

# GVMC Transportation Newsletter

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## 2020-2023 TIP Beginning Development

GVMC has begun developing the FY2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The TIP is one of the metropolitan planning organization’s (MPO’s) most critical documents, describing transportation projects within Kent and Eastern Ottawa Counties that will receive federal funding in the coming years.

GVMC’s Policies and Practices for Programming Projects requires member agencies to only submit candidate projects for programming consideration that are deficient based on congestion, pavement condition, or safety information. Staff also provided additional information related to federal performance measures, proximity to transit, and the non-motorized plan for

consideration during candidate project selection and draft list programming. Maps of deficient transportation facilities that will be considered for improvement during the TIP development process are available on our [Transportation Improvement Program](#) page.

The draft TIP project list is developed by the Transportation Programming Study Group (TPSG) and Rural TIP Subcommittees. The TPSG Subcommittee met on Monday, December 3 and Wednesday, December 5, and the Rural TIP Subcommittee will meet on Tuesday, December 11. Copies of these agenda packets can be found on the [Committee Meetings and Minutes](#) page of the GVMC website.

Public involvement is an essential component of this process. All committee meetings are open to the public, and there will be additional upcoming public meetings, public comment opportunities, and updates, which will be posted as they occur. Please stay tuned and get involved!

If you have any questions about the TIP development process, please email [Laurel Joseph](#), Transportation Planner, or call (616) 776-7610.

Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids for services and persons requesting translation or interpretation assistance should email [Andrea Faber](#) or call (616) 776-7603.

# Thank You for the Outpouring of Support in the Loss of Darrell Robinson

GVMC staff has been deeply touched by the outpouring of kindness and sympathy we have been given from so many colleagues in the loss of our long-time staff member and friend, Darrell Robinson, who passed away unexpectedly on Wednesday, August 15, 2018, at the age of 52. The support we have received has comforted us, demonstrated how deeply he touched the lives of so many within and well beyond our organization, and reaffirmed how blessed we were to work alongside a man like Darrell for so long. Darrell started working at GVMC 25 years ago, and during that time, he became a friend to many within and beyond our organization. At work, he was a wealth of knowledge, a patient and approachable teacher, someone who was always willing to offer a helping hand—even if it just meant reaching boxes on the high shelves, and the person to beat in GVMC’s annual chili contest. His expertise and generous spirit

often extended beyond the office, and he was known for helping coworkers and others with projects at home and freely offered advice on topics ranging from cooking and gardening to purchasing tires for vehicles. He always had entertaining stories to share, including several about growing up on his family’s farm, and he loved talking about cars,

trucks, garden tractors, deer hunting, and his loved ones, including his long-time girlfriend, Linda, and his pride and joy, his son, Austin. Life without Darrell has been an adjustment. We will greatly miss his expertise, his sense of humor, his friendship, his stories, and his prize winning chili. To those who have offered us support in any form—

from hugs to cards to special meetings and visits to bring us up to speed on some of Darrell’s projects—thank you from the bottom of our hearts. And to everyone who has been working with us as we process this tragedy, thank you for your patience as we diligently pick up the pieces and try to fill Darrell’s sizable shoes.



# Travel Demand Model Update

The GVMC travel demand model, which was developed by Caliper Corporation in partnership with MDOT, will be ready for use soon to develop deficiency lists for current and future years, as well as perform subarea traffic analysis and other corridor studies. In addition, the model will provide GVMC with the ability to evaluate changes to land use, network configuration, or transit service and an explanation of how that might impact the various performance measures.

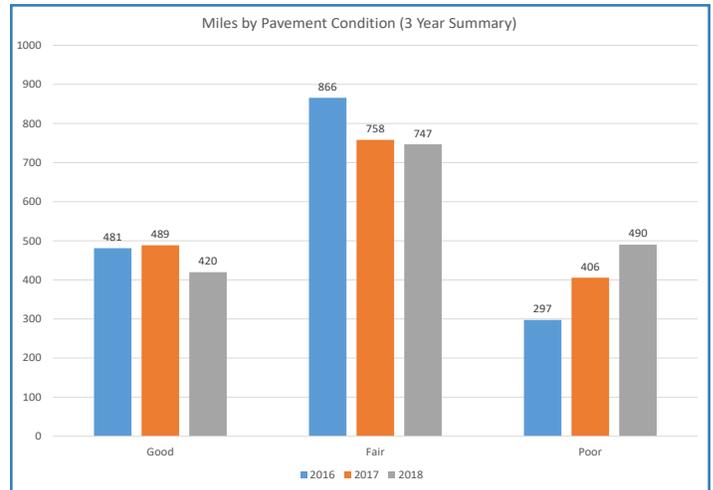
The GVMC model is an entirely new travel demand model estimated and calibrated to the 2015 base

year conditions using data from the 2015 Michigan Travel Counts (MTC) III Household Travel Survey, census, employment, and all available traffic data from that same year.

This updated model is a traditional four-step, trip-based approach, and includes modules for trip generation, trip distribution, mode choice, and trip assignment. The model utilizes advanced GIS techniques to support the inputs to various model stages and includes a mode choice component designed and estimated entirely from the MTC III survey. Listed below are the enhanced features of the updated GVMC model.

- Significantly expanded trip purposes by adding trips for school (K-12), university and shopping
- Included transit component in the model
- Developed a time-of-day analysis with four time periods (AM, PM, midday, and night)
- Developed a mode choice process that meets the needs of the GVMC area
- Developed a set of desired performance measures and analytical tools for post-process analyses

For additional information contact George Yang at [yangg@gvmc.org](mailto:yangg@gvmc.org) or 616.776.7696



## Pavement Update

It was a busy year again for GVMC's Transportation Department and the pavement management van as we racked up 2,350 regional survey miles on our road network utilizing the Pavement Surface Evaluation and Rating (PASER) system. Of those miles, 1,657 were on the federal aid network and 693 were on the local network for our jurisdiction members. Collecting PASER data for our Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) members gives them the data they need to properly put together an asset management plan to make the best use of limited funds that they have available. Depending on the condition of the road, they can narrow down the appropriate fix to prolong the life

of a given road or decide if it's time for reconstruction.

Above is a three-year summary of condition by miles for the federal aid network in our MPO boundary. As our system ages we can see some downward trends with the amount of roads in good condition decreasing and our poor condition mileage increasing. Data like this illustrates the need to find additional forms of funding and to develop asset management plans with the goal of improving the condition of our network into the future.

For additional information or to have your network rated in 2019, please contact Mike Zonyk at [zonym@gvmc.org](mailto:zonym@gvmc.org) or 616.776.7669

# 2019 Committee Meeting Schedule

Meetings start at 9:30 AM at the Kent County Road Commission Offices Commissioners Board Room  
1500 Scribner NW, Grand Rapids

Technical Committee	Policy Committee
January 9	January 16
February 6	February 20
March 6	March 20
April 3	April 17
May 1	May 15
June 5	June 19
July 3	July 17
August 7	August 21
September 4	September 18
October 2	October 16
November 6	November 20
December 4	December 18

## GVMC MPO Members

Ada Township	Algoma Township
Allendale Township	Alpine Township
Caledonia Charter Township	Byron Township
Cannon Township	Cascade Charter Township
City of East Grand Rapids	Gaines Charter Township
City of Cedar Springs	City of Hudsonville
City of Kentwood	City of Lowell
City of Rockford	City of Walker
City of Grand Rapids	Gerald R. Ford Int'l Airport
City of Wyoming	Courtland Township
Michigan Department of Transportation	City of Grandville
Jamestown Township	Grand Rapids Charter Township
Georgetown Township	ITP-The Rapid
Plainfield Township	Kent County
Nelson Township	Lowell Township
Ottawa County Road Commission	Ottawa County
Village of Caledonia	Kent County Road Commission
Village of Sparta	Tallmadge Township
	Village of Sand Lake

We'd love to hear from you...

Please contact us with any questions you have!

Staff Member	Contact Information
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