

Minutes
Twin Cities Area Transportation Study
Policy Committee

June 15, 2009
 10:30 A.M.
 Southwest Michigan Regional Airport

POLICY MEMBERS PRESENT:	Aaron Anthony, City of Bridgman Bob Burkholz, Berrien County Road Commission Tim Fenderbosch, St. Joseph Charter Township Robert Judd, City of St. Joseph Ray Lenze, MDOT Planning Debra Panozzo, Berrien County Commission Lee Scherwitz, SW Michigan Regional Airport Roger Seely, St. Joseph Charter Township Dick Stauffer, Lincoln Charter Township Sarah Woolcock, MDOT Coloma TSC
POLICY MEMBERS ABSENT:	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 Jason Latham, MDOT Regional Planning Richard Marsh, City of Benton Harbor Stewart McKenzie, Federal Transit Administration (ex officio) Louise Price, Benton Charter Township Bill Purvis, TCATA Robert Rusch, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality Mark Seaman, Village of Shoreham Brad Sharlow, MDOT Planning Jim Soteriou, Royalton Township Paul South, MDOT Coloma TSC Sarah Van Buren, FHWA (ex officio) Kevin Wordelman, Berrien County Commission Representative, Cornerstone Alliance
SWMPC STAFF PRESENT:	Nickolas Musson
OTHERS PRESENT:	

1. CALL TO ORDER:

- Chairman Judd called the meeting to order at 10:41 a.m.

2. MINUTES:

- *A motion was made by Panozzo, seconded by Woolcock, to approve the minutes of the April 20, 2009 Policy meeting. Motion approved.*

3. STAFF REPORT:

- **NTI Course**
 - Musson announced that he attended a National Transit Institute course in Cleveland Ohio on May 19-21 title Transportation Planning and Land Use. The goal of the course was to learn how transportation systems can support desired land uses, as well as help shape land uses that support the transportation system. Musson went over a handout explaining the problems that we face

today, the links between transportation planning and land use planning and how transportation planning and land use planning can work together through coordination.

- **New Transportation Planner**

- Musson announced that SWMPC has hired a new transportation planner. Anna Rahtz has a Masters in Community Planning from University of Cincinnati. Her thesis was on public transportation; using GIS analysis to determine ideal locations for reverse commute bus routes for entry-level workers. She has a Bachelor in Architecture from Kent State University and was a magna cum laude graduate. She was a project assistant during her graduate studies at the Cincinnati Human Relations Commission. She has skills in ArcGIS, SPSS statistics software, and AutoCAD.

4. OLD BUSINESS:

- **Highspeed Rail Letter**

- Musson explained that the Policy committee voted at the April 20, 2009 meeting to have SWMPC write a letter to MDOT asking them to reconsider the proposed Pere Marquette Amtrak route in the Midwest Regional Rail System as set forth in the Midwest Regional Rail Initiative (MWRRI). A letter was sent to MDOT and a copy was sent to local and state officials.

5. NEW BUSINESS:

- **TIP amendments**

TCATA requested the following amendments for FY 2010

- Add in FY 2010, project named Line Haul Route for a federal cost of \$140,000 (5316) and State cost \$140,000 (CTF) for a total of \$280,000.
- Add in FY 2010, project named Expanded Hours for a federal cost of \$87,500 (5316) and State cost \$87,500 (CTF) for a total of \$175,000.
- Add in FY 2010, project named Mobility Manager for a federal cost of \$60,000 (5317) and State cost \$15,000 (CTF) for a total of \$75,000.

A motion was made by Anthony, supported by Panozzo, to amend the FY 2008-2011 TIP to add the previously mentioned TCATA projects.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MDOT would like to amend the following FY 2010 projects.

- Amended in FY 2010, the federal and state cost of the project named I-94 BL. The federal cost changed from \$64,662 to \$93,000 and the state cost change from \$14,338 to \$21,000.
- Amended in FY 2010, the project description, federal and state cost of the project named I-94. The project description changed from "Mill existing HMA and apply two course HMA resurfacing treatment. Widen outside shoulder to twelve feet paved to maintain work zone traffic and meet FHWA guideline. Widen inside shoulder to ten feet wide to meet FHWA standard. Flatten median slope, replac" to "Mill existing HMA and apply two course HMA resurfacing treatment. Widen outside shoulder to thirteen feet paved to maintain work zone traffic and meet FHWA guideline. Widen inside shoulder to ten feet wide to meet FHWA Standard. Flatten median slope, replacement of all median culverts and shallow cross culverts, re-install cable median barrier, guardrail upgrade, freeway signing upgrade, and ROW fence replacement. ROW may be required to complete drainage upgrade". The federal cost changed from \$173,250 to \$103,950 and the state cost change from \$19,250 to \$11,550.

A motion was made by Fenderbosch, supported by Stauffer, to amend the FY 2008-2011 TIP to add the previously mentioned MDOT projects.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The following FY 2010 and 2011 project amendments, additions, and deletions are requested to update the TIP.

- Amended in FY 2010, the limits, federal and local cost of the project named Hollywood Road. The limits changed from M-63 to Glenlord to M-63 to 400 feet south of Glenlord Road. The federal cost changed from \$383,571 to \$382,600 and the local cost change from \$100,000 to \$97,400.
- Amended in FY 2010, the length, project description, federal and local cost of the project named Highland Avenue. The length changed from .81 to .75 and the project description changed from "Mill and resurface, minor drainage" to "Mill and resurface Highland Avenue from Wall Street to Fair Avenue including new sidewalk ramps and minor drainage improvements". The federal cost changed from \$200,000 to \$193,600 and the local cost change from \$50,000 to \$56,400.
- Deleted in FY 2010, project named Wallace Avenue to Reconstruct road, new curb and gutter, new water and sewer utilities for a federal cost of \$321,300 and a local cost of \$417,800.
- Add in FY 2010, project named Broad Street to resurface from Lake Blvd to State Street & Main Street (I-94 BL) to Wayne Street. The federal cost \$220,400 and the local cost is \$56,700.
- Amended in FY 2011, the federal and local cost of the project named Lincoln Avenue. The federal cost changed from \$336,000 to \$486,000 and the local cost change from \$84,000 to \$114,000.
- Amended in FY 2011, the limits, project description, federal and local cost of the project named Territorial Avenue. The limits changed from Paw Paw to Fair to 4th Street to Fair Avenue. The project description changed from "Mill and resurface minor drainage" to "Cold mill and resurface. Replace sidewalk and make minor drainage improvements". The federal cost changed from \$176,000 to \$280,000 and the local cost change from \$44,000 to \$70,000.
- Amended in FY 2011, the length, federal and local cost of the project named California Road. The length changed from .29 to .37. The federal cost changed from \$64,000 to \$73,000 and the local cost change from \$16,000 to \$17,000.
- Deleted in FY 2011, project named Britain Avenue to resurface from City of Benton Harbor to Crystal for a federal cost of \$128,000 and a local cost of \$32,000.
- Deleted in FY 2011, project named Highland Avenue to resurface from City of Benton Harbor to Crystal for a federal cost of \$152,000 and a local cost of \$38,000.
- Deleted in FY 2011, project named Riverview Avenue to resurface from Main to Empire for a federal cost of \$192,000 and a local cost of \$48,000.
- Deleted in FY 2011, project named Kingsley Avenue to resurface from South State Street to Niles Avenue for a federal cost of \$169,000 and a local cost of \$216,000.
- Add in FY 2011, project named South State Street to reconstruct from Granada Avenue to Wallace Avenue. The federal cost \$208,000 and the local cost is \$683,300. Project AC in 2011, and ACC in 2012 and 2013.

A motion was made by Scherwitz, supported by Woolcock, to amend the FY 2008-2011 TIP to add the previously mentioned FY 10 & 11 project amendments, additions, and deletions.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- **L RTP Approval**

- Musson announced that the TwinCATS LRTP has been approved. A PDF of the plan will be put on the SWMPC website for public access. If anyone would like a paper copy or a CD please let him know.

- **2010 UWP Draft**

- Musson handed out a copy of the 2010 UWP Draft and went over the major changes. Musson also went over comments received from Federal Highway. The only comment received from the committee members was to update committee membership. Musson asked the committee to approve that the 2010 UWP draft be considered for approval from the policy committee based on Federal Highway and committee comments.

A motion was made by Woolcock, supported by Seely, to approve the 2010 UWP based on Federal Highway and committee comments.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- **2010 & 2011 CMAQ project submittal**

- Musson announced that he is in the process of collecting 2010 and 2011 CMAQ applications for submittal. If you have not already submitted your application please do so.

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- None

7. PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

- Woolcock announced that there is a ARRA workshop next week on Tuesday June 23, 2009 at the Groves, Kalamazoo Valley Community College (KVCC), Michigan Technical Education Center (M-TEC), at 9am.
- Judd announced that he received an email from MARP explaining that the Michigan State Senate voted to cut the 2010 Amtrak rail passenger operating grant by \$2 million. This could result in the loss of either the rail services along the Port Huron to Chicago route or the Grand Rapids to Chicago route. It is possible that both routes could be eliminated. Judd feels that TwinCATS should send a letter to Governor and State Representatives asking to reinstate \$2 million back to 2010 Amtrak rail passenger operating grant.

A motion was made by Fenderbosch, supported by Panozzo, to have SWMPC staff write a letter to the Governor and State Representatives asking to reinstate \$2 million back to 2010 Amtrak rail passenger operating grant.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- Musson will send an email out to the committee members after the meeting describing how to contact your member of The Michigan House of Representatives.

8. ADJOURNMENT: 11:15 a.m.

- Next meeting is July 20, 2009 at 10:30 a.m.

Compiled by: Nickolas Musson, Transportation Planner, 6/18/09