

MINUTES

**Grand Valley Metropolitan Council
Transportation Division
TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING
WEDNESDAY, March 7th, 2007
KENT COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION**

The meeting was called to order by Dooley, Chair, at 9:34 a.m.

I. ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS

Voting Members Present

Bill Dooley (<i>Chair</i>)	City of Wyoming
Roger Belknap <i>Proxy for Steve Warren</i>	KCRC
Patrick Bush	City of Grand Rapids
Ron Carr	City of Grandville
Scott Conners	City of Walker
Rick DeVries	City of Grand Rapids
Ken Feldt	City of East Grand Rapids
Jim Fetzer	The Rapid
John Gorney	City of Hudsonville
Wayne Harrall	Kent County
Sandra M. Cornell-Howe	MDOT
Ken Klomparens	GRFIA
Brett Laughlin	OCRC
Terry Schweitzer	City of Kentwood

Staff and Non-Voting Guests Present

Patti Brink	GVMC Staff
Chris Dingman	GVMC Staff
Abed Itani	GVMC Staff
Steve Redmond	MDOT-Grand Region
Darrell Robinson	GVMC Staff
Don Stypula	GVMC Staff
George Yang	GVMC Staff

Voting Members Not Present

James Beelen	Allendale Township
Mike Berrevoets	City of Cedar Springs
Marta Brechting	Alpine Township
Bryan Chodkowski	Village of Sparta
Dick Davies	Cannon Township
Dan DesJarden	City of Lowell
Mike DeVries	Grand Rapids Township
Tim Haagsma	Gaines Township

William Holland
Jim Holtrop
Dick Johnston
Jim McIntyre
Gerald Mears
George Meek
Jim Miedema
Audrey Nevins
Steve Peterson
Gary Voogt
Steve Warren (*Vice-Chair*)
Bill Wiersma

Georgetown Township
Ottawa County
City of Rockford
Courtland Township
City of Wyoming
Plainfield Township
Jamestown Township
Byron Township
Cascade Charter Township
Ada Township
KCRC
Tallmadge Township

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Dooley entertained a motion to approve the February 7th, 2007 Technical Committee Meeting Minutes.

MOTION by Fetzer, SUPPORT by Conners, to approve the February 7th, 2007 Technical Committee Meeting Minutes. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

III. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

None

IV. FY2007/2008 TIP AMENDMENT

Referring to Item IV: **Attachment A** in the hand-out, Dingman noted that the City of East Grand Rapids has received a LJT award for a project in their 2008 STP-Urban Program, and is requesting an amendment to have the project listed in 2008 as an Advance Construct project, with conversion FY2008 in the TIP document. Also, MDOT's is requesting to amend the TIP to reflect additions that include 3 Baldwin Street related jobs. Via a hand-out, he addressed a KCRC/City of Kentwood request/project (funded by LJT) that should be included in the FY2007 as Advance Construct, with conversion listed the year it is in tip. Discussion and comments followed.

Dooley entertained a motion to amend the TIP to include the projects as identified by Staff.

MOTION by Fetzer, SUPPORT by Schweitzer, to recommend to the Policy Committee approval of amending the FY2007/2008 TIP to include the City of East Grand Rapids, MDOT, and the KCRC's projects as identified. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Dooley commented positively on the area's utilization of the Local Jobs Today Funds.

V. CMAQ 2008-2009 DRAFT PROJECT LIST

Dingman gave a description of the CMAQ 2008-2009 projects listed in the attachment. Via a hand-out, he explained that the City of Hudsonville has identified a more pressing project than the one in the list, and would like to switch the projects. They are requesting to bring 32nd Street and Highland in lieu of the Barry and Allen project to the FY2009 TIP, and will absorb any additional cost that would be required for the 80/20 match. Discussion followed.

Itani inquired as to whether there is a policy that allows members to use CMAQ funds for Preliminary Engineering. Bush commented that it has been done in the past. Itani stressed that using funds in this capacity is a committee decision. Discussion, comments and questions followed

Dooley entertained a motion to approve the CMAQ project list FY2008/2009 with a correction from the City of Hudsonville substituting 32nd and Highland in lieu of Barry and Allen with the federal share staying the same.

MOTION by Fetzer, SUPPORT by Schweitzer, to recommend to the Policy Committee approval of the CMAQ 2008-2009 Draft Project List, with the understanding that the City of Hudsonville is substituting a project FY2009 and the federal share will stay the same. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

VI. CMAQ 2007 PROGRESS REPORT

As Dingman updated the committee on the progress of CMAQ FY2007, he noted that this list has been approved by the Technical and Policy Committees. He indicated that all applications and worksheets are awaiting approval from FHWA. Cornell-Howe stated that to save time, Cindy Durrenberger of FHWA has approved this region starting the TIP Amendment process concurrently with her review of the project list. She stated that project eligibility should be determined prior to the Policy Committee Meeting on March 21st. Discussion followed. Cornell-Howe explained the approval process to the committee. Discussion, comments and questions followed.

Dooley entertained a motion to recommend to the Policy Committee approval of the FY2007 CMAQ project list, with the understanding that if something comes back as not eligible, it will be removed.

MOTION by Bush, SUPPORT by Fetzer, to recommend to the Policy Committee approval of amending the FY2007 TIP to include the CMAQ Project List as identified, with the understanding that if projects are not eligible they will not be approved. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

VII. ITP MAJOR INVESTMENT STUDY STATUS REPORT

Fetzer gave the committee a status report on ITP's Major Investment Study. Using a power point presentation, he gave a historical overview of the GT2 Study and the process by which the Preferred Alternative was selected. He described the benefits of BRT as the area's preferred alternative. As funding was addressed, he distributed a fact sheet on the targeted funding source titled Very Small Starts. Funding. Cost estimates were discussed as well.

He commented that this competitive process, and discussed the next steps as this moves forward.

Fetzer is requesting committee authorization to include the locally preferred alternative, Bus Rapid Transit, in the Long Range Transportation Plan, with a resolution that it has been adopted as the locally preferred alternative. Discussion followed.

Dingman noted that this project is not currently listed as funded project, and that it cannot be in the body of the Plan. Itani suggested that the committee draft a resolution that GVMC in principle agrees with the project, which will included in the Illustrative List of projects until funding becomes a reality. Bush cautioned that as this moves forward, projects being planned should coincide with future signal priorities/projects. Bush also expressed the City of Grand Rapid's willingness to participate as this process moves forward. Fetzer commented that this is very conceptual at this time. Belknap inquired as to whether bike racks will be on vehicle. Discussion followed.

Dooley entertained a motion to recommend to the Policy Committee approval of a Resolution of Support of the BRT as the preferred alternative to be incorporated in the LRTP as an Illustrative Project for the dollar amounts discussed.

MOTION by Harrall, SUPPORT by Bush, to recommend to the Policy Committee approval of a Resolution of Support and approval of Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) as the Preferred Alternative to be included in the LRP as an Illustrative Project for the dollar amounts that have been indicated. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

VIII. FY2007 PROJECT STATUS REVIEW

Referring to **Item VIII: Attachment A**, Dingman requested status on projects in the FY2007 STP-Urban and EDF-C categories from members who have projects in those categories. Cornell-Howe commented on the Planning Studies, noting that they have been obligated. Itani commented on the importance that Advance Construct projects are converted in the same year as they are listed. He cautioned that money will be lost if projects cannot be converted, so other projects can be used to utilize funding that is available for that given year. Discussion and comments followed.

IX. OTHER BUSINESS

Klomprens gave the committee an update on GRFIA's 5 Year Capital Program. Discussion followed. He noted that this is a rolling document which is updated every year.

Dingman noted that a Public Meeting will be held today at the City of Wyoming Library. He also gave the members a time line as to when additional comments should be submitted.

Dingman noted that on Thursday, March 15th a 9:30 a.m. the TPSG (Transportation Programming Study Group) will meet to begin the programming process for EDFC FY2008-2011 and CMAQ FY2010-2011. Discussion followed.

MDOT's 2007 Construction Map 2007 map of Michigan were distributed to the committee members.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Dooley adjourned the meeting at 10:20 a.m.