

Minutes
Twin Cities Area Transportation Study
Technical Advisory Committee

July 21, 2008
 9:30 A.M.
 Southwest Michigan Regional Airport

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

1. CALL TO ORDER:

- Berndt called the meeting to order at 9:31 A.M. Chairman Soper was absent.

2. MINUTES OF JUNE 16th, 2008:

- *Motion by Scherwitz, seconded by Cook, to approve the minutes of the June 16th, 2008 TAC meeting. Motion approved.*

3. STAFF REPORT:

- **MTPA Conference** – Getman-Dissette and Musson attend the annual Michigan Transportation Planners Association conference July 16th to the 18th. 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. PROJECT UPDATES:

- **Historic Arts District** – Completed.
- **Washington** – Under construction.
- **Napier** – Under construction.
- **Hilltop** – Scheduled for September 5th letting.
- **M-139 at Nickerson** – Scheduled for the August letting.

5. 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 Berndt, supported by Woolcock, to recommend that the Policy Committee 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, several administrative TIP amendments were made to FYs 2009 and 2010. 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; and
 - 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 Berndt, supported by Woolcock, to recommend that the Policy Committee approve an amendment to move the FY 2008 I-94 BL CMAQ project to FY 2009, and increase the cost from \$20,000 to \$258,500. Motion approved.*
 - *A motion was made by Woolcock, supported by Cook, to recommend that the Policy Committee approve the following changes to the FY 2008-11 TIP:*
 - *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 M 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.

6. 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.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT:

- None

8. 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.

9. ADJOURNMENT: 10:17 a.m.

- Next meeting is August 18, 2008 at 9:30 a.m.

Compiled by: Nickolas Musson/Kelly Getman-Dissette, Transportation Planners, 8/01/08