

APPROVED



APPROVED

GRAND VALLEY METROPOLITAN COUNCIL

ADA TOWNSHIP • ALGOMA TOWNSHIP • ALLENDALE TOWNSHIP • ALPINE TOWNSHIP • BELDING • BYRON TOWNSHIP • CALEDONIA • 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 • LOWELL TOWNSHIP • MIDDLEVILLE • NELSON TOWNSHIP • OTTAWA COUNTY • PLAINFIELD TOWNSHIP • ROCKFORD • SAND LAKE • SPARTA • TALLMADGE TOWNSHIP • WALKER • WAYLAND • WYOMING

POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, September 15, 2021

9:30 AM

The Rapid Central Station Conference Room

250 Grandville Ave SW

Grand Rapids, MI 49504

AGENDA

Schweitzer, Chair of the Policy Committee, called the September 15, 2021, meeting to order at 9:36 am.

I. ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS

Voting Members Present

Mark Bennett		Tallmadge Charter Township
Scott Conners	<i>Proxy for</i>	City of Walker
	<i>Darrel Schmalzel</i>	City of Walker
Dennis Kent	<i>Proxy for</i>	MDOT-Grand Region
	<i>Mike Burns</i>	City of Lowell
Melissa LaGrand		Kent County
Greg Madura		Alpine Township
Josh Naramore, <i>Vice Chair</i>		City of Grand Rapids
Terry Schweitzer, <i>Chair</i>		City of Kentwood
Casey Ries		GRFIA
Rick Sprague	<i>Proxy for</i>	KCRC
	<i>Steve Warren</i>	KCRC
	<i>Mike DeVries</i>	Grand Rapids Township
	<i>Robert DeWard</i>	Gaines Township
Jeff Thornton		Village of Caledonia
Cameron Van Wyngarden		Plainfield Township
Luke Walters	<i>Proxy for</i>	MDOT-Statewide Planning
	<i>Jeff Franklin</i>	MDOT
Kevin Wisselink		The Rapid

Staff and Non-Voting Guests Present

Andrea Faber	GVMC
Laurel Joseph	GVMC
Tyler Kent	MDOT-Grand Region
Aman Pannu	GVMC

APPROVED



APPROVED

GRAND VALLEY METROPOLITAN COUNCIL

ADA TOWNSHIP • ALGOMA TOWNSHIP • ALLENDALE TOWNSHIP • ALPINE TOWNSHIP • BELDING • BYRON TOWNSHIP • CALEDONIA • 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 • LOWELL TOWNSHIP • MIDDLEVILLE • NELSON TOWNSHIP
OTTAWA COUNTY • PLAINFIELD TOWNSHIP • ROCKFORD • SAND LAKE • SPARTA • TALLMADGE TOWNSHIP • WALKER • WAYLAND • WYOMING

Mike Zonyk

GVMC

Voting Members Not Present

Terry Brod
Mike Burns
Dan Burrill
Jamie Davies
Michael DeVries

Cannon Township
City of Lowell
City of Wyoming
City of Rockford
Grand Rapids Charter
Township
Gaines Charter Township
Allendale Township
City of Grand Rapids
MDOT
Village of Sparta
Algoma Township
Lowell Township
Caledonia Charter Township
Ottawa County
City of Grandville
City of East Grand Rapids
Courtland Township
OCRC
Nelson Township
City of Wyoming
City of Walker
City of Hudsonville
Ada Township
Cascade Charter Township
Byron Township
Jamestown Township
KCRC
Georgetown Township
City of Cedar Springs

Robert DeWard
Adam Elenbaas
Karyn Ferrick
Jeff Franklin
Shay Gallagher
Kevin Green
Jerry Hale
Bryan Harrison
Jim Holtvluwer
Ken Krombeen
Doug LaFave
Matt McConnon
Jim Miedema
Tom Noreen
Rob Postema
Darrel Schmalzel
Dan Strikwerda
Julius Suchy
Ben Swayze
Don Tillema
Laurie Van Haitsma
Steve Warren
Rod Weersing
Mike Womack

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Schweitzer entertained the following motion:

MOTION by Naramore, SUPPORT by LaGrand to approve the May 5, 2021, Policy Committee minutes and July 21, 2021, Policy/Technical Committee minutes. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.



GRAND VALLEY METROPOLITAN COUNCIL

ADA TOWNSHIP • ALGOMA TOWNSHIP • ALLENDALE TOWNSHIP • ALPINE TOWNSHIP • BELDING • BYRON TOWNSHIP • CALEDONIA • 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 • LOWELL TOWNSHIP • MIDDLEVILLE • NELSON TOWNSHIP
 OTTAWA COUNTY • PLAINFIELD TOWNSHIP • ROCKFORD • SAND LAKE • SPARTA • TALLMADGE TOWNSHIP • WALKER • WAYLAND • WYOMING

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments.

IV. TIP AMENDMENTS

Referring to Item IV: Attachment A, Joseph introduced the following amendments/modifications to the FY2020-2023 TIP that were described in the agenda package. They are as follows:

- MDOT is requesting the amendments/modifications to the TIP project list in the attached pending projects and GPAs summary. One of these additions triggered a GPA threshold increase for the FY2022 Trunkline Traffic Operations and Safety GPA. MDOT is also requesting committee review of the S/TIP exempt project list, which has been modified to show only the projects that have undergone changes since the last committee meeting. Joseph also added that work from one project has also been diverted to another project.
- The Rapid is requesting to modify the FY 2020 and 2021 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Joseph added that the Rapid has received some COVID relief funding that is not legally required to be in the TIP, and the Rapid is requesting committee acknowledgment and use of the committee public involvement process to satisfy their section 5307 public involvement requirements. This will not be included in the TIP, but it is going to be programmed in JobNet and will appear in the S/TIP exempt list for committee review each month.

D Kent explained the MDOT amendments and S/TIP exempt project list changes in further detail. He noted that there was a phase abandonment on one of the ITS Applications projects where the EPE phase was combined with the PE phase. The bridge replacement project on I-196 over the Grand River and Market Avenue expected a significant budget increase due to the use of an old estimate, and the construction would be complete in 2023. M-6 WB over Miller Drain rehabilitation project had significant damage due to a crash which demanded emergency repair that is programmed for this year, but the construction will start next year. The Active Traffic Management System project on US-131 from I-96 north to Post drive will use the shoulder as a separate lane during peak hours, similar to the shoulder-use on US-23 by Ann Arbor. Another project that will start soon is a repair project on M6 that had damages due to a crash followed by a fire.

Thornton asked for the purpose of the shoulder use on US-131. D Kent answered that the shoulder use will be helpful in dealing with the congestion on US-131 during peak traffic hours.

LaGrand asked D Kent if there have been any successful results from the shoulder use on US-23 in Ann Arbor in managing congestion. D Kent replied that the project



GRAND VALLEY METROPOLITAN COUNCIL

ADA TOWNSHIP • ALGOMA TOWNSHIP • ALLENDALE TOWNSHIP • ALPINE TOWNSHIP • BELDING • BYRON TOWNSHIP • CALEDONIA • 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 • LOWELL TOWNSHIP • MIDDLEVILLE • NELSON TOWNSHIP
 OTTAWA COUNTY • PLAINFIELD TOWNSHIP • ROCKFORD • SAND LAKE • SPARTA • TALLMADGE TOWNSHIP • WALKER • WAYLAND • WYOMING

has been successful; however, there have been some enforcement issues regarding people violating the rules and using the lane when they are not open to use in non-peak hours. D Kent added that the department is looking to develop more projects like this in the future especially in southeast Michigan. Partial shoulder use is a less impactful way to deal with peak hour congestion and is less extensive than adding a full lane. The shoulder use is limited to peak hours due to safety concerns regarding a small shoulder space.

Thornton added that the public perception of this project is that it is ridiculous and a waste of money because it is legal to ride at peak times and not legal to ride at non-peak times. If there is a safety concern during peak times, adding more cars on that stretch of road and allowing that lane to be used will create more safety concerns. If a car breaks down during the peak time, one will have the same challenges if the lane is open for travel in non-peak periods. As said earlier, enforcement will be another issue regarding this project due people not observing the hours for which the lane use is permitted.

D Kent added that all the comments listed by Thornton are some challenges that have been discussed internally. He added that using the shoulder does not take up as much real estate as adding another permanent lane, because the addition of another lane would also demand for a larger shoulder. He added that the shoulder use is not a perfect situation; however, it gives us the ability to deal with some of the congestion at peak hours.

Schweitzer asked if this project will be programmed in FY 2022. D Kent replied that the PE phase will be 2021-2022. The project is obligated in 2025 and is expected to be completed in 2026. Schweitzer added that the comments about this project can be taken into consideration during the PE phase at MDOT.

MOTION by Naramore, SUPPORT by LaGrand, to approve the TIP amendments requested by MDOT and The Rapid. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

V. FY2023-2026 TIP DEFICIENCIES MAP APPLICATION

Referring to Item V: Attachment A, Zonyk explained that, in preparation for programming of the FY2023-2026 TIP, GVMC staff has completed the deficiencies analysis and compiled all the information in an online application.

This application will help identify possible candidates for road improvements. The entire federal aid road network was included in the data minus the MDOT routes. Zonyk shared his screen and demonstrated the use of the application live and answered any questions regarding its functionality. A splash page will pop up that explains the general functionality of the map. This page will open each time the link



GRAND VALLEY METROPOLITAN COUNCIL

ADA TOWNSHIP • ALGOMA TOWNSHIP • ALLENDALE TOWNSHIP • ALPINE TOWNSHIP • BELDING • BYRON TOWNSHIP • CALEDONIA • 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 • LOWELL TOWNSHIP • MIDDLEVILLE • NELSON TOWNSHIP
 OTTAWA COUNTY • PLAINFIELD TOWNSHIP • ROCKFORD • SAND LAKE • SPARTA • TALLMADGE TOWNSHIP • WALKER • WAYLAND • WYOMING

is opened so it can be referred to again. To use the application, the user will have to accept the liability statement located at the end of the splash page. The layer list is displayed on the right side that includes the general deficiencies data layer in blue along with other supplemental information like condition deficient information, congestion deficient information, etc. Multiple layers can be turned on to see the areas that carry data from both layers. These layers also include environmental justice and urban area data as well. Other filters are located on the left side of the website page that can help narrow down the results by jurisdiction, government unit, etc. PASER ratings, condition deficient, level of service severity, fatal accident, bike/pedestrian fatality, bike/pedestrian serious or fatal crash, and safety deficient are some of the other filters that can be turned on and off; they are also located on the left of the application. At the bottom center, the table is located that can be minimized to better view the map, and the table can also be exported into a CSV file that contains all the data shown in the map with the different filters turned on or off. Staff has also included three map widgets on the upper left corner of the map. The M widget tells the user how many miles have been selected through the different layers; the select and export to GeoJSON file widget lets you export the data into a shapefile, and the measurement widget lets the user measure the number of miles of a section of the road in a certain layer. Zonyk asked if there were any questions or comments regarding this application.

Sprague asked about the difference between condition deficient and PASER rating. Zonyk answered that condition deficient rating goes up to seven because you can have reconstruction 3 and below.

Tyler Kent added that the map application is a very useful tool.

Ries asked about the triggers that identify as condition deficient or safety deficient and their definitions. Joseph responded that the definitions are listed in the Policies and Practices for Programming Projects document that was updated within the last few months to prepare for this analysis. Zonyk added that federal performance measures also steered some of the deficiency's determinations.

VI. OTHER BUSINESS

- Joseph gave an update on the Airport Access Study RFP. She stated that GVMC received proposal submissions for the airport access study. A total of four submissions have been received that will be reviewed and sent to the board at their November meeting. The TDM RFP is slightly delayed because the state legislature has not taken any action regarding the release of the COVID funds. Hence, we cannot advertise the project until we are sure about the funding.



GRAND VALLEY METROPOLITAN COUNCIL

ADA TOWNSHIP • ALGOMA TOWNSHIP • ALLENDALE TOWNSHIP • ALPINE TOWNSHIP • BELDING • BYRON TOWNSHIP • CALEDONIA • 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 • LOWELL TOWNSHIP • MIDDLEVILLE • NELSON TOWNSHIP
 OTTAWA COUNTY • PLAINFIELD TOWNSHIP • ROCKFORD • SAND LAKE • SPARTA • TALLMADGE TOWNSHIP • WALKER • WAYLAND • WYOMING

Joseph explained that the funding does not need to be spent all in one fiscal year, and that the funds can be carried onto the next fiscal year. Joseph also added that the election of officers will take place in November and asked the members to think about nominations.

- Faber shared her screen and introduced the two new PSAs for the Safety Education and Outreach Program and the Clean Air Action Program. Both were played during a recent Tigers game promotion.
- Dennis added that MDOT is planning to have a construction update twice a year, which will involve conversations with different agencies about coordinating projects in the next couple years, and it will take place on October 20th at the Grand Rapids Transportation Service Center office at 9:30am. An official announcement will be sent later through email.
- Joseph reminded the committee that project submittals are due on September 24th.
- Schweizer asked the timing of when I-196 and the S-curve will be open for public use. Dennis responded that the I-196 EB bridge over the Grand River project is scheduled to complete towards the end of September or early October this year. And the project on E Beltline is proposed to complete in November or December. The S curve project needed an emergency repair to the overhead sign. There were also issues with the foundation impacting the storm sewer lines and is proposed to be completed at the end of fall.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Schweitzer, Committee Chair, adjourned the September 15, 2021, Policy Committee meeting at 10:12 am.