

MINUTES

**Grand Valley Metropolitan Council
Transportation Division
POLICY COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY, May 19, 2010
Kent County Road Commission
1500 Scribner NW Grand Rapids, MI**

Koslosky, Chair of the Policy Committee, opened a public meeting at 9:29 am to receive comments on the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) amendment. Dewey added that a public meeting was also held from 5:00 to 7:00 pm the evening before at GVMC. This meeting is an additional opportunity for the public to comment. Itani explained why the LRTP was being amended. Discussion ensued.

Being that no comments were received from the public regarding the LRTP amendment, Koslosky adjourned the public meeting at 9:31 am.

Koslosky called the Policy Committee Meeting to order at 9:31 am.

I. ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS

Voting Members Present

Jim Koslosky (<i>Chair</i>)		GRFIA
Jerry Alkema		Allendale Township
Alex Arends		Alpine Township
Larry Bruursema		OCRC
Dan Carlton		Georgetown Township
Mark DeClercq		City of Grand Rapids
Mike DeVries		Grand Rapids Township
Jeff Dood		City of Rockford
Ken Feldt		City of East Grand Rapids
Don R. Hilton, Sr.		Gaines Township
Jim Holtrop		Ottawa County
Bob Homan		Plainfield Township
Rich Houtteman		City of Kentwood
Dal McBurrows		MDOT
David Pasquale		City of Lowell
Richard Pastoor		City of Wyoming
Steve Peterson		Cascade Township
Chuck Porter		Courtland Township
Jon Rice	<i>Proxy for Dick Bulkowski</i>	KCRC
		Kent County Commissioner
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
Chris Glass
Abed Itani
Dennis Kent
Darrell Robinson
Norm Sevensma
Jim Snell
Steve Warren
George Yang
Mike Zonyk

GVMC Staff
GR Chamber of Commerce
GVMC Staff
MDOT
GVMC Staff
WMEAC-RWBC
GVMC Staff
KCRC
GVMC Staff
GVMC Staff

Voting Members Not Present

Dick Bulkowski
Christine Burns
Dick Davies
Sharon DeLange
Eric DeLong
George Haga
Bryan Harrison
Dennis Hoemke
Ken Krombeen
Jim Miedema
Audrey Nevins
Jack Poll
Toby VanEss

Kent County Commissioner
City of Cedar Springs
Cannon Township
Village of Sparta
City of Grand Rapids
Ada Township
Caledonia Charter Township
Algoma Township
City of Grandville
Jamestown Township
Byron Township
City of Wyoming
Tallmadge Township

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Koslosky entertained a motion to approve of the April 21, 2010 Policy Committee minutes.

MOTION by Varga, SUPPORT by Alkema, to approve of the April 21, 2010 Policy Committee meeting minutes. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

III. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Sevensma asked the Committee if there are any design standards that exist for striping on on-street bike lanes and if they are being used. Dewey replied that the Nonmotorized Plan recommends the use of AASHTO guidelines. Itani stated that Staff would contact the KCRC and various cities about this. Discussion ensued.

IV. FY2008-2011 TIP AMENDMENT

Referring to **Item IV: Attachment A**, Robinson explained that the KCRC had decided to cancel the Belmont Avenue (Jupiter Avenue to Post Drive) project, which resulted in \$899,000 in STP-Urban funding remaining for another project or projects in the area. In light of this, the KCRC requested to delete the Belmont Avenue project from FY2010 in the TIP, and to advance a STP-Rural project, Lincoln Lake Avenue from 3 Mile Rd to 5 Mile Rd project, from FY2011 to FY2010. This project would then be funded with STP-Urban funding instead of STP-Rural. The KCRC also proposed to advance the 17 Mile Rd from US131 to West St. project from the illustrative list into FY2010 of the TIP.

Koslosky entertained a motion to amend the FY2008-2011 TIP to reflect these changes identified by Staff.

MOTION by Varga, SUPPORT by Homan, to recommend to the Metro Council Board amending the TIP by deleting the Belmont Avenue project, advancing the Lincoln Lake project from 3 Mile to 5 Mile from FY2011STP-Rural to FY2010 STP-Urban, and advancing the 17 Mile Road from US 131 to West St. project from the illustrative list to FY2010. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Referring to a handout, Kent informed the Committee that MDOT was requesting an amendment/modification to the FY2008-2011 MPO TIP to include the addition of a trunkline project on M-21 from Grand River to Bennett St. to maintain traffic and related bridge improvements for the Grand River Bridge replacement project. MDOT also requested to amend the FY2008-2011 TIP to include additional funds for the trunkline Road CPM and the trunkline Highway Safety General Program Accounts (GPA) as well as the addition of the Local Rail Safety GPA for the GVMC MPO area in FY2010.

Koslosky entertained a motion to amend/modify the FY2008-2011 TIP to reflect the changes identified by Kent.

MOTION by Glass, SUPPORT by Holtrop, to recommend to the Metro Council Board amending/modifying the FY2008-2011 TIP to include the addition of the M-21 from Grand River to Bennett project, and adding additional funds for the Trunkline Road CPM & Highway Safety GPA and Local GPA for the GVMC MPO area in FY2010.

Kent informed the Committee that the bridge project would be let and obligated in FY2010, and most of the work would be completed in FY2011. He also explained why a temporary bridge was going to be built. Discussion ensued.

Koslosky returned the motion in question to the floor. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

V. PRELIMINARY FY2012-2014 CMAQ PROGRAM

Referring to **Item V: Attachment A**, Robinson requested that the Policy Committee preliminarily approve the list of projects in the FY2012-2014 CMAQ program. The project lists for the FY2012-2014 CMAQ program were developed during a Transportation Programming Study Group meeting on Tuesday, May 4th, and the lists were approved by the Technical Committee at their May 12, 2010 meeting. Once the FY2012-2014 CMAQ program is approved by MDOT and FHWA, it will be brought before the Metro Council Board. Upon approval of the Metro Council Board, the FY2012-2014 CMAQ program will be added to the TIP.

Koslosky entertained a motion to preliminarily approve the FY2012-2014 CMAQ program.

MOTION by Arends, SUPPORT by Varga, to preliminarily approve the FY2012-2014 list of CMAQ projects. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Itani added that the new energy bill allows CMAQ projects to be funded with 100% federal funding instead of an 80/20 match. However, this will only apply to unobligated FY2010

projects and FY2011 projects. Discussion ensued.

VI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN

Referring to **Item VI: Attachment A**, Dewey requested the Policy Committee's approval of the Public Participation Plan (PPP). She explained that she had brought the Draft PPP to the Policy Committee for consideration in March. The majority of the document remains unchanged from the 2006 version as the process remains comprehensive and appropriate for the area. However, she added that the revised PPP does provide the flexibility to use and evaluate other participation tools as needed and has incorporated a new appendix. Lastly, Dewey stated that the PPP has undergone the required 45-day public comment period. One comment was received.

Koslosky entertained a motion to approve the Public Participation Plan (PPP).

MOTION by Porter, SUPPORT by Pastoor, to approve the Public Participation Plan.

Varga asked if a 1% attendance rate at public meetings is an achievable goal. Itani responded that Staff's goal is to find additional ways to engage the public. Koslosky suggested integrating social media in the public participation process in the future. Dewey explained that GVMC has a Twitter account and is researching the possibility of a Facebook account. Discussion ensued.

Koslosky brought the motion in question back to the floor. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

VII. 2035 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN (LRTP) AMENDMENT

Referring to **Item VII: Attachment A**, Dewey explained that, as part of the development of the FY2011-2014 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), an amendment to the current 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) is required in order to ensure that both documents are in accordance. To achieve this, some adjustments must be made to the project listings in the 2035 LRTP. Dewey requested that the Policy Committee preliminarily approve the 2035 LRTP amendment and recommend the project list changes to the Metro Council Board. She stated that the LRTP project changes that constitute this amendment require an Air Quality Conformity Analysis to be conducted and provided details about the public involvement process for the LRTP amendment.

Koslosky entertained a motion to preliminarily approve the 2035 LRTP Amendment.

MOTION by Hilton, SUPPORT by Varga, to preliminarily approve the 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan Amendment and recommend the project list changes to the Metro Council Board. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

VIII. 2035 LRTP GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Referring to **Item VIII: Attachment A**, Dewey informed the Committee that Staff has revised the Goals and Objectives for the 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) by incorporating several suggestions raised by the Policy Committee at the April 21 meeting and by the Technical Committee at the May 12 meeting. Therefore, Dewey requested that the Committee approve the revised LRTP Goals and Objectives. The Evaluation

Suggestions below each listing of objectives will remain in draft form until the Technical Committee is able to revise and update the Policies and Practices document.

Koslosky entertained a motion to approve the LRTP Goals and Objectives.

MOTION by Glass, SUPPORT by Varga, to approve of the revised Long Range Transportation Plan Goals and Objectives, with the performance measures to be submitted for approval at a later date.

DeClercq stressed the importance of further developing measurable targets to provide direction and accountability. Itani stated that the Technical Committee will be involved in developing performance measures for the goals and objectives. Discussion ensued.

Arends requested that the motion in question be returned to the floor. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

IX. 2035 LRTP SUBCOMMITTEES

Speaking on **Item IX: Attachment A**, Dewey stated that, in accordance with the revised Process for Developing and Selecting Projects for the 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), staff has developed a preliminary list of ad hoc members for each of the six subcommittees. Dewey presented this preliminary list to the committee, explained the role of the subcommittees, and asked that suggestions for additional and/or alternative representatives be sent to her by May 21st, 2010.

Kent requested that a representative from MDOT be included on the Asset Management Committee. Varga recommended utilizing “cross-fertilization” among the subcommittees so that, for example, an airport representative could be included on the Transit and Passenger Rail Committee, etc. Discussion ensued.

X. OTHER BUSINESS

Faber stated that the ozone forecasting season has begun. To celebrate, a luncheon was held on Friday, May 7 at Carrabba’s. Approximately 40 people were in attendance.

Glass stated that the Chamber of Commerce recently received an e-mail from Director Steudle asking for support for a Public-Private Partnership bill that is going on the house floor today. He asked Committee members interested in supporting this bill to contact their legislators. Discussion ensued.

Itani invited the Committee to attend GVMC’s FHWA/FTA recertification on June 2 & 3.

Dewey reminded the Committee that the Kent County Transit Needs study has begun. Stakeholder meetings will be held on June 14, 15, 16, and 17

McBurrows stated that a new MOU has been developed between MDOT and the MPOs.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Koslosky adjourned the May 19, 2010 Policy Committee meeting at 10:42 am.