

**Twin Cities Area Transportation Study  
Fiscal Year 2011 to 2014 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)**

Project Selection Subcommittee Meeting  
Wednesday November 9, 2011  
1:30 PM  
Southwest Michigan Regional Airport

**Attendees**

Aaron Anthony	City of Bridgman
Dave Austin	Williams and Works (Lincoln Charter Township)
Brian Berndt	Berrien County Road Commission
Deb Boothby	Benton Charter Township
Steve Carlisle	Wightman and Associates (City of Bridgman)
Chris Cook	Abonmarche (City of Benton Harbor)
Tim Fenderbosch	St. Joseph Charter Township
Ray Lenze	MDOT – Statewide Planning
Larry Merritt	Berrien County Road Commission
Warren Peterson	Merritt Engineering (Village of Shoreham)
Bill Purvis	Twin Cities Area Transit Authority
Lee Scherwitz	Southwest Michigan Regional Airport
Dick Stauffer	Lincoln Charter Township
Tim Zebell	City of St. Joseph
Barney Whittier	Michigan Association of Railroad Passengers

**Staff in Attendance:**

Suzann Flowers	SWMPC
Trevor Thomas	SWMPC

**Meeting Called to Order at 1:30 p.m.**

**1. Introductions**

Flowers led the group in introductions.

**2. Purpose of Meeting**

Flowers led the group in a quick review of the purpose and scope of the meeting. The content of the meeting was to discuss the following:

- To review 2012-2014 projects already in 2011-2014 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP for the Twin Cities Area Transportation Study (TwinCATS) Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO).
- Discuss specific community projects in the TIP, Lake St. in City of St. Joe and Brown School Road in Village of Shoreham
- Review the estimated federal funds that the MPO will receive for 2012-2014

- Process for moving future year projects to current fiscal year, process for moving Illustrative List projects into the current TIP, and the process for adding new Illustrative List projects into the current TIP
- Discussion of what happens to projects that cannot meet their local match for projects

Ray Lenze, from MDOT, stated that we do not have a transportation bill and that we are projecting a 3.2% increase each year for the TIP beginning in 2011. Until we receive new authorization, those projections are fine, but he reminded attendees that the 3.2% increase for each year may not be able to occur if a new transportation bill comes about. Therefore, he encouraged community representatives to get their projects moving to ensure the utilization of projected funding levels.

### 3. Projects moving from 2012 to 2013

There were no projects that needed to be moved from 2012 to 2013 or 2014.

### 4. Current 2011-2014 TIP Projects

FY 2012 Projects	Project Name	Responsible Agency	Federal Cost (\$1000s)	Local Cost (\$1000s)	Primary Work Type	Length	Limits
	Broadway Ave.	Benton Harbor	240	60	Resurface	.90	Pipestone St. to Empire Ave.
	E. Britain Ave.	Berrien County	186	47	Resurface	1.01	City of Benton Harbor to Crystal
	Highland Ave.	Berrien County	227	57	Resurface	1.00	City of Benton Harbor to Crystal
	*Napier Ave	St. Joseph	122		Resurface	.29	Niles Ave (M-63) to Langley Ave.
	**S. State St. and Kingsley	St. Joseph	69		Reconstruct	.30	
	Lake St.	St. Joseph	236	210	Reconstruct	.10	Elm St. to Broad St.
		<b>Total</b>	<b>1,080</b>	<b>374</b>		<b>3.6 miles</b>	
<b>2013 Projects</b>	**Napier Ave.	St. Joseph	173		Resurface	.29	Niles Ave (M-63) to Langley Ave.
<b>2014 Projects</b>	**Hollywood Rd.	Berrien County	1151		Restore and rehabilitate	1.0	M-63 to 500 feet South of Glenlord Rd.

\* AC projects are Advanced Construction projects.....and \*\*ACC are Advanced Construction Conversion projects...MORE HERE EXPLAIN WHAT THAT MEANS

- Flowers asked each of the responsible agencies if they would be able to make their local match.
  - Cook stated that the City of Benton Harbor projects were ready to go for FY 2012

- Berndt from the Road Commission also stated that their projects were ready to move for FY 2012
  - Zebell from St. Joseph also stated that the S. State St. project will be receiving its final payment in FY 2012 and that the Napier Ave. and Lake St. projects will be ready for April letting.
- Warren Peterson was asked to speak about the Brown School Road project currently listed on the Illustrative List in the 2011-2014 TIP. He discussed elements of the project that would be brought before the entire TwinCATS Committee members regarding changes. Some of the project features are a re-milling of pavement surface, adding bike lanes and sidewalks on the south side of the road and that the Village of Shoreham is using 40% local matching dollars. He asked what the process would be to move the Brown School Road project into the project list.
  - Zebell stated that we would call a subcommittee to discuss the project. Cook added that if federal dollars become available then the attendees of the subcommittee would look at the project scope to ensure that the project fits with the federal dollars remaining.
  - The group as a whole discussed how important it was to have shovel ready projects on the shelf in case President Obama's jobs bill were to move quickly, similarly to the ARRA funds a couple of years ago.
  - Stauffer stated that there may need to be a project worked on for Marquette Woods Road and asked how to get a project into the TIP and Illustrative List.
  - Thomas discussed that any new projects would have to fill out a project application on the TIP website [http://www.swmpc.org/tcats\\_tipapp.asp](http://www.swmpc.org/tcats_tipapp.asp) and that it would have to be brought before the entire TwinCATS Committees. Lenze pointed out that if we are adding or removing capacity in the region that air quality conformity would need to be done on the project and that would be to call the InterAgency Work Group together to discuss the potential environmental impacts of the projects. Flowers stated that she will email all jurisdictions asking them if they have any projects that they want to add to the Illustrative List.
  - Zebell also wanted to make sure that he discussed the Lake St. project listed for 2012. He stated this is a reconstruction project and that the scope of the project will change. Thomas stated that an amendment will have to fill out and submitted along with the change going before the TwinCATS Committee.

## 5. Estimated Federal Funds

The current estimated Federal Funds and non-federal funds and local matching dollars for Fiscal Years 2012-2014 are listed in the table below.

	<b>Estimated Federal Revenue</b>	<b>Estimated Non-Federal Revenue</b>
<b>2012</b>	1,080,100	372,950
<b>2013</b>	1,115,000	40,000
<b>2014</b>	1,151,007	0

*These funding totals can be found in the Constraint Table within the 2011-2014*

## **6. Options for movement of projects**

Flowers stated that what she heard the members say was that the procedure for the movement of projects would be as follows:

- The project should be in the 2011-2014 TIP Project List or in the Illustrative List
- If the project is not in the current TIP that the project would need to fill out a project application and then submit the application
- The project would need to go through a regular Committee Meeting where TIP Project amendments are discussed and voted on
- If a project comes under budget or if additional federal funds are made available to the MPO, the subcommittee will meet and discuss which projects in the TIP Project List and Illustrative List should be moved based on the amount of money available
- If a project cannot get their local match dollars, then the subcommittee will meet and discuss what to do with the project and again, which project(s) should be moved based upon the available funds

## **7. Local Match for Projects**

Each local project indicated that they will not have a problem obtaining the local match dollars for their 2012 projects.

## **8. Public Comment**

There were no public comments received.

## **9. Addition of new projects to the illustrative list**

Thomas discussed that any new projects would have to fill out a project application on the TIP website [http://www.swmpc.org/tcats\\_tipapp.asp](http://www.swmpc.org/tcats_tipapp.asp) and that it would have to be brought before the entire TwinCATS Committees. Lenze pointed out that if we are adding or removing capacity in the region that air quality conformity would need to be done on the project and that would be to call the InterAgency Work Group together to discuss the potential environmental impacts of the projects. Flowers stated that she will email all jurisdictions asking them if they have any projects that they want to add to the Illustrative List.

## **10. General Discussion**

CMAQ Call for Projects-Thomas handed out a copy of a letter that he received from Denise Jackson dated November 1, 2011 from MDOT that calls for projects to the CMAQ program for FY 2013 and 2014.

- Berndt stated that he was not sure if the Berrien County CMAQ projects for FY 2012 were approved. Lenze stated that the projects should be resubmitted to Ed Fowler.

- Thomas discussed that the 2010-2014 projects are being reviewing 1 year at a time. Lenze encouraged Thomas to confirm the CMAQ projects for 2012 and 2013.
- Berndt discussed having a meeting to discuss 2012 projects in December and another meeting to discuss 2013 projects in February.

Flowers will prepare the minutes and make them available for review on the website. The content of the meeting will be brought to the TwinCATS Committee at the November 21, 2011 meeting. The process for moving projects will be discussed and voted on at the Committee Meeting.

**Minutes approved at the November 2011 TwinCATS Policy Committee meeting**

Compiled by Suzann Flowers and Trevor Thomas, November 2011