

MINUTES

**Grand Valley Metropolitan Council
Transportation Division
POLICY COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY, May 17, 2017
Kent County Road Commission
1500 Scribner NW Grand Rapids, MI**

Schmalzel, vice chair of the Policy Committee, called the meeting to order at 9:35 am.

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

Darrel Schmalzel, *Vice Chair*

Terry Brod

Mike Burns

Rick DeVries

*Proxy for
Mark DeClercq*

Tom Doyle

Tom Ecklund

Rod Ghearing

*Proxy for
Peter Varga*

George Haga

Jim Holtrop

Ken Krombeen

Doug LaFave

Greg Madura

Terry Schweitzer

Rick Sprague

*Proxy for
Steve Warren*

Julius Suchy

Cameron Van Wyngarden

City of Walker

Cannon Township

City of Lowell

City of Grand Rapids

City of Grand Rapids

MDOT

Gerald R. Ford Int'l Airport
Authority

ITP- The Rapid

ITP-The Rapid

Ada Township

City of Hudsonville

City of Grandville

City of East Grand Rapids

Alpine Township

City of Kentwood

Kent County Road Commission

Kent County Road Commission

Village of Sparta

Plainfield Township

Staff and Non-Voting Guests Present

Andrea Faber

Erin Haviland

Abed Itani

David Kent

Dennis Kent

Wende Randall

Force

Darrell Robinson

Norm Sevensma

Adelyn VanTol-Wooden

George Yang

GVMC

GVMC

GVMC

MDOT-GRTSC

MDOT

Kent City Essential Needs Task

GVMC

WMEAC-RWBC

Kent City Essential Needs Task

Force/Disability Advocates

GVMC

Voting Members Not Present

Gail Altman
 Dave Bulkowski
 Dan Burrill
 Jamie Davies
 Mark DeClercq
 Eric DeLong
 Michael DeVries
 Robert DeWard
 David Dewey
 Adam Elenbaas
 Kevin Green
 Tim Grifhorst
 Jerry Hale
 Bryan Harrison
 Jim Holtvluwer
 Tom Hooker
 John Lanum
 Jim Miedema
 Tom Noreen
 Chuck Porter
 Rob Postema
 Ben Swayze
 Peter Varga
 Steve Warren
 Rod Weersing
 Mike Womack

Jamestown Township
 Kent County Commissioner
 City of Wyoming
 City of Rockford
 City of Grand Rapids
 City of Grand Rapids
 Grand Rapids Charter Township
 Gaines Charter Township
 Village of Sand Lake
 Allendale Township
 Algoma Township
 Tallmadge Township
 Lowell Township
 Caledonia Charter Township
 Ottawa County
 Byron Township
 MDOT
 Ottawa Cty Road Commission
 Nelson Township
 Courtland Township
 City of Wyoming
 Cascade Charter Township
 ITP-The Rapid
 KCRC
 Georgetown Township
 City of Cedar Springs

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Schmalzel entertained a motion to approve the March 15, 2017 Policy Committee minutes.

MOTION by Ghearing, SUPPORT by Madura, to approve the March 15, 2017 Policy Committee meeting minutes. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

III. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

IV. FY2017-2020 TIP AMENDMENTS/MODIFICATIONS

Referring to **Item IV: Attachment A**, Robinson explained that MDOT, the KCRC, the City of Grand Rapids, and Hope Network are requesting to amend/modify the FY2017-2020 TIP. Specific requests are as follows:

MDOT**FY 2016/17/18 – Trunkline Projects – Project List**

F	JN	Route	Location	Work Description	Phase	Total Cost Est. (\$000)	Change
17	123333	I-196WB	32 nd Ave. to Kenowa Ave.	Temp. Cross-overs	Const.	\$1,500	Chg. FY to '17
18	126499	I-96 EB	Under I-196WB	Bridge Replacement	Const.	\$14,500	Cost Incr.
18	117992	US-131	10 Mile Rd. to M-57	Reconstruct	Const.	\$42,000	Cost Chg./Decr.
18	128601	I-96 EB/WB	Over the Grand River	Deep Overlay	Const.	N/C	Corrected Description
18	131483	I-196 EB	Over the Grand River	Rehabilitate	PE-Rd	\$106	Add New Project Phase
18	131483	I-196 EB	Over the Grand River	Rehabilitate	PE-Bridge	\$596	Add New Project Phase
18	N/A	Various	Areawide – GPA	Trunkline Bridge Rehab & Reconstruct	Var.	\$2,000 *	TIP Line Item/Cost Increase
18	N/A	Various	Areawide GPA	Trunkline Bridge Preservation	Var.	\$2,500 *	TIP Line Item/Cost Increase
18	N/A	Various	Areawide – GPA	Trunkline Highway Rehab and Reconstruct	Var.	\$4,500 *	TIP Line Item/Cost Increase
18	N/A	Various	Areawide – GPA	Trunkline Highway Preservation	Var.	\$2,000 *	TIP Line Item/Cost Increase
18	N/A	Various	Areawide - GPA	Trunkline Traffic Operations & Safety	Var.	\$8,000 *	TIP Line Item/Cost Increase
18	N/A	Various	Areawide - GPA	Trunkline Roadside	Var.	\$300 *	New GPA Line Item Category
18	N/A	Various	Areawide - GPA	Trunkline Scoping and Studies	Var.	\$300 *	New GPA Line Item Category

The following FY 2017 & 18 MDOT trunkline GPA projects should be modified or added to the TIP GPA list:

F	JN	Route	Location	Work Description	Phase	Total Cost Est. (\$000)	Change
17	200032	Various Freeways	Multiple Counties	Upgrade Delineators	Const.	\$186	New TOS GPA Project
17	132702	M-37/M-44	52 ND Street to Belding Rd.	Signal Optimization	Const.	\$226	New TOS GPA Project
18	124628	Various	Regionwide	ITS Control Room Operations	EPE	\$800	New TOS GPA Project
18	124629	Various	Regionwide	ITS Operations and Maintenance	EPE	\$850	New TOS GPA Project
18	129528	I-196WB	Over the Grand River	Snuff Box Mussel Monitoring	PE/D Const.	\$25	New Bridge R & R GPA Project
18	123309	US-131	@ 68 th Street	New Carpool Lot	Const.	\$200	New Roadside GPA Project
18	131775	Various	GR TSC Area	Concrete Joint Reseal	Const.	\$1,441	New Hwy CPM Project

18	118729	I-196 & others	GR TSC Area	Freeway Sign Upgrade	Const.	\$2,400	New TOS GPA Project
18	129949	I-96	8 Bridges (W. River Dr. to Coit Ave.)	Deck Patching	Const.	\$1,540	Bridge Preservation GPA Project Cost Increase
18	117335	I-96WB	On-Ramp at M-44C	Widen & Extend Ramp	Const.	\$1,684	Hwy. R & R GPA Project Cost Increase
18	122575	I-96EB & WB	W. River Dr. to the Grand River	Reconstruct.	Const.	\$4,181	Correct Route Designation

The following projects should be added to or modified in the TIP Illustrative Project List:

- I-96 EB @ Walker Avenue; off-ramp realignment:\$1.047 Million
- I-96 WB @ Walker Avenue; off-ramp modifications:\$1.0 Million
- I-196 EB @ Ottawa Avenue; off-ramp modifications:\$885,000
- I-196 WB @ Ionia Avenue/US-131BR: on-ramp and intersection modifications: \$612,000

MDOT is requesting an additional TIP revision to include the extension of the following project along I-196 WB, to create an additional WB auxiliary lane (approx. 0.75 miles) from the new bridge east to the GRE Railroad bridge near the East Beltline (M-44). This auxiliary lane would help to improve traffic operations for I-96 WB traffic merging onto I-196. It is consistent with the approved I-96/I-196 Environmental Assessment, the MPO MTP and future plans for the I-196/I-96 interchange area. The estimated cost is \$2 million. This lane extension would be let with the bridge project above in early FY 2018, but with a separate job number.

F	JN	Route	Location	Work Description	Phase	Total Cost	Change
18	126499	I-96 EB	Under I-196 WB	Bridge Replacement	Const.	\$14,500	Cost Increase
18	TBD	I-196 WB	I-96 EB bridge to the GRE RR bridge	Auxiliary Lane	Const.	\$2000	Project limits change and cost increase

KCRC

- KCRC is requesting to move two MDOT awarded FY2017 TAP projects to FY2018:
 - (1) Dutton Trail Spur to Paul Henry Thornapple Trail. This request is on behalf of Gaines Township, and this extension will allow re-evaluation of the northerly trail segment near 68th St, as well as acquisition of right-of-way and temporary grading required for this segment of the trail.
 - (2) Caledonia Trails – Phase 1B. This request is on behalf of Caledonia Township, and this extension is needed due to pending right-of-way acquisition within a portion of the Phase 1B trail route.
- KCRC is requesting the following modifications to the FY2017-2020 TIP.

- (1) Move the FY2018 10 Mile Road resurfacing project from US-131 to Meijer Driveway; and Childsdales Ave to River to FY2017 and fund with STP Urban and Flex Funds (\$500,000) currently allocated for Belmont Ave Realignment.
- (2) Backfill the FY2018 10 Mile Road NHPP funded project with 10 Mile Road over the Rogue River Bridge Rehabilitation.

Due to delays in finalizing right-of-way acquisition, the KCRC plans to fund the Belmont Realignment project with local funds.

The City of Grand Rapids

FY2017 TIP

The City of Grand Rapids is requesting to move a FY2017 CMAQ project to FY2018: College and Michigan--Design and implementation of capacity improvements through geometric alterations to the Michigan and College intersections, Total funding=\$360,914

The City of Grand Rapids is requesting to **modify** the project description of the following FY2017 CMAQ projects:

- Fiber Communications, Limits – Areawide, **Current Description** – Extend the existing Signal's fiber network long Burton St. west of Division Ave. to connect up to 8 additional signalized locations and various ITS, Total funding=\$300,000 – **Revised Description** – Extend the existing Signal's fiber network along E Paris Ave north of 32nd St. connecting up to 8 additional signalized and various ITS.
- Fiber Communication, Limits – Areawide – **Current Description** – Extend the existing Signals System fiber network along Burton St. east of Division Ave to connect up to 12 additional signalized locations and various ITS, Total funding=\$300,000. **Revised Description** – Extend the existing Signals System fiber network along E Paris Ave and Cascade Ave, north of Burton St to connect up to 12 additional signalized locations and various ITS.

FY2018 TIP

The City of Grand Rapids is requesting to move a FY2018 CMAQ Project to FY2017: Signal Optimization, Signal optimization at up to 120 locations on Federal Aid Roads (2018 P.13), Total Funding=\$300,000

Hope Network

Hope Network (a 5310 grant recipient) is requesting to add 7 revenue vehicles to their existing FY2018 list of equipment and buses.

MOTION by Krombeen, SUPPORT by LaFave, to approve the FY2017-2020 TIP amendments/modifications requested by MDOT, KCRC, the City of Grand Rapids, and Hope Network. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

V. GRAND REGION 2017-2021 FIVE YEAR PLAN UPDATE

Kent discussed a meeting that was held last month to discuss and coordinate construction schedules to maintain traffic during a major work project on the I-196 WB Bridge over the

Grand River downtown in 2019. This will involve major reconstruction of I-196 between Fuller and the I-96 junction. The schedule had to be modified due to the snuffbox muscle. A handout was displayed, and was also included in the meeting packet for the committee. Before this project begins, the WB 196 Bridge over EB I-96 project will be completed in 2018. This will help maintain traffic for the bigger project occurring in 2019. Work will also be done on I-96 between West River and Plainfield Ave and over the Grand River in 2018. In 2017 MDOT is working on M-6 between Jackson and Wilson Ave. to replace problematic pavement. Local lanes will remain open between 131 and Byron Center on M-6. US-131 projects from 10 Mile Road to north of M-46 in Cedar Springs will be constructed using longer term pavement designs, 14 Mile to White Creek Ave. will occur in 2017, work on 10-14 Mile Road in 2018. These will cause some travel delays. Smaller projects will take place north on US-131 toward Big Rapids. Many future projects will be largely focused on the freeway systems, including I-196 in Ottawa County, I-96 in Ionia County, and M-6.

VI. CRITICAL RURAL-URBAN FREIGHT CORRIDORS

Robinson stated that this is a new process due to federal performance measures in the FAST Act. There is a need to identify the Critical Urban and Rural Freight Corridors, in addition to the National Highway Freight Network (NHFN). Maps were posted for the committee as well as a smaller map included in the meeting packet. Kent explained that this process came out of the FAST Act and MAP 21. Effort was made to define the NHFN but was a limited network established by Congress that basically provided one link into Grand Rapids, I-196 from I-94. With the passage of the FAST Act, the NHFN was redefined to include all of the interstate system. The orange and grey lines on the maps provided show this. Secondary consideration was included to establish critical urban and rural freight corridors that would provide connections to the NHFN. The FAST Act limit to Michigan was around 150 miles of additional rural and 75 miles of additional urban corridors, statewide. As an example, 150 miles covers part of US-2 in the UP with nothing left. Seventy-five miles in the urban areas doesn't cover much either. The rural areas and some MPOs are MDOT's responsibility to establish the corridors; SEMCOG and GVMC recommend urban freight corridors in cooperation with MDOT. The state has adopted the approach to designate "candidate corridors" that would be eligible for freight funding, but would not necessarily be designated until there is an eligible freight project proposed. Routes can be placed on and removed from the designation depending on what projects are selected, except the interstate system—those remain on the network, per the FAST Act. The process was to establish corridors in the MPO area that would be eligible for freight funding in the future should there be a project on them. Kent and Robinson asked the committee to look over the maps and give feedback related to freight transportation in the region, to help with development of candidate freight routes. The goal is to complete this project by the end of May. Robinson added that a link to this map will be available on the GVMC's website.

VII. UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM

Referring to **Item VII: Attachment A**, Itani explained that he was bringing the Unified Planning Work Program, the budget plan for the Transportation Department, to the Committee today for approval. Under federal law the MPO needs to develop three documents: The Long Range Transportation Plan, the Transportation Improvement Plan, and the Unified Planning Work Program. The Unified Planning Work Program details all the planning activities that the MPO will undertake in the fiscal year (October 1-September 30). MPO staff met with FHWA and MDOT in March to discuss the requirements for the next fiscal year. The big area of focus is

performance measures. Under MAP-21 and the FAST Act, there are performance measures for safety and freight and transit asset management. Staff has been working with MDOT and Federal Highway to determine what needs to be done to meet the regulations. By January 2018, Staff has to have a skeleton in place showing the Feds that the MPO planning process is including performance measures. Included in the packet is a draft of the Unified Planning Work Program report. MAP-21 and the FAST Act have 8 planning factors and 11 planning areas of emphasis. The transportation budget contains six work tasks:

1. Database Management
2. Long Range Planning
3. Short Range Planning
4. Transportation Management Systems
5. Program Coordination
6. Land Use and Transportation Coordination

Other items included in the budget report are GVMC FY2018 Program Activities, Funding Sources for Planning Activities, staffing, and MPO Membership Dues Estimates. It has been recommended that the membership dues remain the same as the previous fiscal year. This budget plan will go to the Grand Valley Metro Council Board in June for approval. This report is also posted on the Grand Valley Metro Council website under transportation.

MOTION by Suchy, SUPPORT by Ghearing, to recommend the Unified Work Planning Program to the Grand Valley Metro Council Board for approval at their June meeting.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

VIII. OTHER BUSINESS

- Wende Randall, the director of the Kent County Essential Needs Task Force, described the mission of this collaborative organization to the Committee. The ENTF has a transportation subcommittee made up of several service providers, transportation groups and stakeholders in Kent County. The goal is that all residents of Kent County will have access to safe, affordable and reliable transportation options. The subcommittee has recently established indicators to track progress toward this goal. ENTF has been working with Calvin College's Center for Social Research to undertake mapping projects which allow the identification of employment clusters and retail food vendors who have fresh and affordable food options for those families. The intention is to align the efforts of the ENTF with the Metro Council. Many of the Metro Council's municipalities are already represented in the subcommittee of the ENFT, but the hope is to expand upon that. VanTol-Wooden explained a survey that the ENFT would like to send to local municipality supervisors. When ready, the survey will be sent to Faber for distribution to Committee members.
- Ecklund stated that the MDOT Department of Aeronautics is hosting 4 statewide open houses to receive public comment on the Michigan Aeronautics plan.
- Schweitzer mentioned that on July 19, Kentwood will be hosting Training Wheels, an on-road bicycle facility design training.
- Robinson reminded the committee that GVMC is out collecting PASER data in the van. GVMC is also hosting the MTPA Conference from July 25-28. He notified the members that the early bird registration deadline has been extended for committee members and encouraged them to sign up.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

APPROVED

APPROVED
ITEM II: ATTACHMENT A

Schmalzel entertained a motion to adjourn the May 17th, 2017 Policy Committee meeting.

MOTION by Suchy, SUPPORT by LaFave, to adjourn the May 17, 2017 Policy Committee Meeting at 10:46 am. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.