

**Minutes**  
*Twin Cities Area Transportation Study*  
*Policy Committee*

July 21, 2008  
 10:30 A.M.

Southwest Michigan Regional Airport

<b>POLICY MEMBERS PRESENT:</b>	Bill Purvis, TCATA Bob Burkholz, Berrien County Road Commission Tim Fenderbosch, St. Joseph Charter Township Ron Griffin, St. Joseph Charter Township Ray Lenze, MDOT Planning Debra Panozzo, Berrien County Commission Louise Price, Benton Charter Township Lee Scherwitz, SW Michigan Regional Airport Dick Stauffer, Lincoln Charter Township Sarah Woolcock, MDOT Coloma TSC
<b>POLICY MEMBERS ABSENT:</b>	Aaron Anthony, City of Bridgman Mickey Bennett, Sodus Township Bill Boyd, Royalton Township Bill Brown, NIRPC (ex officio) Fred Featherly, MDOT Multi-Modal Todd Gardner, Village of Stevensville John Gast, Lake Charter Township Walter Heritz, Berrien Co. Planning Commission Robert Judd, City of St. Joseph Sarah Koepke, FHWA (ex officio) Jason Latham, MDOT Regional Planning Richard Marsh, City of Benton Harbor Stewart McKenzie, Federal Transit Administration (ex officio) 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 Representative, Cornerstone Alliance
<b>SWMPC STAFF PRESENT:</b>	Kelly Getman-Dissette Nickolas Musson
<b>OTHERS PRESENT:</b>	

**1. CALL TO ORDER:**

- Scherwitz called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. Chairman Judd and Vice-Chairman Heritz were absent.

**2. MINUTES OF JUNE 16, 2008:**

- *Motion by Panozzo, seconded by Price, to approve the minutes of the June 16, 2008 Policy meeting. Motion approved.*

**3. STAFF REPORT:**

- **MTPA Conference** – Getman-Dissette and Musson attend the annual Michigan Transportation Planners Association conference July 16<sup>th</sup> to the 18<sup>th</sup>. The conference included sessions on airport cities (called “aerotropolis”), transit initiatives, roundabouts, emergency response to motor vehicle crashes, and using American community survey data

for transportation. Next year's conference is in Kalamazoo, and SWMPC staff will forward registration information when it becomes available.

- **Bicycle/Driver safety fair booth** – SWMPC staff has developed a bicycle/driver safety table-top exhibit that will be on display at the Berrien County fair in August as well as at area libraries. This is an attempt to educate the public on sharing the road.
- **Traffic Count Software** – SWMPC has recently participated in traffic counting software demonstrations with two web-based companies, Miovision and Midwestern. The software will allow the traffic count data to be better organized and more accessible to local agencies and the general public. A decision to purchase a product will be made in the next couple of months.
- **PASER Rating Update** – PASER rating for Berrien County is complete. This year the Transportation Asset Management Council required each county to rate 50% of the federal aid eligible network. Therefore, the northern half of Berrien County was rated this year, and the southern half will be rated next year.
- **LRP Goals and Objectives Public Meeting** – Public input regarding the LRP goals and objectives will be sought at the St. Joseph City Council meeting on July 21 at 6:00 p.m.

#### 4. NEW BUSINESS:

- **FY 2008 UWP Amendments** – Due to recent changes to procedures related to the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), more staff time has been spent processing TIP amendments and finishing the TIP document than was originally anticipated. Therefore, the Program Management, Database Management, and Short Range Planning program element budgets and associated hour estimates required adjustments to more accurately represent expenditures to date and funding necessary for the remainder for the fiscal year. In addition, the local match calculations were adjusted to separate the Villages of Grand Beach and Michiana, which were formerly listed together as one satellite entity. *A motion was made by Panozzo, supported by Woolcock, to approve an amendment to the FY 2008 UWP. Specifically, the changes are as follows:*

- *The Program Management budget was changed from \$76,349 to \$68,819;*
- *The Database Management budget was changed from \$54,814 to \$51,949;*
- *The Short Range Planning budget was changed from \$13,704 to \$24,099; and*
- *The local match for the Village of Grand Beach/Michiana Satellite was changed from \$311 to \$167 for the Village of Grand Beach and \$143 for the Village of Michiana.*

*Motion approved.*

- **Administrative TIP Amendments** – As requested by Berndt, administrative TIP amendments were made to FYs 2009 and 2010 in order to move the Hollywood Rd. project to 2010 to coordinate with work being completed with the drain commissioner's office. Specifically:
  - The FY 2009 Hollywood Rd. project (JN 46089) was moved to FY 2010 and decreased in cost by \$1,000 so that the project has \$383,571 federal, \$100,000 local, and \$483,571 total.
  - The FY 2010 Empire Ave. project (JN 46087) was moved to FY 2009. Costs and project description remain the same.
  - The FY 2010 Linco Rd. project (JN 100081) was moved to FY 2009, and the cost was adjusted by \$1,000 so that the project is funded at \$241,000 federal, \$60,000 local, and \$301,000 total.
- **TIP Amendments** – As requested by MDOT and the Berrien County Road Commission, several full TIP amendments were made, as described below.
  - *A motion was made by Price, supported by Woolcock, to amend the FY 2008-2011 TIP to include:*
    - *Moving the FY 2008 I-94 BL CMAQ project to FY 2009, and increasing the cost from \$20,000 to \$258,500;*
    - *Removing the FY2009 I-94 (under John Beers Rd) MDOT project;*
    - *Removing the FY 2009 M-139 at Napier MDOT CMAQ project;*
    - *Removing the FY 2009 M-139 from I-94 to the I-94 BL MDOT CMAQ project;*
    - *Adding to FY 2009 an MDOT CMAQ project on M-139 at Fairplain in the amount of \$330,000 (100% federal CMAQ) to upgrade the signal to include a left turn phase;*
    - *Adding the FY 2011 I-94 BL (Main St.) Streetscape MDOT project (JN 103422) in the amount of \$942,557 federal enhancement funding, \$235,639 state funding, and \$1,178,196 total. The project limits, in downtown Benton Harbor, will be from M-139 (Fair Avenue) to Riverview, and work will include historical light poles, benches, trash receptacles and sidewalks; and*
    - *Adding the FY 2011 Berrien County Road Commission Date Road Bridge replacement project, funded through the local bridge program with \$320,000 in federal funds, \$60,000 in state funds, and \$20,000 in local funds.*

*Motion approved.*

**5. OLD BUSINESS:**

- **Meeting Attendance Letter** – Pursuant to TwinCATS bylaws, letters were mailed to committee members who have missed at least three consecutive meetings to remind them of their TwinCATS membership. Response to the mailing has been positive.

**6. PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

- None

**7. PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:**

- Woolcock announced that the bridge over I-94 on the business loop in Benton Harbor has been closed and will be repaired with emergency funds. Work is scheduled from Labor Day to November.

**8. ADJOURNMENT: 11:06 a.m.**

- Next meeting is August 18, 2008 at 10:30 a.m.

Compiled by: Nickolas Musson/Kelly Getman-Dissette, Transportation Planners, 8/07/08