

# NILES/BUCHANAN/CASS AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY

Technical Advisory Committee

## MINUTES

April 27, 2010

Niles City Council Chambers

1:30 P.M.

TAC Members Present:	Jason Auvil, Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians Brian Berndt, Berrien County Road Commission Paul Boggs, Milton Township Richard Cooper, Niles Charter Township Juan Ganum, City of Niles Planning John Gruchot, Berrien County Community Development Darrell Harden, MDOT Southwest Region Joseph Kring, Bertrand Township Ray Lenze, MDOT Planning Sarah Woolcock, MDOT Coloma TSC
TAC Members Absent:	Joe Bellina, Cass County Road Commission Willie Brown, City of Buchanan Neil Coulston, City of Niles DPW/Airport Fred Featherly, MDOT-Multi-Modal Irving Frost, Howard Township Kelly Getman-Dissette, Niles Dial-A-Ride Jim Kidwell, Niles Charter Township Shelley Klug, Southwestern Michigan Economic Growth Alliance Stewart McKenzie, Federal Transit Administration (ex officio) Jessica Mitchell, MACOG (ex officio) John Monaghan, Village of Edwardsburg Public Works Kimberly O'Haver, Buchanan Dial a Ride Jennifer Osborne, MDOT Joe Ray, City of Niles Robert Rusch, MDEQ Ron Sather, Four Flags Area Chamber of Commerce Paul South, MDOT - Coloma TSC Sarah Van Buren, Federal Highway Administration (ex officio)
SWMPC Staff Present:	Anna Rahtz
Others Present:	

### 1. Call to Order & Introductions

- Harden called the meeting to order at 1:33 P.M. *The chair and vice-chair were absent.*

### 2. Minutes

- *Motion by Berndt, supported by Woolcock, to approve the minutes of the March 23, 2010 TAC meeting. Motion approved.*

### 3. Staff Report

- None

### 4. Project Updates

#### ○ 2009

##### ○ MDOT

- US-31 southbound – completed
- US-31 northbound – completed
- US-12 BR over St. Joseph River – environmental assessment under way
- US-12 from M-60 to Edwardsburg (preliminary engineering) – started
- US-12 from M-60 to Edwardsburg (right-of-way) – not started, may need to be moved to 2010

#### ○ 2010

##### ○ Berrien County Road Commission

- Stateline Road and Third Street –final GI plans submitted, waiting for funding
- Lake Street/East Main Street/Galien-Buchanan Road – final GI plans submitted, waiting for funding
- Bertrand Road - final GI plans submitted, waiting for funding

##### ○ Cass County Road Commission

- No updates

##### ○ City of Niles

- East Main – under construction
- Lake Street – letting completed

##### ○ MDOT

- US-12 BR – under construction
- M-51 in Niles Township (slope and shoulder repair) – in design

##### ○ Niles Dial-a-Ride

- No updates

### 5. Old Business

- None

### 6. New Business

#### • Draft TIP Project List

- Rahtz passed out the draft list of projects for the NATS FY2011-2014 Transportation Improvement Program, explaining that two project selection meetings had been held to try to allocate all of the funding but that there is still unallocated funding.
- Rahtz noted that the MDOT project list is still being revised by Harden because MDOT is going to provide two potential lists, the full program and the reduced program, depending upon how much funding they have. Woolcock questioned a project on the MDOT list and asked that the MDOT projects not be reviewed until the May TAC meeting.
- Darrell and Woolcock requested that the MDOT job numbers be included on the draft list for the May meeting.
- *Motion by Woolcock, supported by Gruchot, to recommend to the Policy Committee to approve the draft list of TIP projects, minus the MDOT projects. Discussion – below.*
- A comment was made that the limits for the 2011 project "Redfield Street and Bertrand Road" should be "Redfield from Berrien County line to Ironwood Road and Bertrand Road from Berrien County line to Ironwood Road." It was written "Bertrand from Redfield to Berrien County line," and Bertrand and Redfield do not intersect. No one from Cass County Road Commission was present.
- Berndt noted that in 2011, Bertrand Road will be resurfaced from Weaver to Mayflower, and then in 2012 it will be resurfaced from Mayflower to Red Bud. Each segment is in a different

year, there is no Advance Construct involved.

- Berndt added that on the 2011 project "Red Bud Trail, Bertrand Rd, Orange Rd, Portage Rd, and Ontario Rd," the project limits should also include "Portage Rd from Bertrand to State Line," and the project category should be "Hot patching and single sealcoat."
- Berndt commented that the federal amount for the 2012 project Niles-Buchanan Rd is being changed from \$72,000 to \$76,900. This changes the total federal cost of projects in 2012 from \$454,023 to \$458,923 and changes the remaining funds from \$66,597 to \$61,697.
- Berndt noted that the project category for the 2013 projects "Red Bud Trail and Walton Road" and "West River Road and Warren Woods Road" are "Hot patching and single seal coat."
- *Woolcock amended the motion to recommend to the Policy Committee to approve the draft list of TIP projects, taking into account the comments that had been made and disregarding the MDOT list until the May meeting. Seconded by Auvil. Motion approved.*

<b>LOCAL ROAD PROJECTS</b>
----------------------------

2011					
Project Name	Responsible Agency	Federal Cost	Total Cost	Limits	Project Category
Redfield Street & Bertrand Rd	CCRC	\$77,000		Redfield from Berrien Cty line to Ironwood and Bertrand from Berrien Cty line to Ironwood	HMA Overlay
Bertrand Road	BCRC	\$350,577		Weaver Road to Mayflower	Resurfacing
Red Bud Trail, Bertrand Rd, Orange Rd, Portage Rd, and Ontario Rd	BCRC	\$76,900		Red Bud Trail from US-12 to Buchanan City limits, Bertrand Rd from St. Joe River to Cnty line, Orange Rd from Bertrand to State line, Ontario Road from Third Street to M-51, and Portage Rd from Bertrand to State Line	Hot patching and single seal coat
<b>Total (Estimate \$504,477.00)</b>		<b>\$504,477</b>		<b>Remaining</b>	<b>\$0</b>

2012					
Project Name	Responsible Agency	Federal Cost	Total Cost	Limits	Project Category
Redfield Street	CCRC	\$76,800		M-62 to Ridgewood	Resurfacing with structural overlay
Bertrand Road	BCRC	\$151,523		Mayflower to Red Bud	Resurfacing
Redfield Street	CCRC	\$76,800		State Line Road to Oak Street	Resurfacing with structural overlay
Niles-Buchanan Road	BCRC	\$76,900		0.3 miles west of Mayflower Road to City of Niles	Hot patching and single seal coat
Ontario Rd, Bell Rd, Ullery Rd, and Pucker St	BCRC	\$76,900		Ontario Rd from M-51 to Cnty line, Bell Rd from Third St to Cnty line, Ullery Rd from Old 31 to Pucker St, and Pucker St from Ullery to M-51	Hot patching and single seal coat
<b>Total (Estimate \$520,620.00)</b>		<b>\$458,923</b>		<b>Remaining</b>	<b>\$61,697</b>

2013					
Project Name	Responsible Agency	Federal Cost	Total Cost	Limits	Project Category
Redfield Street	CCRC	\$50,400		Oak Street to Elkhart Road	Resurfacing with structural overlay
Front Street	City of Buchanan	\$333,080		Redbud Trail to Schrimmer Parkway	Resurface/sidewalks/ramps/street scaping/non-motorized path
Red Bud Trail and Walton Road	BCRC	\$76,900		Red Bud Trail from US-12 to Bertrand and Walton Road from Buchanan City limits to Old 31	Hot patching and single seal coat
West River Road and Warren Woods Road	BCRC	\$76,900		West River Rd from US-12 to BR-12 and Warren Woods Rd from Boyle Lake Rd to Madron Lake Rd	Hot patching and single seal coat
<b>Total (Estimate \$537,280.00)</b>		<b>\$537,280</b>		<b>Remaining</b>	<b>\$0</b>

2014					
Project Name	Responsible Agency	Federal Cost	Total Cost	Limits	Project Category
Sycamore Street	City of Niles	\$100,676		Thirteenth St. to Seventeenth St.	Resurface
Elkhart Road	CCRC	\$75,200		Center Street to May Street	Resurface
Lakeshore Drive	CCRC	\$49,800		Huntly Road to River Court	Resurface
Bertrand Road	CCRC	\$75,200		Batchelor Road east 0.75 miles	Resurface
Main Street and Red Bud Trail	BCRC	\$72,000		City of Buchanan to Reed and City of Buchanan to Miller	Hot patching and single seal coat
Seventeenth Street	City of Niles	\$159,000		Oak Street to Eagle Street	Resurface
<b>Total (Estimate \$554,473.00)</b>		<b>\$531,876</b>		<b>Remaining</b>	<b>\$22,597</b>

- **Representation / Participation Update**

- Rahtz announced that she was conducting the annual review of membership for the 2011 Unified Work Program. She read off the list of Technical Advisory and Policy Committee representatives, and asked for corrections. She added that she would follow up with agencies that do not have a representative or have not been attending, but that it would be helpful if the committee members could follow up with the agencies about sending representatives as well.
- Gruchot noted that the Berrien County Planning Department is now called Berrien County Community Development.
- Cooper noted that Niles Charter Township has two seats on both the TAC and Policy committees – both filled by himself and Jim Kidwell.
- Harden noted that MDEQ is now called MDNRE.
- Rahtz stated that Sarah Van Buren will no longer be the FHWA representative for NATS after June 1st because Jim Cramer is retiring and the FHWA planners are shifting responsibilities. Rachael Tupica will be attending but it is not known whether it will be a temporary or permanent

change.

- Auvil noted that he needs to be added to the list for both TAC and Policy Committee.
- Rahtz commented that the following seats are vacant:
  - Technical Advisory Committee – Cass County Planning Commission; Buchanan Township; and Ontwa Township;
  - Policy Committee – Buchanan Dial-a-Ride.

- **Proposed TIP/STIP Amendment Schedule**

- Rahtz passed out a schedule that Marsha Small at MDOT is working on. Ms. Small has found that other state DOTs have set schedules for processing TIP amendments, and has developed two proposed schedules for MDOT – four times a year and six times a year.
- Rahtz stated that she wanted the committee members to be aware of the potential schedules because they could impact the time it would take to process TIP amendments. She offered to relay any comments back to Ms. Small.
- Harden noted that he had been at the meeting at which Ms. Small had proposed the schedules to the MDOT regional program managers, and that they had been hesitant to pass either of the schedules.
- Lenze remarked that several MPOs in the State of Michigan already have their own restrictive schedules for processing TIP amendments.

- **Training Wheels workshop**

- Rahtz passed out postcards announcing an MDOT “Training Wheels” engineer training on non-motorized facility design that SWMPC is hosting in Benton Harbor on May 13<sup>th</sup>. It consists of a presentation by John LaPlante, one of the authors of the AASHTO Non-motorized Guide, a five-mile bike ride, and a group intersection design activity.

- **Sign Retroreflectivity Workshops**

- Rahtz passed out information about sign retroreflectivity workshops being put on by Michigan’s Local Technical Assistance Program. The nearest session in Kalamazoo is on May 11<sup>th</sup>. The cost is \$50 per person. The workshop will explain the federal requirements for using retroreflective materials for all new signs installed. Agencies have until January 2012 to establish a sign assessment or management method to maintain minimum reflectivity of all signs. Compliance date for regulatory, warning, and ground-mounted guide signs is January 2015, and the compliance date for overhead guide signs and street name signs is January 2018.
- Rahtz noted that she would be attending and bringing the information back for those who could not attend.

## **7. Public Comment**

- None.

## **8. Privilege of the Floor**

- Woolcock announced that the first public meeting for the US-12 BR bridge project will be held in the Niles City Council Chambers on May 6<sup>th</sup> from 2:00pm to 6:00pm.
- Lenze announced that the new state maps are available.

## **9. Adjournment**

- Harden adjourned the meeting at 1:57 P.M.
- The next meeting is May 25, 2010 at 2:00 P.M. (joint TAC/Policy Committee meeting).