

MINUTES

Grand Valley Metropolitan Council  
Transportation Division  
TRANSPORTATION PROGRAMMING STUDY GROUP  
Thursday, March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2015

Grand Valley Metro Council

678 Front Ave NW

Schweitzer called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

I. ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS

**Voting Members Present**

Terry Schweitzer (*Chair*)

Scott Conners

Rick DeVries

Wayne Harrall

*Proxy for  
Mike DeVries*

Steve Redmond

Joe Slonecki

Tom Stressman

Dan Strikwerda

Roger Towsley

Steve Warren

City of Kentwood

City of Walker

City of Grand Rapids

County of Kent

Grand Rapids Township

MDOT

City of East Grand Rapids

City of Cedar Springs

City of Hudsonville

Village of Sand Lake

KCRC

**Staff and Non-Voting Guests Present**

Andrea Faber

Erin Haviland

Abed Itani

Darrell Robinson

Jason Washler

Mike Zonyk

GVMC Staff

GVMC Staff

GVMC Staff

GVMC Staff

Prein & Newhof

GVMC Staff

**Voting Members Not Present**

Jerry Alkema

Sandy Ayers

Ron Carr

Tim Cochran

Sharon DeLange

Mike DeVries

Bill Dooley

Ken Feldt

Rod Ghearing

Roy Hawkins

Mark Howe

Allendale Township

Village of Caledonia

City of Grandville

City of Wyoming

Village of Sparta

Grand Rapids Township

City of Wyoming

City of East Grand Rapids

ITP-The Rapid

GRFIA

City of Lowell

**APPROVED**

Brett Laughlin  
Paul Lott  
Phil Vincent  
Chris Zull

**APPROVED**

**ITEM II: ATTACHMENT A**

OCRC  
MDOT  
City of Rockford  
City of Grand Rapids

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Schweitzer entertained a motion to approve the December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2014 TPSG meeting minutes.

**MOTION by Conners, SUPPORT by Stressman, to approve the December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2014 TPSG meeting minutes.**

Towsley, who was not at the last meeting, asked for clarification on a reference in the minutes regarding overbidding on projects. Discussion Ensued.

Schweitzer called the motion to question. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**III. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**IV. PROGRAMMING OF FY2016 AND FY2017 TAP PROJECT LISTS**

Robinson explained that, included in the members’ packet, there is a spreadsheet for informational purposes from MDOT. For 2015 the cumulative balance is \$555,896, which means that we over-programmed 2013 and 2014. Because of this, it is recommended that the Committee program less than \$668,000 for FY2016 and FY2017, which is what the normal programmed amount would be. Itani stated that the available funds for 2016 are \$555,896, and in 2017 will be \$630,000. Robinson stated that was correct, but it would be best to over-program both years. Generally, there will be a project or two that drop off after completing the constructability reviews; therefore over-programming means that another project can be picked up in place of one that was dropped off.

Robinson went on to discuss another part of the packet sent to each member. The Non-Motorized Committee developed the Prospective 2016/2017 TAP list. However, more projects are needed. Also included on the page with the Prospective TAP listings is an Illustrative Project Listing. Robinson explained that two projects have already been conditionally committed for State funding. If all requirements are met, these projects will be State funded.

- Byron Township: Fred Meijer M-6 Trail Phase IV-Division Ave. to 6<sup>th</sup> St. along M-6 and Clay Ave.

- City of Grand Rapids: Plainfield Ave-I-96 to 390' N of Salerno Dr.

Harrall added that Gaines Township's Dutton Spur to Paul Henry Trail project is also being considered for state funding. Robinson added that the City of Grand Rapids' Lake Michigan Dr. project from Maynard Ave. to Collindale Ave. is also being considered for state funding. Both projects are on the illustrative list.

Schweitzer stated that in terms of process, the group should look at four projects in FY2016/2017 and figure out where they are. Itani asked if there were any projects from 2015 that need to be moved to 2016. Robinson responded that, to his knowledge, everything was still on track.

Conners stated that the City of Walker was ready to go with their Remembrance Rd. Walker Village Dr. to Fred Meijer Standale Trail project. DeVries stated that both the City of Grand Rapids 3 Mile project and the Maryland Ave project haven't had much progress. They've obtained estimates, but no work has been started. Robinson asked DeVries if these projects would be better for FY2017. DeVries stated that they should be fine for FY2016, but if others had projects that are ready to go, then these could be pushed to FY2017. Schweitzer stated the last project is the City of Kentwood's Pinetree Ave. project. This project is currently in its initial stages, so this could be moved to FY2017. Conners stated that the City of Walker needs help with their Lake Michigan Dr. Tunnel project since the cost is nearly double the original estimate and more funds are needed. He noted that this is a FY2015 project, but FY2016 funds could be used for it. Robinson stated that he believed this project could be advance constructed.

Schweitzer stated that there are a couple Hudsonville projects on the Illustrative list. Strikwerda stated they have one project that is in collaboration with Jamestown and Georgetown Townships: 22<sup>nd</sup> Ave. Barry Street Connector. This would be a good project to add to the FY2016 TAP listing and would be Hudsonville's #1 priority. DeVries asked if this project could be done over a 2-year period. Strikwerda stated yes, and that it could actually be done in two phases. Itani cautioned the Committee against advance constructing TAP projects since the program may cease to exist in the future. Schweitzer added that the City of Kentwood's Ada, Cascade, GR Township and Kentwood project from Hall St. to Spaulding Ave. still needs significant work before it's ready. Towsley added that the Village of Sand Lake is in the process of submitting their streetscape project to the state. DeVries mentioned adding another project to the illustrative list for the City of Grand Rapids: Richmond Street from Acacia Drive to Elmridge Drive. Schweitzer asked DeVries if the City of Grand Rapids Lake Michigan Drive Maynard to Collindale Drive should be added to the FY2016/2017 list. DeVries responded by stating that this project was looking good to be picked up by the State for funding in FY2016.

Schweitzer reiterated that all of the projects on the illustrative list had been discussed, and asked if any of these projects could move into FY2016 or FY2017.

Discussion Ensued. The final FY2016/2017 Prospective TAP listing is:

**FY2016**

- City of Walker- Remembrance Road
- Hudsonville/Jamestown/Georgetown-22<sup>nd</sup> Ave. Barry Street Connector-Phase One
- City of Walker-Lake Michigan Drive Tunnel
- City of Grand Rapids-Maryland Ave.

**Total cost for FY2016=\$655,410**

**FY2017**

- City of Kentwood-Pinetree Ave.
- Hudsonville/James/Georgetown-22<sup>nd</sup> Ave Barry Street Connector-Phase Two
- City of Hudsonville-Buttermilk Creek Pathway
- City of Grand Rapids-Richmond Street

**Total cost for FY2017=\$644,000**

Harrall recommended putting the Sand Lake Project-Lake Street Streetscape on the FY2017 list. If it is selected for State funding, then it can be taken off the TAP list. However, if it is not picked up by the State, this would be a good FY2017 TAP project. Itani suggested overprogramming the list by including the Sand Lake project, plus another project. Then if the state funds the Sand Lake project, that, in addition to another project, will fulfill the entire amount of FY2017 funding. Discussion ensued. Conners asked if a motion could be made with an asterisk for the Sand Lake Project noting that if it was not picked up by the state, it would move into the FY2017 TAP project listing.

**MOTION by Conners, SUPPORT by Harrall, to approve the TAP Projects List for FY 2016/FY2017, as identified, with an asterisk noting that the Village of Sand Lake’s project would move into the TAP project list if it is not funded with state funding. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**V. OTHER BUSINESS**

Robinson reminded the Committee members with FY2016 projects to get them in for constructability reviews as soon as possible.

DeVries asked if he could add a project to the Non-Motorized Plan today. Zonyk recommended that DeVries take the project through the Tech and Policy Committee to add it to the list. Schweitzer suggested making a motion at today’s meeting to carry this project on to the Technical Committee for approval. DeVries stated that he would send additional information about this project to Zonyk.

**APPROVED**

**APPROVED**  
**ITEM II: ATTACHMENT A**

**VI. ADJOURNMENT**

Schweitzer adjourned the March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2015 TPSG Committee meeting at 10:03 am.