

MINUTES

**Grand Valley Metropolitan Council
Transportation Division
POLICY COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY, November 21, 2012
Kent County Road Commission
1500 Scribner NW Grand Rapids, MI**

Varga, chair of the Policy Committee, called the meeting to order at 9:32 am.

I. ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS

Voting Members Present

Peter Varga, *Chair*

Dan Carlton

Mark DeClercq

Jim Holtrop

*Proxy for
Tim Grifhorst
Jim Miedema*

Rich Houtteman

Ken Krombeen, *Vice Chair*

Dal McBurrows

Dave Pasquale

Steve Peterson

Jon Rice

*Proxy for
Dick Bulkowski*

Brian Ryks

Darrel Schmalzel

Don VanDoeselaar

The Rapid
Georgetown Township
City of Grand Rapids
Ottawa County
OCRC
Jamestown Township
City of Kentwood
City of Grandville
MDOT
Grand Rapids Township
Cascade Township
KCRC
Kent County Commissioner
GRFIA
City of Walker
City of Hudsonville

Staff and Non-Voting Guests Present

Andrea Faber

Erick Kind

Steve Redmond

Darrell Robinson

Jim Snell

GVMC Staff
MDOT
MDOT
GVMC Staff
GVMC Staff

Voting Members Not Present

Jerry Alkema

Alex Arends

Dick Bulkowski

Jamie Davies

Eric DeLong

Mike DeVries

Ken Feldt

Tim Grifhorst

George Haga

Bryan Harrison

Don R. Hilton, Sr.

Dennis Hoemke

Allendale Township
Alpine Township
Kent County Commissioner
City of Rockford
City of Grand Rapids
Grand Rapids Township
City of East Grand Rapids
OCRC
Ada Township
Caledonia Charter Township
Gaines Township
Algoma Township

Bob Homan
Mark Howe
Jim Miedema
Tim Nelson
Audrey Nevins-Weiss
Richard Pastoor
Jack Poll
Chuck Porter
Martin Super
Toby VanEss
(Member awaiting appointment)

Plainfield Township
City of Lowell
Jamestown Township
Cannon Township
Byron Township
City of Wyoming
City of Wyoming
Courtland Township
Village of Sparta
Tallmadge Township
City of Cedar Springs

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Varga entertained a motion to approve the September 19, 2012 minutes.

MOTION by Holtrop, SUPPORT by Krombeen, to approve of the September 19, 2012 Policy Committee meeting minutes. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

III. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

IV. FY2011-2014 TIP AMENDMENTS/MODIFICATIONS

Referring to **Item IV: Attachment A**, Robinson explained several requests for TIP amendments/modifications to the Committee.

First, Robinson stated that the City of Grand Rapids was requesting to add an approved Safe Routes to School project to FY2013 of the TIP. The recipient of the project is Palmer Elementary School in Grand Rapids.

Second, the KCRC requested to add several approved Federal Safety projects as well as one High Risk Rural Roads project to FY2013 of the TIP.

Third, MDOT/FHWA have determined several CMAQ projects eligible for funding which need to be added to FY2013-2014 of the TIP. Lastly, MDOT requested to add funds to two FY2013 General Program accounts: Trunkline Pre-Construction-GPA and Trunkline Bridge CPM-GPA. Discussion ensued.

Varga entertained a motion to amend/modify the FY2011-2014 TIP.

MOTION by Pasquale, SUPPORT by DeClercq, to approve the amendments/modifications to the FY2011-2014 TIP requested by the City of Grand Rapids, the KCRC, and MDOT/FHWA. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

V. OTHER BUSINESS

DeClercq asked for feedback regarding the possibility of using federal funding for capital preventative maintenance on concrete roads. He noted that, in the past, federal funding has been used for roto mill and resurfacing projects; however, these fixes are not

possible for concrete roads.

Snell stated that, with limited federal funds, it's very important that the Committee protect its investment in its facilities. He stated that the Asset Management Committee would look into this further, and that if there's a maintenance policy that isn't covered in the MPOs Policies and Practices document, the Committee should have that discussion. He noted that this issue has not been addressed before because the percentage of roads in the MPO area that are concrete is very low. Rice added that there are new concrete preservation techniques and that the Technical Committee is starting to discuss setting aside a portion of federal funding for maintenance. McBurrows added that SEMCOG is proposing to use GPAs for preventative maintenance projects, and added that the Committee might want to consider that approach. Snell stated that, ideally, he'd like to see the Asset Management Committee put together a group of preventative maintenance projects and then bid them out together. Varga recommended that the Asset Management Committee take up this discussion and determine if any policies need to be changed.

Varga asked if Staff will be providing the Committee with new guidelines as the new TIP is developed. Snell responded that funding has not changed much, but program titles have. The biggest difference is that the MPO will have more control over Transportation Alternatives projects, such as enhancement, Safe Routes to School, and trails. He also added that, currently, it doesn't look like existing FY2013 projects will be impacted. Robinson confirmed that all projects in FY2013 will be funded and added that if Committee members have projects they'd like to submit for Transportation Alternatives funding for FY2013, to do so as soon as possible. Snell provided additional information about the Transportation Alternatives Program. Robinson added that the Transportation Programming Study Group will meet on Thursday, November 29th to determine criteria for programming/selecting Transportation Alternatives projects.

Snell noted that Abed Itani's absence was due to complications from a recent surgery. Varga asked the Committee members to keep Itani in mind over the holiday weekend.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Varga adjourned the November 21, 2012 Policy Committee meeting at 10:04 am.