

APPROVED

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ITEM III: ATTACHMENT A

MINUTES

Grand Valley Metropolitan Council
Transportation Division
TRANSPORTATION PROGRAMMING STUDY GROUP
Wednesday, March 15th, 2007
Kent County Road Commission 1500 Scribner NW

The meeting was called to order by Dooley, Chair of the Technical Committee at 9:35 a.m.

I. ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS

Voting Members Present

Bill Dooley (<i>Chair</i>)	City of Wyoming
Patrick Bush	City of Grand Rapids
Scott Conners	City of Walker
Jay Cravens	Cascade Township
Rick DeVries	City of Grand Rapids
Ken Feldt	City of East Grand Rapids
Tim Haagsma	Gaines Township
Wayne Harrall	Kent County
Jan Hoekstra <i>Proxy for Jim Fetzer</i>	The Rapid
Jerry Homminga	City of Cedar Springs
Sandra M. Cornell-Howe	MDOT
Brett Laughlin	OCRC
Terry Schweitzer	City of Kentwood
Steve Warren (<i>Vice-Chair</i>)	KCRC

Staff and Non-Voting Guests Present

Patti Brink	GVMC Staff
Chris Dingman	GVMC Staff
Abed Itani	GVMC Staff
Dennis Kent	MDOT Grand Region
Suzette Peplinski	MDOT Grand Region

Voting Members Not Present

Sandy Ayers	Village of Caledonia
Mike Berrevoets	City of Cedar Springs (FTCH)
Ron Carr	City of Grandville
Bryan Chodkowski	Village of Sparta
Jim Fetzer	The Rapid

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John Gorney
William Holland
Dick Johnston
Gerald Mears

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City of Hudsonville
Georgetown Township
City of Rockford
City of Wyoming

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Dooley entertained a motion to approve the February 28th, 2007 Transportation Programming Study Group Meeting Minutes.

MOTION by Cravens, SUPPORT by Warren, to approve the February 28th, 2007 Transportation Programming Study Group Meeting Minutes. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

III. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Schweitzer introduced his daughter Stephanie Schweitzer to the committee.

IV. FY2008-2011 EDF- C & FY2010-2011 CMAQ (ILLUSTRATIVE) TIP Programming

Referring to **Item IV: Attachment A** in the hand-out, Dingman explained why funding levels are lower, and noted that the information provided today is based on the recision information. Discussion followed. Itani also commented that future funding levels are unclear as the Transportation Bill will expire on September 30th 2009. As the projects in FY2008 were addressed, several members identified and discussed regionally significant projects and projects that could be flexible should the Governor's proposal not go through and a contingency list is developed. Discussion ensued regarding the potential use of STP funds for a City of Kentwood project on the EDF-C list. Itani clarified that with EDF-C, only State funding can be carried over. Discussion, comments and questions followed. As current percentages were addressed, Conners suggested lowering percentages to include as many projects as possible. Discussion and comments followed. Suggested alternatives for funding include increasing the match or carrying over dollars to FY 2009 to fund additional projects should the Governor's proposal not go through. Discussion followed. Bush offered a motion that could accommodate some of the committee's concerns.

MOTION by Bush, SUPPORT by Warren, to recommend to the Technical Committee Approval of keeping two projects in the FY2008 Program – East Paris Avenue from 36th Street to Swenk Drive, and Northland Drive from 13 Mile Road to 14 Mile Road, with the understanding that if the Governor's proposal does not go through the committee will consider other funding alternatives. MOTION CARRIED.

As funding FY2009-2011 was addressed, Schweitzer inquired as to what projects are

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more critical in terms of timing. Discussion and comments followed. Itani cautioned that if projects that are selected are not in the Long Range Transportation Plan, the timing/approval of the Plan would be jeopardized as the process for amending it is time consuming. He clarified that the Plan must be in compliance with SAFETEA-LU. Discussion followed. He noted that once the TIP is approved, it can be amended at a later date. Discussion, comments and questions followed. Warren commented that the Plan is being based on the traffic model as to when roads are going to be congested, and current volumes may show that the model's projection could be invalid. Itani stressed that the TIP is based on a Draft Plan. Discussion and comments followed.

Itani recommended that the committee go through the region's priorities to see if the projects' build year fits the Plan. Schweitzer, Conners, Warren, and Dooley discussed the priority projects for their jurisdictions. Most committee members concurred that the 44th Street Project is extremely important from a regional perspective. As funding was addressed for this project, Warren inquired as to why the State is not contributing more dollars. Discussion followed. Schweitzer noted that timing is critical on this project as well as the Kalamazoo project. He gave suggestions as to how combining EDF-C and STP funding could be successful. Warren and others also supported the idea of combining the funding. Discussion followed.

Itani is concerned that mixing funds, i.e. using STP for 44th Street and others is in conflict with the Policy that is in place for the funding categories and that the Policy should not be violated. If the committee would like to change the Policy and make recommendations, it would have to be approved by the GVMC Board. As discussion on funding continued, Itani and Dooley stressed that the focus today should be on EDF-C only. Conners indicated that Walker could forgo EDF-C Funding if the project could be considered under STP-U.

Looking at the worst case scenario, Bush identified the region's priority projects and made programming and funding suggestions. This included discussion of using STP funds or a combination of EDF-C/STP funds for the City of Kentwood project. Discussion and comments followed. Kent suggested the possibility of using CMAQ funding for portions of EDF-C projects that go through intersections. Discussion followed. Noting the amount of the Governor's cuts, suggestions were made for funding and programming should the Governor's proposal not go through. Discussion followed. Harrall suggested keeping projects at 70/30 match and extra dollars could go to the Kalamazoo project. Discussion and comments followed.

Dooley entertained a motion to recommend to the Technical Committee approval of designating the 44th Street Project to FY2009; the 3 Mile project in FY2010; 10 Mile Project and 76th Street Projects in FY2011, with the understanding that the Kalamazoo project will submit for STP Funding, and if extra funds become available the committee will consider funding alternatives discussed and meet for reprogramming.

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MOTION by Bush, SUPPORT by Conners to recommend to the Technical Committee approval of the following FY2009- 2011 EDF-C: in FY2009 all 44th Street projects as identified: FY2010 Walker Project (3 mile Road): FY2011 - the KCRC's 10 Mile Road and 76th Street projects as identified with the understanding that the Kalamazoo project will be submitted for STP funding. If extra funds become available the committee will consider funding alternatives as discussed.

Discussion continued. Itani noted some potential flexibility with STP Funding for FY2009.

Bush clarified that the City supports projects that are a regional priority.

Itani suggested that the committee look at the current policy for EDF-C and STP funding and the projects that qualify.

Dooley clarified that there is a general understanding that everyone gives support for the Kalamazoo Street project. Discussion followed.

Bush commented on funding that would be available once the projects go to a 70/30 match and the Governor's program does not go through.

Dooley called to question the motion on the floor. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

As Dingman addressed the FY2010-2011 CMAQ (Illustrative) program, he distributed a hand-out which included an updated intersections list. He also distributed a list that reflects the projects that were requested which staff put in two different years. Discussion followed. Bush inquired as to ITS Set Aside projects that were not included. Discussion and comments followed. Dingman noted that with the total federal dollars the list is under programmed, and is considered an Illustrative List until the Call for Projects. Discussion and comments followed.

Dooley inquired as to whether there are any unidentified ITS projects to be considered in FY2010 and 2011. Bush discussed a City of Grand Rapids priority that should be considered for FY2011. Schweitzer, Haagsma and Conners had suggestions for projects for additions to the list. Discussion, comments, and questions followed.

Dooley entertained a motion to approve of the FY2010-2011 CMAQ Illustrative Project with the noted additions.

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MOTION by Bush, SUPPORT by Warren, to recommend to the Technical Committee approval of the CMAQ Illustrative list FY2010 and 2011 with the additions noted: The City of Walker project – Center/Weatherford Intersection improvement- FY2010; The KCRC Project - Kalamazoo and Edgeknoll FY2010, and the City of Grand Rapids intersection improvement project– Michigan and College - FY2011. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

V. OTHER BUSINESS

None

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Dooley adjourned the meeting at 11:00 a.m.