

MINUTES

**Grand Valley Metropolitan Council
Transportation Division
TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING
Wednesday, October 2, 2019
Kent County Road Commission
1500 Scribner NW Grand Rapids, MI**

DeVries, chair of the Technical Committee, called the meeting to order at 9:30 am. Those present introduced themselves to the Committee.

I. ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS

Voting Members Present

Rick DeVries (<i>Chair</i>)		City of Grand Rapids
Sue Becker		Alpine Township
Kristin Bennett		City of Grand Rapids
Terry Brod		Cannon Township
Scott Conners		City of Walker
Wayne Harrall	<i>Proxy for Mike DeVries</i>	Kent County
		Grand Rapids Township
Russ Henckel		City of Wyoming
Nicole Hofert		City of Wyoming
Tom Hooker		Byron Township
Dennis Kent	<i>Proxy for Mike Burns</i>	MDOT
		City of Lowell
Brett Laughlin		Ottawa County Road Commission
Terry Schweitzer	<i>Proxy for Tim Bradshaw</i>	City of Kentwood
		City of Kentwood/Caledonia Twp.
Rick Sprague	<i>Proxy for Tim Haagsma</i>	Kent County Road Commission
		Gains Charter Township
Dan Strikwerda		City of Hudsonville
Charlie Sundblad		City of Grandville
Steve Warren		Kent County Road Commission
Kevin Wisselink		ITP-The Rapid

Staff and Non-Voting Guests Present

Andrea Faber	GVMC Staff
Art Green	MDOT
Laurel Joseph	GVMC Staff
Tyler Kent	MDOT
Doug LaFave	City of East Grand Rapids
Roger Marks	CZAE
Terry Martin	Caries and Gable
Norm Sevensma	WMEAC-RWBC
Kerri Smit	GVMC Staff
George Yang	GVMC Staff
Mike Zonyk	GVMC Staff

Voting Members Not Present

Ken Bergwerff
Tim Bradshaw
Mike Burns
Mike DeVries
Adam Elenbaas
Rachel Gokey
Kevin Green
Tim Grifhorst
Tim Haagsma
Jerry Hale
Roy Hawkins
Jim Holtvluwer
Bill LaRose
Don Mayle
Matt McConnon
Tom Noreen
Steve Peterson
Rick Solle
Jeff Thornton
Julius Suchy
Toby VanEss
Phil Vincent
Rod Weersing

Jamestown Township
City of Kentwood/Caledonia Twp.
City of Lowell
Grand Rapids Township
Allendale Township
Village of Sand Lake
Algoma Township
Tallmadge Township
Gaines Charter Township
Lowell Township
GFIAA
Ottawa County
Cedar Springs
MDOT
Courtland Township
Nelson Township
Cascade Charter Township
Plainfield Township
Village of Caledonia
Village of Sparta
Tallmadge Township
City of Rockford
Georgetown Township

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

DeVries entertained a motion to approve the September 4, 2019 Technical Committee minutes.

MOTION by Harrall , SUPPORT by Laughlin, to approve the September 4, 2019, Technical Committee meeting minutes with the addition of Dennis Kent’s name in the attendees section. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

III. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

None

IV. POLICIES AND PRACTICES DOCUMENT REVISION

Referring to Item IV: Attachment A. Joseph explained that Staff is requesting Committee review and recommendation for approval of the revised Non-Motorized section of the Policies and Practices for Programming Projects document.

As part of the MTP update process, staff reviews the Policies and Practices document to ensure the MPO’s policies and practices align with the goals and objectives of the MTP.

Staff has completed this review and updated the Non-Motorized section, which referred to specific objectives from the 2040 MTP that were not retained in the 2045 MTP goals and objectives as a result of the significant effort that was made to condense the MTP’s goals and objectives. This reduction in the number of Plan goals and objectives was a recommendation that came out of the MPO’s last federal certification review.

No other sections were revised.

MOTION by Laughlin, SUPPORT by Conners, to recommend APPROVAL of the revised Non-Motorized section of the Policies and Practices for Programming Projects document. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

V. 2045 MTP DEFICIENCIES AND NEEDS ANALYSIS

Referring to **Item VI: Attachment A** Faber explained that at the October Technical Committee meeting, staff will present the findings of GVMC’s modal needs analysis. To determine current and future transportation need by mode, GVMC worked with various stakeholders from organizations representing transit, passenger rail, air travel, freight movement, and non-motorized modes of transportation. As part of this effort, staff also analyzed deficiencies for pavement and bridge condition, traffic congestion, safety and reliability for all users of the transportation system based on the performance measure targets the Committee has previously supported. These analyses will be the basis for proposing solutions to meet the current and forecasted transportation needs by mode and deficiencies for the 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP).

Yang discussed Congestion deficiency:

V/C Ratio	Congestion Level
V/C<=0.8	Low/No Congestion
0.8<PTI<1.0	Moderate Congestion
V/C>=1.0	Severe Congestion

Kent suggested that staff should consider other factors. Conners added that the data may need to be revisited. Staff advised that they would do so. Zonyk discussed the Metropolitan Transportation Plan and the annual pavement budget of \$21 million for 2019 that will include state and local funds. Joseph advised the committee that staff will go back and make adjustments. Discussion ensued.

Faber discussed safety, brought up the memo that was received from Lynee Wells and asked the committee for feedback. Yang followed up with a safety discussion. Bennett added that bikers do not feel safe on the roads and that there need to be separate bike lanes. Bennett suggested that the verbiage listed should be more general. Drinking and Driving should be changed to “impaired.” Bennett also suggested that it would be beneficial to have age friendly intersections mainly for Senior Citizens when crossing. Wisselink added to establish better access to bus stops. Schweitzer asked staff to summarize all the requested changes. Joseph responded with the following:

- Safety Section needs to be addressed. Changes to the language, add information on age friendly and accessibility.
- Budget for Pavement condition assessment to make sure the local dollars that are spent on federal aid roads are included.
- Clean up some of the segment information on the congested facilities list. Also look at the data related to M37 through Caledonia and M11 through Walker in the model to make sure the congestion captured is accurate.

ITEM II: ATTACHMENT A

Conners suggested to refer a smaller subgroup to discuss the changes once made to the MTP. Bennett, Conners, Kent, Sprague will be assisting in the small group. Sprague suggested to keep the formatting consistent and to reduce the acronyms.

MOTION by Harrall, SUPPORT by LaFave, to recommend to the Policy Committee approval of the needs and deficiencies analysis with the changes that will be made by the subgroup. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

VI. **OTHER BUSINESS**

Faber explained that the comment period is open for GVMC's consultation plan. Faber also mentioned that the plan will be on the GVMC website.

VII. **ADJOURNMENT**

DeVries entertained a motion to adjourn the October 2, 2019, Technical Committee meeting at 10:08 am.

MOTION by Warren, SUPPORT by Conners, to adjourn the October, 2 2019 Technical Committee meeting at 10:08 am. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.