

MINUTES

**Grand Valley Metropolitan Council
Transportation Division
TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING
Wednesday, September 6, 2023
Rapid Central Station Conference Room
250 Cesar E. Chavez Ave SW, Grand Rapids, MI 49503**

Bradshaw, Chair of the Technical Committee, called the September 6, 2023, Technical Committee meeting to order at 9:31 a.m. Those present introduced themselves to the Committee.

I. ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS

Tim Bradshaw (<i>Chair</i>)		Caledonia Charter Township
Sue Becker		Alpine Township
Kristin Bennett		City of Grand Rapids
Mark Bennett		Tallmadge Charter Township
Scott Conners		City of Walker
Rick DeVries		City of Grand Rapids
Shay Gallagher		City of Kentwood
Tim Haagsma		Gaines Charter Township
Wayne Harrall	<i>Proxy for Mike DeVries</i>	Kent County
		Grand Rapids Charter Township
Russ Henckel		City of Wyoming
Brian Hilbrands	<i>Proxy for John Said</i>	Cascade Charter Township
		Ada Township
Dennis Kent	<i>Proxy for Mike Burns</i>	MDOT
		City of Lowell
Jim Kirkwood		City of Kentwood
Doug LaFave		City of East Grand Rapids
Brett Laughlin		Ottawa County Road Commission
Rick Sprague	<i>Proxy for Steve Warren</i>	Kent County Road Commission
		Kent County Road Commission
Charlie Sundblad		City of Grandville
Luke Walters		MDOT
Kevin Wisselink		ITP - The Rapid

Staff and Non-Voting Guests Present

Scott Alsgaard	Hope Network
Andrea Faber	GVMC Staff
Mara Gericke	GVMC Staff
Laurel Joseph	GVMC Staff
Peter Kimball	GVMC Staff
Terry Martin	Carrier and Gable
Terry Schweitzer	City of Kentwood
Mike Wilson	MDOT
Mike Zonyk	GVMC Staff

Voting Members Not Present

Terry Brod
 Mike Burns
 Mike DeVries
 Adam Elenbaas
 Kevin Green
 Jerry Hale
 Nicole Hofert
 Jim Holtvluwer
 Bill LaRose
 Matt McConnon
 Robert Miller
 Clint Nemeth
 Tom Noreen
 Jeff Oonk
 John Said
 Dean Smith
 Rick Solle
 Justin Stadt
 Jeff Thornton
 Don Tillema
 Phil Vincent
 Steve Warren
 Blaine Wing
 Member Awaiting Appointment

Cannon Township
 City of Lowell
 Grand Rapids Charter Township
 Allendale Charter Township
 Algoma Township
 Lowell Charter Township
 City of Wyoming
 Ottawa County
 City of Cedar Springs
 Courtland Township
 City of Hudsonville
 Gerald R. Ford Intl. Airport
 Nelson Township
 City of Wyoming
 Ada Township
 Jamestown Charter Township
 Plainfield Charter Township
 Georgetown Charter Township
 Village of Caledonia
 Byron Township
 City of Rockford
 Kent County Road Commission
 Village of Sparta
 Village of Sand Lake

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Referring to Item II: Attachment A, Bradshaw entertained a motion to approve the minutes from the May 3rd, 2023 Technical Committee meeting and the July 19th, 2023 combined Technical and Policy Committee meeting.

MOTION by Harrall, SUPPORT by LaFave, to approve the May 3rd, 2023 Technical Committee meeting minutes and July 19th, 2023 combined Technical and Policy Committee meeting minutes. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

III. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

IV. TIP AMENDMENTS

Referring to Item IV: Attachment A, Zonyk introduced the amendments/modifications to the FY2023-2026 TIP that were described in the agenda package. They are as follows:

MDOT

MDOT is requesting approval for budget increases, delays/removals, and funding source changes as outlined in the agenda package. They are also adding bridge

rehabilitation and CPM funds which triggers a GPA amendment for Trunkline Bridge.

D. Kent highlighted some of the projects listed in the S/TIP exempt project list. Discussion ensued.

KCRC

KCRC is requesting to add Rural Exchange funds purchased from Mecosta County for their 100th St: Patterson Ave to Kraft Ave reconstruction project. This is triggering an amendment due to the cost increase.

There were three additional administrative modifications noted resulting from using funds previously allocated to other projects including:

Broadmoor Intersections: Remove 76th St intersection and replace with 84th St intersection.

Remove 60th St: Broadmoor Ave to Thornapple River Dr FY2025 resurfacing project and replace with Patterson Ave resurfacing north and south of 36th St.

Remove Plainfield Bridge No 12: Packer Dr over the Rogue River and replace with Plainfield Bridge No. 25: West River Dr over the Rogue River.

These modifications do not result in any changes to the GVMC federal funding amount.

Harrall corrected an error in the agenda package on Item IV: Attachment A. The Rural Exchange funds were from Mecosta County (noted as Montcalm County in the agenda package). Harrall provided additional project details.

GVMC

The FY2023 Clean Air Action Program project was duplicated and is being removed as a technical correction.

The City of Walker

The City of Walker has seen a significant cost increase for their 2024 Kinney Ave project. There will not be additional STP grant funding added, but the increase in local funds will trigger a TIP amendment.

MOTION by Laughlin, SUPPORT by Haagsma, to approve the TIP amendments/modifications as recommended by The City of Walker, GVMC, KCRC, and MDOT. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

V. FY2024 PROGRAMMING UPDATES

Referring to Item V: Attachment A, Joseph presented an update to the FY2024 Funding Allocations and Programming.

Joseph noted that GVMC received updated revenue targets for FY2024. TPSG met on August 14, 2023 to develop a list of recommended changes to the FY2024 TIP list to align with these new targets and remain fiscally constrained. There was over half a million dollars of net positive change.

The recommendations, by funding source, are as follows:

STP-Flex-Kent County

- Impacts one City of Walker project: Kinney Ave Reconstruction
 - o TPSG recommends lowering the federal amount for this funding source by \$67,000 to align with the new target.

Carbon Reduction Program

- Only one project programmed with this funding source is not currently programmed with maximum federal participation – City of Walker’s roundabout project at Center Drive NW
 - o TPSG recommends increasing the federal amount by \$66,000 to align with the new target and also almost balance the amount lost on Walker’s Kinney Ave project.

STP-Rural-Kent County

- Impacts one KCRC project (100th Street Reconstruction)
 - o TPSG recommends lowering the federal amount for this funding source by \$34,000 to align with the new target and supplementing the loss with STP-TMA funds.

STP-Flex-TMA and STP-TMA

- TPSG recommends allocating \$228,000 to The Rapid to supplement the COVID Relief funding that was taken back by Congress after the Debt Ceiling Deal.
 - o When the word came down that unobligated COVID Relief funding was going to be rescinded as part of Congress’ debt ceiling deal this summer, it was indicated that the applicable funds that had been allocated to transit projects would not be clawed back. However, that turned out to not be the case and without additional funding, The Rapid’s project would be \$285,000 short while the planning process has already begun.
 - o MDOT Office of Passenger Transportation has agreed to provide the 20% match required.

- TPSG recommends the remainder of the surplus STP-Flex-TMA funds (\$22,000) be combined with the remainder of the surplus STP-TMA funds to bring STP-TMA projects closer to maximum federal participation as most of the projects with this funding source were programmed with more than the required amount of local match.

MOTION by Harrall, SUPPORT by K. Bennett, to recommend approval of the updated FY2024 funding allocations as recommended by TPSG. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

VI. MDOT GROUP TRANSIT ASSET MANAGEMENT PLAN

Referring to Item VI: Attachment A, Joseph presented the MDOT Final Group Transit Asset Management Plan.

Joseph noted that GVMC has received MDOT's final Group Transit Asset Management (TAM) Plan for rural transit agencies. This Plan was developed according to federal requirements for performance-based planning and programming. MDOT asks MPO's to acknowledge receipt of the Plan.

MOTION by Wisselink, SUPPORT by LaFave, to acknowledge the receipt of MDOT's Group Transit Asset Management Plan. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

VII. 2020 ADJUSTED CENSUS URBAN AREA (ACUB) BOUNDARY

Referring to Item VII: Attachment A Zonyk presented the draft changes to the Census Urban Area made at a June 28th, 2023 workshop held by MDOT.

Following the Census, the MPO, with assistance from MDOT, is tasked with updating the ACUB based on changes that have occurred since the previous Census to account for housing and population growth. GVMC met with members to review these updates and make any necessary changes to the boundary. The changes were for information only, with the item previously brought to the Executive Committee on August 17, 2023 and being brought to the GVMC board on Thursday, September 7, 2023.

Sparta and Allendale were added as small urban areas due to the growth of urban clusters. This will impact the process by which these areas receive federal funding, but overall, the funding amounts for the TIP do not change as the result of this. However, this does change the percentage distribution for urban and rural funds for Act-51 funding.

The current ACUB will remain in place until 2025 FHWA approval.

VIII. OTHER BUSINESS**TDM Plan Update**

Joseph updated the Committee on the status of the Transportation Demand Management Plan. The draft Plan will be sent to the Technical Advisory Committee and available for public comment and committee feedback. The program will begin in the coming fiscal year.

Safety Action Plan Update

Joseph noted that GVMC has received final agreement with FHWA. The RFP has been posted, with proposals due on September 22, 2023. The GVMC Safety Committee will be the group guiding the planning process.

September Policy Committee Location

Joseph informed the Committee that the September Policy Committee meeting will be held at the new Kent County Road Commission building.

MDOT

D. Kent noted that a public meeting for the M-37 project has tentatively been scheduled for October 18th in Caledonia Charter Township. Work on the interchange access change requests for the Fruitridge project are ongoing. The 131 PEL study will soon be going through public involvement and MDOT is working with the City of Grand Rapids to determine potential venues. Kent highlighted the grant opportunities MDOT is currently applying for and working on.

Construction Coordination Meeting

D. Kent reminded the Committee that in October, a Construction Coordination Meeting will take place of either the GVMC Technical or Policy Committee meeting. The date is to be determined.

Officer Elections

Bradshaw notified the Committee that his term as Chair will be ending at the end of the calendar year, with Conners to assume the position. With that, a Vice-Chair will need to be appointed. Joseph noted that officer elections will happen in November.

City of Grand Rapids Flashing Beacons

K. Bennett noted that the City of Grand Rapids received bids back for two of their rapid flashing beacon projects, which came in 7% under budget.

MTP Financial Estimates

Faber reminded the Committee that MTP financial estimates are due back to GVMC by Friday, September 8th.

Project Review

Walters noted that with the new FY approaching, it is a good time to review projects and submit any necessary changes.

APPROVED

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ITEM II: ATTACHMENT A

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Bradshaw adjourned the September 6, 2023, Technical Committee meeting at 10:02 a.m.