

Minutes
Twin Cities Area Transportation Study
Technical Advisory Committee

March 26, 2007
 9:30 A.M.

Southwest Michigan Regional Airport

TECHNICAL MEMBERS PRESENT:	Aaron Anthony, City of Bridgman Brian Berndt, Berrien County Road Commission Chris Cook, City of Benton Harbor Ray Lenze, MDOT, Statewide Planning Larry Merritt, St. Joseph Charter Township Catherine McIlwee, Berrien Co. Planning Dept Lee Scherwitz, SW Michigan Regional Airport Terrie Smith, Lincoln Charter Township Gary Soper, Benton Charter Township, TAC Chairman Sarah Woolcock, MDOT – Coloma TSC Tim Zebell, City of St. Joseph
TECHNICAL MEMBERS ABSENT:	Wilbert Brown, Twin Cities Area Transportation Authority Todd Gardner, Village of Stevensville John Gast, Lake Charter Township Jason Latham, MDOT, Southwest Region Sarah Koepke, Federal Highway Admin (ex officio) Charles Kormanik, Village of Shoreham Fred Featherly, MDOT - Multi-Modal Services Andy Minyo, Federal Transit Administration Robert Rusch, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality Brad Sharlow, MDOT Planning Paul South, MDOT/TSC, Coloma Donna Wittl, MDOT Planning Representative, Cornerstone Alliance
SWMPC STAFF PRESENT:	Kelly Getman-Dissette Rachael Tupica
OTHERS PRESENT:	Bill Brown, Northern Indiana Regional Planning Commission

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Gary Soper called the meeting to order at 9:33 A.M.

2. MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 26, 2007:

- Motion by Sarah Woolcock, seconded by Tim Zebell: “TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 26, 2007 TAC MEETING.” Motion approved.

3. STAFF REPORT:

- Kelly and Rachael hosted Asset Management Training on the Internet Based Reporting Tool on March 12th and attended PASER road ratings training on March 19th at the Kalamazoo County Road Commission. Both Kelly and Rachael will also be attending the 2007 Annual Conference on April 11th at the Kellogg Center on MSU Campus in East Lansing.
- Kelly attended the 2007 Michigan Traffic Safety Summit in East Lansing. The conference was good, but geared more toward Police than MPOs. An interesting presentation was on a study of distracted driving.

- The SWMPC has hired a new Traffic Count Supervisor, since George Tabbert is retiring after many years of service. Roger is a retired Xerox employee, where he used to repair copy machines in southwest Michigan. Roger also attended the PASER training as he will be the representative doing road ratings for the SWMPC.
- The SWMPC has applied for an EDA grant to get money to create a traffic count database that would be available on our website. If we receive the grant, this new database would have to be in place by December 31, 2007, as that is when the grant ends. We would work with LIAA, who hosts our current website, to put these counts online.
- We are still working on the Environmental Mitigation Plan that we are required to due to become SAFETEA-LU compliant. This should be approved at the April Meeting if possible. Kelly and Rachael will be contacting members soon to review this plan. We are taking examples from SEMCOG, GVMC, and others.

4. **NEW BUSINESS:**

- **FY07 CMAQ Project List** – A listing of the proposed CMAQ projects for FY07 was distributed. It was explained that FHWA has not approved the list yet, but it is expected soon. The Committee is asked to review and make an approval pending the FHWA approval, as this will expedite the process after they have made their approval. Discussion ensued regarding merging an MDOT project and a local project and the implications of doing so. There was also discussion around a project for the City of Benton Harbor and if the City would have to pay part of the project cost due to some of the project not being a 100% qualified expense. *Motion by Brian Berndt, seconded by Sarah Woolcock: “TO RECOMMEND TO THE POLICY COMMITTEE APPROVAL OF THE FY07 CMAQ PROJECT LIST, PENDING FHWA APPROVAL, AND ALSO TO ALLOW THE SWMPC TO MAKE MINOR ADJUSTMENTS TO PROJECTS IF NECESSARY TO EXPEDITE THE APPROVAL PROCESS.” Motion approved.*
- **FY08-11 Proposed TIP Projects** – The proposed project list for the FY08-11 TIP was handed out in the new Uniform TIP/STIP format. The new format is being used by all MPOs in Michigan and MDOT is also using. The list of project was put together and prioritized by the Project Selection Sub-Committee in February. Agencies reviewed their project listing to ensure they were accurate. TCATA wanted to point out that they are not applying for STP funding since they are set with the CMAQ funding; but if the CMAQ funding is ever not available, they will have to apply for STP funds. *Motion by Sarah Woolcock, seconded by Tim Zebell: “TO RECOMMEND TO THE POLICY COMMITTEE APPROVAL OF THE PROPOSED FY08-11 TIP PROJECT LIST.” Motion approved.*
- **Church Street TIP Amendment** – A handout was dispersed with a proposed TIP amendment for the City of Bridgman’s Church Street. The resurfacing project is in the FY09 TIP and they would like to AC in the \$588,000 project FY07 with repayment \$308,708 in FY09 and \$20,479 FY10. The City intends to try to get Local Jobs Today funding to help cover some of the project costs. *Motion by Brian Berndt, seconded by Chris Cook: “TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL TO THE POLICY COMMITTEE TO AMEND THE FY07 TIP TO INCLUDE AC OF CHURCH STREET WITH ACC OF \$308,708 IN FY09 AND \$20,479 IN FY10.” Motion approved.*
- **Illustrative/Working Project List** – There was an announcement for projects to go in the illustrative/working list. This prioritized list is important to have in place in case the TwinCATS area comes upon more funding, the SWMPC can call the agencies on the list, in priority, to see if they are ready to go to be added into the TIP. This list will need to be prioritized for the final approval of the TIP document.

5. **OLD BUSINESS**

- None

6. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

- None

7. **PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:**

- Lee Scherwitz made an announcement for local agencies to keep an eye out for roads that are on the Wine Trail as tourist season is beginning, the traffic on these roads will be increasing and more strain is going to be put on these roads.
- Kelly Getman-Dissette recommended everyone to attend, and encourage other local officials to attend, a Site Plan Review class as this was very informative and transportation was discussed a lot.

8. **ADJOURNMENT: 10:29 am**

- Next meeting is April 16, 2007