

MINUTES

**Grand Valley Metropolitan Council
Transportation Division
TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING
WEDNESDAY, October 3, 2007
Kent County Road Commission
1500 Scribner NW Grand Rapids, MI**

The meeting was called to order by Dooley, Chair, at 9:30 a.m.

I. ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS

Voting Members Present

Bill Dooley (<i>Chair</i>)	City of Wyoming
Mike Berrevoets	City of Cedar Springs
Patrick Bush	City of Grand Rapids
Ron Carr	City of Grandville
Scott Conners	City of Walker
Sandra M. Cornell-Howe	MDOT
Rick DeVries	City of Grand Rapids
Jim Fetzer	The Rapid
Tim Haagsma	Gaines Township
Jim Holtrop	Ottawa County
Dick Johnston	City of Rockford
Dennis Kent <i>Proxy for</i>	MDOT
<i>Dan DesJardens</i>	City of Lowell
Ken Klomparens	GRFIA
Brett Laughlin	OCRC
Gerald Mears	City of Wyoming
Terry Schweitzer	City of Kentwood
Steve Warren (<i>Vice-Chair</i>)	KCRC

Staff and Non-Voting Guests Present

Andrea Dewey	GVMC Staff
Chris Dingman	GVMC Staff
Andrea Faber	GVMC Staff
Abed Itani	GVMC Staff
Darrell Robinson	GVMC Staff
Norm Sevensma	RWBC-WMEAC
Jim Snell	GVMC Staff

Voting Members Not Present

James Beelen	Allendale Township
Marta Brechting	Alpine Township
Dick Davies	Cannon Township
Sharon DeLange	Village of Sparta

Dan DesJardens
Mike DeVries
Ken Feldt
Wayne Harrall
William Holland
Jim McIntyre
George Meek
Jim Miedema
Audrey Nevins
Steve Peterson
Dan Strikwerda
Gary Voogt
Bill Wiersma

City of Lowell
Grand Rapids Township
City of East Grand Rapids
Kent County
Georgetown Township
Courtland Township
Plainfield Township
Jamestown Township
Byron Township
Cascade Charter Township
City of Hudsonville
Ada Township
Tallmadge Township

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Dooley entertained a motion to approve of the August 1, 2007 Technical Committee Meeting Minutes.

MOTION by Carr, SUPPORT by Holtrop, approval of the August 1, 2007 Technical Committee Meeting Minutes. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

III. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Sevensma informed the committee that the White Pine Trail north of 14 Mile Road to Sand Lake has been paved.

Itani introduced Andrea Faber as the new replacement for Patti Brink, who has retired.

IV. TIP/LONG RANGE PLAN AMENDMENT POLICY

Dingman reported that the FHWA and MDOT have asked that the process of bringing revisions to the TIP and the LRTP be formalized. Referring to **Item IV: Attachment A**, Dingman outlined a list of changes that differentiated between administrative adjustments and amendments. Itani added that the reasons for these clarifications were due to new legislation, specifically U.S. Code Chapter 23 Sec. 450 and 500 for highway planning and CFR 49 for FTA. This legislation speaks clearly as to what constitutes a TIP amendment versus what constitutes a TIP adjustment and outlines the process that must be followed when making such changes. Discussion, questions and comments followed.

Dooley entertained a motion to approve the TIP/Long Range Plan Amendment Policy as discussed.

MOTION by Carr, SUPPORT by Johnston, to recommend to approve the TIP/LONG RANGE PLAN AMENDMENT POLICY. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

V. TIP/LONG RANGE PLAN INFORMATION ITEMS

Dingman stated that many agencies around the table had advanced construction projects in 2007 that would need to be converted in 2008. He informed the

committee that if they had received a loan for their advance construction projects, the State would take care of the conversion process by using federal funds to finish the project. Agencies that did not receive loans for their advance construct projects need to send a letter to Gonzalo Puente at MDOT requesting conversion of the project funds. Letters can be sent after October 1st.

Dingman briefed the committee on the timelines provided in the Local Agency Programs FY 2008 Project Planning Guide (attachment). He recommended that committee members look at where their GI needs to be held by to get into the queue in terms of receiving let dates for projects. He asked the committee to study this attachment as soon as possible and to contact him if they had questions.

Dingman informed the committee about a new directive from the FHWA that says that all TIP projects in FY 2008-2011 must have cost estimates that include inflation. He asked the committee if the cost estimates they had submitted for FY 2008-2011 included price adjustments with inflation. Itani added that as of December 11, 2007, the cost of inflation must be considered when amending the TIP and the LRTP. When there is a call for projects in the future, committee members must choose between submitting the estimates in today's dollars or submitting a total that includes the cost of inflation. Itani prefers to receive the cost in today's dollars so that the MPO staff can make the adjustments. Discussion, comments and questions followed.

VI. PAVEMENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM UPDATE

Snell briefed the committee on the progress of the Pavement Management System. He passed out maps showing the area that he had covered in the van. Black lines indicated areas that he had completed and gray lines demonstrated the few short stretches that still needed to be surveyed. Thus far, Snell has covered approximately 1,570 of the 1,576 Federal Aid Miles. The roads that have not been covered are currently under construction.

VII. TRAFFIC COUNT PROGRAM UPDATE

Robinson gave a verbal update on the Traffic Count Program to the committee. At this point, the Ottawa County Road Commission, City of Walker, and the City of Grand Rapids have completed their traffic count databases. Many more cities are also drawing close to completing their traffic count databases.

VIII: OZONE ACTION! PROGRAM UPDATE

Referring to **Item VIII: Attachment A**, Dewey updated the committee on the Ozone Action! program. Ozone Action! season has now come to a close. Between April 1 and September 30, there were six Ozone Action days. Many efforts were made to increase ozone awareness, including ozone publicity at various area fairs and a display that rotated through several different entities throughout the summer. Ozone Action! information was also included on 14 radio stations, including one Spanish-only station. Dewey invited committee members with upcoming health or environmental events to let her know so that she could work on publicizing the Ozone Action! program there. Discussion, comments and questions followed.

IX: OTHER BUSINESS

Itani stated that GVMC has been doing speed studies to collect traffic delays and travel time during am peak, pm peak, and mid-day travel. Thus far, US-131, I-196, I-96, 28th street, the East Beltline and M-6 have been completed.

Robinson updated the committee on pacer ratings. Thus far, all KCRC roads have been surveyed, as have all of the roads in the City of Kentwood and the City of Walker. Road surveys still need to be completed in Wyoming, the City of Grandville, the City of East Grand Rapids, and in parts of Ottawa County. Discussion, comments and questions followed.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Dooley adjourned the meeting at 10:15 a.m.