

MINUTES

Grand Valley Metropolitan Council
Transportation Division
TRANSPORTATION PROGRAMMING STUDY GROUP
Tuesday, December 11, 2012
Grand Valley Metro Council 678 Front Ave NW

Zull called the meeting to order at 9:32 am. The Committee members, staff, and guests present introduced themselves.

I. ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS

Voting Members Present

Chris Zull (<i>Chair</i>)		City of Grand Rapids
Jerry Alkema		Allendale Township
Tim Cochran		City of Wyoming
Scott Conners		City of Walker
Rick DeVries		City of Grand Rapids
Ken Feldt		City of East Grand Rapids
Tim Haagsma		Gaines Township
Wayne Harrall	<i>Proxy for Mike DeVries</i>	County of Kent
		Grand Rapids Township
Russ Henckel	<i>Proxy for Bill Dooley</i>	City of Wyoming
		City of Wyoming
Fred Keena	<i>Proxy for Brett Laughlin</i>	OCRC
		OCRC
Ray Lenze		MDOT
Terry Schweitzer		City of Kentwood
Dan Strikwerda		City of Hudsonville
Steve Warren		KCRC

Staff and Non-Voting Guests Present

Andrea Faber	GVMC Staff
Abed Itani	GVMC Staff
Dennis Kent	MDOT
Steve Kepley	City of Kentwood
Darrell Robinson	GVMC Staff
Jim Snell	GVMC Staff
John Weiss	GVMC Staff

Voting Members Not Present

Sandy Ayers	Village of Caledonia
Ron Carr	City of Grandville
Jamie Davies	City of Rockford
Sharon DeLange	Village of Sparta

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Mike DeVries
Bill Dooley
Roy Hawkins
Jan Hoekstra
Mark Howe
Brett Laughlin
Tom Stressman

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ITEM II: ATTACHMENT A

Grand Rapids Township
City of Wyoming
GRFIA
ITP-The Rapid
City of Lowell
OCRC
City of Cedar Springs

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Zull entertained a motion to approve the November 29, 2012 Transportation Programming Study Group (TPSG) meeting minutes.

MOTION by Schweitzer, SUPPORT by Harrall, to approve the November 29, 2012 TPSG meeting minutes. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

III. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

The Committee wished Warren a happy birthday.

IV. PROGRAMMING OF ADDITIONAL FY2013 STP AND NHPP FUNDS

Referring to **Item IV: Attachment A**, Robinson informed the Committee that FY2013 of the FY2011-2014 TIP was significantly underprogrammed. This was due to projects moving forward from FY2013 to FY2012 and the passage of MAP-21. He noted that currently, \$906,933 was available in STP-Urban funds, \$773,836 in NHPP funds, and \$206,713 in STP-Rural funds.

NHPP FUNDING DISCUSSION

Robinson noted that there are several stipulations for NHPP funding. In the future, funding will be based on performance measures, and there will be strict qualifications for bridge projects, etc. Robinson noted that there were two projects in FY2013 of the TIP that could qualify for NHPP funding. These projects were the City of Grand Rapids' Leonard Street projects and the City of Wyoming's Division Avenue project. Itani added that NHPP projects will need to be designed and constructed at a higher standard. Lanes must be 12' instead of 10' or 11'. Certified inspectors must be used, and the entities must advertise on billboards. He suggested that NHPP programs be programmed at an 80/20 match to cover the cost of meeting these additional requirements. As for performance measures, Itani clarified that the Secretary of Transportation has 17 months to develop these. Then the states and MPOs will need to adopt them, which will likely be a 2 ½ year process. Discussion ensued.

Looking at FY2014, Robinson noted that the City of Kentwood's Division Avenue project, the City of Wyoming's 44th St. project, and the City of Grand Rapids' Wealthy St. project would also qualify. DeVries noted that the City of Grand Rapids'

Wealthy St. project is not ready to move forward.

Warren stated that the feds may not be absolute on the 12' lane requirement. Itani stated that he would research this requirement with the appropriate entity.

After researching the project, DeVries noted that the Leonard St. project will have 12' lanes and would therefore qualify for NHPP funding. However, there wasn't enough NHPP funding available to cover all four segments of the project. Harrall asked if the Leonard St. project could be funded with NHPP and STP funds. Robinson confirmed that this could be done. DeVries agreed that all of the NHPP funds could go toward the Leonard St. projects, with any remaining costs to be funded with STP.

Henckel noted that the City of Wyoming could move forward their 44th St. project for consideration for NHPP funding, but preferred to support Rick's Leonard Street projects instead. Robinson stated that the 44th St. project would be kept in mind for NHPP funding in FY2014.

STP-URBAN FUNDING DISCUSSION

Robinson noted that the projects in FY2013 of the TIP are currently programmed at 68.04% federal, 31.96% local. He noted that the Committee could consume some of the remaining funding by increasing the match amount. However, if the Committee chose this route, it would mean less money for adding more projects.

Since 68.04% is very low for a federal match, Connors suggested increasing the match amount. Robinson stated that if the Committee increased their match amounts to 80/20, it would cost them approximately \$544,000, which would leave approximately \$1.1 million on the table in STP-Urban funds.

Zull asked if any of the Committee members had project proposals.

Strikwerda noted that the cost of the City of Hudsonville's Highland Dr. project had increased significantly and asked the Committee to consider awarding them an additional \$48,578 in federal funds to complete the project.

Keena noted that the cost of the OCRC's FY2014 Bauer Rd. project had increased from \$369,600 federal to \$425,000 federal and requested additional funding for the project.

Warren suggested that, first off, the Committee change the match percentage back to 80/20, which would take \$545,000 off the table. He also asked the committee to consider giving approximately \$500,000 to the KCRC's 4 Mile Road project in order to advance it from FY2014 to FY2013. Harrall noted that the project could be scoped to match the amount of available funds. This project is currently funded with EDFC funds, and because of changes to funding programs due to MAP-21, Warren expected to lose a portion of the project's funding. Robinson clarified that while the

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area is losing the federal portion of EDFC funding, they will get that funding back as STP flex, so the funding won't be lost.

DeVries stated that the City of Grand Rapids could move the following 2014 projects forward: Lake Michigan Drive from Garfield Ave to US-131, Turner Ave from Ann St. to US-131, and Lake Dr. from the East Beltline to East City Limit (2014).

Schweitzer stated that the City of Kentwood has a trail project in FY2013 that has increased in cost. Schweitzer stated that the City of Kentwood would be appreciative of receiving an additional \$165,000 in federal money for the project. The project is currently funded with CMAQ funds. Kepley provided additional information about the project. Warren noted that this project may qualify for Transportation Alternative funding. Itani clarified that there may be a timing issue with using TA funds, and discussion regarding the timeline of the project followed. Itani stated that if the City of Kentwood decides to apply for TA funding for this project in FY2013, he would call Mike Smith and Bryan Armstrong at MDOT after the meeting to explain the situation and start the application process. He added that, in the past, the Committee has not funded projects such as this with STP funds. Robinson asked if the project could be funded with CMAQ and TA funding. Lenze confirmed that it could. Discussion ensued.

RURAL FUNDING DISCUSSION

As the KCRC was the only agency with an eligible project at the meeting, Harrall recommended that the Committee approve extending the limits of the KCRC's 2013 Cascade Rd. resurfacing project ¾ of a mile east in order to consume the available \$200,000 in rural funding. The new limits would be Timpson Ave. to Pratt Lake Ave.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Zull entertained a motion to award the available STP-Rural funds to the KCRC.

MOTION by Conners, SUPPORT by DeVries, to award the KCRC the available STP-Rural funds totaling \$206,713 to expand the limits of their Cascade Road project to Timpson Ave. to Pratt Lake Ave. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Itani stated that, after this action, there is currently \$1.6 million in available funds. If the Committee decided to raise the match amounts to 80/20, there would be \$1.1 million in available funds. Warren noted that increasing the match amount would help everyone around the table.

Zull entertained a motion to increase the match amount for projects in FY2013 of the TIP.

MOTION by Schweitzer, SUPPORT by DeVries, to increase the match amount of projects listed in the FY2013 TIP from 68.04% federal/31.96% local, to 80% federal/20% local, for an expected cost of \$545,000. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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Zull entertained a motion to delegate the available NHPP funds to Leonard St.

MOTION by Warren, SUPPORT by Harrall, to award the available NHPP money, which totaled \$773,836, to the City of Grand Rapids to fund the Leonard St. projects. (The funding split would be 80/20 for these projects, and the remaining Leonard St. project(s) would be funded with STP funds.) MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The Committee discussed the proposals for projects to consume the available STP funding. DeVries noted that the City of Grand Rapids' Lake Michigan Dr. project was a priority for them. Keena reiterated his request to move the OCRC's Bauer Road project from FY2014 to FY2013 and add additional funds to the project. Strikwerda stated that the City of Hudsonville's Highland Dr. project remained underfunded. Robinson noted that the total of these projects would be \$977,528, which would leave \$159,151 on the table. Haagsma suggested that the Committee swap out the Bauer Rd. project for their 4 Mile Road project. The 4 Mile project would then be scoped to utilize the available funding. Zull noted that \$82,000 was also still needed for the Leonard St. project.

Zull entertained a motion to fund the following projects with the available STP-Urban funds: Lake Michigan Dr., Leonard St., Highland Dr., and 4 Mile Road.

MOTION by Conners, SUPPORT by Warren, to fund the City of Grand Rapids' Lake Michigan Dr. and Leonard St. projects, as well as the KCRC's 4 Mile Rd project (which would be scoped to match available funding), and to allow an additional \$55,000 for the City of Hudsonville's underfunded Highland Dr. project, with the available FY2013 STP-Urban funds. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

V. **OTHER BUSINESS**

None.

VI. **ADJOURNMENT**

Zull entertained a motion to adjourn the December 11, 2012 TPSG Committee meeting.

MOTION by Feldt, SUPPORT by Schweitzer, to adjourn the December 11, 2012 TPSG Committee meeting at 10:55 am. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.