

**MINUTES**

**Grand Valley Metropolitan Council  
Transportation Division  
JOINT TECHNICAL/POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING  
Wednesday, January 19, 2022  
The Rapid Central Station Conference Room  
250 Grandville Ave SW  
Grand Rapids, MI 49504**

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Naramore, Policy Committee chair, called the meeting to order at 9:32 am.

**I. ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS****Voting Members Present**

Josh Naramore ( <i>Chair</i> )		City of Grand Rapids
Sue Becker		Alpine Township
Kristin Bennett		City of Grand Rapids
Tim Bradshaw		Caledonia Twp.
Scott Connors		City of Walker
Rick DeVries		City of Grand Rapids
Karyn Ferrick		City of Grand Rapids
Jeff Franklin		MDOT
Tim Haagsma		Gaines Township
Wayne Harrall	<i>Proxy for Mike Devries</i>	Kent County
		Grand Rapids Township
Brian Hilbrands		Cascade Charter Township
Dennis Kent	<i>Proxy for Mike Burns</i>	MDOT
		City of Lowell
Jim Kirkwood		City of Kentwood
Melissa LaGrand		Kent County
Doug LaFave		City of East Grand Rapids
Brett Laughlin	<i>Proxy for Rod Weersing</i>	Ottawa County Road Commission
		Georgetown Township
Greg Madura		Alpine Township
Robert Miller		City of Hudsonville
Jeff Oonk	<i>Proxy for Russ Henckel</i>	City of Wyoming
		City of Wyoming
Casey Ries		GFIAA
Terry Schweitzer		City of Kentwood
Rick Sprague	<i>Proxy for Steve Warren</i>	KCRC
		KCRC
Charles Sundblad		City of Grandville
Kevin Wisselink		ITP-The Rapid

**Staff and Non-Voting Guests Present**

Andrea Faber	GVMC Staff
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Art Green  
Laurel Joseph  
Tyler Kent  
Terry Martin  
Mike Porcaro  
George Yang

MDOT-GRTSC  
GVMC Staff  
MDOT  
Carrier & Gable  
MDOT  
GVMC Staff

**Voting Members Not Present**

Mark Bennett  
Terry Brod  
Mike Burns  
Dan Burrill  
Jamie Davies  
Mike DeVries  
Robert DeWard  
Adam Elenbaas  
Shay Gallagher  
Kevin Green  
Laurie Van Haitsma  
Jerry Hale  
Bryan Harrison  
Russ Henckel  
Nicole Hofert  
Jim Holtvluwer  
Ken Krombeen  
Bill LaRose  
Matt McConnon  
Jim Miedema  
Clint Nemeth  
Tom Noreen  
Rob Postema  
John Said  
Darrel Schmalzel  
Rick Solle  
Dan Strikwerda  
Julius Suchy  
Ben Swayze  
Jeff Thornton  
Don Tillema  
Philip Vincent  
Steve Warren  
Luke Walters  
Mike Womack  
Rod Weersing  
Cameron Van Wyngarden

Tallmadge Township  
Cannon Township  
City of Lowell  
City of Wyoming  
City of Rockford  
Grand Rapids Township  
Gaines Charter Township  
Allendale Township  
Village of Sparta  
Algoma Township  
Jamestown Township  
Lowell Township  
Caledonia Charter Township  
City of Wyoming  
City of Wyoming  
Ottawa County  
City of Grandville  
Cedar Springs  
Courtland Township  
Ottawa County Road Commission  
GFIAA  
Nelson Township  
City of Wyoming  
Ada Township  
City of Walker  
Plainfield Township  
City of Hudsonville  
Village of Sparta  
Cascade Charter Township  
Village of Caledonia  
Byron Township  
City of Rockford  
Kent County Road Commission  
MDOT  
City of Cedar Springs  
Georgetown Township  
Plainfield Township

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Defer action until Committees meet separately

**III. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**IV. TIP AMENDMENTS/MODIFICATIONS**

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

- MDOT is requesting the amendments/modifications to the TIP project list in the attached pending projects and GPAs summary. MDOT is also requesting committee review of the S/TIP exempt project list, which has been modified to only show the projects that have undergone changes since the last Committee meeting.
- KCRC is requesting to add a bridge project to the FY2022 TIP, which has triggered a GPA threshold increase to the FY2022 Local Bridge GPA
- The City of Grand Rapids is requesting to move their Burton Street safety project from FY2023 to FY2022, and also to add another Burton Street safety project that was recently awarded funds to FY2022, which has triggered a GPA threshold increase for the FY2022 Local Traffic Ops and Safety GPA. Grand Rapids is also requesting to add a repurposed earmark project to FY2022
- GVMC is requesting to increase the budget of the FY2023 Clean Air Action Program based on the TPSG Subcommittee's recommendation during programming meetings for the FY2023-2026 TIP
- On behalf of ITP The Rapid, GVMC staff is requesting approval of a budget increase to ITP's FY2022 bus replacement CMAQ project to utilize surplus CMAQ funds. At their meeting on Dec. 1, 2021, TPSG recommended allocating the surplus funds left when the Grand Rapids TOC was funded by the state set aside rather than GVMC's regional CMAQ allocation (\$520,661) to Kentwood for their turn lane project if the budget needed to increase and the remaining balance to The Rapid. After consulting with their engineer, Kentwood determined their current budget estimate was correct, thus leaving \$520,661 for The Rapid. This change has triggered a GPA threshold increase for the FY2022 Transit Capital GPA. To help balance this FY22 allocation, The Rapid is proposing to forego \$340,000 for bus replacement and \$100,000 for their vanpool program in FY2024
- On behalf of Kentwood, GVMC staff is requesting an increase in TAP funds for Kentwood's FY2022 Burton Street sidepath project. During their meeting to recommend a program of projects for regional TAP funds for the FY 2023-26 TIP, the Nonmotorized Committee recommended moving the KCRC/Ada/Kentwood Argo Ave sidewalk project from FY2022 to FY 2024. This left the \$125,790 available to be programmed in FY22. Because of the timing, being in FY22 already, it was recommended that the funding was allocated to the existing Kentwood Burton St sidepath project. If approved, the updated funding would be 65% Federal and 35%

Local, totaling \$302,100 which would adhere to match requirements. TPSG recommended approval of this change at their Dec.1, 2021 meeting.

- GVMC on behalf of the City of Lowell is requesting approval of the budget and construction length changes to their River Valley Trail Connection Project funded with Statewide TAP funds. Staff is also requesting approval of the suspension of Lowell's South Monroe Street Small Urban project as it is no longer needed

Kent highlighted one project in the TIP, which is adding a PE phase for the bridge at M-37/M-44(East Beltline) over I-96, and one project on the STIP exempt list, which is the replacement of streetlights at US-131 between Wealthy St and Pearl St. Additional information was provided in the agenda packet.

Naramore entertained a motion to approve the TIP amendments, as requested.

**MOTION by Harrall, SUPPORT by DeVries, to approve the TIP amendments requested by MDOT, KCRC, the City of Grand Rapids, GVMC, ITP, Kentwood and the City of Lowell. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Referring to Item IV: Attachment B**, Joseph stated that the FY2022 funding allocations have been updated based on the new federal infrastructure bill. Additional information about the funding changes and some proposed strategies for this funding was provided in the agenda packet. A list of FY2022 projects that are not yet obligated was provided for discussion about the funding changes.

Discussion ensued. The Committees recommended using surplus funding to increase the federal portion of existing projects where possible and to set up another TPSG meeting to determine how to utilize any additional funding.

**MOTION by Laughlin, SUPPORT by Bennett, to increase federal funding on existing projects where possible and set up a TPSG meeting for the utilization of the additional funding. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

#### V. **TIP 2023-2026 DRAFT PROJECT LIST**

**Referring to Item V: Attachment A**, Joseph thanked the members for their hard work and cooperation to put together a solid draft TIP list. Joseph asked the Committees to approve the preliminary draft 2023-2026 TIP project list so it can move forward with consultation, environmental justice, air quality, and public involvement.

Harrall asked if there will be discussion of additional FY 2023-2026 funding from the new federal infrastructure bill, while discussing FY 2022 projects at the proposed TPSG meeting. Joseph mentioned that GVMC does not have specific dollar amount, but the intent was to use any additional funding in FY 2023-2026 to maximize federal share in the proposed projects. It was decided that more discussions will be needed when budget amounts are provided.

Bennett asked if the funding amount for each fiscal year will be provided. Joseph stated that once we know the funding amount from the new federal infrastructure bill, we should know the annual allocation amounts for each year.

Dennis Kent presented the map of MDOT TIP projects and explained some of the projects on the draft TIP list. He explained that MDOT focuses its effort on the preservation of roadway system as opposed to adding lanes and expanding capacity, and other non-preservation projects. Kent also discussed the TAMP tiers that are used by MDOT to prioritize preservation and funding.

Some committee members asked questions about MDOT's proposed projects. Discussion ensued.

**MOTION by Madura, SUPPORT by LaGrand, to approve the preliminary draft 2023-2026 TIP project list. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

#### **VI. OTHER BUSINESS**

Dennis Kent updated the committee members with information about the construction meeting in February, and MDOT staff will provide a survey for the US-131 PEL study in February.

Joseph provided updates on the airport access study and TDM study.

#### **VII. ADJOURNMENT**

Naramore entertained a motion to adjourn the January 19,2022 Joint Technical/Policy Committee meeting at 10:48 am.

**MOTION by Conners, SUPPORT by LaGrand, to adjourn the joint Technical/Policy Committee meeting. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**