

APPROVED

APPROVED
ITEM II: ATTACHMENT A

MINUTES

Grand Valley Metropolitan Council
Transportation Division
TRANSPORTATION PROGRAMMING STUDY GROUP

Friday, March 20, 2009

Kent County Road Commission

1500 Scribner Ave NW

Conners, Chair of the TPSG Committee, called the meeting to order at 9:06 am.

I. ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS

Voting Members Present

Scott Conners	<i>(Chair)</i>	City of Walker
Mike Bouwkamp		City of Rockford
Patrick Bush		City of Grand Rapids
Ron Carr		City of Grandville
Sandra M. Cornell-Howe		MDOT
Mike DeVries		Grand Rapids Township
Rick DeVries		City of Grand Rapids
Ken Feldt		City of East Grand Rapids
Russ Henckel	<i>Proxy for Tim Cochran Bill Dooley</i>	City of Wyoming
Jan Hoekstra		City of Wyoming
Jack Klein	<i>Proxy for Brett Laughlin</i>	City of Wyoming
Terry Schweitzer		The Rapid
Dan Strikwerda		OCRC
Steve Warren		OCRC
		City of Kentwood
		City of Hudsonville
		KCRC

Staff and Non-Voting Guests Present

Roger Belknap	KCRC
Andrea Faber	GVMC Staff
Wayne Harrall	County of Kent
Roy Hawkins	GRFIA
Abed Itani	GVMC Staff
Dennis Kent	MDOT-Grand Region
Darrell Robinson	GVMC Staff

APPROVED

**APPROVED
ITEM II: ATTACHMENT A**

Voting Members Not Present

Jerry Alkema
Sandy Ayers
Christine Burns
Tim Cochran
Sharon DeLange
Bill Dooley
Brett Laughlin
Steve Peterson
Jared Rodriguez

Allendale Township
Village of Caledonia
City of Cedar Springs
City of Wyoming
Village of Sparta
City of Wyoming
OCRC
Cascade Township
GR Chamber

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Kent noted a correction to the minutes.

Conners entertained a motion to approve of the March 16, 2009 Transportation Programming Study Group Meeting Minutes with Kent’s correction.

MOTION by Bush, SUPPORT by Carr, to approve the March 16, 2009 Transportation Programming Study Group Meeting Minutes with Kent’s correction. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

III. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

None

IV. REPROGRAMMING OF FY2010-2013 TIP

Referring to **Item IV: Attachments A and B**, Itani stated that the purpose of the meeting was to give the communities that moved projects from the FY2010-2013 TIP to the stimulus list the opportunity to replace these projects in the TIP with projects not selected for ARRA funding that are on the deficiency list. He stated that the only communities that moved projects forward from the TIP to the stimulus list were the City of Grand Rapids, the KCRC, and the City of Kentwood. Therefore, they would be the only communities eligible to select new projects. The only exception to this would be the City of East Grand Rapids, since they had been promised backfill space for one of their projects in the TIP.

Itani stated that, for STP-U funding, there was currently \$201,550 remaining for FY2010, \$2,711,630 remaining for FY2011, \$240,390 remaining for FY2012, and \$1,207,707 remaining for FY2013.

Bush stated that the City of Grand Rapids had committed to funding East Grand Rapids’ Plymouth Road project out of their backfill portion in the TIP. Feldt stated that this project, which would cost approximately \$400,000, needed to be completed

in FY2010.

Warren informed the Committee that, because of the state of the economy, the developer of Cabela's is not prepared to commit fully to the project at this time. Therefore, Warren recommended that the two 4 Mile projects move in the TIP from FY2010 and FY2011 to FY2011 and FY2012. He continued that he was prepared to provide his own backfill projects, which would be the West River Drive from the Rogue River to M-44 project and the Forest Hills Avenue from Hall Street to Cascade Road project. Both projects would move from FY2012 to FY2011. Warren also asked that the Committee consider adding a project on Belmont Avenue from Jupiter to Post to the FY2010 TIP, due to the road's drainage problems as well as traffic and safety issues. Itani replied that based on its PCI rating and current policy, this road is eligible for resurfacing funds, not reconstruction. He encouraged the KCRC to either resurface the road or select a different project and commented on the fairness of this request, based on the high number of deficient projects.

Warren suggested that emergency repairs on Belmont Avenue may have elevated the PCI rating and thereby cost the KCRC the opportunity to reconstruct the road. He also stated that it didn't make sense to resurface a road with poor drainage and that, once a project is in the TIP, an agency needed to have the flexibility to determine the appropriate repairs for a road. Itani asked Warren if he had any accident reports or documentation demonstrating that the road was unsafe. Conners asked Warren for a report or pictures that showed the deterioration of the road. Warren stated that he could provide additional information, if needed, and requested the opinion of the Committee.

DeVries commented that, because of the limited funds available to the Committee for projects, guidelines have been set for a reason. Henckel added that he drove this stretch of road often and would agree that the reported PCI was likely higher than what was accurate. However, he questioned whether it was the best regional project to select. He also agreed that the Committee should be flexible with policies and stated that the City of Wyoming had bought the right-of-way for a project on 44th street, but now the section of road is not eligible due to low traffic volume. Bush replied that everyone can come up with special cases, but that is why there are rules. He stated that until the Committee decides to reopen the rulemaking process, the rules in existence should be adhered to. Bush said that the Committee had 2 options: either waiting until the appropriate data was collected for the Belmont project, or proceeding with the KCRC selecting a different project. Warren stated that the KCRC could resurface Belmont Avenue for one million dollars.

Itani said that the City of East Grand Rapids would receive \$400,000 for their project in FY2010, and the KCRC would receive the remaining funding. The remaining \$200,000 would then be available for a later year. Robinson verified that once the East Grand Rapids Plymouth Road project was moved to FY2010, the remaining balance would be \$1.3 million. However, he stated that in order to fit in the FY2013 program, every agency had taken a 67/33 match. Itani requested that all of the

APPROVED

**APPROVED
ITEM II: ATTACHMENT A**

matches be 70/30 and added that if \$1 million was allocated for the Belmont project, \$131,000 would remain. Warren also requested to move a Pettis Avenue project in FY2013 to FY2010 for \$127,000.

Bouwkamp stated that the City of Rockford had a project for first priority on the B stimulus list and asked the Committee what the guarantee was of receiving this funding. Itani stated that the funding was not guaranteed for the B list and suggested that Bouwkamp add the project to FY2013 in the TIP as well to ensure its funding. The Committee discussed the protocol for how to address B-list stimulus projects that did not receive funding. Warren stated that the Committee would likely be amending the TIP in the near future because of the new transportation authorization bill and that more federal funding may be available, which could allow for unfunded B-list stimulus projects to be funded. Conners clarified his understanding that B-list stimulus projects would not be added to the TIP at this point. The Committee agreed. Itani stated that, since the City of Rockford doesn't have any projects in the 4-year TIP, geographic equity should be considered in this instance. Warren agreed, adding that according to his math, the City of Rockford had received only \$500,000 in federal funding over the last 8 years. Itani once again suggested adding the project to the FY2013 TIP and stated that if this project was funded as part of the B-list of stimulus projects, it would simply be removed from the TIP. Conners asked the Committee members to nod in support of this measure. There was a general consensus among Committee members to approve the addition of the City of Rockford's Main Street project to the FY2013 TIP.

Robinson added that some of the projects in FY2010 have 80/20 matches, while others have 70/30 matches. Cornell-Howe asked that all of the projects have the same percentage matches. Robinson and Itani agreed to make these changes.

Conners moved on to discussing the FY2011 TIP for STP-U funding. The remaining balance was approximately \$2.7 million. Warren stated that he would like to move the KCRC's West River Drive from the Rogue River to M-44 project and the Forest Hills Avenue from Hall to Cascade Road project to the FY2011 TIP. DeVries provided a list of projects from the City of Grand Rapids to add to FY2011. This list included projects on Breton Avenue, Cherry Street, College Avenue, Hall Street, Lake Drive, Madison Avenue, and Monroe Avenue. After adding in these projects and recalibrating the match to ensure that project matches were equal, the balance for the FY2011 TIP for STP-U funding was approximately \$100,000. Bush added a project on Coit to the FY2011 STP-U list for a total cost of \$110,000.

Itani suggested that the Committee move on to discuss FY2012, which had \$215,000 in available STP-U funding. Warren asked that this funding be used in order to advance construct a portion of the KCRC's Forest Hills Avenue from Cascade to Ada Drive project. The total project cost was \$300,000.

The Committee moved on to FY2013. Conners asked Schweitzer for a project to add, and Schweitzer proposed that the City of Kentwood's Forest Hills Avenue

APPROVED

**APPROVED
ITEM II: ATTACHMENT A**

project from I-196 to Burton be added to the list to receive \$400,000 in federal funds. The total project cost was \$1.3 million dollars. Warren added a project on 44th Street from Division to Clyde Park for \$1 million and a project on 76th Street from Burlingame to Sierra Field Drive for \$130,000 total. Itani suggested that the Committee consider also adding the City of Rockford's Main Street project with the stipulation that if the project is funded with stimulus money, the funding would be returned to the KCRC. The Committee agreed and broke for recess from 10:30 am to 10:50 am.

Conners called the meeting back to order, and Robinson provided the Committee with an update on the FY2013 TIP for STP-U funding.

Schweitzer asked Warren if, in the case that the City of Rockford's Main Street project is funded with stimulus funds, the KCRC would be willing to provide the City of Kentwood with the federal funding in the FY2013 TIP for their Forest Hills Avenue project. Warren responded that the Clyde Park project was already underfunded.

Conners entertained a motion to approve the FY2010-2013 TIP for STP-U funding.

MOTION by Schweitzer, SUPPORT by Carr, to approve the DRAFT FY2010-2013 TIP for STP-U funding, reflecting the changes discussed by the Committee. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

V. OTHER BUSINESS

Cornell-Howe stated that project names and limits in the TIP must match what is submitted to local agency programs, since projects can't be sent on to FHWA if they don't match.

Conners asked if committee members can provide additional local funding to a project to make it larger. Cornell-Howe responded that if the scope of a project changes, it is a TIP amendment. Discussion ensued.

Itani reminded the Committee that the deadline to submit CMAQ projects was March 20. Conners asked for an extension, and Itani agreed to allow the Committee another week to submit CMAQ projects, making the deadline Friday, March 27.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Conners entertained a motion to adjourn the March 20, 2009 Transportation Programming Study Group meeting.

MOTION by Bush, SUPPORT by Carr, to adjourn the March 20, 2009 Transportation Programming Study Group meeting at 11:09 am. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.