan Areas Similar in Population to the Milwaukee Area Regarding Governance, Functions, and Funding](#)
  - [Presentation - Comparison of Regional Transit Authorities \(RTAs\)](#)
- July 21, 2008
  - [Agenda](#)
  - [Minutes](#)
- June 23, 2008
  - [Agenda](#) (teleconference)
  - [Minutes](#)
- June 16, 2008
  - [Agenda](#)
  - [Minutes](#)
- May 28, 2008
  - [Agenda](#)
  - [Minutes](#)
- May 5, 2008 (teleconference)
  - [Agenda](#)
  - [Minutes](#)
- January 7, 2008 (teleconference)
  - [Agenda](#)
  - [Minutes](#)
- December 17, 2007
  - [Agenda](#)
  - [Minutes](#)
- November 19, 2007
  - [Agenda](#)
  - [Minutes](#)
- June 25, 2007 (teleconference)
  - [Agenda](#)
  - [Minutes](#)
- May 21, 2007
  - [Agenda](#)
  - [Minutes](#)
- March 19, 2007
  - [Agenda](#)
  - [Minutes](#)

- February 19, 2007
  - [Agenda](#)
  - [Minutes](#)
- January 30, 2007
  - [Agenda](#)
  - [Minutes](#)
- January 9, 2007
  - [Agenda](#)
  - [Minutes](#)
  - [Presentation - Update on KRM Corridor Study/DEIS and Community Economic Impact Study](#)
- December 18, 2006
  - [Agenda](#)
  - [Minutes](#)
- November 20, 2006
  - [Agenda](#)
  - [Minutes](#)
  - [Presentation - Northwest Indiana's South Shore Line](#)
  - [Presentation - Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Transit Authority](#)
  - [Presentation - Comprehensive Communications Strategy](#)
  - [Presentation - Funding Source Research](#)
- September 18, 2006
  - [Agenda](#)
  - [Minutes](#)
  - [Presentation - Follow-up Information From July 17, 2006 SEWISRTA Meeting](#)
- July 17, 2006
  - [Agenda](#)
  - [Minutes](#)
  - [Presentation - Review of SEWISRTA Work to Date and Comparison of Southeastern Wisconsin Public Transit to Other Transit Systems Nationwide](#)
- June 19, 2006
  - [Agenda](#)
  - [Minutes](#)
  - [Presentation - Existing and Planned Transit Systems in Kenosha, Racine, and Milwaukee Counties](#)
- May 15, 2006
  - [Agenda](#)
  - [Minutes](#)
  - [Presentation - Benefits of Public Transportation](#)
- March 20, 2006
  - [Agenda](#)
  - [Minutes](#)
  - [Exhibit A- Report on Department of Revenue Fee Collection](#)
  - [Exhibit B - Potential Names for Regional Transit Authority](#)
  - [Exhibit C - Draft SEWISRTA Website](#)
  - [Presentation - Overview of Transit Funding and Transit Systems In Kenosha, Racine, and Milwaukee Counties and Proposed Commuter Rail](#)
- February 20, 2006
  - [Agenda](#)
  - [Minutes](#)
  - [Exhibit A - 2005 Regional Transit Authority Legislation--Section 59.58 \(6\) Wisconsin Statutes](#)
  - [Exhibit B - Summary of the Regional Transit Authority Statutory Responsibilities](#)
  - [Exhibit C - Potential Sequence for SEWISRTA Consideration of State Statutory Responsibilities](#)
  - [Requirements of Wisconsin Open Meetings and Open Records Laws](#)
  - [Budget and Fiscal Considerations](#)

## Previous Consideration of a Regional Transit Authority in Southeastern Wisconsin

- The establishment of an RTA was previously considered nearly 20 years ago by the Commission at the request of Milwaukee County and the City of Milwaukee. The results of the Commission study were documented in [SEWRPC Memorandum Report No. 38, A Regional Transportation Authority Feasibility Study for Southeastern Wisconsin, 1990](#).
- The recommendation in 1991 of the Metro 2020 Policy Board, appointed by then-Governor Thompson, was that legislation be enacted to create a Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Transit Authority. Documentation was provided in [Metro 2020 Final Report: Transportation Strategies for Milwaukee and](#)

[Southeast Wisconsin.](#)

- The creation in 1991 of a Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Transit Authority by [State statute](#).
- The final report issued in 1993 by the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Transit Authority Board created under the State statute: [Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Transportation Authority – Report to Governor Thompson and the Wisconsin Legislature](#).
- [An overview of previous consideration between 1990 and 1993 of a Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Transit Authority](#)

**Year 2035 Regional Transportation System Plan**

- [Review and Update of Regional Land Use and Transportation System Plans for Southeastern Wisconsin](#) (Newsletter 4, March 2006)