

Minutes
Twin Cities Area Transportation Study
Policy Committee

May 19, 2008
 10:30 A.M.

Southwest Michigan Regional Airport

POLICY MEMBERS PRESENT:	John Chaddock, SW Michigan Regional Airport Tim Fenderbosch, St. Joseph Charter Township Robert Judd, City of St. Joseph Ray Lenze, MDOT Planning Debra Panozzo, Berrien County Commission Bill Purvis, TCATA Dick Stauffer, Lincoln Charter Township
POLICY MEMBERS ABSENT:	Aaron Anthony, City of Bridgman Bill Brown, NIRPC (ex officio) Fred Featherly, MDOT Multi-Modal Todd Gardner, Village of Stevensville John Gast, Lake Charter Township Sarah Koepke, FHWA (ex officio) Steward McKenzie, Federal Transit Administration Dwight Pete Mitchell, City of Benton Harbor Burt Pearson II, Village of Shoreham Robert Rusch, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality Brad Sharlow, MDOT Planning Jim Soteriou, Royalton Township Paul South, MDOT – Coloma TSC Sarah Woolcock, MDOT – Coloma TSC Representative, Cornerstone Alliance Bill Boyd, Royalton Township Mickey Bennett, Sodus Township R.J. Burkholz, Berrien County Road Commission Ron Griffin, St. Joseph Charter Township Walter Heritz, Berrien Co. Planning Commission Lee Scherwitz, SW Michigan Regional Airport Louise Price, Benton Charter Township Jason Latham, MDOT – Regional Planning
SWMPC STAFF PRESENT:	Kelly Getman-Dissette Nickolas Musson
OTHERS PRESENT:	

1. CALL TO ORDER:

- Chairman Judd called the meeting to order at 10:37 a.m.

2. MINUTES OF April 21, 2008:

- Motion by Panozzo, seconded by Stauffer, to approve the minutes of the April 21, 2008 Policy meeting. Motion approved.

3. STAFF REPORT:

- **Regional Transit Technology** – Getman-Dissette announced that SWMPC has been working with local transit agencies to select new software to help increase efficiency and improve coordination. The effort began in Van Buren

County with a grant from the Center for Regional Excellence and eventually expanded to include 9 transit agencies in 6 counties. The agencies met several times to preview software solutions. After a request-for-proposal process, all of the agencies agreed that the preferred product was Dial-A-Ride Online, a web based software offered by a company located in the U.K. The agencies involved are now in the process of finalizing contracts with Dial-A-Ride, and it is estimated that staff members will begin training in June. SWMPC received a \$90,000 grant from the National Center for Senior Transportation, of which approximately \$72,500 will help the local agencies purchase the software. Purvis noted that he is looking forward to using the software, especially since ridership has increased.

4. NEW BUSINESS:

LRP Goals and Objectives I-III – A subcommittee met twice to review goals and objectives for the long range plan. Based upon the goals and objectives from the previous plan, a new set of goals and objectives has been prepared. Changes were made to clarify intent of the objective, to ensure that action steps were “accomplishable,” and to remove references to specific projects. Goals I-III were reviewed in order to obtain comments from the Policy Committee. A conversation occurred regarding the purpose of the Harbor Authority as well as transit funding. Goals IV-VI will be reviewed next month.

5. OLD BUSINESS

- **Future Year SE data** – Musson explained that the deadline for input on the future year SE data had passed, and the data must be submitted to Sharlow. Committee members were offered one last opportunity to comment on the numbers. At the TAC meeting, Soper noted that he would double check to be sure that Benton Township had reported all of its information. *A motion was made by Stauffer, supported by Panozzo, to approve the future year SE data, pending clarification of data from Benton Charter Township. Motion approved.*

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- None

7. PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

- The City of St. Joseph will be applying for a \$450,000 bridge grant for preventative maintenance on the Park Street Bridge. The application is due June 2nd. Staff will compose a letter of support and submit it to Zebell prior to the June 2nd deadline.
- Lenze noted the number of members who were absent from the meeting. Staff will tabulate attendance for each member and send a letter to those who have missed three or more meetings in a row.

8. ADJOURNMENT: 11:36 a.m.

- Next meeting is June 16, 2008 at 10:30 a.m.

Compiled by: Nickolas Musson/Kelly Getman-Dissette, Transportation Planners, 5/21/08