

MINUTES

Grand Valley Metropolitan Council
Transportation Division
TRANSPORTATION PROGRAMMING STUDY GROUP
Wednesday, February 10, 2010
Kent County Road Commission 1500 Scribner Ave NW

Harrall, Chair of the TPSG Committee, called the meeting to order at 9:30 am.

I. ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS

Voting Members Present

Wayne Harrall (<i>Chair</i>)		County of Kent
Patrick Bush		City of Grand Rapids
Ron Carr		City of Grandville
Tim Cochran		City of Wyoming
Scott Conners		City of Walker
Mike DeVries		Grand Rapids Township
Rick DeVries		City of Grand Rapids
Brian Donovan	<i>Proxy for Ken Feldt</i>	City of East Grand Rapids
		City of East Grand Rapids
Bill Dooley		City of Wyoming
Brett Laughlin		OCRC
Terry Schweitzer		City of Kentwood
Dan Strikwerda		City of Hudsonville
Steve Warren		KCRC

Staff and Non-Voting Guests Present

Roger Belknap	KCRC
Andrea Dewey	GVMC Staff
Andrea Faber	GVMC Staff
Tim Haagsma	Gaines Township
Roy Hawkins	GRFIA
Russ Henckel	City of Wyoming
Abed Itani	GVMC Staff
Dennis Kent	MDOT-Grand Region
Erick Kind	MDOT
Steve Peterson	Cascade Township
Jon Rice	KCRC
Darrell Robinson	GVMC Staff
Jim Snell	GVMC Staff

APPROVED

**APPROVED
ITEM II: ATTACHMENT A**

Voting Members Not Present

Jerry Alkema
Sandy Ayers
Mike Bouwkamp
Christine Burns
Sandra M. Cornell-Howe
Sharon DeLange
Dan DesJarden
Taiwo Jaiyeoba

Allendale Township
Village of Caledonia
City of Rockford
City of Cedar Springs
MDOT
Village of Sparta
City of Lowell
ITP-The Rapid

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Harrall entertained a motion to approve the December 16, 2009 Transportation Programming Study Group meeting minutes.

MOTION by Schweitzer, SUPPORT by Laughlin, to approve the December 16, 2009 Transportation Programming Study Group Meeting Minutes. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

III. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

None

IV. PROGRAMMING OF FY2011-2014 TIP

Itani began the meeting by explaining that he had received a letter from MDOT on February 9 that stated that, due to the expiration of SAFETEA-LU and the resulting continuous resolution, MDOT had only received 2/3 obligational authority for projects. The result of this is that if Congress does not act quickly, MDOT will run out of obligational authority by the end of July. Discussion ensued.

2011 STP-U Projects

Moving on to programming the TIP, Warren explained several changes that he was proposing to make within the years of the TIP. In 2011, Warren proposed to move the 4 Mile Road from Baumhoff to Old Orchard project to FY2014 EDF-C in the TIP. However, the limits would change to 4 Mile Road from Walker to Old Orchard. With the remaining funding in FY2011, Warren proposed to move up the Clyde Park Avenue project from 60th to 68th Street from FY2013 in the TIP. Warren also proposed to move the Clyde Park from 76th to 68th project from FY2011 to FY2012 EDF-C, to add in the Sparta Avenue from M-37 to 12 Mile resurfacing project into FY2011 of the TIP, and to move the Forest Hill Avenue project from Hall to Cascade from FY2011 STP-U to FY2011 EDF-C.

Warren stated that if the committee did not agree with these changes, he was prepared to go back to the original programming of the TIP. However, he stated that he would not support any TIP changes that would result in the KCRC receiving less funding than was originally programmed in the TIP. Itani explained that, in the past, when projects were dropped from the TIP, everyone had an opportunity to submit projects. He encouraged the Committee to look at the area as a whole and determine where funding should go. Conners and Dooley

stated their support of Warren’s proposal. Harrall asked for and received general committee consensus on Warren’s proposal. Discussion ensued.

Warren’s changes were made to FY2011 in the TIP, and the remaining funding was determined to go towards bringing the KCRC’s Forest Hill Avenue from Cascade to Ada Drive project and their Ada Drive from Fox Hollow to Thornapple River Drive project from FY2012 STP-U to FY2011 STP-U.

2011 EDF-C Projects

Warren requested to move the Forest Hill Avenue from Ada Drive to Braeburn Street project to FY2012 and to construct the entire project as it was listed in the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). In its place, Warren requested to move the FY2011 Forest Hill Avenue from Hall to Cascade project from STP-U to EDF-C, as previously stated. Robinson stated that he would adjust the match to consume the remaining \$422 in EDF-C funding for this year.

2012 STP-U Projects

In addition to the changes made to the FY2012 STP-U list during the FY2011 discussion, Warren also requested to move the KCRC’s 4 Mile Road from Baumhoff to Peachridge project from FY2012 to FY2014 STP-U. In its place, Warren proposed to move up the 84th St. from Clyde Park to Division project from FY2013 to FY2012, and to add in two new resurfacing projects: 17 Mile Rd. from US131 Ramps to West St. and Clyde Park Avenue from 76th St. to 84th St. With the remaining funding, Warren requested to move the Pettis Avenue from Knapp to Egypt Valley project from FY2013 to FY2012. Since the cost of this project was \$50,000 above the amount of remaining funding, the project cost was reduced by an equal amount. Discussion ensued.

2012 EDF-C Projects

In addition to moving the Clyde Park Avenue from 76th to 68th St. project from FY2011 STP-U to FY2012 EDF-C, Warren also explained his request to consolidate two Forest Hill Avenue projects. The resulting project would become Forest Hill Avenue from Ada Dr. to M-21. After conferring with Snell, Harrall announced that the KCRC’s Clyde Park from 76th to 68th St. project was listed in the Long Range Transportation Plan for resurfacing, not for widening and reconstruction, and was therefore ineligible for EDF-C funding. Itani added that this project is not capacity deficient, and therefore, it does not qualify for widening. Warren explained that he wanted to widen this stretch for safety reasons. Since projects that qualify for EDF-C funding are difficult to find, Warren asked for the Committee’s opinion on this issue. Schweitzer recommended that this project be added to the list with a notation that this project is an exception. Haagsma suggested shortening the project to 8/10 of a mile, resulting in the following project limits: Clyde Park Avenue from .10 MI N. of 76th to .10 Mi S. of 68th. However, a LRTP amendment would be needed. Conners suggested revisiting the guidelines for determining EDF-C projects in the near future. Discussion ensued.

2013 STP-U Projects

In addition to the previous changes made to the FY2013 STP-U list, Warren also suggested moving a new resurfacing project into this year of the TIP: Kraft Ave. from 52nd to 60th. The City of Grand Rapids also added another new project into this year of the TIP: Monroe

APPROVED

**APPROVED
ITEM II: ATTACHMENT A**

Avenue from Knapp St. to North Park St. This resulted in the list being overprogrammed by \$456,000. To make up the difference, the City of Kentwood would advance construct \$456,000 of their Forest Hill Avenue from I-96 to NCL project. Itani also noted that “Plan Studies” could be reduced from \$250,000 to \$150,000.

The Committee broke for lunch at 11:30 am, and Harrall called the committee back to order at 12:13 pm.

2013 EDF-C Projects

Warren explained that the KCRC had two projects for FY2013 EDF-C funding. These projects included Northland Drive from Indian Lake to South St, which was already included in the TIP, and a new project, Knapp Street at Grand River Drive. After adding in these projects, \$109,000 remained in EDF-C funding for this year. Bush suggested that this funding go towards ITS. The City of Grand Rapids sponsored the project.

2014 STP-U Projects

With the previous changes to FY2014, and after eliminating several projects that would be funded by ARRA, the STP-U list was still overprogrammed by approximately \$4 million. Itani noted that “Plan Studies” could once again be listed as \$150,000 instead of \$250,000. Multiple projects were subsequently removed from the list. The City of Wyoming added one project: 44th St. from Stafford Ave. to Division Ave. Itani reminded Committee members that they can advance construct and convert in FY2015, or consider this year of the TIP speculative at this point, and arrange the matches so that the TIP is financially constrained. Schweitzer volunteered to advance construct the City of Kentwood’s Division Avenue from 54th to 60th St. project. The Committee programmed \$149,521 federal for this project in FY2014, which resulted in the city advance constructing \$1,194,479 in FY2015.

2014 EDF-C Projects

For 2014 EDF-C funding, Warren stated that he would like to consolidate the two 4 Mile projects into one project: 4 Mile Rd. from Walker to Old Orchard.

Harrall entertained a motion to approve the FY2011-FY2014 STP-U and EDF-C project lists, as discussed.

MOTION by Warren, SUPPORT by Carr, to recommend the following to the Technical Committee: (1) approval of the FY2011-FY2014 STP-U and EDF-C TIP project lists as identified, (2) ensuring that the EDF-C policy and procedures allow for the KCRC’s Clyde Park Avenue from 68th St. to 76th St. project to qualify for funds, and (3) amending the Long Range Transportation Plan accordingly. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

V. JOBS FOR MAIN STREET FUNDING

Referring to an additional handout entitled “2010-2014 Road & Bridge Program,” Kent stated his request to add several items into the TIP. Itani stated that the Committee should simply review this list and comment on it, and not add it to the TIP, since cost information on the projects was not available. Itani also stated that he would ask MDOT for an analysis of the federal funding that they can and cannot match so that any unused MDOT funding can be

added to the TIP for locals to use. Discussion ensued.

Itani also explained that the MPO was asked to develop an illustrative list of potential projects to receive funding from a second stimulus plan, called Jobs for Main Street. If the bill for Jobs for Main Street Passes, Itani expected the amount to be similar to what was received for ARRA, which was around \$12.5 million. Bush suggested taking all of the projects that didn't make it into the TIP or receive leftover ARRA funding to create the list. The resulting list could then be narrowed down if the bill passes. Harrall suggested that every jurisdiction determine their lowest project priority and submit it for a B list. All of the remaining projects would be considered A-list. Every jurisdiction with more than one project selected at least one project to move to the B-list, resulting in an illustrative list of projects totaling \$13.5 million. Itani stated that if the list is left at this amount, MDOT will not be able to obligate all of these projects. Therefore, those who are late submitting their projects may not get them.

Harrall entertained a motion to amend the FY2008-2011 and FY2011-2014 TIPs to include the identified Jobs for Main Street project lists as illustrative.

MOTION by Carr, SUPPORT by Donovan, to recommend to the Technical Committee amending the FY2008-2011 and FY2011-FY2014 TIPs by adding an illustrative A-list and B-list of projects to receive Jobs for Main Street funding, should the bill pass, with the list to be further refined in the future if needed. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

VI. OTHER BUSINESS

None

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Harrall adjourned the February 10, 2010 TPSG Committee meeting at 1:39 pm.