

MINUTES

Grand Valley Metropolitan Council
Transportation Division
TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING
WEDNESDAY, June 3, 2009
Kent County Road Commission
1500 Scribner NW Grand Rapids, MI

Warren, chair of the Technical Committee, called the meeting to order at 9:36 am.

Warren stated that Item IV on the agenda must be amended to include two new amendment requests to the FY2008-2011 TIP from the City of Lowell and the KCRC. He entertained a motion to make this change to the agenda.

MOTION by Holtrop, SUPPORT by Harrall, to amend Item IV on the June 3, 2009 Technical Committee agenda to include two additional amendment requests to the FY2008-2011 TIP from the City of Lowell and the KCRC. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Warren asked that the Committee members go around the table and introduce themselves to the committee.

I. ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS

Voting Members Present

Steve Warren (<i>Chair</i>)		KCRC
Alex Arends		Alpine Township
Patrick Bush		City of Grand Rapids
Dan Carlton		Georgetown Township
Ron Carr		City of Grandville
Scott Conners		City of Walker
Sandra M. Cornell-Howe		MDOT
Rick DeVries		City of Grand Rapids
Tim Haagsma		Gaines Charter Township
Wayne Harrall	<i>Proxy for</i>	Kent County
	<i>Mike DeVries</i>	Grand Rapids Township
Jan Hoekstra	<i>Proxy for</i>	ITP-The Rapid
	<i>Taiwo Jaiyeoba</i>	ITP-The Rapid
Jim Holtrop		Ottawa County
Jack Klein	<i>Proxy for</i>	OCRC
	<i>Brett Laughlin</i>	OCRC
Terry Schweitzer		City of Kentwood

Staff and Non-Voting Guests Present

Roger Belknap	KCRC
Andrea Dewey	GVMC Staff
Andrea Faber	GVMC Staff

CORRECTED AND APPROVED

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Item II: Attachment A**

Abed Itani
Joan Konyndyk
Steve Redmond
Norm Sevensma
Don Stypula
Steve Waalkes
George Yang
Mike Zonyk

GVMC Staff
Hope Network
MDOT
RWBC-WMEAC
GVMC Staff
Michigan Concrete Paving Assn.
GVMC Staff
GVMC Staff

Voting Members Not Present

Jerry Alkema
Sandra Ayers
Mike Berrevoets
Mike Bouwkamp
Timothy Cochran
Dick Davies
Sharon DeLange
Dan DesJarden
Mike DeVries
Bill Dooley
Ken Feldt
Steve Groenenboom
Roy Hawkins
Dennis Hoemke
Bob Homan
Taiwo Jaiyeoba
Brett Laughlin
Jim Miedema
Audrey Nevins
Steve Peterson
Chuck Porter
Dan Strikwerda
Toby VanEss

Allendale Township
Village of Caledonia
City of Cedar Springs
City of Rockford
City of Wyoming
Cannon Township
Village of Sparta
City of Lowell
Grand Rapids Township
City of Wyoming
City of East Grand Rapids
Ada Township
GRFIA
Algoma Township
Plainfield Township
The Rapid
OCRC
Jamestown Township
Byron Township
Cascade Charter Township
Courtland Township
City of Hudsonville
Tallmadge Township

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Warren entertained a motion to approve the April 1, 2009 Technical Committee Meeting Minutes.

MOTION by Schweitzer, SUPPORT by Haagsma, to approve the April 1, 2009 Technical Committee Meeting Minutes. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

III. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Konyndyk asked the Committee for an update on the Kent County transit needs analysis. Itani responded that GVMC submitted a grant for \$150,000 to MDOT, and it was approved. ITP-The Rapid is also contributing \$100,000 to the study, which will bring the total to \$250,000. Itani explained that this study is a latent-demand study for transit, which will look at the rural areas in Kent County and part of the MPO in Ottawa County

to determine the supply and demand for services in these areas. Itani continued that MDOT has informed GVMC that in order to continue with the study, a Master Agreement was needed with them. Stypula has signed this Master Agreement, and it has been returned to MDOT. Once the agreement is executed, signed by MDOT and returned to GVMC, the project will move to phase 2, which is waiting to receive a project agreement from MDOT to obligate the funds. Meanwhile, Dewey is working on a proposal for the transit committee for their input. Discussion ensued.

Sevensma reminded the Committee that May was National Bike Month. He added that bicycling helps to solve several current problems, such as congestion, pollution, and global warming. Because of this, he suggested that the Technical Committee consider spending more resources on bicycle facilities in the future.

IV. FY2008-2011 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) AMENDMENTS

Speaking on **Item IV: Attachment A** and two handouts, Itani informed the committee of several TIP amendment requests. The first request, from the City of Grand Rapids, was to amend the FY2009 project "Signal Optimization" to split the project into two phases—"A" phase and "C" phase—with no additional funding requested. The City of Grand Rapids also requested an amendment to the TIP to switch a current ARRA funded project—Hall Street from Eastern Avenue to Kalamazoo Avenue—with a project located in the FY2011 TIP—Lake Drive from Fuller Avenue to Carlton Avenue—with no additional funding requested.

ACSET, Senior Neighbors, Hope Network, American Red Cross of Greater Grand Rapids, and the United Methodist Community House also requested to have their FY2010 Section 5310 capital requests added to the TIP in order to have their projects obligated.

In addition, due to a previously approved FY2009 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Rural funded project being determined to be ineligible for ARRA funding in the amount of \$130,000, the KCRC has requested to use the \$60,000 remaining ARRA Rural funding for a project on Cannonsburg Road in the area of Giles Avenue for resurfacing. The Village of Kent City received \$70,000 of the \$130,000. Itani clarified that this item needed to be brought before the committee since it involved a change in the project description. The KCRC also requested to amend the FY2008-2011 TIP to include Phase 3 of the M-6 Non-Motorized Trail, from Clyde Park Avenue to Division Avenue. The total cost for phase 3 of the M-6 trail is \$1,567,000 with \$335,732 coming from federal High Priority Project (HPP) funds and \$1,231,268 coming from a local match provided by the Kent County Parks Department.

Lastly, the City of Lowell requested to include two Small Urban projects in the TIP. In FY2009, they requested to add a resurfacing project, Bowes Road from South Hudson to Valley Vista, for a cost of \$78,000. The project is to be funded through ARRA funds. In FY2010, the City of Lowell requested to add in a reconstruction and sidewalk project on Bowes Road. The total cost is \$539,500, with \$341,600 being funded by STP-SU funds, \$155,900 funded by local shares, and \$42,000 in ARRA funding to reduce local shares.

Sevensma stated that a 10-foot-width may not be wide enough for the trail, since he believed that the new standard for trail width was 12 feet. Harrall responded that the trail

is only funded for a 10-foot width.

Warren entertained a motion to amend the FY2008-2011 TIP to include the amendments identified by Staff.

MOTION by Carr, SUPPORT by Bush, to amend the FY2008-2011 TIP to include the amendment requests from the City of Grand Rapids, ACSET, Senior Neighbors, Hope Network, American Red Cross of Greater Grand Rapids, the United Methodist Community House, the KCRC, and the City of Lowell, as identified by Staff. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

V. **OTHER BUSINESS**

Itani updated the Committee on the status of the Non-Motorized Plan. He stated that a draft is complete and that it is being reviewed internally. Once this process is finished, the plan will go to the Technical Committee for their input. Schweitzer stated that having the Non-Motorized Plan as a guide is very valuable and that it will bolster grant applications that are submitted. Itani agreed that it is beneficial to have a Non-Motorized Plan in place so that the Committee can coordinate between the TIP, the LRTP, and various non-motorized facilities. Discussion, comments, and questions ensued.

Harrall stated that for the last year, the KCRC has been providing engineering services to the Newaygo County Road Commission. He added that Newaygo County has received funding for an ARRA project, which will entail resurfacing approximately 2 miles of road. Their rural task force has decided to allow the PE and the CE for that project to be included as part of the \$650,000 project cost. Harrall stated that there was some disparity as to whether the ARRA funding for the PE and CE work needed to go through GVMC, since the PE and CE work was being completed by the KCRC. The cost would be \$25,000 for PE and \$35,000 for CE. Discussion ensued.

Warren entertained a motion to amend the FY2008-2011 TIP to include PE and CE for the previously identified project in Newaygo County, should it be necessary to do so.

MOTION by Haagsma, SUPPORT by Carr, to include PE and CE for a project in Newaygo County in the FY2008-2011 TIP, should it be determined necessary to do so, with the work to be completed by the KCRC. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Referring to **Item IV**, Cornell-Howe stated that since phase III of the M-6 non-motorized trail is the last project to come out of the HPP grant, she wanted to look at the remaining funding and make a correction to the HPP federal funds before the upcoming Policy Committee meeting if more funds are found to be available.

Cornell-Howe also added that MDOT has now met the requirement to obligate ARRA funds, which puts them in the position to be eligible to receive redistributed funds, if additional funds are available and redistributed. Discussion ensued.

Stypula provided an update on the status of transportation funding.

Warren encouraged the Committee members to attend the Asset Management

Workshop on June 18. Discussion ensued.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Warren adjourned the June 3, 2009 Technical Committee Meeting at 10:17 am.