

MINUTES

**Grand Valley Metropolitan Council
Transportation Division
POLICY COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY, January 20, 2010
Kent County Road Commission
1500 Scribner NW Grand Rapids, MI**

Varga, Chair of the Policy Committee, called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

I. ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS

Voting Members Present

Peter Varga <i>(Previous Chair)</i>		The Rapid
Jim Koslosky <i>(New Chair)</i>		GRFIA
Jerry Alkema		Allendale Township
Dan Carlton		Georgetown Township
Scott Conners	<i>Proxy for</i>	City of Walker
	<i>Darrel Schmalzel</i>	City of Walker
Mark DeClercq		City of Grand Rapids
Jeff Dood		City of Rockford
Don R. Hilton, Sr.		Gaines Township
Jim Holtrop		Ottawa County
Rich Houtteman		City of Kentwood
Ken Krombeen		City of Grandville
Dal McBurrows		MDOT
David Pasquale		City of Lowell
Rich Pastoor		City of Wyoming
Chuck Porter		Courtland Township
Don VanDoeselaar		City of Hudsonville
Steve Warren	<i>Proxy for</i>	KCRC
	<i>Jon Rice</i>	KCRC

Staff and Non-Voting Guests Present

Andrea Dewey	GVMC Staff
Andrea Faber	GVMC Staff
Chris Glass	GR Chamber of Commerce
Art Green	MDOT
Abed Itani	GVMC Staff
Dennis Kent	MDOT
Erick Kind	MDOT
John Richard	MDOT
Darrell Robinson	GVMC Staff
Norm Sevensma	WMEAC-RWBC
Don Stypula	GVMC Staff

Voting Members Not Present

Alex Arends
Larry Bruursema
Dick Bulkowski
Christine Burns
Dick Davies
Sharon DeLange
Eric DeLong
Mike DeVries
Ken Feldt
George Haga
Bryan Harrison
Dennis Hoemke
Bob Homan
Jim Miedema
Audrey Nevins
Steve Peterson
Jack Poll
Jon Rice
Darrel Schmalzel
Toby VanEss

Alpine Township
OCRC
Kent County Commissioner
City of Cedar Springs
Cannon Township
Village of Sparta
City of Grand Rapids
Grand Rapids Township
City of East Grand Rapids
Ada Township
Caledonia Charter Township
Algoma Township
Plainfield Township
Jamestown Township
Byron Township
Cascade Township
City of Wyoming
KCRC
City of Walker
Tallmadge Township

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Varga entertained a motion to approve of the November 18, 2009 Policy Committee minutes.

MOTION by Holtrop, SUPPORT by Alkema, to approve of the November 18, 2009 Policy Committee meeting minutes. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

III. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Sevensma requested an update on air quality conformity and asked if the levels of noxious gasses were going up or down. Itani replied that GVMC is still monitoring VOC's, NOx, and PM_{2.5}, and that the ozone standard may become more stringent in the near future. Discussion ensued.

IV. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Varga informed the Committee that his two year term as chair of the Policy Committee has come to an end. He entertained a motion to elect the previous vice chair, Koslosky, as the new chair of the Policy Committee.

MOTION by Pasquale, SUPPORT by Holtrop, to elect Koslosky as chair of the Policy Committee. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Varga asked the Committee members for nominations for a new vice chair for the Policy Committee. Receiving none, Varga nominated himself to this position.

MOTION by Varga, SUPPORT by Porter, to elect Varga as the new vice chair of the

Policy Committee. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

At this point, Koslosky assumed chairmanship of the Committee.

V. FY2008-2011 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) AMENDMENTS

Referring to **Item V: Attachment A**, Robinson explained that The Rapid is requesting to amend the FY2008-2011 TIP for FY2010. The Rapid requested the change in order to update Activity Line Items.

Koslosky entertained a motion to approve The Rapid's FY2008-2011 TIP amendment for FY2010, as presented.

MOTION by Varga, SUPPORT by Warren, to recommend to the Metro Council board approval of amending the FY2008-2011 TIP for FY2010, per the Rapid's request, as presented. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Robinson also asked for and received permission from Koslosky to bring an additional item before the Policy Committee. Robinson explained that the Committee had acted on a list of FY2010 CMAQ projects several months before, and he distributed a copy of this list. However, due to an error, some of the CMAQ projects on the list had not yet been approved by FHWA. These projects are pending approval, and the hope is that these projects will be approved by FHWA before the time of the next Metro Council Board meeting. Robinson asked for the Committee's approval of this list pending the unapproved projects' final approval by FHWA.

Koslosky entertained a motion to approve this list of CMAQ projects.

MOTION by Varga, SUPPORT by Pastoor, to recommend to the Metro Council Board approval of the list of CMAQ projects for FY2010, as presented by Robinson, contingent on the unapproved projects' final approval by FHWA. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**VI. ARRA UPDATE/APPROVAL**

Speaking on **Item VI: Attachment A**, Robinson informed the Committee that the TPSG Committee had met on December 16 in order to determine a list of prioritized projects to receive remaining ARRA funding in the event that left over ARRA funding became available. However, as of today's meeting, 99.6% of all ARRA projects statewide were obligated, meaning that there will be no ARRA funding to bring the list forward unless there are significant bid savings. Because of this, Robinson suggested moving the list into the TIP as an illustrative list. Itani provided an additional update on the status of ARRA funding. Discussion ensued.

Koslosky entertained a motion to approve adding the prioritized list of projects into the FY2008-2011 TIP as an illustrative list.

MOTION by Holtrop, SUPPORT by Pastoor, to approve adding the prioritized list of projects developed at the December 16, 2009 TPSG Committee meeting into the FY2008-2011 TIP as an illustrative list. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

VII. 2035 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN (LRTP) UPDATED SOCIOECONOMIC (SE) DATA

Referring to **Item VII: Attachment A**, Dewey explained that every four years, GVMC, as the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the region, is federally required to produce a Long Range Transportation Plan document. To begin the LRTP update, staff has been working to collect population and employment projections through 2035 for use in the transportation model. Using U.S. Census estimates/American Community Survey (ACS) data, Regional Economic Model Inc. (REMI) data, Subregional process data, and Claritas employment data, staff has been able to determine the 2009 base year population and employment numbers by Traffic Analysis Zone (TAZ), and also area-wide projections for population and employment increases between 2009 and 2035. Dewey stated that this data was included in the agenda packet and that she was seeking formal committee approval of it.

Koslosky entertained a motion to approve the 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan Socio-Economic data for use in the transportation model, as presented.

MOTION by Pastoor, SUPPORT by Warren, to formally approve the 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan Socio-Economic data, as presented. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

VIII. MDOT ACTIVITIES

Kent provided a brief history of MDOT's I-196, Grand River to Fuller Avenue project. Green showed the Committee a PowerPoint presentation that provided further details about the project, including specific information about its stages. Green also showed a video of what the project will look like when it is completed. Richard updated the Committee about MDOT's communication plans to get information out to the public about the project. Discussion, comments and questions ensued.

IX. OTHER BUSINESS

None.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Koslosky adjourned the January 20, 2010 Policy Committee meeting at 10:32 am.