

Minutes

Twin Cities Area Transportation Study Technical Advisory Committee

February 25, 2008

9:30 A.M.

Southwest Michigan Regional Airport

TECHNICAL MEMBERS PRESENT:	<p>Brian Berndt, Berrien County Road Commission Chris Cook, City of Benton Harbor Jason Latham, MDOT, Southwest Region Ray Lenze, MDOT, Statewide Planning Lee Scherwitz, SW Michigan Regional Airport Terrie Smith, Lincoln Charter Township Gary Soper, Benton Charter Township, TAC Chairman Tim Zebell, City of St. Joseph Bill Brown, NIRPC (ex officio) Aaron Anthony, City of Bridgman Larry Merritt, St. Joseph Charter Township Bill Boyd, Royalton Township Bill Purvis, Twin Cities Area Transportation Authority Paul South, MDOT/TSC, Coloma</p>
TECHNICAL MEMBERS ABSENT:	<p>Fred Featherly, MDOT - Multi-Modal Services Todd Gardner, Village of Stevensville John Gast, Lake Charter Township Sarah Koepke, Federal Highway Admin (ex officio) Steward McKenzie, Federal Transit Administration Robert Rusch, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality Donna Wittl, MDOT Planning Sarah Woolcock, MDOT – Coloma TSC Representative, Cornerstone Alliance Katie Montoya, Berrien Co. Planning Dept Brad Sharlow, MDOT Planning Dennis Schuh (Berrien County Public Transportation) Charles Kormanik, Village of Shoreham</p>
SWMPC STAFF PRESENT:	<p>Nickolas Musson, SWMPC</p>
OTHERS PRESENT:	

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Soper called the meeting to order at 9:30 A.M.

2. MINUTES OF January 28, 2008:

- *Motion by Berndt, seconded by Cook, to approve the minutes of the January 28, 2008 TAC meeting. Motion approved.*

3. STAFF REPORT:

- **2008 PASER Training**

PASER training is required for any person who plans to participate in the TAMC federal aid PASER data collection process and expects to be reimbursed for their time during the rating activity. There is no cost for this training for participants from public road agencies. Travel and training time will be reimbursed by your county's planning

organization. Meeting Dates and locations are located at the back of the handout. A link to the 2008 PASER training hand out is located at the SWMPC website. (http://www.swmpc.org/twincats_fy08.asp)

Musson suggested that if you are involved with PASER data collection or would like to use it for an Asset Management Plan to attend the PASER training session.

- **SE Data Status**

Musson is in the process of projecting the base data to the year 2035. Projections are based on REMI State TAZ data. Projection results will consist of a number that will be distributed through out the local TAZs. Musson will contact local municipalities and agencies to get information that will help in the distribution of the projected numbers. Musson is planning on creating maps of the local TAZ to send via email and mailed paper copies to the local agencies for their input.

- **TIP Status**

The TIP has conditional approval and is still waiting for final approval from Federal Highway. The CMAQ amendments were made and sent to Federal Highway and waits for approval.

- **Asset Management Training Session Reminder**

Investment Reporting Tool Training Session

The Southwest Michigan Planning Commission is hosting an investment reporting tool training session on Tuesday March 4 in Lawrence at 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

- **Kelly Getman-Dissette**

Kelly had a baby boy and is doing fine. She plans on being back around the second week of March. She should be here for the next meeting.

4. **PROJECT UPDATES:**

- **Hollywood Road Amendment**

Berndt wanted to move the Hollywood Road Project from 08 to 09 and reallocate the funds to different projects that could use the funds in 08. The federal funds for the Hollywood project consist of \$385,000. The projects in consideration were: St. Joseph's State Street at \$102,000, Bridgman's Church Street at \$309,000 and Benton Harbor's Arts District at \$492,000. The committees decided to payoff the entire St. Joseph project at \$102,000 and prorate the remainder to Bridgman at \$109,000 and Benton Harbor at \$174,000.

Motion by Cook, seconded by South, to approve the Hollywood Project amendment to move the Hollywood project to 09 and reallocate the federal funds to the St. Joseph's State Street project at \$102,000, the Bridgman's Church Street project at \$109,000 and Benton Harbor's Art District project at \$174,000. Motion approved.

- **City of St. Joseph** – Zebell reported that State and Ship St. will start as soon as the weather permits.
- **Benton Harbor** – Arts District is looking to start on Monday depending on weather.
- **Berrien County** – Washington Ave. is in the May letting.

5. **OLD BUSINESS:**

6. **NEW BUSINESS:**

- **Safety Projects**

Berndt submitted a safety project consisting of construction of a center left turn lane on John Beers Road between Cleveland Avenue and Washington Avenue.

- *Motion by Smith, seconded by Scherwitz, to approve the support of the safety project to construct a center left turn lane on John Beers Road between Cleveland Avenue and Washington Avenue. Motion approved.*

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- None

8. PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

Merritt suggested that the committee should comment on regulations being passed on maintenance areas. Scherwitz suggested that SWMPC write a letter to Congressmen Fred Upton with support on objecting to the EPA regulations.

Motion by Scherwitz, seconded by Merritt, to approve the draft of a letter by SWMPC to Congressmen Fred Upton with support on objecting to the EPA regulations on maintenance areas. Motion approved.

9. ADJOURNMENT: 10:12 a.m.

- Next meeting is March 17, 2008 at 9:30 a.m.

Compiled by: Nickolas Musson, Transportation Planner, 2/27/08