

GRAND VALLEY METRO COUNCIL

Board Meeting

March 4, 2010

8:30 a.m.

Kent County Commission Chambers

MINUTES

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 8:35 a.m. by Vice Chairman Don Hilton.

Members Present:

Jerry Alkema	Allendale Township
Alex Arends	Alpine Township
Dan Carlton	Georgetown Township
Daryl Delabbio	Kent County
Randy DeBruin	City of Belding
Mike DeVries	Grand Rapids Township
Brian Donovan	City of East Grand Rapids
Tom Fehsenfeld	At-Large Member
Cindy Fox	Cascade Township
Sandi Frost Parrish	Kent County
George Heartwell	City of Grand Rapids
John Helmholdt	At-Large
Doyle Hayes	At-Large Member
Don Hilton, Sr.	Gaines Township
Denny Hoemke	Algoma Township
Jim Holtrop	Ottawa County
Jim LaPeer	Cannon Township
Robert May	City of Hastings
Mick McGraw	At-large Member
George Meek	Plainfield Township
Cy Moore	Treasurer
Jack Poll	City of Wyoming
David Pasquale	City of Lowell
Chuck Porter	Courtland Township
Milt Rohwer	City of Grand Rapids
Rick Root	City of Kentwood
Ken Snow	City of Greenville
Al Vanderberg	Ottawa County
Phil Van Noord	Village of Middleville
Rob VerHeulen	City of Walker
Bill VerHulst	City of Wyoming
Chris Yonker	City of Wayland

Members Absent:

Dale Bergman	Sparta Township
Jim Buck	City of Grandville
Dick Bulkowski	Kent County
Chris Burns	City of Cedar Springs
Sharon DeLange	Village of Sparta
Jason Eppler	City of Ionia
Brian Harrison	Caledonia Township
Pauline Luben	City of Hudsonville
Elias Lumpkins, Jr.	City of Grand Rapids
Jim Miedema	Jamestown Township
Audrey Nevins	Byron Township
Steven Patrick	City of Coopersville
Toby VanEss	Tallmadge Township
Michael Young	City of Rockford

Others Present:

Andy Bowman	Grand Valley Metro Council
Leon Branderhorst	Grand Valley Metro Council
Abed Itani	Grand Valley Metro Council
Dennis Kent	MDOT
Gayle McCrath	Grand Valley Metro Council
Marcia Small	MDOT
Don Stypula	Grand Valley Metro Council

2. Public Comment

None

3. Approval of Minutes

**MOTION – To Approve the Minutes of the February 2010, GVMC Board Meeting.
MOVE – Meek. SUPPORT – Heartwell. MOTION CARRIED.**

4. Swearing in of New Board Members

Sonja Dean administered the Oath of Office to Jack Poll of the City of Wyoming.

5. Transportation Department

Request for Amendment to the GVMC 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan

Abed Itani explained the request to amend the GVMC 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan to account for changes to five proposed transportation improvement projects.

An amendment is needed to the LRTP due to routine changes to five projects. Four project changes are the result of modified project timing (either accelerating or delaying project completion) and one project is being deleted from the LRTP due to insufficient traffic volumes. The subject amendment changes resulted in scope changes of slightly over a mile, as well as project timing changes, and therefore a new Air Quality Conformity Analysis was required.

The Air Quality Conformity Analysis that was conducted by GVMC as a result of changes to the 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan shows no significant impact as a result of the proposed changes. The area remains well below its air quality budgets. The projects are as listed:

A 1.06 mile FY 2026-2035 EDF-C project, **Forest Hill Ave – M-21 to Ada Drive**, to be reconstructed and have a center turn lane added, will be split into two projects. The new limits will be **Forest Hill Ave – Braeburn to Ada Drive** (.47 miles) - \$475,200 federal - and **Forest Hill Ave – Braeburn to M-21** (.59 miles) - \$1,031,098 federal. The Forest Hill Ave – Braeburn to Ada Drive project will be moving in the LRTP from FY 2026-2035 EDF-C to FY 2008-2011 EDF-C. The Forest Hill Ave – Braeburn to M-21 will remain where it is currently listed in the LRTP (FY 2026-2035 EDF-C).

A 1.00 mile FY 2008-2011 STP-U project, **4 Mile Road – Peach Ridge Ave to Baumhoff**, to be reconstructed and widened from 2 to 3 lanes, will be moving in the Long Range Plan from FY 2008- 2011 STP-U to FY 2012-2018 STP-U - \$1,280,000 federal.

A 1.00 mile FY 2008-2011 EDF-C project, **76th Street – Eastern to Kalamazoo**, to be reconstructed and widened from 2 to 3 lanes, will be deleted from the plan due to insufficient traffic volume. The project does not meet the traffic volumes necessary to qualify for EDF-C funds.

A 1.00 mile FY 2019-2025 EDF-C project, **Northland Drive – M-57 to 15 Mile Road**, to be reconstructed and have a center turn lane added, will be moving in the Long Range Plan from FY 2019-2025 EDF-C to FY 2008-2011 EDF-C - \$2,072,000 federal. The limits of the project are also changing slightly to **Northland Drive – M-57 to Indian Lakes Road**, for a new project length of 1.31 miles.

The final project change is a .69 mile FY 2008-2010 EDF-C project, **3 Mile Road – Walker Ave to Elmridge**, to be reconstructed and widened from 2 to 5 lanes, that will be moving in the Long Range Plan from FY 2008-2010 EDF-C to FY 2019-2025 EDF-C. The limits of the project are also changing slightly to **3 Mile Road – Walker Ave to Indian Creek Road**, for a new project length of .61 miles - \$1,916,568 federal.

MOTION – To Approve the Proposed Amendment to the 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan. MOVE – Heartwell. SUPPORT – Holtrop. MOTION CARRIED.

Request to amend the FY-2008-2011 TIP to reflect The Rapid's, MDOT's, The City of Walker and the KCRC requested changes.

In preparation of the FY2010 & 2011 Section 5307/5309 grant applications, The Rapid is requesting an amendment to the FY2008 – 2011 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for FY2010 & 2011. The Rapid is requesting the change in order to update Activity Line Items. Please see the attached memos for additional information. MDOT is requesting an amendment to the FY 2008-011MPO TIP to convert several I- 196 projects, for PE phase and related costs, from 100% state funds to federal aid. These conversions to federal aid eligibility are being made under the requirements of 23 CFR Section 1.9.

The City of Walker is requesting to remove a project from the FY2008 – 2011 TIP (specifically FY2010); 3 Mile Road from Walker Avenue to Elmridge, \$2,072,000 Federal EDF category C funding.

The Kent County Road Commission (KCRC) is requesting to add a project to the FY2008 – 2011 TIP (specifically FY2010): Northland Drive, M-57 to Indian Lakes Road (1.31 miles) utilizing EDF category C funding in the amount of \$2,072,000 Federal.

MOTION – To Amend the FY-2008-2011 TIP to reflect The Rapid's, MDOT's, The City of Walker and the KCRC requested changes.

Request to amend the FY2010 Unified Planning Work Program

The FY2010 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) for the Grand Valley Metropolitan Council (GVMC) includes the budget for all federally assisted transportation planning activities that the GVMC Transportation Division, the Interurban Transit Partnership (ITP) and the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT), will undertake. Any changes in the federal funding amounts under work items in the UWP warrant a UWP amendment and approval by the GVMC Board.

Staff is requesting the amendment of the FY2010 UWP, to reflect federal Surface Transportation Program (STP) and Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality (CMAQ) Program, previously obligated unspent funds from FY2009. The unspent funds are related to work items "1.3"- Geographic Information System (GIS), "3.3"- Ozone and Particulate Matter Action Program, "4.1"- Pavement Management System (PMS), and "4.2"- Congestion Management System (CMS).

Staff is requesting to amend "Work Item 1.3" for the amount of \$186,942, "Work Item 3.3" by the amount of \$150,873, "Work Item 4.1" by the amount of \$238,936, and "Work Item 4.2" by the amount of \$119,270. The annual expenditures of the GVMC Transportation Department for FY2010 will not increase due to the FY2009 previously obligated unspent funds.

In order for GVMC to retain these funds the FY2010 UPWP needs to be amended.

MOTION – To Approve the Amendment to the 2010 UPWP – MOVE – Heartwell. SUPPORT – Arends. MOTION CARRIED

Abed Itani updated the Council on the Pavement Management Van.

6. Request from Grand Valley State University to Join the Metro Council as a Dues-Paying, Non-Voting Member Organization

Don Stypula reviewed the request by Grand Valley State University to become a member of the Metro Council. Don will talk in the next 30 days with Cy Moore, GVMC Treasurer, and the Finance Committee regarding dues. The Executive Committee recommends approving the resolution to amend the GVMC By-Laws to provide for additional advisory committees, including higher education advisory committee and higher education participants.

Jim LaPeer stated knowing the visioning session is scheduled in two months, shouldn't we wait to undertake this amendment until after this process.

George Heartwell stated he felt it was a great opportunity for us and them. It would be great to have them there for the visioning project.

Brian Donovan said GVSU has been at the table for the creation of LGROW and has been a strong supporter. It would be good to bring in their point of view and expertise.

Jim LaPeer added in Cannon Twp., the question came up of why not other organizations. What vision are we following? We should determine the vision first and use that to guide what organizations.

Alex Arends said he agreed with Jim LaPeer. We already have At-Large members and could use one of those positions to allow them to participate.

Al Vanderberg stated this was discussed at length in the Executive committee meeting and it is viewed as a pilot project at this time. I am very comfortable approving this amendment now and moving forward with the visioning process.

MOTION – To Approve the Resolution to Amend Section VI of the GVMC By-Laws to Provide for Additional Advisory Committees, Including Higher Education Advisory Committee and Higher Education Participants. MOVE – Heartwell. SUPPORT – Donovan. MOTION CARRIED. OPPOSED – Arends.

7. Endorsement of Mutual Aid Box Alarm System

Don Stypula reviewed the request for endorsement of the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System.

MOTION – To Endorse the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System. MOVE – Root. SUPPORT – VerHeulen. MOTION CARRIED.

8. Legislative Advocacy

Don Stypula reported there was not much happening in Lansing other than appropriations activities and the budget. He does not expect the budget to be finalized by July 1. There has been interest in the resolution on unfunded mandates, but it is unlikely anything will happen before the election. The lame duck session is expected to be busy.

9. Other

There will be a meeting at 8:00 on May 11 at Gaines Township Hall for the Visioning Process.

Al Vanderberg asked Don to send out the current business plan and information compiled at our last visioning session at Gaines Twp. to everyone before the meeting.

10. Adjourn – 9:40 a.m.

MOTION – To Adjourn. MOVE – Meek. SUPPORT – Arends. MOTION CARRIED.