

MINUTES

**Grand Valley Metropolitan Council
Transportation Division
POLICY COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY, March 16, 2011
Kent County Road Commission
1500 Scribner NW Grand Rapids, MI**

Koslosky, vice chair of the Policy Committee, called the meeting to order at 9:33 am.

I. ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS**Voting Members Present**

Jim Koslosky (<i>Chair</i>)		GRFIA
Alex Arends		Alpine Township
Don R. Hilton, Sr.		Gaines Township
Rich Houtteman		City of Kentwood
Ken Krombeen		City of Grandville
Brett Laughlin	<i>Proxy for Tim Grifhorst</i>	OCRC
		OCRC
Dal McBurrows		MDOT
David Pasquale		City of Lowell
Jon Rice	<i>Proxy for Dick Bulkowski Mike DeVries</i>	KCRC
		Kent County Commissioner
		Grand Rapids Township
Darrel Schmalzel		City of Walker
Don VanDoeselaar		City of Hudsonville
Peter Varga		The Rapid

Staff and Non-Voting Guests Present

Andrea Dewey	GVMC Staff
Andrea Faber	GVMC Staff
Abed Itani	GVMC Staff
Dennis Kent	MDOT
Steve Redmond	MDOT
Darrell Robinson	GVMC Staff
Norm Sevensma	WMEAC-RWBC
Jim Snell	GVMC Staff
George Yang	GVMC Staff
Mike Zonyk	GVMC Staff

Voting Members Not Present

Jerry Alkema	Allendale Township
Dick Bulkowski	Kent County Commissioner
Christine Burns	City of Cedar Springs
Dan Carlton	Georgetown Township
Dick Davies	Cannon Township
Mark DeClercq	City of Grand Rapids
Sharon DeLange	Village of Sparta

Eric DeLong
 Mike DeVries
 Jeff Dood
 Ken Feldt
 Tim Griffhorst
 George Haga
 Bryan Harrison
 Dennis Hoemke
 Jim Holtrop
 Bob Homan
 Jim Miedema
 Audrey Nevins
 Richard Pastoor
 Steve Peterson
 Jack Poll
 Chuck Porter
 Toby VanEss

City of Grand Rapids
 Grand Rapids Township
 City of Rockford
 City of East Grand Rapids
 OCRC
 Ada Township
 Caledonia Charter Township
 Algoma Township
 Ottawa County
 Plainfield Township
 Jamestown Township
 Byron Township
 City of Wyoming
 Cascade Township
 City of Wyoming
 Courtland Township
 Tallmadge Township

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Koslosky entertained a motion to approve the February 16, 2011 minutes.

MOTION by Rice, SUPPORT by Krombeen, to approve of the February 16, 2011 Policy Committee meeting minutes. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

III. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

IV. POLICIES AND PRACTICES NON-MOTORIZED SECTION DISCUSSION

Speaking on **Item IV: Attachment A**, Dewey presented a revised version of the new Non-Motorized Policies and Practices document for consideration. This version was presented to and approved by the Technical Committee earlier in the month. Dewey explained that the revised document is largely the same as previous versions and describes the non-motorized facilities recognized by the MPO. The project and funding requirements, however, have been simplified from previous versions to include the following two points:

- All non-motorized projects included in the GVMC Long Range Transportation Plan/Non-Motorized Transportation Plan are eligible for funding as allowed under applicable federal-aid categories.
- All non-motorized projects requesting federal funds must be endorsed by the MPO to receive federal funds and be included in the MPO TIP.

Dewey added that the Technical Committee discussed these requirements with regard to Transportation Enhancement (TE) and determined that it is prudent for the MPO to review all TE applications prior to their submittal to MDOT. Under this process, staff would review the TE application and offer the MPO's endorsement. Specifically, staff would be able to review non-motorized type TE applications to assure that they are also included in GVMC's Non-Motorized Plan/LRTP. Projects that are part of GVMC's plans would receive a strong written recommendation from GVMC. TE applications for projects without a non-motorized component would receive a generic form of endorsement. This

would provide the MPO with knowledge about TE applications before they are awarded funds and request inclusion in the TIP.

Lastly, Dewey noted that this new non-motorized policy also opens all applicable federal funding categories to non-motorized type projects. Under this policy, road agencies could request funding for non-motorized-type projects included in the Non-Motorized Plan/LRTP as a component of regular road construction projects.

Sevensma asked what the MPO spends per year on enhancement, including streetscape. Dewey responded that, on average, the MPO spends \$1.3 million per year. Discussion ensued.

Sevensma also asked if non-motorized projects will be eligible for CMAQ funding. Dewey replied that if a project meets the eligibility requirements for CMAQ, then it would be eligible. She added that this revised policy would also help to address Complete Streets. Itani clarified that the revised Policies and Practices will allow all non-motorized projects in the Non-Motorized Plan to be eligible for all federal funding sources.

Koslosky entertained a motion to adopt the revised Policies and Practices document.

MOTION by Arends, SUPPORT by Rice, to adopt the revised Policies and Practices for Programming Projects Non-Motorized section. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

V. OTHER BUSINESS

Dewey announced that May is Bike to Work Month, May 16-20 is Bike to Work Week, and May 20th is Bike to Work Day.

Koslosky stated that airport capital funding for projects through the airport improvement program may be reduced by as much as 25%, and that on the state side, the airport may lose their federal match of \$200,000 a year because of a shortfall in aviation gas tax collections. He added that, in spite of reduced funding, the airport may be asked to take over grant administration, which will mean that a full-time employee will need to be hired.

Varga said that transit funding will likely be the same as FY2010 levels. However, a state representative has stated that he intends to cut transit funding. Discussion ensued.

Rice informed the Committee that article four in the draft legislation for One Kent calls for the abolishment of the Kent County Road Commission. He noted that none of the promoters of One Kent has come to talk to the KCRC about this.

McBurrows thanked Metro Council Staff for participating in MDOT's financial planning workshop for the LRTP and the TIP. He also informed the Committee that the CMAQ program is undergoing a process redesign over the next couple of months, but this will not affect the call for projects through 2014. Discussion ensued.

Hilton announced that the fire station in Dutton, which took over a year to get off the ground, has finally been completed.

APPROVED

APPROVED
ITEM II: ATTACHMENT A

VI. **ADJOURNMENT**

Koslosky entertained a motion to adjourn the March 16, 2011 Policy Committee meeting.

MOTION by Hilton, SUPPORT by Varga, to adjourn the March 16, 2011 Policy Committee meeting at 9:56 am. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.