

MINUTES

**Grand Valley Metropolitan Council
Transportation Division
POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING
Wednesday, April 21, 2021
Video Conference**

Schweitzer, Policy Committee chair, called the meeting to order at 9:32 am. All members announced their names, the jurisdiction they were representing, and the location they were calling from, as instructed prior to the meeting and in accordance with the Open Meetings Act and amendments. Participants were also notified that the meeting was being recorded.

I. ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS

Voting Members Present

Tim Bradshaw		Caledonia Twp.
Terry Brod		Cannon Township
Dave Datema		Tallmadge Township
Karyn Ferrick		City of Grand Rapids
Don Mayle		MDOT
Mike Burns		City of Lowell
Doug LaFave		City of East Grand Rapids
Melissa LaGrand		Kent County
Josh Naramore		City of Grand Rapids
Casey Ries		GFIAA
Darrel Schmalzel	<i>Proxy for Ken Krombeen</i>	City of Walker/Grandville
Terry Schweitzer (<i>Chair</i>)		City of Kentwood
Dan Strikwerda		City of Hudsonville
Julius Suchy		Ada Township
Jeff Thornton		Village of Caledonia
Cameron Van Wyngarden		Plainfield Township
Steve Warren		Kent County Road Commission
Rod Weersing		Georgetown Township
Kevin Wisselink		ITP-The Rapid
Mike Womack		City of Cedar Springs

Staff and Non-Voting Guests Present

Brad Doane	GVMC Staff
Andrea Faber	GVMC Staff
Jeff Franklin	MDOT
Laurel Joseph	GVMC Staff
Dennis Kent	MDOT
Tyler Kent	MDOT
Rick Sprague	KCRC
George Yang	GVMC Staff
Mike Zonyk	GVMC Staff

Voting Members Not Present

Mike Burns	City of Lowell
Dan Burrill	City of Wyoming
Jamie Davies	City of Rockford
Mike DeVries	Grand Rapids Township
Robert DeWard	Gaines Charter Township
Adam Elenbaas	Allendale Township
Shay Gallagher	Village of Sparta
Rachel Gokey	Village of Sand Lake
Kevin Green	Algoma Township
Jerry Hale	Lowell Township
Bryan Harrison	Caledonia Charter Township
Jim Holtvluwer	Ottawa County
Ken Krombeen	City of Grandville
Greg Madura	Alpine Township
Matt McConnon	Courtland Township
Jim Miedema	Ottawa County Road Commission
Tom Noreen	Nelson Township
Rob Postema	City of Wyoming
Ben Swayze	Cascade Charter Township
Don Tillema	Byron Township
Laurie VanHaitsma	Jamestown Township

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Schweitzer entertained a motion to approve both the January 20, 2021 Policy Minutes and the Joint Tech/Policy Minutes from February 18, 2021.

MOTION by Naramore, SUPPORT by Brod, to approve both Committee minutes for Policy from January 20, 2021 and the joint meeting minutes from February 18, 2021. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

III. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Schweitzer instructed members of the public to raise their hand by clicking the hand icon if they wished to provide comment verbally. No comments were received by the public or committee members.

IV. TIP AMENDMENTS

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

- MDOT requested the amendments/modifications to the TIP project list in the pending projects summary in the agenda.

Dennis Kent provided additional information about MDOT’s requested amendments/modifications including a I-196 project that extends through two MPO’s which is a cost increase for maintaining traffic and provided some detail and discussion with Schweitzer about the STIP exempt list.

- Kent County Road Commission requested a couple of cost changes for Burton Street and 7 Mile Road along with an Ottawa County bridge. This required a GPA change required due to the change in budget for 2023.
- Staff also presented on behalf of the Caledonia for Kinsey Street needed for a cost increase, the City of Grand Rapids for some TAP funds that now have a conditional commitment for the Grand River Edges project, and the Rapid and the Hope Network has some changes which triggered a GPA amendment for Transit Capital.
- The City of Grand Rapids had a couple of more specific amendments. They requested to modify a few projects on the illustrative list and for Division Avenue to clarify the scopes and cost estimates of these projects.
- The Kent County Road Commission was requesting to increase the cost for the local portion of a couple of projects which would not affect the federal amounts.
- On behalf of the City of Lowell, they are requested to modify a fiscal 2022 project pertaining to small urban project award they have received for Monroe St.

Schweitzer entertained a motion to approve the requested amendments/modifications to the FY2020-2023 TIP.

MOTION by Naramore, SUPPORT by Wisselink, to approve the TIP amendments requested for the MDOT, the KCRC, the Village of Caledonia, the RAPID, the Hope Network, the City of Grand Rapids, and the City of Lowell. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY by roll call vote.

V. STP-URBAN AND HIP FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS

Joseph presented the TPSG Subcommittees’ recommendations for programing FY2021 STP-Urban that was turned back from Grandville, some HIP funding from the general 2021 HIP funds, and a large chunk of HIP COVID relief funds we received as an MPO.

The HIP projects to use the funds available were addressed in a spreadsheet and opened for questions by Joseph commending the cooperative and collaborative effort that our region was able to accomplish when bringing forward the regional needs.

Naramore also commended staff and the group for the regional collaboration to be able to come together to

MOTION by Naramore, SUPPORT by Warren, to approve the recommended allocations of the Technical & TPSG committees for these funds. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY by roll call vote.

VI. PROPOSED FY2022 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM (UPWP) ACTIVITIES AND BUDGET

Joseph presented on the UPWP by giving a summary of the document functioning as the coordinated budget and financial management tool for the year. Collaboration and input from the members to develop next year's program were commended. Two major studies pointed out to be included for next year were the Regional Transportation Demand and the Airport Access Plan studies. Other proposals in the UPWP include the nonmotorized traffic count program, the beginning development of the next TIP, a new pavement condition van, a new performance monitoring sub task, and implementation needs pertinent to the 2045 MTP.

Naramore had some questions pertaining to the total budget allocation and if the Rapid would be willing to do some performance reporting and its relation to the TDM study. There were also some changes to the injustice roadmap and changing the analytical work behind it and if GVMC was planning to take these into consideration.

Joseph replied with some information on the environmental justice accessibility analysis and is interested in working in incorporating some analysis in our practices moving forward.

Wisselink replied by saying yes there can be some performance reporting to this group and can incorporate the findings as part of the TDM study.

Schweitzer entertained a motion to approve the UPWP as presented for FY2022.

MOTION by Naramore, SUPPORT by Ries, to approve the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) for FY2022. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY by roll call vote.

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

Zonyk provided information regarding updates on two web mapping applications available on GVMC's website. The first application being the 2021 Construction Map, and the second being an interactive Crash Map that allows for trend analysis.

Tyler Kent provided information on the National Work Zone Awareness Week. It's a virtual event hosted by MDOT and more information can be found at [NATIONAL WORK ZONE AWARENESS WEEK - Home \(nwzaw.org\)](https://www.nwzaw.org).

Dennis Kent provided information on the annual call for Federal Grants as part of the RAISE program with the formal announcement coming out on April 26th. More details can be found at [About RAISE Grants | US Department of Transportation](https://www.transportation.gov/raise) with each Agency able to submit up to 3 projects. Much of the criteria is the same with a more urban focus along with poverty and equity. Kent also provided some information on some earmark funds the region has submitted for Fruit Ridge.

Ries wanted to commend and stress the success of our region and how West Michigan is responding tremendously following the continued hardships of COVID-19 and appreciated the groups focus on addressing some needs of the area around the Airport.

Legrand also appreciated the comments from Ries and pointed out that comfort and safety of our west Michigan residents along with willingness to travel can be helped if we continue to share the message and destigmatized the vaccination so things can move in the right direction toward normalcy.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Schweitzer adjourned the April 21, 2021 Policy Committee meeting at 10:48 am.