

MINUTES

**Grand Valley Metropolitan Council
Transportation Division
TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING
Wednesday, March 7, 2018
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
Robyn Britton	<i>Proxy for Tom Noreen</i>	Nelson Township Nelson Township
Tim Bradshaw		City of Kentwood/Caledonia Twp.
Scott Conners		City of Walker
Tom Doyle		MDOT
Tim Grifhorst		Tallmadge Township
Wayne Harrall	<i>Proxy for Mike DeVries</i>	Kent County Grand Rapids Township
Tom Hooker		Byron Township
Dennis Kent	<i>Proxy for Mike Burns</i>	MDOT City of Lowell
Brett Laughlin		Ottawa County Road Commission
Liz Schelling		ITP-The Rapid
Rick Sprague	<i>Proxy for Tim Haagsma</i>	Kent County Road Commission Gaines Charter Township
Phil Vincent		City of Rockford
Steve Warren		Kent County Road Commission

Staff and Non-Voting Guests Present

Michael Brameijer	GVMC Staff
Andrea Faber	GVMC Staff
Abed Itani	GVMC Staff
Nick Jasinski	MDOT-Grand Region
Laurel Joseph	GVMC Staff
Tyler Kent	MDOT
Roger Marks	C2AE
Darrell Robinson	GVMC Staff
Norm Sevensma	RWBC/WMEAC
Kerri Smit	GVMC
George Yang	GVMC Staff
Mike Zonyk	GVMC

Voting Members Not Present

Ken Bergwerff
Terry Brod
Mike Burns
Mike DeVries
David Dewey
Bill Dooley
David Ducat
Adam Elenbaas
Jim Ferro
Kevin Green
Tim Haagsma
Jerry Hale
Roy Hawkins
Jim Holtvluwer
Doug LaFave
Matt McConnon
Tom Noreen
Jeff Oonk
Steve Peterson
Rick Solle
Terry Schweitzer
Dan Strikwerda
Julius Suchy
Toby VanEss
Conrad Venema
Rod Weersing
Todd Wibright
Chris Zull

Jamestown Township
Cannon Township
City of Lowell
Grand Rapids Township
Village of Sand Lake
City of Wyoming
City of Cedar Springs
Allendale Township
Ada Township
Algoma Township
Gaines Charter Township
Lowell Township
GRIAA
Ottawa County
City of East Grand Rapids
Courtland Township
Nelson Township
City of Wyoming
Cascade Charter Township
Plainfield Township
City of Kentwood
City of Hudsonville
Village of Sparta
Tallmadge Township
ITP – The Rapid
Georgetown Township
City of Grandville
City of Grand Rapids

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Robinson passed along a clarification to the January 3, 2018 minutes from Andrea Dewey, noting that on page 6, the safety targets are updated annually, not every other year. This was uncertain during the last meeting.

DeVries entertained a motion to approve the January 3, 2018 Technical Committee minutes.

MOTION by Harrall, SUPPORT by Hooker, to approve the January 3, 2018 Technical Committee meeting minutes. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

III. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Sevensma asked if a sign that says “low bridge ahead” could be placed before the 100th St. bridge. Kent stated a sign is already in existence.

IV. FY2017-2020 TIP AMENDMENTS/MODIFICATIONS

Referring to Item IV: Attachment A, Robinson stated that several jurisdictions were requesting to amend/modify the FY2017-2020 TIP. Specific requests include the following:

1. The City of Grand Rapids requested to change the limits of a FY2018 TAP project—3 Mile Road sidewalk project from Monroe Avenue to Coit Avenue. The new limits are Monroe Avenue to Coit Avenue and Northwood Street to Plainfield Avenue. Federal cost will remain the same; however, there will be an increase in local cost. The project may be built concurrently with and partially funded by a plan by the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans to construct 128 new housing units.
2. Hope Network requested to add several projects and update costs to their FY2019 and FY2020 projects list. Complete details were included in the agenda packet.
3. The KCRC requested to swap a programmed FY2019 STP Urban project—7 Mile Road from Fruit Ridge Avenue to Alpine Avenue—to STP rural funding and to add 2 miles to the project. KCRC is then requesting to move two projects from the illustrative list to the project list to fill the gap in STP urban funding. These projects are 5 Mile Road from Plainfield Avenue to East Beltline Avenue and Knapp Street from East City Limits to the East Beltline.
4. MDOT requested to add several projects/phases to FY2018 for the 100th Street bridge over US-131 and associated ramps, listed below:

FY 2017 – Trunkline Project TIP Administrative Modifications Since May Meetings

FY	JN	Route	Location	Work Description	Phase	Total Cost Est. (\$000)	Change/Notes
18	202513	US-131	@ 100 th Street	Emergency Repair	Const.	\$75	Emergency Repair from Bridge Hit (MER-100% M)
18	202546	US-131	@ 100 th Street	Emergency Repair	PE	\$30.5	Emergency Repair from Bridge Hit (MER-100% M)
18	202546	US-131	@ 100 th Street	Emergency Repair	Const.	\$351	Emergency Repair from Bridge Hit (MER-100% M)
18	202669	US-131	@ 100 th Street	Bridge/Interchange Improvement	PE-Bridge	\$550	Amendment New Project (100% M) *
18	202669	US-131	@ 100 th Street	Bridge/Interchange Improvement	PE-Rd.	\$300	Amendment New Project (100% M) *

* Construction year is TBD and will exceed \$5.0 Million, including federal funding

Kent described these projects and provided handouts that showed two options for redesigning the bridge—a four-lane tight diamond alternative and a single-lane roundabout alternative. Both options come out of the PEL study. Kent stated that he would like to get an agreement from the directly effected stakeholders about the preferred options. He hoped to have the design ready to be obligated soon. However, this project is not yet funded, and both options are around \$10 million. Kent stated that he needed to add the preliminary engineering cost to keep the project moving forward.

Kent also explained the requests listed below to the Committee:

FY	JN	Route	Location	Work Description	Phase	Total Cost Est. (\$000)	Change/Notes
18	131653	US-131	Kent/Allegan CL to 76 th Street	Mill and Resurface	Const.	\$2,300	Supplemental M Funding-

							GPA Project - move to FY 18
18	202765	I-196	Byron Road to 32 nd Avenue	Mill/Resurface/Joint Repairs/Misc Skip Patching	PE	\$20	Trunkline Road Preservation GPA-New Project
18	202765	I-196	Byron Road to 32 nd Avenue	Mill/Resurface/Joint Repairs/Misc Skip Patching	Const.	\$1,500	Trunkline Road Preservation GPA-New Project

- City of Rockford’s FY2019 North Main Street Resurfacing project phase one bid came in extensively higher than anticipated, so they requested additional funding for the project or to swap the project with their East Main St. project, which is currently on the illustrative list and less costly.
- GVMC staff, on behalf of multiple jurisdictions, requested to add several MDOT selected FY2019 safety projects to the TIP, which are listed below.

PROJECT	LIMITS	PROJECT SCOPE	JURISDICTION	FEDERAL/STATE	NON-FED	TOTAL
Remembrance Road	At Kinney Avenue	Roundabout construction	Walker	\$ 564,885.00	\$ 62,765.00	\$ 627,650.00
Countdown pedestrian signals	29 locations throughout the city	Upgrade pedestrian signals to countdown, add push buttons, and improve ADA ramps	Grand Rapids	\$ 315,000.00	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 350,000.00
East Paris Avenue	At Sparks Road	Signal Modernization to a box span, add FYA, add protected left turn phase, countdown pedestrian signals and remove the night flash schedule	Grand Rapids	\$ 215,858.00	\$ 23,984.00	\$ 239,842.00
Fuller Avenue	Malta Street to Plainfield Avenue	Road Safety Audit - Pedestrian/Bike focus	Grand Rapids	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 15,000.00
Burton Street	Buchanan Avenue to Breton Avenue	Road Safety Audit	Grand Rapids	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 15,000.00
Division Avenue	At Burton, At Franklin, At Hall and Wealthy	Signal Modernization to add FYA, countdown pedestrian signals and ADA	Grand Rapids	\$ 380,489.00	\$ 42,277.00	\$ 422,766.00
Franklin Street	Oakland Avenue to the ECL	Road Safety Audit - Pedestrian/Bike focus	Grand Rapids	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 15,000.00
Leonard Street	At Alpine Avenue	Signal Modernization to a box span, add FYA, countdown pedestrian signals and remove the night flash schedule	Grand Rapids	\$ 169,183.00	\$ 42,296.00	\$ 211,479.00
Shaner Avenue	15 Mile Road south .25 Miles	Vertical curve modification	KCRC	\$ 238,500.00	\$ 26,500.00	\$ 265,000.00
Total				\$ 1,919,915.00	\$ 241,822.00	\$ 2,161,737.00

- The City of Walker requested that the 2018 CMAQ funding be adjusted to read “Dual left turn lanes from eastbound Three Mile Road to northbound Walker” for their Three Mile and Walker Avenue project and that the 2020 CMAQ Funds be adjusted to include “Advance Construct” adjacent to the title. Their plan is to construct the project in 2019 and seek reimbursement during the State’s 2020 fiscal year.

Itani cautioned that MDOT is currently looking at the status of CMAQ funding because we are going to be in attainment for ozone. We don’t have a definitive answer from MDOT as to whether we will have CMAQ money in FY2019 or FY2020. Kent is currently involved in discussing this at MDOT to see if MDOT will be able to keep their commitments for FY2019 and FY2020. Kent added that the decision is yet to be made, but they are currently looking at the existing TIP as the cutoff. Conners stated that they would continue to proceed with their fingers crossed. Discussion ensued.

Robinson asked, on behalf of the City of Rockford, if anyone would be willing to delay a project in FY2019 so that they could proceed with their North Main St. resurfacing project. Being that there were no volunteers, the City of Rockford decided to replace the North Main St. project with the East Main St. project on the illustrative list.

Bradshaw asked for an explanation on how insurance would work for the 100th St. bridge project. Kent responded that his understanding was that insurance would only pay to repair what was originally there. Discussion ensued.

Conners asked why the 100th St. bridge has been hit so many times. Kent stated that there have been a few bridge hits statewide. This may be due to inexperienced drivers. He noted both hits were caused by out-of-state drivers. Discussion ensued.

DeVries entertained a motion to approve the amendments/modifications to the FY2017-2020 TIP as requested.

MOTION by Warren, SUPPORT by Harrall, to recommend to the Policy Committee approval of the amendments/modifications to the FY2017-2020 TIP requested by the City of Grand Rapids, Hope Network, KCRC, MDOT, the City of Rockford, the City of Walker, and GVMC staff, as presented. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

V. **2040 MTP AND FY2017-2020 TIP AMENDMENT**

This item was added to the agenda and walked on during the meeting.

Referring to several handouts, Joseph explained that the OCRC, on behalf of Ottawa County Parks Recreation, has received a conditional commitment from the MDOT TAP program for a nonmotorized path in Georgetown Township. The original project was Cottonwood Drive and 10th Avenue Non-Motorized Path, with a length of 1.99 miles. They are now requesting to split the original project into two projects based on their work with MDOT. The proposed split will be:
Phase 1: Cottonwood Drive and 10th Avenue Non-Motorized Path (0.98 miles)
Phase 2: 10th Avenue to Taylor Street to 12th Avenue (1.01 miles)

Both phases are anticipated to be obligated and completed in 2018.

These projects had not previously been listed in the MTP or FY2017-2020 TIP, and therefore, staff is recommending that the Technical Committee recommend to the Policy Committee approval of concurrent amendments to the MTP and the TIP pending the results of the 6-day public comment period. Ottawa County Parks and Recreation has done significant public outreach for this project and has generated broad public support for the project.

Laughlin provided additional details about the project, including why MDOT recommended it be split into two phases. Discussion ensued.

DeVries entertained a motion to approve concurrently amending the current MTP and TIP, as requested.

MOTION by Bradshaw, SUPPORT by Conners, to recommend to the Policy Committee concurrently amending the 2040 MTP and the FY2017-2020 TIP to add Phase 1—Cottonwood Drive and 10th Avenue Non-Motorized Path—and Phase 2—10th Avenue to Taylor Street to 12th Avenue—of the OCRC's nonmotorized path project in Georgetown Township

pending the results of the 6-day public comment period. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

VI. OTHER BUSINESS

Brameijer encouraged the Committee members to attend PASER training, which will take place in Grand Rapids on March 27. He asked Committee members to contact him for more information.

Robinson noted that we are using JOBNET now to process amendments, add projects to the TIP, etc. There are currently a few glitches with the program, and starting July 1, MDOT will be shutting down JOBNET for 15 days to implement a new phase. Robinson suggested getting projects obligated before July, since this will slow down the process.

Robinson stated that, starting in 2021, CMAQ funding may no longer be available for this area because Kent County will be redesignated as attainment for ozone. Currently, it appears that only SEMCOG, WMSRDC, and the MACC will be receiving CMAQ funding. He suggested that if Committee members feel strongly about this, that they contact their representative. Kent stated that we may not have a choice because we can't control the federal regs or our designation. However, the FAST Act does expire in 2020. Discussion ensued.

Bradshaw asked for additional information on what changed for the area to lose CMAQ funding. Faber stated that our designation changed from attainment maintenance to attainment, and because of this, we are losing CMAQ funding. Itani and Kent provided additional information about the history of our attainment designation in Kent County, as well as our history in receiving CMAQ funding. Discussion ensued.

Harrall thanked Robinson for his help in moving up a bridge project in order to get it obligated quickly.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

DeVries entertained a motion to adjourn the March 7, 2018 Technical Committee meeting.

MOTION by Harrall, SUPPORT by Sprague, to adjourn the March 7, 2018 Technical Committee meeting at 10:05 am. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.