

**TWIN CITIES AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY
TAC and Policy Committee Combined Minutes**

April 17, 2017 9:30 A.M.
Kinexus, Anchor Rooms A&B

Present		Committee Representing	
Name	Representing	TAC	Policy
Carolyn Fowler	Benton Charter Township		x
Kelli Nelson	Benton Charter Township	x	
Bill Chickering	Berrien County Commission		x
Evan Smith	Berrien County Community Development	x	
Bill Hodge	Berrien County Planning Commission		x
Tim Lynch	Berrien County Road Commission		x
Brian Berndt	Berrien County Road Commission	x	
Chris Cook	City of Benton Harbor	x	
Tim Zebell	City of St. Joseph	x	
Stacey Stephens	Cornerstone Alliance	x	x
Gloria Payne	Lake Charter Township	x	x
Dick Stauffer	Lincoln Charter Township		x
Terrie Smith	Lincoln Charter Township	x	
Jonathon Smith	MDOT Coloma TSC	x	x
Katie Beck	MDOT SUTA*	x	
Scott Weber	Northwestern Indian Regional Planning Commission*	x	x
Steve Tilly	Royalton Township		x
Vince Desjardins	Southwest Michigan Regional Airport	x	x
Denise Cook	St. Joseph Charter Township		x
Jonathan Fisk	St. Joseph Charter Township	x	
Ron Griffin	St. Joseph Charter Township		
Brandon Kovnat	SWMPC	Staff	
Kim Gallagher	SWMPC	Staff	
John Olson	Village of Stevensville	x	x
Absent		TAC	Policy
Darin Watson	City of Benton Harbor		x
Terezia Harazinova	Disability Network Southwest Michigan	x	
Andy Pickard	Federal Highway Administration*	x	x
Kishina Welch	Federal Transit Administration*	x	x
Deb Kavenah	Hagar Township		
Fred Featherly	MDOT Passenger Division	x	
Denise Smith	MDOT Southwest Michigan	x	x

Absent		TAC	POL
David Chandler	Sodus Township	x	x
Roger Seeley	St. Joseph Charter Township	x	
Juan Ganum	City of Bridgman	x	x
John Hodgson	City of St. Joseph		x
Jim Sturdevant	MDOT Statewide Planning	x	X
Bill Purvis	TCATA	x	x

1. Call to Order

Meeting called to order by Brian Berndt at 9:30 AM

2. Changes to the Agenda

None

3. Public Comment

None

4. Approve Minutes from the March 20, 2017 Meeting

Motion to approve the minutes from the March 20, 2017 Meeting as written by Tim Lynch, second Dick Stauffer. **Motion Approved**

5. Staff Report

Brandon Kovnat gave a presentation about the online mapping tools available on the SWMPC website.

Kim Gallagher said that a draft RFP for Napier corridor Study was written and that a steering committee meeting was being scheduled to discuss the draft RFP before it was sent to consultants.

6. Land Use and Zoning Updates

Dick Stauffer said that there is rezoning on Maiden In from Commercial to Planned Unit Development.

7. Public Transit Updates

None

8. Airport Updates

Vince Des Jardins said that construction would begin on May 15 for improvements to the runway protection zone, costing approximately \$1.3 million. This is a zone needed for safety around the runway.

9. Project Status Updates

Tim Zebell said that it is time to get FY 2018 resolutions, so preliminary engineering can begin. FY 2018 updates will go out for the next meeting

Brian Berndt gave an update on Berrien County Road Commission Projects:

- River Road was let on 2/3/2017; Construction began on April 17.
- John Beers road was Let on 4/7/17
- Hilltop Road was let on 2/3/17 with bid savings of \$87,000. Construction began March 20 and will be ongoing until July 14.

MDOT office of Rail

- Hilltop Road Rail Crossing was obligated on April 3, Construction estimated to begin May 1.

Chris Cook gave the update on behalf of the Village of Stevensville and for the city of Benton Harbor

- The Red Arrow & John Beers Road Intersection project was let on 3/3/17. Construction will begin in May.
- Colfax South had Grade Inspection Package submitted to MDOT on April 7. Estimated to be obligated in July and constructed in September.

Jonathon Smith gave updates for MDOT projects

- I-196 Overlay is awaiting contract authorization
 - M-139 has an as needed consultant for engineering work beginning in May
 - M-63 Overlay had plans submitted for an April letting
 - M-63 Crack has construction scheduled to begin May 17
 - US-31 Longitudinal Joint repair has construction scheduled to begin June 26
- Jonathon said that there was a kickoff meeting with the consultant for I-94 EPE. He brought up non-motorized connections. The project will explore I-94 from exit 23 to the St. Joseph River (Exit 27).

10. Old Business

None

11. New Business

There was one amendment presented to add work on the Hilltop Road rail Crossing Signal. This project is being funded through federal rail safety funds with a match from MDOT. This is different from the other rail crossing project which is funded by the State with a match from CSX Railway. The project costs:

Federal \$45,000

State: \$5,000

Total: \$50,000

Motion for the Technical Advisory Committee to recommend approval of the Hilltop Road Rail Crossing Signal project by Terrie Smith, second by Tim zebell. **Motion Approved.**

Motion for the Policy Committee to approve the Hilltop Road Rail Crossing Signal project by Dick Stauffer, Second by Tim Lynch. **Motion Approved.**

State and Federal Updates

Jonathon Smith said that work on the bridge over Cleveland Road was scheduled for May.

12. Privilege of the Floor

Tim Zebell said that Ship Street needs repairs and the city of St. Joseph is looking for funds to do this.

13. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 10:10 AM

Minutes Compiled by: Brandon Kovnat, SWMPC Associate Planner