

MINUTES

**Grand Valley Metropolitan Council
Transportation Division
TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING
Wednesday, June 2, 2010
Kent County Road Commission
1500 Scribner NW Grand Rapids, MI**

Conners, chair of the Technical Committee, called the meeting to order at 8:31 am. The Committee members, staff, and guests present introduced themselves.

I. ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS**Voting Members Present**

Scott Conners (<i>Chair</i>)		City of Walker
Jerry Alkema		Allendale Township
Dan Carlton		Georgetown Township
Timothy Cochran		City of Wyoming
Sandra M. Cornell-Howe		MDOT
Rick DeVries		City of Grand Rapids
Ken Feldt		City of East Grand Rapids
Tim Haagsma		Gaines Charter Township
Wayne Harrall		Kent County
Russ Henckel	<i>Proxy for Bill Dooley</i>	City of Wyoming
Jim Holtrop	<i>Proxy for Dan Strikwerda</i>	City of Wyoming
Bob Homan		Ottawa County
Dennis Kent	<i>Proxy for Dan DesJarden</i>	City of Hudsonville
Brett Laughlin		Plainfield Township
Steve Peterson		MDOT
Terry Schweitzer		City of Lowell
Steve Warren		OCRC
		Cascade Charter Township
		City of Kentwood
		KCRC

Staff and Non-Voting Guests Present

Roger Belknap	KCRC
Ed Christopher	FHWA (Resource Center)
Andrea Dewey	GVMC Staff
Andrea Faber	GVMC Staff
Abed Itani	GVMC Staff
Erick Kind	MDOT
Stewart McKenzie	FTA (Chicago)
Darrell Robinson	GVMC Staff
Jim Snell	GVMC Staff
Steve Stepek	KATS
Spencer Stevens	FHWA (HQ)
Rachael Tupica	FHWA (MI Division)

APPROVED

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ITEM II: ATTACHMENT A

Sarah Van Buren

FHWA

Voting Members Not Present

Alex Arends
Sandra Ayers
Mike Berrevoets
Mike Bouwkamp
Patrick Bush
Ron Carr
Dick Davies
Sharon DeLange
Dan DesJarden
Mike DeVries
Bill Dooley
Steve Groenenboom
Roy Hawkins
Dennis Hoemke
Taiwo Jaiyeoba
Jim Miedema
Audrey Nevins
Chuck Porter
Dan Strikwerda
Toby VanEss

Alpine Township
Village of Caledonia
City of Cedar Springs
City of Rockford
City of Grand Rapids
City of Grandville
Cannon Township
Village of Sparta
City of Lowell
Grand Rapids Township
City of Wyoming
Ada Township
GRFIA
Algoma Township
The Rapid
Jamestown Township
Byron Township
Courtland Township
City of Hudsonville
Tallmadge Township

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Conners entertained a motion to approve the May 12, 2010 Technical Committee meeting minutes.

MOTION by Schweitzer, SUPPORT by Alkema, to approve the May 12, 2010 Technical Committee Meeting Minutes. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

III. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

IV. FINAL APPROVAL OF FY2011-2014 TIP

Referring to **Item IV: Attachment A**, Robinson requested the Committee's approval of the FY2011-2014 TIP. He stated that the proposed TIP is financially constrained and includes local (STP-Rural, STP-Urban, EDF-C) projects, Interurban Transit Partnership (ITP) projects, Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) projects, illustrative projects, and an additional City of Grand Rapids project on Seward Ave. Robinson further explained that staff has performed an Environmental Justice Review of the FY2011-2014 TIP projects as well as an air quality analysis. The air quality analysis demonstrated that the TIP conforms to the State Implementation Plan (SIP) budgets assigned for the Grand Rapids Metro Area for Oxides of Nitrogen (NOx) and Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs). The public involvement process has also concluded. Several comments were received on the environmental justice review.

Van Buren asked if all of the projects had gone through the consultation process. Dewey confirmed that they had.

Schweitzer asked for clarification on MDOT's 2013 illustrative project: M-11 at Patterson Avenue. Kent provided additional information about the project.

Warren noted a correction to the KCRC West River Dr. from Rogue River to M-44 project description in 2011. The correct project description should be "4 lane reconstruction to 5 lanes." He also clarified that "Rogue River" was in reference to the Rogue River Bridge, not Rogue River Ave. Discussion ensued.

DeVries noted that for the FY2011 project, Market Avenue SW from Alger Street to Market Avenue, the responsible agency is the City of Grand Rapids.

Conners entertained a motion to approve the FY2011-2014 TIP, as amended.

MOTION by Holtrop, SUPPORT by DeVries, to recommend approval of the FY2011-2014 TIP to the Policy Committee, as amended. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

V. POLICIES AND PRACTICES FOR PROGRAMMING PROJECTS

Speaking on **Item V: Attachment A**, Dewey stated that, at the May Technical Committee meeting, staff explained the new process for developing and selecting projects for the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). Following the development of goals and objectives for the plan, the next step is updating the *Policies and Practices for Programming Projects* as a guide for the ad hoc subcommittees as they work to identify transportation need by mode. (This document provides clarification to GVMC's members and the general public about how needs and projects are identified and what funding opportunities are authorized by the MPO.)

Dewey explained that, of the six ad hoc subcommittees, four are charged with developing, as appropriate, their section of the *Policies and Practices for Programming Projects* document, which would then be submitted to the Technical Committee for refinement, rejection, or approval. The exceptions are the Intermodal, Freight, Rail & Air subcommittee and the Transit & Passenger Rail subcommittee. The *Policies and Practices for Programming Projects* document does not currently contain separated methodologies for identifying needs for these modes because they are already addressed by currently established processes, including Segment Capacity Deficiencies. Additionally, the MPO has a limited capacity to measure the quality of transit or passenger rail projects in order to develop a unique *Policies and Practices for Programming Projects* section for these modes.

Dewey also added that the six subcommittees will be meeting primarily in the month of June to develop their needs lists.

VI. CONGESTION MANAGEMENT PROCESS CAFETERIA LIST

Referring to **Item VI: Attachment A**, Snell requested the Committee's approval of the cafeteria list of alternatives for future segment capacity deficiencies. He explained that, as GVMC moves forward with the development of the 2035 LRTP update, one of the

core aspects of the plan comes from the identification of capacity related deficiencies (congestion) on the roadway system. As an MPO, GVMC is required to maintain a process that outlines a methodology for determining how capacity deficiencies are addressed. For GVMC this process is the "GVMC Congestion Management Process" (CMP). The GVMC CMP, which is currently being revised, depicts all of the alternatives considered prior to the selection of a preferred treatment for currently congested or projected congested facilities. The specific alternatives are listed in the CMP under an Appendix titled "Cafeteria Plan Alternatives."

Snell explained that in order to move forward with the development of the plan on a timely basis, staff needs to receive committee endorsement on the contents of the Cafeteria Plan Alternatives. Discussion, comments and questions ensued.

Conners entertained a motion to approve the Congestion Management Process Cafeteria List.

MOTION by Schweitzer, SUPPORT by Cochran, to endorse the Congestion Management Process Cafeteria List. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

VII. FY2010 CLEAN AIR ACTION CAMPAIGN

Speaking on **Item VII: Attachment A**, Faber informed the Committee about the FY2010 Clean Air Action Campaign. She stated that, since the last meeting, the program funding has come in, which allowed her to develop the summer radio campaign and order new promotional materials. Faber also stated that she plans to begin rotating the display to interested jurisdictions soon and on participating in various events throughout the summer and fall. She asked that Committee members let her know of events in their communities so that she can participate and represent the Clean Air Action program.

VIII. OTHER BUSINESS

Itani reminded the Committee that FHWA is visiting GVMC for recertification today and tomorrow.

Cornell-Howe stated that she is working with Robinson to determine if there is leftover ARRA funding. A tentative date for the next TPSG meeting was set for Wednesday, June 30th. Discussion ensued.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Conners adjourned the June 2, 2010 Technical Committee Meeting at 8:59 am.