

Minutes
Twin Cities Area Transportation Study
Policy Committee

November 17, 2008
 10:30 A.M.
 Southwest Michigan Regional Airport

POLICY MEMBERS PRESENT:	Mickey Bennett, Sodus Township Bill Brown, NIRPC (ex officio) Bob Burkholz, Berrien County Road Commission Tim Fenderbosch, St. Joseph Charter Township Ron Griffin, St. Joseph Charter Township Robert Judd, City of St. Joseph Ray Lenze, MDOT Planning Debra Panozzo, Berrien County Commission Louise Price, Benton Charter Township Bill Purvis, TCATA Lee Scherwitz, SW Michigan Regional Airport Dick Stauffer, Lincoln Charter Township
POLICY MEMBERS ABSENT:	Aaron Anthony, City of Bridgman Bill Boyd, Royalton Township Fred Featherly, MDOT Multi-Modal Todd Gardner, Village of Stevensville John Gast, Lake Charter Township 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 Representative, Cornerstone Alliance 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
SWMPC STAFF PRESENT:	Kelly Getman-Dissette Nickolas Musson
OTHERS PRESENT:	

Hollywood Corridor Presentation: TAC and Policy members convened for a presentation on the Hollywood Corridor Study by Dan Fette prior to the Policy meeting.

1. **CALL TO ORDER:**
 - Chairman Judd called the meeting to order at 11:35 a.m.

2. **MINUTES:**
 - A motion was made by Stauffer, seconded by Bennett, to approve the minutes of the September 15, 2008 Policy meeting. Motion approved.

3. STAFF REPORT:

- **MAP Conference** - Getman-Dissette and Musson attended the annual Michigan Association of Planning Conference (MAP) in Kalamazoo in October. There were many helpful sessions, some of which were related to transportation planning and its connection to land use planning.
- **Travel Demand Modeling Workshop** - Getman-Dissette and Musson attended a Travel Demand Workshop on October 6th in Lansing. The workshop dealt with deficiency analysis, alternative testing, and project impact analysis. The US-31 connection to I-94 was used as an example of impact analysis.
- **November Trail Workshop** – Musson attended a trail workshop on November 13, at the First Baptist Church Fellowship Hall in Middleville. The focus of the workshop was trail planning and development in different community settings as well as trail funding. There were speakers from the Village of Middleville, Kalamazoo County Parks, Laketown Township, MDOT, and the MDNR. Musson distributed handouts about the Transportation Enhancement program, the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund, and the Land and Water Conservation Fund.
- **Berrien County Transit Study Forum** – As a part of the Berrien County Transit Study, SWMPC will host a transit forum at the Mendel Center at LMC on December 3rd, 2008 from 8:30 AM to 12:00 PM. The forum will include an overview of the county's four transit systems and an opportunity to work through ride-scheduling scenarios. Members were advised to contact Kim Gallagher at the SWMPC for additional information.
- **Bridgman Enhancement Grant** – The City of Bridgman applied for a Transportation Enhancement grant for streetscaping on Lake St. and Red Arrow. The grant is currently under review.

4. OLD BUSINESS:

- **Non-motorized updates** – Getman-Dissette reminded committee members that local non-motorized updates are needed for the long range plan. Getman-Dissette will email the request form again.

5. NEW BUSINESS:

- **TIP amendments** – Three elementary schools in the TwinCATS area received FY 2009 Safe Routes to School grants: Calvin Britain (\$480,449) and Seelye McCord (\$440,948) in Benton Harbor and Roosevelt (\$306,708) in Lincoln Township. Projects include both infrastructure and non-infrastructure activities. Work will include repairing sidewalks, creating new bus turnaround areas, creating an educational traffic safety area in a playground, and developing/participating in health and nutrition programs. *A motion was made by Stauffer, supported by Price, to amend the FY2008-2011 TIP to add three Safe Routes to School projects to FY 2009:*
 - Calvin Britain Elementary in Benton Harbor for \$480,449,
 - Seelye McCord Elementary in Benton Harbor for \$440,948, and
 - Roosevelt Elementary in Lincoln Township for \$306,708.*Motion Approved.*
- **TCATA administrative amendments** – TCATA requested two administrative changes to FY 2009 of the TIP: one to reduce federal CMAQ dollars and another to increase 5307 operating funds. The changes, as described below, will be submitted to MDOT along with the Safe Routes amendments.
 - Originally, TCATA planned to purchase 5 buses using \$232,000 FY 2009 CMAQ funds. The agency will now purchase 4 buses, which will decrease the federal cost to \$200,000. The total cost for the project will be \$258,000.
 - Due, in part, to the increase in gas prices, TCATA has requested additional 5307 operating funds. The federal portion will change from \$537,000 to \$620,000 and the local cost from \$375,000 to \$481,000. The total cost will be \$1,664,000.

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- None

7. PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

- None

8. ADJOURNMENT: 11:50 a.m.

- Next meeting is December 15, 2008 at 10:30 a.m.

Compiled by: Nickolas Musson/Kelly Getman-Dissette, Transportation Planners, 11/17/08