



**GRAND VALLEY
METROPOLITAN COUNCIL**

Board Meeting Agenda

Thursday June 3, 2010 • 8:30 a.m.

Kent County Commission Chambers • Grand Rapids, MI

- 1. Call to Order by Chair**
- 2. Public Comment**
- 3. Approval of Minutes dated May 6, 2010**
- 4. Transportation / MPO**
 - a. Amendments to the FY 2008-20011 GVMC Transportation Improvement Program for the Kent County Road Commission and the Michigan Department of Transportation**
 - b. Amendments to the GVMC 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan**
- 5. May 11 GVMC Visioning / Goal-Setting Meeting: Debrief and Next Steps**
- 6. Legislative Advocacy**
 - a. Legislative Candidates Survey**
 - b. Issues Update**
- 7. 2010 GVMC Growing Communities Conference**
- 8. Other items of business and comments from GVMC members**
- 9. Adjournment**



Memorandum

To: Grand Valley Metropolitan Council
From: Donald J. Stypula, Executive Director
Date: May 31, 2010
Re: Agenda Items for our June 3, 2010 Board meeting

Attached are the agenda and support documents for our next GVMC Board of Directors meeting, scheduled for **8:30 am Thursday June 3, 2010 at the Kent County Commission Chambers in downtown Grand Rapids.**

This month we are bringing for your consideration some amendments to the GVMC Transportation Improvement Program and we are presenting for your approval amendments to the GVMC 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan. In addition, we'll discuss the results of our May 11 GVMC Visioning and Goal-Setting meeting and bring you up to date on developments at the Capitols in Lansing and Washington.

We'll start by reviewing and accepting the attached minutes from our May 6, 2010 GVMC Board meeting.

TRANSPORTATION: AMENDMENTS TO THE FY 2008-2011 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FOR THE KENT COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION AND MDOT

The Kent County Road Commission and the Michigan Department of Transportation are requesting amendments to the Metro Council's 2008-2011 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The KCRC request involves the transfer of funding from the Belmont Avenue project to a pair of projects on Lincoln Lake Avenue and 17 Mile Road. In addition, the Michigan Department of Transportation is requesting an amendment to the TIP for work related to the M-21 bridge replacement project in Ada Township and other projects throughout the area. I have attached for your review a briefing memo from GVMC Transportation Planner Darrell Robinson that outlines the requested changes together with a request memo from both the Kent County Road Commission and MDOT. These amendments have been reviewed and approved by the GVMC Technical, Policy and Executive Committees.

Proposed Action: Review and approve the proposed amendments to the GVMC FY 2008-2011 TIP for the Kent County Road Commission and Michigan Department of Transportation.

TRANSPORTATION: AMENDMENT TO THE GVMC 2035 LONG-RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN

In order for transportation staff to develop the new GVMC FY 2011-2014 Transportation Improvement Program, we are seeking your approval to amend the Metro Council's 2035 Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) that incorporates changes to twelve improvement projects throughout the MPO area. GVMC Transportation Planner Andrea Dewey has prepared a briefing memo on the request, together with descriptions of the projects for which we are seeking the amendments to the LRTP.

Proposed Action: Review and approve the proposed amendments to the GVMC 2035 Long-Range Transportation Plan.

MAY 11 GVMC VISIONING / GOAL-SETTING MEETING: DEBRIEF AND NEXT STEPS

More than 30 representatives of GVMC-member counties and communities participated on a very rainy May 11th morning during the GVMC Visioning and Goal Setting meeting at Gaines Township Hall.

Dr. Lewis Bender, retired professor of public administration at Southern Illinois University, facilitated the morning –long session beginning with a snapshot of where we find ourselves – in this state and this nation – with respect to our economy and the impact of long-term economic stresses on county and local budgets in the foreseeable future. Seven tables of participants then spent more than an hour brainstorming current and future challenges and suggestions on how GVMC can assist member counties and communities in meeting these challenges. Representatives from each of the tables spent the remaining time discussing their ideas on services that GVMC can provide now and in the immediate future to bring added value to member counties and communities.

I have attached a briefing memo that lists all of the suggestions and ideas from the May 11 meeting, together with a list of next steps in this process. We'll have plenty of time at our meeting on Thursday for a thorough discussion of the outcomes from our goal-setting process and the next steps to move forward with an action plan to achieve our goals.

LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY – LEGISLATIVE CANDIDATES SURVEY

Following some tweaking and approval by the Executive Committee, we have sent, via U.S. Mail, the attached cover letter and candidate questionnaire to 73 candidates competing in the

August primary election for seats in the 96th Michigan Legislature. They have until June 14 to return the questionnaires, after which we will follow-up with a reminder sent via email.

We will compile candidates' responses and develop a report for the counties and communities containing each of the legislative districts. We also are planning a July 12 candidate's luncheon event at the Prince Conference Center to encourage one-on-one discussions between candidates and county and local officials on the issues that are most critical to us.

Please note that the Legislative Committee will meet again at 8:30 a.m., Wednesday June 9 at the GVMC offices.

LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY – ISSUES UPDATE

Lansing lawmakers in both chambers continue their efforts to assemble a state budget for the 2011 state fiscal year, but, at this juncture, there is no way to predict if they will meet their self-imposed deadline of completing their budget-drafting duties before the July 4th holiday.

As budget writers are working on the state spending plans, a few other issues are being debated in committees and on the House and Senate floors. Legislation dealing with public employee health care benefits, speed limits on local roads and transit planning are among the issues being considered at the Committee level. I will bring an update on these issues and other activities in the Legislature and the U.S. Congress to our meeting on Thursday morning.

2010 GVMC GROWING COMMUNITIES CONFERENCE – JUNE 10 AT THE PRINCE CONFERENCE CENTER

We're inviting one representative from each GVMC-member county and community to register – **FREE OF CHARGE** – for Metro Council's annual Growing Communities Conference, set for Thursday June 10, 2010 at the Prince Conference Center at Calvin College. The theme of this year's conference -- **CHOOSING OUR FUTURE: INNOVATIONS AND ADAPTATIONS FOR SUSTAINING COMMUNITY** – looks at the state of our state and the enormous changes that have permanently changed the places where we live.

I have attached the conference brochure with the descriptions of each of the sessions. To take advantage of the complimentary conference registration (one for each GVMC-member county and community), please send an email directly to me with the name, title, affiliation, address, phone, fax number and email address of the registrant. I'll take it from there.

As always, we're looking forward to seeing you and having a fruitful discussion. If you have any thoughts, comments, questions or suggestions you can reach me anytime on my cell phone at 616-450-5217, in the office at 776-7604, at home at 257-3372 or via email at stypulad@gvmc.org.

GRAND VALLEY METRO COUNCIL

Board Meeting

May 6, 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 Chairman Jim Buck.

Members Present:

Alex Arends	Alpine Township
Dale Bergman	Sparta Township
Jim Buck	City of Grandville
Dick Bulkowski	Kent County
Tom Butcher	Grand Valley State University
Dan Carlton	Georgetown Township
Randy DeBruin	City of Belding
Daryl Delabbio	Kent County
Mike DeVries	Grand Rapids Township
Tom Fehsenfeld	At-Large Member
Cindy Fox	Cascade Township
George Heartwell	City of Grand Rapids
John Helmholdt	At-Large
Don Hilton, Sr.	Gaines Township
Denny Hoemke	Algoma Township
Jim Holtrop	Ottawa County
Jim LaPeer	Cannon Township
George Meek	Plainfield Township
Cy Moore	Treasurer
Sandi Frost Parrish	Kent County
Jack Poll	City of Wyoming
Rick Root	City of Kentwood
Ken Snow	City of Greenville
Al Vanderberg	Ottawa County
Bill VerHulst	City of Wyoming

Members Absent:

Jerry Alkema	Allendale Township
Chris Burns	City of Cedar Springs
Sharon DeLange	Village of Sparta
Brian Donovan	City of East Grand Rapids
Jason Eppler	City of Ionia
Brian Harrison	Caledonia Township

Doyle Hayes	At-Large Member
Pauline Luben	City of Hudsonville
Elias Lumpkins, Jr.	City of Grand Rapids
Robert May	City of Hastings
Mick McGraw	At-large Member
Jim Miedema	Jamestown Township
Audrey Nevins	Byron Township
David Pasquale	City of Lowell
Steven Patrick	City of Coopersville
Chuck Porter	Courtland Township
Milt Rohwer	City of Grand Rapids
Toby VanEss	Tallmadge Township
Phil Van Noord	Village of Middleville
Rob VerHeulen	City of Walker
Chris Yonker	City of Wayland
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
Marsha Small	MDOT
Don Stypula	Grand Valley Metro Council
Peter Varga	ITP / The Rapid

2. Public Comment

None

3. Oath of Office

Sue deSteiguer, Kent County Deputy Clerk, administered the oath of office to Tom Butcher the representative for Grand Valley State University.

4. Approval of Minutes

MOTION – To Approve the Minutes of the April GVMC Board Meeting. MOVE – Meek. SUPPORT – Heartwell. MOTION CARRIED.

5. Transportation

Amendments to the FY 2008-2011 GVMC Transportation Improvement Program

Staff was recently informed by the City of East Grand Rapids of bid savings being realized on a project in the FY2010 TIP utilizing STP-Urban funds in the amount of \$370,807 Federal. In order for GVMC not to lose the funds for this area staff called a TPSG meeting on April 15, 2010 and through the MPO process reprogrammed the \$370,807. As a result of the reprogramming process the following amendments are being requested: The City of Hudsonville requested a project on 36th Avenue, a former Economic Stimulus “B” list project be funded at \$110,466 Federal funds, \$27,616 local funds for a total project cost of \$138,082. This project is part of the FY2008 – 2011 TIP and was an Illustrative project.

The Kent County Road Commission (KCRC) requested to add \$31,352 Federal to a currently funded STP-Urban FY2010 TIP project, Pettis Avenue from Honey Creek to M-21. The new project costs are as follows: \$168,000 Federal, \$42,000 local for a total of \$210,000.

Finally the Ottawa County Road Commission (OCRC) requested to add \$228,989 Federal to a currently funded STP-Urban FY2010 TIP project, 8th Avenue from M-45 to Ironwood Drive. The new project costs are as follows: \$819,739 Federal, \$680,161 local for a total of \$1,499,900.

The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) made a separate amendment request to increase the amount of their US-131 project under 32nd Street to \$581,000 total

MOTION - To amend the FY2008-2011 TIP to reflect The City of Hudsonville, KCRC, OCRC and MDOT requested changes. MOVE – Holtrop. SUPPORT – Heartwell. MOTION CARRIED.

Approval of Third Party Contract with RLS & Associates to complete the Kent County Transit Needs Assessment

Presented for the Council’s review and approval is a contract totaling \$223,685 with RLS and Associates to perform a Kent County-wide assessment of unmet public transportation needs. We used a detailed RFP process to seek out qualified consultants with final interviews and consultant selection made by a collaborative study group assembled by Metro Council staff.

Denny Hoemke said he appreciated everyone’s work on this project as it has been a long time coming.

MOTION – To Approve the Third Party Contract with RLS. MOVE – Heartwell. SUPPORT – Delabbio. MOTION CARRIED.

Environmental Impact Study

Dennis Kent of M-DOT passed out a report on an environmental impact study for work to be done in Ottawa County which would include a new trunk line and additional river crossing.

6. Resolution to Amend the GVMC Articles of Incorporation to Remove Jamestown Township as a Participating Local Unit of Government

MOTION – To Amend the GVMC Articles of Incorporation to Remove Jamestown Township. MOVE – Hilton. SUPPORT – Fox. MOTION CARRIED.

7. May 11, GVMC Visioning / Goal-Setting Meeting

Don Stypula reviewed the agenda for the May 11, GVMC Visioning / Goal-Setting Meeting at Gaines Township. He encouraged everyone to participate and send representation if they could not attend.

Daryl Delabbio questioned whether Board members would be receiving an information packet ahead of time.

Don Stypula indicated he would be sending everything out e-mail tomorrow including financial information.

Tom Fehsenfeld suggested getting information from Jamestown Township on why they are withdrawing from GVMC.

8. Legislative Advocacy

Rick Root stated there was not much to report from Lansing. Don will be sending out a survey to primary candidates and tracking their responses to issues identified by the Legislative Committee.

Mike DeVries stated it is important to create a partnership with the new legislators.

9. Other

10. Adjourn – 9:40 a.m.

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



GRAND VALLEY METROPOLITAN COUNCIL

ALGOMA TOWNSHIP • ALLENDALE TOWNSHIP • ALPINE TOWNSHIP • BELDING • BYRON TOWNSHIP • CALEDONIA TOWNSHIP • CANNON TOWNSHIP • CASCADE TOWNSHIP • CEDAR SPRINGS • COOPERSVILLE • COURTLAND TOWNSHIP • EAST GRAND RAPIDS • GAINES TOWNSHIP • GEORGETOWN TOWNSHIP • GRAND RAPIDS • GRAND RAPIDS TOWNSHIP • GRANDVILLE • GREENVILLE • HASTINGS • HUDSONVILLE • IONIA • JAMESTOWN TOWNSHIP • KENT COUNTY • KENTWOOD • LOWELL • MIDDLEVILLE • OTTAWA COUNTY • PLAINFIELD TOWNSHIP • ROCKFORD • SPARTA • SPARTA TOWNSHIP • TALLMADGE TOWNSHIP • WALKER • WAYLAND • WYOMING

MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 26, 2010
TO: Grand Valley Metro Council Board
FROM: Darrell T. Robinson, Transportation Planner
RE: FY2008-2011 TIP changes

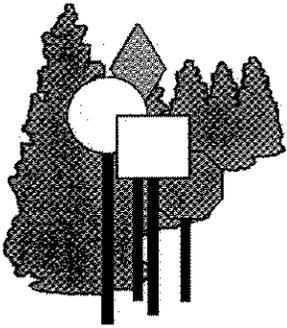
Staff was recently informed by the Kent County Road Commission (KCRC) their desire to delete an FY2010 STP-Urban project. The Michigan Department of transportation (MDOT) is requesting FY2008-2011 TIP amendments as well. With this in mind the following amendments are being requested:

- Delete an FY2010 STP-Urban project, Belmont Avenue, Jupiter Avenue to Post Drive at a Federal of \$899,000.
- Move forward an STP-Rural project, Lincoln Lake Avenue, 3 Mile Road to 5 Mile Road from FY2008-2011 TIP (Specifically FY2011) to FY2010 with a Federal cost of \$506,088 and change the funding to STP-Urban.
- Move a project from the Illustrative list, 17 Mile Road, US-131 to West Street to FY2010 with a Federal STP-Urban cost of \$392,912. For more details, please see attached.
- MDOT is requesting to include an additional trunk line project on M-21, trunk line General Program Account (GPA) and Local GPA for the GVMC MPO area in FY2010. The MDOT Road CPM increase includes concrete pavement repairs on **I-196** between Lane Avenue and the Grand River (near Market Avenue) and pavement repairs on **M-45** near the I-196 interchange. The MDOT Traffic Safety GPA increase is for modifications to the **M-37/10 Mile Road** intersection and **M-121** intersections in/near Hudsonville. The Local Rail Safety GPA is for repairs to local rail crossings in the Grand Rapids area. These increases reflect bid savings or cost reductions from projects let earlier in the year, so that the funds can be retained in the Grand Region area (Please see attached).

With these actions the FY2008-2011 TIP remains financially constrained.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me at (616) 776-7609.

Action Requested: To amend the FY2008-2011 TIP to reflect the KCRC requested changes.



Board of County Road Commissioners
of the County of Kent

1500 Scribner Ave., N.W. Grand Rapids, MI 49504-3299
(616) 242-6900 Fax # (616) 242-6980

May 12, 2010

Chairman
John W. Weiss
Vice-Chairman
David M. Groenleer
Commissioner
Patrick G. Malone
Commissioner
Mark E. Rambo
Commissioner
William N. Stellin
Jon F. Rice, P.E.
Managing Director
Steven A. Warren
Deputy Director
John L. Strauss
Director of Finance

Mr. Scott Conners PE, Engineer
City of Walker
4243 Remembrance Road, NW
Walker, MI 49534

Dear Scott:

RE: Belmont Avenue: Jupiter Ave. to Post Dr.

The Kent County Road Commission Board decided at their May 11, 2010 meeting to cancel the Belmont Avenue (Jupiter Avenue to Post Drive) improvement project, which is listed in the current FY2008-2011 Transportation Improvement Program. The Board made this decision to insure that the federal Surface Transportation Program (STP) Urban funds associated with this project will be obligated before the end of FY2010. Therefore, this action makes available \$899,000 of STP-Urban funds for another project or projects in the area

To resolve this issue, KCRC is putting forward an option for the GVMC Technical Committee to consider which consists of the following amendments to the FY2008-2011 TIP.

		Federal	Match	Total
a. Delete from FY 2010				
Belmont Ave.	Jupiter Ave. to Post Dr.	\$899,000	\$351,000	\$1,250,000
b. Advance from FY2011 to FY2010				
Lincoln Lake Ave.	3 Mile Rd. to 5 Mile Rd.	\$506,088	\$126,522	\$632,610
c. Advance from the Illustrative List to FY2010				
17 Mile Rd.	US131 to West St.	\$392,912	\$ 98,228	\$491,140
d. Change limits in FY2011				
Lincoln Lake Ave.	McPherson St. to 3 Mile Rd.	\$532,000	\$133,000	\$665,000

We appreciate your cooperation in this matter and the consideration of our request by the GVMC Transportation Committees.

Sincerely,

Steven A. Warren,
Deputy Director



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
GRAND REGION OFFICE
1420 FRONT AVENUE NW
GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN 49504
PHONE: 616-451-3091 FAX: 616-451-0707

KIRK STEUDLE
DIRECTOR

May 18, 2010

TO: Abed Itani, Transportation Director
Grand Valley Metro Council

FROM: Dennis Kent, Region Transportation Planner
MDOT/Grand Region

SUBJECT: **FY 2008-011 TIP Amendment**

MDOT is requesting an amendment/modification to the FY 2008-011MPO TIP to include the following additional trunkline project, trunkline General Program Account (GPA) and Local GPA for the GVMC MPO area in FY 2010. This project will include the use of federal funding.

FY	JN	Route	Location	Work Description	Total Cost Est.
10	110042	M-21	Grand River to Bennett Street in Ada Twp.	Maintaining Traffic and related improvements for Grand River Bridge Replacement project. (JN 79083 in approved TIP)	\$3,503,000
10	N/A	Various	Areawide	Trunkline Road CPM - GPA	\$7,540,000
10	NA	Various	Areawide	Trunkline Highway Safety - GPA	\$5,890,000
10	NA	Various	Areawide	Local Rail Safety - GPA	\$13,000

Please amend or modify the Grand Rapids FY 2008-011 MPO TIP to include this GPA. Feel free to contact me at 616/451-3091 if you have any questions.

Thank you for your consideration.

cc GVMC MPO Committees
D. Robinson, GVMC
S. Cornell-Howe, MDOT
V. Weerstra, MDOT
E. Kind, MDOT



The Grand Valley Metropolitan Council

MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 13, 2010
TO: GVMC Metro Council Board
FROM: Andrea S. Dewey, Transportation Planner
RE: **2035 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Amendment**

As part of the development of the 2011-2014 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) an Amendment to the current 2035 Long Range Transportation is required. The LRTP and TIP must be in compliance in order for the new 2011-2014 TIP to be approved in July, 2010. Therefore some adjustments must be made to the project listings in the 2035 LRTP regardless of the fact that the 2035 LRTP is currently undergoing its own update. The list of changes to the LRTP Project List are attached for your review.

The LRTP project changes that constitute this amendment require an Air Quality Conformity Analysis to be conducted, the results of which are posted on the gvmc.org website. Details of the LRTP Amendment project changes are also available on the website. The public involvement process for an amendment includes an ad in the Grand Rapids Press on April 24th inviting public comment on the amendment/air quality analysis; posting the amendment information on our website; inviting public comment at the pre-existing TIP public meeting on **March 18** as well as at the Policy Committee meeting on **March 19**; and mailing notice to the GVMC Public Involvement/Consultation list. The public involvement period is May 3-June 1, 2010.

Recommended Action:

Metro Council approval of the 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan Amendment.

2035 Long Range Transportation Plan Project Changes, May 2010

Amendments to the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) require Federal approval. These changes generally include the addition or deletion of a project, major cost changes, and major changes in project concept or scope and limits. These types of project changes often stimulate a reassessment of the impact each project will have on area air quality, and these changes warrant consultation with the general public.

Changes to the Long Range Transportation Plan document and project list must be made for the projects listed below. These changes are primarily a result of the development of the new 2011-2014 Transportation Improvement Program or short-term transportation project listing for our area. This list describes the original project and documents the proposed changes (ex. project name, timing, and limits). To view the LRTP, including the LRTP project list, in its entirety, please visit www.gvmc.org.

1) Original Project:

FY 2026-2035 EDF-C

Forest Hill Ave – Cascade Road to I-96 - reconstruct and add a center turn lane
.95 miles

Proposed Change:

This project will be split into two projects, changing years, changing scope, and changing funding sources. The new limits will be **Forest Hill Ave – North City Limits (Kentwood) to Cascade** (.35 miles) and **Forest Hill Ave – North City Limits (Kentwood) to I-96** (.91 miles).

The **Forest Hill Ave – North City Limits (Kentwood) to Cascade** project section will be moving to FY 2008-2011 EDF-C and will remain a road reconstruction with the addition of a center turn lane. The **Forest Hill – North City Limits (Kentwood) to I-96** project will be moving to FY 2012-2018 and changing funding sources to STP-U and will only be road reconstruction (No center turn lane added).

2) Original Project (s):

FY 2008-2011 EDF-C

Forest Hill Ave – Braeburn to Ada Drive – reconstruct and add center turn lane .47 miles

FY 2026-2035 EDF-C

Forest Hill Ave – Braeburn to M-21 – reconstruct and add center turn lane
.59 miles

Proposed Change:

The Forest Hill Ave – Braeburn to Ada Drive project will be moved to FY 2012-2018 EDF-C and the Forest Hill Ave – Braeburn to M-21 project will also be moved to FY 2012-2018 EDF-C so that the projects may be combined. The new project will be FY 2012-2018 EDF-C **Forest Hill Ave – Ada to M-21** reconstruct and add a center turn lane (1.00 mile).

3) Original Project:

FY 2008-2011 STP-U

Clyde Park Ave – 68th St to 76th St – resurface in 2011
1.01 miles

Proposed Change:

This project will have the limits slightly changed, will be changing funding sources, and be moved in the Plan to FY 2012-2018 EDF-C. The new project will be FY 2012-2018 EDF-C **Clyde Park Ave - .10 miles North of 76th St to .10 miles South of 68th St**, widen to two to three lanes (.80 miles).

- 4) Original Project:
FY 2026-2035 EDF-C
Northland Drive – 16 Mile Road to Cedar Springs South Limit – reconstruct and add center turn lane
.66 miles

Proposed Change:

This project will have the limits slightly changed and will be moved in the Plan to FY 2010-2018 EDF-C. The new project will be FY 2012-2018 EDF-C **Northland Drive – Indian Lake to South St**, reconstruct and widen to two to three lanes (1.2 miles).

- 5) Proposed Change:
A new project, **Knapp Street – At Grand River Drive** will be added to FY 2012- 2018 EDF-C (.10).

- 6) Proposed Change:
A new project, **ITS – areawide** will be added to FY 2012-2018 EDF-C (no scope).

- 7) Original Project(s):
FY 2008-2011 STP-U
4 Mile Road – Baumhoff to Old Orchard - reconstruct and widen to two to three lanes
1.34 miles

FY 2012-2018 STP-U

4 Mile Road - Peachridge to Baumhoff - reconstruct and widen to two to three lanes
1.00 mile

Proposed Change:

The 4 Mile Road – Baumhoff to Old Orchard project will moving to FY 2012-2018 EDF-C, the limits will be changing as it will be combined with the 4 Mile Road – Peachridge to Baumhoff project. The new project will be FY 2012-2018 EDF-C **4 Mile Road – Walker Ave to Old Orchard Ave**, reconstruct and widen to two to three lanes (1.9 miles).

- 8) Original Project:
FY 2012-2018 EDF-C
68th Street – Clyde Park to Burlingame – Widen from 2-5 lanes in 2018.
1.0 mile

Proposed Change:

The 68th Street project will be changing federal funding sources within the same block of years in the plan and will be a resurfacing project instead of a widening project.
The new project description will be: FY 2012-2018 STP-U **68th Street – Clyde Park to Burlingame – Resurface by 2018.**

- 9) Original Project:
FY 2008-2011 STP-U
8th Avenue – Port Sheldon to 44th Street – Resurface existing in 2011
.50 miles

Proposed Change:

The 8th Avenue will be both resurfaced and have a center turn lane added.

The new project description will be: FY 2008-2011 STP-U **8th Avenue – Port Sheldon to 44th Street – Resurface and add center turn lane in 2011.** .50 miles

10) Original Project:

FY 2012-2018 STP-U

Division Avenue – 54th Street to 60th Street – Reconstruct and add center turn lane by 2014.

.76 miles

Proposed Change:

The Division Avenue project will be reconstructed and, instead of a center turn lane, a median will be added. The new project description will be: FY 2012-2018 STP-U **Division Avenue – 54th Street to 60th Street – Reconstruct from a 4-lane to a 4-lane divided by 2014.** .76 miles

11) Original Project:

FY 2019-2025 MDOT

Fuller - @ I-196 – Add turning lanes to bridges and ramps @ I-196

.10 miles

Proposed Change:

The project will be moved from FY 2019-2025 in the LRTP to FY 2008-2011. The new project will be: FY 2008-2011 MDOT, **Fuller - @ I-196 – Add turning lanes to bridge and ramps at I-196.** .10 miles

12) Original Project:

FY 2019-2025 EDF-C

West River Drive – Verta Avenue to M-44 (Northland Drive) – Reconstruct and Add Center Turn Lane by 2025

1.49 miles

Proposed Change:

The project will be changing years, funding sources, and limits. The project will be moved from FY 2019-2025 to 2008-2011 and be changing funding sources to STP-U. The new project will be: FY 2008-2011 STP-U, **West River Drive – Rogue River to M-44 (Northland Drive) – Reconstruct and add center turn lane by 2011.**

.75 miles

Some Relevant Definitions – for a complete list of definitions see Appendix B of the LRTP

Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) - A document that provides a strategy and methodology for an area's long range transportation needs. The Long Range Plan must have at least a twenty-year window and must be updated every four years.

Surface Transportation Program – Urban (STP-U) - Federal funding category geared specifically to urbanized areas.

Transportation Economic Development Funds – Category C (EDF-C) - This general program has different lettered categories A through F that provide competitive statewide funding for roadways of different types that serve an economic development purpose.



The Grand Valley Metropolitan Council

MEMORANDUM

TO: Grand Valley Metropolitan Council

FROM: Donald J. Stypula, Executive Director

DATE: May 20, 2010

RE: Summary of May 11, 2010 GVMC Visioning / Goal-Setting Meeting

Working with executive staff, I have compiled below an accurate list of topics, together with specific wants, needs and desires that were identified by participants at the GVMC's May 11, 2010 Visioning / Goal-Setting session at Gaines Township Hall. These are the points that were listed by participants at each of the tables at the event.

Following the list of participants' ideas I also have included the compilation of notes taken by both Gayle McCrath and Andy Bowman of Dr. Lew Bender's summary of our activities at the end of the morning-long session.

Please review this summary and be prepared to discuss these topics during our debriefing session at the June 3 Metro Council meeting.

NEXT STEPS

At the direction of the Executive Committee I am preparing an electronic survey of all GVMC Board members to rank the top three goals for Metro Council staff to pursue over the next several years. Transportation Planning, Improved Communications, and Legislative Advocacy are considered core essential activities for GVMC and will not be ranked.

The Executive Committee and staff will use the results of the membership survey to develop a work plan, with deliverables and timetables, that will be presented to the full Metro Council for approval. We will work with our partner organizations throughout the region to identify and pursue the resources required to accomplish the goals and objectives approved by the Metro Council.

Summary of Participants' Wants, Needs and Desires for Metro Council

CONTINUE TRANSPORTATION PLANNING PROGRAM

- a. Maintain and enhance region-wide role in multi-modal transportation planning
- b. Continue efforts to develop efficiencies that save money for MPO members.
- c. Identify and pursue project funding opportunities.

IMPROVE COMMUNICATIONS

- a. Develop electronic newsletter (with graphics and links to expanded information) and distribute to all members of county and local boards and commissions
- b. Improve GVMC's web presence; update on regular basis; enhance usability of GVMC's web offerings
- c. Develop and distribute quarterly reports to the Board of Directors, with copies to all elected and appointed officials in GVMC counties and communities
- d. Work with consultants/advisors/students to develop and deploy new communications tools and methods to help members deal with skeptical publics and fringe groups

EXPAND REGIONAL ROLE

- a. Become direct provider of services: joint purchasing, parks and cultural services, planning and zoning services, etc.
- b. Facilitate purchase of development rights program.
- c. Push "change" by facilitating regional discussions to overcome roadblocks and barriers to improved efficiency at the local level.
- d. Work with all members to develop a regional "vision" for the Metro Council area; Involve citizens and stakeholders/opinion-leaders in the process.
- e. Expand and nurture strategic partnerships with other regional groups (RPI, WMSA, the Chambers, Foundations, K-12 and higher ed., etc.
- f. Work with regional partners to drive change.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- a. Continue collaboration with Right Place, Inc., Lakeshore Advantage, Ottawa County Economic Development Office, Grand Rapids Area Chamber and other groups to foster economic growth and job creation.
- b. Build upon effort to develop a collaborative, regional approach to economic development.
- c. Finalize and roll-out the GVMC/RPI Regional Economic “Welcome Mat” idea.

TANGIBLE / RELEVANT PLANNING SERVICES

- a. Serve as the region’s definitive resource for information, one-on-one assistance and advocacy on all planning / zoning-related issues.
- b. Track legislation and administrative rules governing planning and zoning
- c. Research issues and develop “white papers” on key planning and zoning issues of interest to GVMC members.
- d. Provide menu of pay-as-you-go contractual planning services on sub-regional level

LGROW – WATERSHED MANAGEMENT

- a. Continue efforts to build and expand membership
- b. Continue to pursue project-related grants to improve the watershed.
- c. Improve communications tools and methodologies to inform the public and local officials about the benefits of LGROW and watershed protection

GIS

- a. Work with REGIS to expand use of system.
- b. Make system more affordable for current members.

FACILITATE SERVICE-SHARING COLLABORATION

- a. Become clearinghouse for information on service sharing
- b. Include school districts and ISDs in collaborative efforts to share services and cut costs.
- c. Contract with expert consultants to work with counties, municipalities, schools, and ISDs to develop cost saving models and service sharing agreements.
- d. Utilize existing sub-regional areas to facilitate discussions (city to city; township to township) on additional service sharing.
- e. Fully utilize the resources of GVSU through the School of Public, Non-Profit and Health Care Administration to analyze service sharing needs and develop collaboration models.
- f. Seek outside funding from foundations and other entities to finance collaborative activities that lead to “proof of concept” models.
- g. Contract with knowledgeable consultants to analyze “legacy” costs and work, collaboratively, with GVMC member counties and communities and their respective unions to lower legacy costs.

LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY

- a. Continue legislative advocacy efforts.
- b. Introduce new tools to track legislation and report legislators’ votes on key issues
- c. Update GVMC members on current developments in Lansing and Washington

Dr. Lew Bender’s Ideas

- ⇒ Follow through on every bullet point – Honesty & Accountability
- ⇒ Information source, but not redundant. Training and information relevant to sub-regional issues.
- ⇒ Sub-regional focus #1. Starting point is sub-regions. Drives agendas
- ⇒ PR and savings focus & communication
- ⇒ Tight timeframe and follow through on EVERYTHING
- ⇒ Honest broker

Dr. Lew Bender's Summary

- ⇒ Conduct studies, write white papers, bring to communities – offer training for it, not just delivery.
- ⇒ Develop alternative approaches to consensus building, (i.e., avoid more turf protection for individual units of government). Consensus in confederation is always difficult.
- ⇒ Need for follow up.
- ⇒ Communicate real savings, (i.e., we saved you \$X)
- ⇒ Operate as an honest broker, again demonstrate \$\$\$ savings. Perhaps staff to facilitate discussions.
- ⇒ Promotion of “Lakewood Plan” style of contracting services.
 - GVMC needs to know what is needed.
 - GVMC will need to develop the expertise to advise and coordinate.
 - Needs must be tangible and the work has to be done.
- ⇒ “Emergency Programs” for communities

Response from participants to Lew's summary:

1. Does not appear to be any way to challenge the direction of the member governments in the Council. No important transportation and zoning issues being addressed.
2. Must be a consideration for ending some work items and initiating new ones.
3. Sub regional groups may need to include wider geographic areas.

Grand Valley Metropolitan Council
678 Front Ave SW, Suite 200
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49504



GRAND VALLEY METROPOLITAN COUNCIL
**ANNUAL
GROWING COMMUNITIES
CONFERENCE**



**CHOOSING OUR FUTURE:
INNOVATIONS AND ADAPTATIONS FOR
SUSTAINING COMMUNITY**

THURSDAY, JUNE 10, 2010

PRINCE CONFERENCE CENTER

Merges Emerge in Southwest Michigan

Ryan Kilpatrick, Comm/Econ Dev Dir., Douglas, MI
As we attempt to consider all forms of service efficiencies and tax-payer cost savings, it has become essential to rethink as well our historic, place-based governing structures and the relevant services they provide. Local officials throughout Michigan have been considering a great variety of ways they can consolidate and merge entities. Innovations in consolidation have ranged from blending departments, to combining municipal services across political boundaries to perhaps the most complete form: complete merging political jurisdictions. Join us for a discussion about the choices being made in the Saugatuck/Douglas area as it examines consolidating services and merging community interests.

Citizen Service: Involvement to Investment

Steve Faber, Executive Dir., Friends of GR Parks
Suzanne Schulz, Planning Dir., City of Grand Rapids
With most local government officials seeing their leanest years ever in terms of funding, citizen engagement in community service has become an absolute necessity. But the inverse, that is providing service to citizens, is the more traditional role of local government. Taxes are paid, employees are hired, services are rendered and the whole system is managed from City Hall. But is this the only model for improving our lives and our neighborhoods? Does this provide a more sustainable future which does less harm to our environment but preserves the communities we love to be in and around? This session will provide a glimpse into a new citizen-based approach for investing in our future and providing services with government. See how the City of Grand Rapids' innovative approach to planning for a "greener" city has catalyzed ways for citizens to take a more vital and productive role in the quality and value of their parks, open spaces and neighborhoods. Engage in a discussion exploring the tensions associated with new models and expectations for civic engagement.

Joining Sectors for Michigan's Future

Doug Rothwell, Pres/CEO Business Leaders for Michigan and John Kennedy, Pres./CEO Autocam.
This session will examine Public/Private Partnerships and how they can lead to positive innovative choices to address Michigan's mounting fiscal problems. We have arrived at a point in time where Public/Private Partnerships are no longer economic development buzzwords or dressed up versions of the same old silos. No other state in the union knows this better than Michigan as we have seen all sectors of our state in complete disarray from recent declines in our once heralded auto industry. As our economic base so dramatically shifts, so do

all the important functions of our lives including schools, commerce, housing, finance, transportation, environment, and government. Join for this session which will explore public/private solutions to the mounting issues facing Michigan today

**Foreclosure Response:
New Challenges Lead to New Approaches**

Kent County has seen more than 15,000 homes go into foreclosure in recent years. But the work of our local initiative, Foreclosure Response, with 70 community partners, led to a reduction in foreclosures last year. How does this model work? Can it be replicated? Conference participants will learn from a wide array of perspectives.

- **Laurie Craft**, Program Dir., GR Comm. Foundation
- **Alan Kitson**, President, LeeKitson Homes
- **Darel Ross**, President, Lighthouse Communities, Inc.
- **Terry Schweitzer**, Comm. Dev. Dir., City of Kentwood
- **Kym Spring**, Coordinator, Foreclosure Response

Reconnecting Division:

A Silver Lining to Brownfield Planning

Jay Hoekstra, Senior Planner GVMC, et. al. The Division Avenue transit line is one of the busiest in the Rapid transit system, and one day may have increased service with bus rapid transit including stations. This session examines the potential for redevelopment, transit oriented development levels of development, the EPA Brownfield grant work and the flurry of federal grant programs supporting sustainable government. Sustainable planning guidelines for federal programs may change the face of public planning with the merging of housing, transportation, air quality, water quality and energy planning.

It's On! Con-Con Debate of 2010

On November 2, 2010, we the citizens of the State of Michigan will vote on if we want to change the rules by which we govern ourselves. The current constitution mandates that we vote on this issue every 16 years, so we will not have another such chance until 2026. Given the unprecedented times we are now experiencing, is it time for such a change? Join this session as, Mr. John Logie of Warner, Norcross & Judd and Mr. Richard Studley, Michigan Chamber of Commerce, debate the pro's and con's of holding such a convention in the year ahead. The session will be moderated by Professor Kevin den Dulk, Ph.D., of the GVSU Political Science Department.

Where We Stand

It seems as if we can't get away from an endless stream of bad news the economy of our State. But if we want to improve where we are going, we need a more consistent understanding of where we stand. To help set the record straight for this year's conference, we thought we needed start the day with a baseline presentation of information about the state of affairs in Michigan and in Grand Rapids and to understand ourselves in relation to other areas in our national economy.

**Doug Rothwell
Pres./CEO, Business Leaders for Michigan.**

Doug Rothwell has worked as an executive in the public, private and non-profit sectors for three state Governor's and two Fortune 500 companies. Currently, Doug is President & CEO of Business Leaders for Michigan. He helped form this organization and develop the Michigan Turnaround Plan, a five-step strategy to make Michigan a top ten state for job & economic growth that has gained broad support throughout the state. Doug will be sharing his insight into Michigan's current state of economy discussing a range of trends and issues facing Michigan today.

**George Bosnjak
Bus. Dev. Manager, The Right Place Inc.**

George Bosnjak has spent the last six years working in West Michigan, particularly in Grand Haven as Executive Director of the DDA, and in Grand Rapids as Business Development Manager at the Right Place, Inc. This wide range of experience has given him a practical understanding of how Grand Rapids is doing in our current challenging economy. George has a BS degree in economics and an MPA in Urban and Regional Planning & Policy, and will offer his understanding of the where we stand in Grand Rapids and what we can expect in the years ahead.

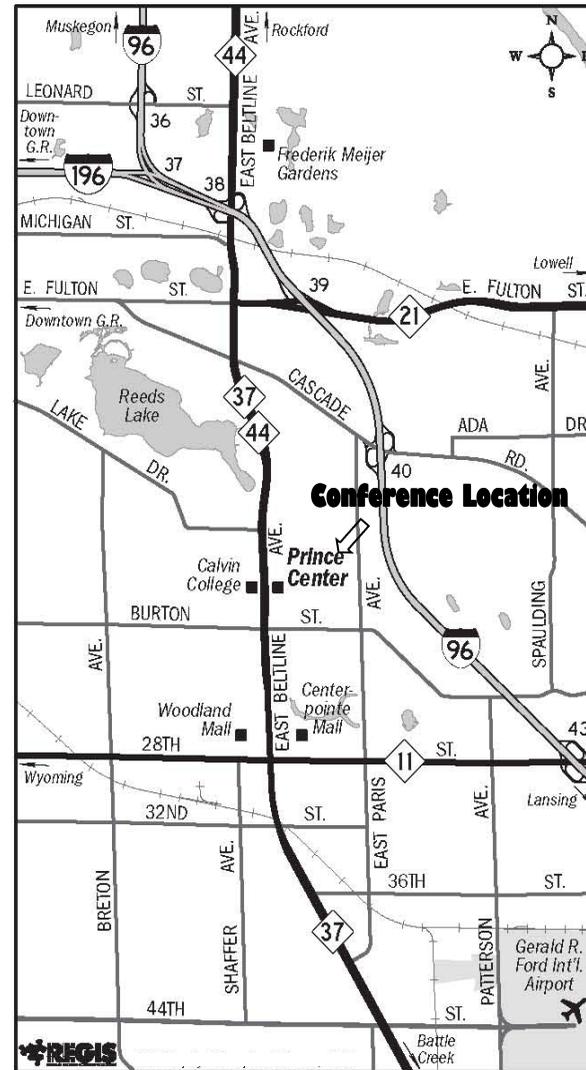
**Testing Assumptions,
Preparing to Adapt**

**Lewis G. Bender, Ph.D.
Consulting & Training Services**

Adapting to change is never easy. In Michigan and Grand Rapids, we seem to be barely able to absorb one wave of bad news before we are already reacting to the next wave. Our expectations become set, often negatively, and we come to expect bad news — over and over. For public officials, especially for those who must plan ahead and steer an appropriate course on behalf of an expectant citizenry, this pattern can lead to a sense of inevitable bad outcomes and make it impossible to properly conduct public affairs. The sad irony of course is that such times are when a struggling communities most need leaders who are able to look past the current strife and see the necessary change as they intentionally move their citizenry in a deliberate, and hopefully successful, direction.

Dr. Lewis Bender is a Professor Emeritus of Public Administration at Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville (SIUE). Throughout his career, Professor Bender has been deeply involved in community-based applied research, organizational goal setting and planning, and approaches to organizational development.

Dr. Bender will lead conference participants through a workshop-style session to help conferees test their current assumptions and determine how such assumptions may be impacting us. He will also identify some key approaches to moving beyond assumptions and embracing real innovations while adapting to new conditions in a productive way. While this session is not intended to supply answers to all our questions, we do think it will provide a unique look at our collective expectations and prepare us to get more out of the day's breakout sessions and networking opportunities.



Date & Time: June 10, 2010, 7:30 AM – 3:00 PM
Location: Calvin College
 Prince Conference Center
 1800 East Beltline SE
 Grand Rapids, Michigan 49546
 (616) 526-7200

Parking: Parking is available at the Prince Center.

Conference Attendees

Name _____
 Organization _____
 Title _____
 Address _____
 City/State _____
 Phone _____
 Fax _____
 E-Mail _____
 I require a vegetarian meal:

Name _____
 Organization _____
 Title _____
 Address _____
 City/State _____
 Phone _____
 Fax _____
 E-Mail _____
 I require a vegetarian meal:

Payment

Advance Payment Required. Cash/Checks Only.
 \$75.00 per person
 \$85.00 per person if postmarked after June 1, 2010

Send payment along with registration form to:
 Grand Valley Metropolitan Council
 Attn: Gayle McCrath
 678 Front Ave NW, Suite 200
 Grand Rapids, Michigan 49504

Cancellation Policy

Full refund before June 1, 2010. No refunds after June 1, 2010.

For More Information

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 Website: www.gvmc.org