



**GRAND VALLEY
METROPOLITAN COUNCIL**

Executive Committee

**Thursday January 20, 2011 • 12 Noon
GVMC Offices – Riverview Center -- 678 Front Ave. NW**

Agenda

- 1. Approval of Minutes – December 16, 2010**
- 2. Finance**
 - a. Report of the GVMC Finance Committee**
 - b. Update on MDOT Commission Audit**
- 3. Strategic Planning**
 - a. Debrief of January 19 meeting of the Task Force on GVMC Governance, Structure and Operations**
- 4. Legislative Advocacy**
 - a. Special Legislative Committee meeting with area legislators – Monday January 24, 2011**
 - b. Debrief on Governor Snyder’s State of the State address**
 - c. Legislative Issues Update**
- 5. Transportation Department:**
 - a. Amendment to the GVMC FY 2011-2014 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for the Michigan Department of Transportation**
- 6. GVMC’s April Quarterly Luncheon**
- 7. Other Items**



Memorandum

To: GVMC Executive Committee

From: Donald J. Stypula, Executive Director

Date: January 18, 2011

Re: Agenda items for our January 20, 2011 Executive Committee meeting

Attached are the agenda and relevant documents for our next GVMC Executive Committee meeting, scheduled for **12 noon Thursday January 20, 2011 here the GVMC offices**. We have a full agenda this month starting with a report from the GVMC Finance Committee and an update on our efforts to resolve the MDOT Transportation Commission Audit. I will bring you a report from the January 19 meeting of the GVMC Task Force on Governance, Structure and Operations, together with a legislative update and a review of the Governor's State of the State message. We also have one item – a TIP amendment – from the Transportation Department.

We'll start by reviewing and approving the attached minutes from our December 16, 2010 meeting.

FINANCE: REPORT FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

The GVMC Finance Committee met on January 7 to review the draft FY 2010 audit report and discuss both the current year budget and status of the MDOT Transportation Commission audit. The panel set a regular meeting schedule for the remainder of the year and directed staff to prepare for the Committee's review and discussion quarterly financial statements. The first of those financial reports is now being prepared. The Committee will meet on a quarterly basis as follows:

Friday January 28, 8:30 a.m. - Review and approval of first quarter financial report; review, approval and transmittal to the Executive Committee of the GVMC FY 2010 annual financial statements; and review and approval of an amendment to the GVMC FY 2011 budget.

Friday April 15, 8:30 a.m. - Review of second quarter financial report.

Friday July 15, 8:30 a.m. - Review of third quarter financial report and review and approval of GVMC FY 2012 general fund budget.

Friday October 21, 8:30 a.m. - Review of fourth quarter financial report

The Committee also will meet on a Friday in the month of May to review and endorse the GVMC Transportation Unified Planning Work Program and budget for Fiscal Year 2012.

The Committee also instructed staff to work with GVMC financial auditor Peter Haefner to develop language for a note to the GVMC FY 2010 annual financial statements that references the liability that GVMC will incur as a result of the recent MDOT Transportation Commission Audit. The FY 2010 Financial Statements, with that language, will be brought to the January 28 Committee meeting for consideration and recommendation to the Executive Committee.

I have asked Mr. Haefner, our financial auditor, to join us at the February 17 Executive Committee to brief us on the annual audit, discuss the language in the auditor's note reflecting the Commission Audit liability and answer your questions.

FINANCE: UPDATE ON THE MDOT TRANSPORTATION COMISSION AUDIT

Following the January 7 Finance Committee I worked through senior-level contacts at MDOT to schedule a meeting of the Disputed Audit Resolution Team (DART). As a result, the DART met on January 12 to consider our appeal of the Transportation Commission Audit of Fiscal Years 1997-2004. The panel agreed with our methodology for calculating staff time and indirect costs associated with various transportation and land use planning-related projects that were conducted by Metro Council during the 1997-2004 period; accepted our settlement offer on most of the elements in dispute; established a reimbursement rate of 75% on a three-year (FY 2000-2003), \$300,000 State Planning and Research (SPR) grant for planning work; and instructed MDOT planning staff to work with us to negotiate a final dollar amount that we will owe at the end of the process. We anticipate that number will be in the range of \$340,000-\$410,000.

We will receive a formal communication from the MDOT Office of Commission Audit on Phase II of the audit – for fiscal years 2005-2009 – by the end of January. The DART instructed MDOT staff to use the same methodologies and guidelines as used in Phase I to calculate our reimbursement rate for Phase II. We will be working closely with MDOT planning staff to finalize this final phase of the audit soon after we receive the formal transmittal letter.

STRATEGIC PLANNING: DEBRIEF OF JANARY 19 GOVERNANCE TASK FORCE MEETING

The GVMC Task Force on Governance, Structure and Operations will meet at 2 p.m. Wednesday January 19 to discuss, as requested by the members of the Task Force, the role and importance of the GVMC Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). We will also discuss future topics to bring forward toward the goal of suggesting – for Executive Committee and full Council consideration – positive changes to GVMC's bylaws and operations to improve operational efficiency and bring greater value for GVMC members.

LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY – SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE – JANUARY 24, 2011

The Legislative Committee will meet at a special day and time next Monday to meet with several of our area legislators on GVMC's legislative priorities. All GVMC members are encouraged to attend the meeting set for 9 a.m. Monday January 24, 2011 at the large River Conference Room here at Riverview Center down the hall from our offices. So far, Senators Dave Hildenbrand and Arlan Meekhof and Representatives, Joe Haveman, Tom Hooker, Pete MacGregor, Roy Schmidt Ken Yonker and Brandon Dillon have indicated they will attend. I'm checking with the rest in the coming days. It will be a good opportunity to introduce these lawmakers to our legislative priorities and ensure that they understand the importance of maintaining good communications and relationships with county and local officials.

Aside from our legislative priorities, another hot topic for discussion will be Governor Rick Snyder's State of the State address, scheduled for 7 p.m. Wednesday January 19. The new Governor's speech is unusual in two respects: he will be speaking from an outline, rather than prepared text. That means there is no advanced copy for legislators, the Capitol press corps, and lobbying organizations. The official transcript could take a day or more to be published on-line. Secondly, Governor Snyder has opted to follow a practice used by former governors William Milliken and James Blanchard, by preparing "special messages" that will be presented from time to time to the Legislature speaking to key issues that he would like lawmakers to focus on.

For his first State of the State, look for Mr. Snyder to focus almost exclusively on two topics: economic development and public employee (all levels, including county/local) health care costs. Mr. Snyder will likely decentralize the MEDC staff, moving key players to each of the state's ten regions to assist counties, locals and regional economic development offices in their business retention and attraction efforts. On the public employees' health care issue, don't be surprised if Mr. Snyder endorses and urges lawmakers to adopt former House Speaker (and now State Treasurer) Andy Dillon's consolidated, state-administered public employee's health care system (proposed in 2009).

We'll have a thorough debrief at our meeting on Thursday, together with an update on issues that are emerging in the 96th Michigan Legislature.

TRANSPORTATION: AMENDMENT TO THE 2011-2014 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

The Michigan Department of Transportation is requesting an amendment to the GVMC FY 2011-2014 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to fund preliminary engineering for a project to replace the bridge decking on I-196 over the Grand River and extend a ramp to southbound U.S. 131. The amendment has been reviewed and approved by the GVMC Technical and Policy Committees. I have attached the MDOT memorandum for your review.

Proposed Action: Review, endorse and forward to Metro Council the proposed amendment to the GVMC FY 2011 TIP for the Michigan Department of Transportation.

APRIL GVMC QUARTERLY LUNCHEON

Metro Council's April Quarterly Luncheon – set for **12 Noon Monday April 11 at the Prince Conference Center** – will feature a great presentation on the new Snyder administration's economic development efforts when we welcome Michael Finney, President and CEO of the Michigan Economic Development Corporation. The former CEO of Ann Arbor Spark (the "Right Place" of Ann Arbor), Finney also serves on the Governor's Executive Committee with oversight responsibility over the Michigan Department of Transportation and the Michigan Department of Energy, Labor and Economic Growth. Michael promises an interesting and illuminating presentation.

As always, we're looking forward to seeing you and having a fruitful discussion on Thursday. 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.

**Grand Valley Metro Council
Executive Committee Meeting**

Thursday, December 16, 2010

12:00 noon

Grand Valley Metro Council
678 Front Ave. NW, Suite 200
Grand Rapids, MI

MEETING NOTES

Present

Jim Buck	City of Grandville
Daryl Delabbio	Kent County
Cindy Fox	Cascade Township
George Heartwell	City of Grand Rapids
Don Hilton, Sr.	Gaines Township
Cy Moore	Council Treasurer
Rick Root	City of Kentwood
Rob VerHeulen	City of Walker

Absent

Alan Vanderberg	Ottawa County
Michael Young	City of Rockford

Other

Andy Bowman	Grand Valley Metro Council
Leon Branderhorst	Grand Valley Metro Council
Abed Itani	Grand Valley Metro Council
Gayle McCrath	Grand Valley Metro Council
Don Stypula	Grand Valley Metro Council

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 12: 15 p.m. by Chair Jim Buck.

2. Approval of Minutes

MOTION – Approval of GVMC Executive Committee Minutes of November 2010. MOVE – VerHeulen. SUPPORT - Heartwell. MOTION CARRIED.

3. Strategic Initiatives

Don Stypula reported seven of the ten members of the Task Force on Governance met and heard a historical perspective on the creation of the Metro Council from Nyal Deems.

The next meeting will be January 19, at 2:00 p.m. This meeting will look at the history of the MPO. Ken Snow will chair the committee and Cindy Fox will be vice chair.

Cy Moore stated as we look at GVMC members and activities we need to take the perspective of the youth into account, what they want to do and how you get them included.

Don will bring to the January 6 Board meeting a detailed look at implementing the strategic plan. We are working on redesigning the web portal.

Rob VerHeulen reported on a medical marijuana seminar held in Ottawa County. This is the kind of thing we should be doing.

Don Stypula asked members to let him know if they hear of any more of these opportunities as we are in the planning stages of our training initiative and could offer this type of service to others.

4. Legislative Advocacy

Rick Root reported there will be a special Legislative Committee meeting at 9:00 in the River Room of the GVMC office building. Legislators will be invited and GVMC's legislative priorities will be reviewed.

5. Transportation Department

Amendments to the GVMC FY 2011-2014 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for the Kent County Road Commission, the City of Hudsonville and ITP/The Rapid

Due to several changes being requested by KCRC, the City of Hudsonville and ITP to the FY2011-2014 TIP, staff is requesting approval of the following changes: The KCRC is requesting to add two trail projects to the FY2011-2014 TIP. The first trail project is the "Fred Meijer Kenowa Trail" at a total cost of \$4,021,919. The second trail is West Michigan Regional Trail Network Connection "Musketawa Trail to White Pine Trail Connector" at a total cost of \$2,400,000. The City of Hudsonville is requesting to Advance Construct an

FY2012 project, 32nd Avenue from M-121 to Highland Drive in FY2011. ITP/The Rapid has several changes to the FY2011 – 2014 TIP.

MOTION – To Amend the GVMC FY 2011-2014 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) as Described Above. MOVE – Root. SUPPORT – Fox. MOTION CARRIED.

The FY2011 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 FY2011 UWP, to add federal State Planning and Research (SPR) Program funds to initiate a US-131 corridor feasibility study from 100th street to M-57. GVMC will assist the MDOT Grand Region in this feasibility corridor study by providing the modeling support needed, using the Grand Rapids urbanized area Travel Demand Model, to assess the impacts and feasibility of various multi-modal integrated transportation options, and sustainable land use patterns, within the corridor study area. GVMC will also assist MDOT with public and agency involvement activities for the corridor study. The corridor study is expected to take two years to complete. Staff is requesting to amend “Work Item 3.2”, Technical Assistance, for the amount of \$75,000 in SPR funds. In order for GVMC to retain these funds the FY2011 UPWP needs to be amended.

MOTION – To Amend the GVMC FY 2011 Unified Planning Work Program for the US-131 / I-96 Corridor Study Alternatives Analysis. MOVE – Heartwell. SUPPORT – Hilton. MOTION CARRIED.

6. Executive Session

Staff excused for an executive session.

7. Adjournment – 1:20 p.m.



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
 LANSING

RICK SNYDER
 GOVERNOR

KIRK T. STEUDLE
 DIRECTOR

DATE: January 11, 2011

TO: Abed Itani, Transportation Director
 Grand Valley Metro Council

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

SUBJECT: **FY 2011-14 TIP Amendment #1 / FY 2011 MDOT Projects-*Revised***

MDOT is requesting the following amendment/modification to the GVMC FY 2011-14 MPO Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), for this FY 2011 MDOT project. This project was also included in the FY 2011-14 TIP Illustrative Project List.

FY 2011 – Trunkline Project Additions/Modifications

JN	Route	Location	Work Description	Phase	Total Cost Est.
109771	I-196	WB over the Grand River	Replace bridge deck and extend ramp from WB to SB US-131	PE	\$600,000 (IM funding)

Please amend or modify the GVMC FY 2011-14 MPO TIP to include this change. Feel free to contact me at 616/451-3091 if you have any questions.

Thank you for your consideration.

cc GVMC MPO Committees
 V. Weerstra, MDOT
 E. Kind, MDOT

D. Robinson, GVMC
 D. McBurrows, MDOT
 R. Lenze, MDOT