



GRAND VALLEY METROPOLITAN COUNCIL

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**JOINT TECHNICAL AND POLICY COMMITTEE**

**Wednesday, September 16, 2020**

**9:30 AM**

**REMOTE MEETING USING GoToMEETING**

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**AGENDA**

- I. **ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS**
- II. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**—**ACTION:** Joint Tech/Policy Meeting dated May 20, 2020  
**Please refer to Item II: Attachment A**
- III. **OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**
- IV. **TIP AMENDMENTS**—**ACTION:** On behalf of Grand Rapids, and MDOT, amendments/modifications to the FY2020-2023 TIP are being requested.  
**Please refer to Item IV: Attachment A**
- V. **UPWP ADMINISTRATIVE MODIFICATION**—**INFORMATION:** The FY2021 UPWP was administratively modified to incorporate \$25,000 in SPR funding.  
**Please refer to Item V: Attachment A**
- VI. **OTHER BUSINESS**
- VII. **ADJOURNMENT**

**MINUTES**

**Grand Valley Metropolitan Council  
Transportation Division  
TECHNICAL/POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING  
Wednesday, May 20, 2020  
Video Conference**

Schweitzer, Policy Committee chair, called the meeting to order at 9:37 am. No introductions were necessary as all motions would be called to question by a roll call vote.

**I. ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS**

**Voting Members Present**

Terry Schweitzer ( <i>Chair</i> )		City of Kentwood
Sue Becker		Alpine Township
Kristin Bennett		City of Grand Rapids
Tim Bradshaw		City of Kentwood/Caledonia Twp.
Scott Connors		City of Walker
Rick DeVries		City of Grand Rapids
Karyn Ferrick		City of Grand Rapids
Jeff Franklin		MDOT
Tim Haagsma		Gaines Township
George Haga		Ada Township
Wayne Harrall		Kent County
Russ Henckel		City of Wyoming
Nicole Hofert		City of Wyoming
Andrew Johnson		ITP The Rapid
Dennis Kent	<i>Proxy for Mike Burns</i>	MDOT
Brett Laughlin		City of Lowell
Greg Madura		Ottawa County Road Commission
Don Mayle		Alpine Township
Robert Miller		MDOT
Josh Naramore		City of Hudsonville
Darrel Schmalzel		City of Grand Rapids
Kelly Sheeran	<i>Proxy for Kevin Green</i>	City of Walker
Rick Solle		Algoma Township
Rick Sprague	<i>Proxy for Steve Warren</i>	Algoma Township
Dan Strikwerda		Plainfield Township
Julius Suchy		KCRC
Charlie Sundblad		KCRC
Cameron Van Wyngarden		City of Hudsonville
Phil Vincent		Village of Sparta
Rod Weersing		City of Grandville
Kevin Wisselink		Plainfield Township
		City of Rockford
		Georgetown Township
		ITP-The Rapid

Steven Wooden

Kent County

**Staff and Non-Voting Guests Present**

Janet Arcuicci  
Aaron Dawson  
Brad Doane  
Brendon Eatmon  
Andrea Faber  
Art Green  
Laurel Joseph  
Tyler Kent  
Terry Martin  
John Weiss  
George Yang  
Mike Zonyk

MDOT OPT  
FHWA  
GVMC Staff  
MDOT  
GVMC Staff  
MDOT  
GVMC Staff  
MDOT  
Carrier Gable  
GVMC Staff  
GVMC Staff  
GVMC Staff

**Voting Members Not Present**

Gail Altman  
Ken Bergwerff  
Terry Brod  
Mike Burns  
Dan Burrill  
Jamie Davies  
Robert DeWard  
Mike DeVries  
Adam Elenbaas  
Jim Ferro  
Rachel Gokey  
Kevin Green  
Tim Grifhorst  
Jerry Hale  
Bryan Harrison  
Brian Hilbrands  
Jim Holtvluwer  
Tom Hooker  
Ken Krombeen  
Doug LaFave  
Bill LaRose  
Matt McConnon  
Jim Miedema  
Clint Nemeth  
Tom Noreen  
Rob Postema  
Casey Ries  
Ben Swayze  
Jeff Thornton  
Toby VanEss  
Steve Warren  
Mike Womack

Jamestown Township  
Jamestown Township  
Cannon Township  
City of Lowell  
City of Wyoming  
City of Rockford  
Gaines Charter Township  
Grand Rapids Township  
Allendale Township  
Ada Township  
Village of Sand Lake  
Algoma Township  
Tallmadge Township  
Lowell Township  
Caledonia Charter Township  
Cascade Charter Township  
Ottawa County  
Byron Township  
City of Grandville  
City of East Grand Rapids  
Cedar Springs  
Courtland Township  
Ottawa County Road Commission  
GFIAA  
Nelson Township  
City of Wyoming  
GFIAA  
Cascade Charter Township  
Village of Caledonia  
Tallmadge Township  
Kent County Road Commission  
City of Cedar Springs

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Harrall noted that “federally” was misspelled on page 5. Haga also stated that he was not listed as either absent or present but did attend the meeting.

Schweitzer entertained a motion to approve the April 15, 2020 joint Technical/Policy Committee minutes.

**MOTION by Naramore, SUPPORT by Becker, to approve the April 15, 2020 joint Technical/Policy Committee minutes as corrected. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY by roll call vote.**

**III. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**IV. TIP AMENDMENTS**

**Referring to Item IV: Attachment A,** Joseph introduced the TIP amendments that were being requested, which are as follows:

- Hope Network and Kent County Community Action have received their allocation of Section 5310 funding for FY2020 and are, therefore, requesting to add transit capital projects to the TIP. These additions have triggered a GPA threshold increase that needs to be reviewed and approved.
- Grand Rapids and Rockford have both been awarded local safety funds from the statewide pool for safety projects in FY2021. Adding these projects to the FY2021 Local Traffic Operations and Safety GPA has triggered a GPA threshold increase that needs to be reviewed and approved.
- Grand Rapids is also requesting to amend a FY2021 reconstruction project, slightly modifying the limits and adding a significant amount of local funds. The federal funding level for this project will not change.

Additional information was provided in the agenda packet.

Additionally, Joseph explained that the KCRC has a 2021 project that was programmed incorrectly in the TIP for 2020. This triggered a GPA threshold issue for the 2021 sustainability GPA, and therefore a technical correction is needed.

Harrall added that this project was a TAP project, Burton St. nonmotorized trail over 96, and asked that the project be documented in the motion.

Schweitzer entertained a motion to approve the TIP amendments, as requested.

**MOTION by Naramore, SUPPORT by Haagsma, to approve the TIP amendments requested by Hope Network, Kent County Community Action, the City of Grand**

**Rapids, the City of Rockford, as well as the technical correction to the 2021 sustainability GPA for the KCRC's Burton St. nonmotorized trail over 96 project.**  
**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY by roll call vote.**

V. **OTHER BUSINESS**

Due to Schweitzer having issues with an audio connection, Laughlin, Technical Committee chair, assumed chairmanship of the meeting from this point forward.

Joseph stated that the Michigan division of FHWA has been discussing internally what qualifies as a federal amendment. Currently, budget changes of 20% or more of the total project cost trigger a federal amendment, which means that these amendments must be reviewed by FHWA, even if only local dollars are increasing. FHWA has developed a white paper which discusses federal cost changes of 25% or greater triggering a federal amendment. In the past, only federal cost changes triggered an amendment. FHWA is asking for feedback on this topic by the end of June. Joseph stated that she would follow up this discussion item with an email as well as a survey to garner member feedback. Joseph encouraged the committee to consider what the public wants to know versus reducing the number of amendments when responding.

Dennis Kent noted that limiting the number of federal amendments doesn't mean that all amendments won't still go through the MPO Committee process for review. Changing what triggers an amendment will only limit the amendments that go to FHWA.

Tyler Kent introduced MDOT Grand Region's planning/engineering intern, Brenden Eatmon, who will be attending our meetings with Dennis and Tyler Kent for the foreseeable future.

Dennis Kent explained that MDOT is participating in a one day a week furlough through the end of July. LAP has sent out a schedule of the furlough days, most of which fall on either side of a weekend.

Weiss asked Dennis Kent to discuss MDOT's recent traffic reports that showed significantly decreased traffic volumes. Kent explained that traffic volumes statewide are down. At one point, reports, most of which are primarily focused on the freeway system, showed that traffic volumes were reduced by as much as 60%. As Michigan gradually reopens, traffic volumes are slowly increasing. The last report Kent had viewed showed that traffic volumes were down in the 30% range. Reduced traffic volumes will impact revenue, as the gas tax funds transit, road projects, the TAP program, etc. According to a recent statewide revenue estimating conference, the general fund is down significantly, but Kent has not seen any numbers yet that show the impact the Stay at Home Order will have on the federal or state transportation trust fund.

Weiss added that, after the quarantine, the numbers he saw showed that traffic dropped over 60% for a couple of weeks, then went up to a 40% decline and stabilized there for a while, and traffic is now gradually increasing again. Discussion ensued. Kent reaffirmed that we haven't seen new gas tax revenue projections based on reduced traffic volumes. Kent added that funding is also received from income taxes from the

general fund through the 2015 transportation package, so there may be future changes there as well.

Haagsma stated that the KCRC has a chart that he will send to GVMC staff for distribution indicating that traffic volumes are down 24% at 8 locations they are tracking from pre-COVID times. Their data shows that traffic is ticking back up too.

Tyler Kent added that according to the Mackinac bridge authority, traffic is steadily increasing across the bridge, and they will need to hire for the fall boost.

Discussion ensued.

**VI. ADJOURNMENT**

Laughlin adjourned the May 20, 2020 joint Technical/Policy Committee meeting at 10:00 am.



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**MEMORANDUM**

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**DATE:** September 9, 2020

**TO:** GVMC Technical and Policy Committees

**FROM:** Laurel Joseph, Director of Transportation Planning

**RE:** **FY2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program**

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On behalf of Grand Rapids, and MDOT, the following amendments/modifications to the FY2020-2023 TIP are being requested. Here are the specific requests:

- Grand Rapids is requesting to change the work type of a FY2021 project from a reconstruct to a resurfacing, which lowered the total and local portions of the budget. The federal funding amount did not change. Grand Rapids also increased the local participating costs on a second FY2021 project, which also changed the non-participating amount (see attachment).
- MDOT is requesting the amendments/modifications to the TIP project list in the attached TIP Amendments/Modifications Summary. These include phase budget changes, phase additions, and construction length changes. Some of these changes have triggered GPA threshold increases. These increase requests are also attached for Committee review.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (616) 776-7610.

FY 2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program  
September 2020 Amendments/Modifications

Fiscal Year	Job#	GPA Type	Responsible Agency	Project Name	Limits	Length	Primary Work Type	Project Description	Phase	Fed Amount	State Amount	Local Amount	Total Amount	Federal Amendment Type
2021	205512	Local Road	Grand Rapids	E Fulton St	Benjamin to Wallinwood	0.459	Road Rehabilitation	Resurfacing	CON	\$537,910	\$0	\$1,234,367	\$1,772,277	GPA over or over 25%,Phase Budget equal or over 24%,Scope Work Sub Category Change
2021	205523	S/TIP Line items	Grand Rapids	Valley Ave NW	4th Street to Walker Avenue	0.520	Reconstruction	Asphalt Reconstruction	CON	\$481,288	\$0	\$2,081,758	\$2,563,046	Phase Budget equal or over 24%
2021	128093	S/TIP Line items	MDOT	I-96	From Thornapple River Drive to Whitneyville Avenue	2.353	Road Rehabilitation	Concrete Inlay	CON	\$15,210,000	\$1,690,000	\$0	\$16,900,000	Phase Budget equal or over 24%, Length Change
2021	201924	S/TIP Line items	MDOT	I-96	I-96	25.234	Traffic Safety	Freeway Signing Upgrade Project	CON	\$15,000	\$0	\$0	\$15,000	Phase Budget equal or over 24%
2021	211144	S/TIP Line items	MDOT	Regionwide - Grand Region	All routes in GVMC MPO boundary	1.953	Traffic Safety	FY 2021 Durable Pavement Marking Application	PE	\$1,103	\$123	\$0	\$1,225	Phase Added



FY 2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program  
**September 2020 Amendments/Modifications**

2021	211144	S/TIP Line items	MDOT	Regionwide - Grand Region	All routes in GVMC MPO boundary	1.953	Traffic Safety	FY 2021 Durable Pavement Marking Application	CON	\$88,200	\$9,800	\$0	\$98,000	Phase Added
2021	123325	Trunkline Traffic Operations And Safety	MDOT	I-96 EB	At M-21	0.001	Major Widening	I-96 EB Weave-Merge lane and add M-21 EB On Ramp	ROW	\$286,475	\$63,525	\$0	\$350,000	GPA over or over 25%
2021	127354	Trunkline Traffic Operations And Safety	MDOT	I-196	Fuller Avenue to I-196 EB On-Ramp	0.850	Major Widening	Fuller Avenue On-Ramp Extension	CON	\$634,337	\$140,663	\$0	\$775,000	GPA over or over 25%
2021	204695	Trunkline Traffic Operations And Safety	MDOT	US-131	US-131 from North Park St. to 10 Mile Rd.	8.176	ITS Applications	ITS devices and infrastructure	CON	\$2,938,415	\$651,585	\$0	\$3,590,000	GPA over or over 25%
2021	206572	Trunkline Traffic Operations And Safety	MDOT	TSC wide	Various Locations - Grand Rapids TSC	0.000	Traffic Safety	Modernize signalized intersections	ROW	\$5,000	\$0	\$0	\$5,000	GPA over or over 25%
2022	201253	Trunkline Bridge	MDOT	I-96	Burton Street over I-96	0.000	Bridge Rehabilitation	Deep overlay	CON	\$990,504	\$110,056	\$0	\$1,100,560	GPA over or over 25%
2022	206572	Trunkline Traffic Operations And Safety	MDOT	TSC wide	Various Locations - Grand Rapids TSC	0.000	Traffic Safety	Modernize signalized intersections	CON	\$2,200,080	\$0	\$0	\$2,200,080	GPA over or over 25%

FY2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program  
September 2020 Pending General Program Accounts

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>MPO</b>	<b>GPA Name</b>	<b>GPA Status</b>	<b>Threshold Amount</b>	<b>Total Usage Amount</b>	<b>Total Proposed Amount</b>
2021	GVMC	Trunkline Traffic Operations And Safety	MDOT Submitted	\$12,579,065	\$14,318,799	\$1,739,734
2022	GVMC	Trunkline Bridge	MDOT Submitted	\$1,485,626	\$2,586,186	\$1,100,560
2022	GVMC	Trunkline Traffic Operations And Safety	MDOT Submitted	\$49,723	\$2,249,803	\$2,200,080



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**MEMORANDUM**

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**DATE:** September 9, 2020

**TO:** GVMC Technical and Policy Committees

**FROM:** Laurel Joseph, Director of Transportation Planning

**RE:** **Administrative Modification to FY2021 UPWP**

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MDOT has recently awarded GVMC \$25,000 in State Planning & Research funds for GVMC's work on the US-131/I-96 Corridor Study in FY2021. While this funding was not identified originally in the FY2021 UPWP, the work associated with this task had been included in the document.

Because the amount of additional funding is minor compared to the overall Federal Approved FY2021 UPWP value of \$1,786,430 and because the task description for the study remains unchanged, MDOT is considering this an administrative modification to the FY2021 UPWP. MDOT has approved the modification and submitted letters to our federal partners notifying them of the change.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (616) 776-7610.