



TWIN CITIES AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY
TECHNICAL ADVISORY and POLICY COMMITTEES COMBINED MEETING

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Kim Gallagher, Transportation Planner
(269) 925-1137 x 1518
Brandon Kovnat, Transportation Planner
(269) 925-1137 x1524

DATE: Monday, August 21, 2017

TIME: 9:30AM

PLACE: Kinexus (Michigan Works!) Lighthouse Room
499 W Main St, Benton Harbor, MI 49022

AGENDA

- 1. Call to Order / Introductions
2. Changes to the Agenda
3. Public Comment
4. Approve Minutes from the July 17, 2017 Meeting (Enclosed) Action
5. Old Business
6. New Business
- Amendment to the 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program (see below) Action
- State and Federal Updates
7. Privilege of the Floor
8. Adjournment
- The next TwinCATS meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 18, 2017 @ 9:30 am.

New Business - AMENDMENT REQUEST

TwinCATS Technical Advisory and Policy Committees:

I'm requesting that JN200366 be place on the agenda for next week's TwinCATS meeting. The majority of the project is within the TwinCATS area and therefore we are seeking approval of this regionwide signals project from the MPO. The project involves several signal locations that will be modernized and additional technology will be added to allow for connected vehicle utilization. The attached table describes the PE and ROW portion of the project that must be approved this fiscal year (FY 2017).

Thanks,
Jason Latham, MDOT Region Planner

Table with 10 columns: Planning Manager County, Project Name, Limits, Primary Work Type, Project Description, Phase, Federal Cost, Federal Fund Source, Total Phase Cost, MDOT Job No. Row 1: Berrein/Cass/Kalamazoo, M-60, Multiple Locations Region Wide, Traffic Signals, Signal Modernization with connected vehicles installations, PE & ROW, \$325,000, STG, PE: \$320K ROW: \$5K, 200366

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

July 17, 2017 9:30 A.M.
Kinexus, Lighthouse Room

Present		Committee Representing	
Name	Representing	TAC	Policy
Calli Berg**	Benton Charter Township	x	
Bill Chickering	Berrien County Commission		x
Bill Hodge	Berrien County Planning Commission		x
Kevin Stack**	Berrien County Road Commission	x	
Eric Lester	Citizen	NA	NA
Chris Cook	City of Benton Harbor	x	X**
Juanita Henry	City of Benton Harbor	NA	NA
John Hodgson	City of St. Joseph		x
Dick Stauffer	Lincoln Charter Township		x
Terrie Smith	Lincoln Charter Township	x	
Jonathon Smith	MDOT Coloma Business Office	x	X
Jason Latham	MDOT Southwest Region	x	X
Jim Sturdevant	MDOT Statewide Planning	x	X
Katie Beck	MDOT SUTA*	x	
Steve Tilly	Royalton Township		x
Vince Desjardins	Southwest Michigan Regional Airport	x	x
Jonathan Fisk**	St. Joseph Charter Township	x	
Denise Cook	St. Joseph Charter Township		x
Ron Griffin**	St. Joseph Charter Township	NA	NA
Alex Little	TCATA		
Bill Purvis	TCATA	x	X
John Olson	Village of Shoreham	x	X
Brandon Kovnat	SWMPC	Staff	
Jerrid Burdue	SWMPC	Staff	
Absent		TAC	POL
Carolyn Fowler	Benton Charter Township		x
Kelli Nelson	Benton Charter Township	x	
Evan Smith	Berrien County Community Development	x	
Brian Berndt	Berrien County Road Commission	x	
Darin Watson	City of Benton Harbor		x
Juan Ganum	City of Bridgman	x	x
Tim Zebell	City of St. Joseph	x	
Stacey Stephens	Cornerstone Alliance	x	X

Absent		TAC	POL
Terezie Harazinova	Disability Network Southwest Michigan	x	
Andrea Dewey	Federal Highway Administration*	x	x
Angelica Selgado	Federal Transit Administration*	x	X
Deb Kavenah	Hagar Township	x	
Gloria Payne	Lake Charter Township	x	x
Fred Featherly	MDOT Passenger Division	x	
Scott Weber	Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission*	x	X
David Chandler	Sodus Township	x	x
Roger Seeley	St. Joseph Charter Township	x	

*Non-Voting **Alternate Member

1. Call to Order / Introductions

Meeting called to order by Dick Stauffer at 9:30 AM followed by introductions.

2. Changes to the Agenda

None.

3. Public Comment

None.

4. Approve Minutes from the June 19, 2017 Meeting

Motion to approve the minutes from the June 19, 2017 meeting as written, by Steve Tilly, second Terrie Smith. **Motion Approved**

5. Staff Report

Bandon Kovnat gave an update on the Napier Corridor Study. The Steering Committee is in the process of interviewing consultants. Brandon also presented the new committee member binders covering the sections in detail. Jim Sturderant asked Brandon to explain GPA to the committee members. General program accounts (GPA) projects are a grouping of similar projects into a single job. They can be useful when there are several small projects throughout an area, an example would be pothole filling. Jason Latham gave the example of US-31 crack sealing which required a TIP amendment that could have been a GPA. These smaller projects help utilize remaining funds. Dick Stauffer asked about Maiden Lane in regards to its federal-aid eligibility. Brandon explained that the version of the road network he was working with did not have the change. He would ask MDOT if the change was made. Brandon asked committee members to email him if there are roads that were submitted to be federal-aid that are not yet classified on the map. Bill Hodge pointed a typo in the road

classification section that will be corrected by SWMPC staff. Dick Stauffer thanked SWMPC staff for putting together the binder.

6. Community Land Use and Zoning Member Updates

None.

7. Public Transit

County-Wide Transit Project: Surveys will be sent out soon to all TwinCATS committee members. Bill Purvis asked if the next meeting had been scheduled, it has not.

TCATA: Bill Purvis said they are still waiting on a bus ordered with FY 16 funds. Working on submitting FY 17 grant.

8. Airport Updates – Vince Des Jardins

Around 98% of pavement work has been completed. Approach lighting had been backordered but has since been received.

9. Agency Project Status 2017

Berrien County Road Commission Projects:

- Sodus: River Road was let on 2/3/2017; construction began on 4/17/17. Bridge work to start next week.
- St. Joseph Township: John Beers road was let on 4/7/17; construction will start next week.
- St. Joseph Township/City of St. Joseph: Hilltop Road was let on 2/3/17; construction is moving along.
- Benton Township: Territorial Road is open to traffic but work to be done due to recent rain.
- Village of Stevensville: The Red Arrow & John Beers Road Intersection project was let on 3/3/17 and construction is underway.

City of Benton Harbor:

- Colfax South is scheduled for 8/4/17 letting.

City of St. Joseph:

- Wallace Ave Funding Resolution signed 4/24/17. The RFP for engineering was sent 5/19/17 and awarded to Abonmarche.

MDOT projects:

- I-196 Overlay: Survey field work completed. Geotech work to start soon.
- M-139 Passing Flare: Consultant will be used to design project, traffic safety analysis was requested. It is possible that the project will be moved up to use FY 19 funds to align with proposed M-139 mill and resurface project.
- M-63 Overlay: Let 4/7/17 and under construction.

- M-63 Crack Fill: Let in February, construction complete.
- M-63 Bridge Replacement: FTC&H will be determining the appropriate alignment to use for the bridge.
- US-31 Longitudinal Joint repair: Project let in January, construction complete.
- EB I-94 Interchange: Preparing RFP to hire consultant to begin design work.
- I-94 Road and Bridge Scoping: Geotech and bridge investigation have been completed. Progress meeting and bridge scoping progress meeting were held over the past week. Bridge fix selection meeting will be held 6/28/17.

2018 Project Status:

Dick Stauffer explained Lincoln Charter Township's decision to not widen the Glenlord bridge over I-94. It would have cost the Township close to \$1.4 million. Dick asked if there was any federal funding to help cover the cost of widening, Jason Latham said an option for the future would be TAP funding though it is rather competitive. The local match for TAP is 80/20 with many of the projects being funded at 60/40. The Glenlord bridge will likely be due for a full reconstruction in 30 years at which time MDOT may be able to add more funding in for bicycle and pedestrian facilities. It would be helpful to obtain funding, either from TAP or another program if the bridge was part of a regional non-motorized plan rather than a singular location. MDOT will update TwinCATS members more frequently on current and future bridge crossing work for greater input.

10. Old Business

None.

11. New Business

Policy Committee Chair: Because the Position of Policy Chair was vacant, the Vice Chair assumes the position of Policy Chair. Dick Stauffer accepted this responsibility.

Policy Committee Vice-Chair Election: Dick Stauffer nominated Chris Cook, who is the Policy alternate for the City of Benton Harbor, for Policy Committee Vice-Chair. Jason Latham seconded the nomination. A vote was held and Chris Cook was elected as new Policy Vice-Chair.

MDOT: Jason Latham mentioned the need to add 2020 Traffic Signals to the TwinCATS TIP as they hope to capture FY 17 funding for design and ROW. Jim Sturdevant suggested that MDOT SW Region, MDOT LAP, and SWMPC should explore options to move forward, including adding it as a GPA, voting on it in the August meeting, or possibly holding a special meeting earlier in August.

MDOT TIP Amendment: Jason Latham proposed to move the MDOT EB I-94 Interchange Project (JN130008) PE and SUB Phase from 2018 to 2017 and to correct the Work Type entry error for the same project. Jason noted that at the previous TwinCATS meeting in June, FHWA had informed the committee that the date change would require an amendment to the TwinCATS Long Range Plan(LRP) because the I-94 project was listed as a capacity increasing project in the TwinCATS TIP. He further reminded the committee that during that meeting the committee voted to move the I-94 Interchange project from 2018 to 2017, pending the LRP amendment.

Jason then explained that the MPO and MDOT had discovered that the Work Type had been incorrectly entered by the MPO in the TIP when it was entered in 2016. The project was originally entered as New Route/Structure /Capacity Increase work type, however it should have been entered as a Rehabilitate and Reconstruct work type. Latham and the current MPO staff thought the entry error was made because project phases were not fully understood by the staff member who entered the project.

Jason further explained that a travel demand model is used to demonstrate how capacity increase projects will affect travel throughout the region. However, because the I-94 interchange reconstruction is not a capacity increase project, a travel demand model would not make sense for this project since there would be no change to model. The travel demand model in the current LRP states that there would be capacity increase once the 31 bypass is connected to I-94 and no longer terminates at Napier Avenue. Brandon provided an MDOT construction drawing that illustrated that the I-94 reconstruction project was not opening a new exit, new lanes or connecting to US 31 at this time.

Motion for the Technical Advisory Committee to recommend approval of the amendment to move the EB I-94 Interchange PE & SUB phase from 2018 to 2017 and to correct the Work Type entry error from *New Route/Structure /Capacity Increase to Rehabilitate and Reconstruct*. by Terrie Smith, second Chris Cook. **Motion Approved.**

Motion for the Policy Committee to approve the amendment to move the EB I-94 Interchange PE & SUB phase from 2018 to 2017 and to correct the Work Type entry error from *New Route/Structure /Capacity Increase to Rehabilitate and Reconstruct*. by Steve Tilly, second by Jim Sturdevant. **Motion Approved.**

State and federal Updates

Katie Beck: Working on finishing the base year model for the travel demand model.

Upcoming is future data review for employment and population changes. Jim Sturdevant

explained that the modeling is required for the TwinCATS 2045 Long Rang Transportation Plan.

12. Privilege of the Floor

Brandon shared the upcoming MDOT Training Wheels On-Road Bicycle Facility Design Training with the members.

Jerrid Burdue, SWMPC intern, shared the coverage map for Uber in the TwinCATS area. More information can be found at <https://www.uber.com/cities/kalamazoo>.

13. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 10:50 AM. Members asked that the next meeting also take place in the Lighthouse Room at Kinexus.

Minutes Compiled by: Jerrid Burdue, SWMPC Intern

DRAFT