

TWIN CITIES AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY

Technical Advisory Committee

Minutes

July 16, 2012

9:30 A.M.

Southwest Michigan Regional Airport

<p>TAC MEMBERS PRESENT:</p>	<p>Aaron Anthony, City of Bridgman Brian Berndt, Berrien County Road Commission Ron Griffin, St. Joseph Charter Township John Gruchot, Berrien County Community Development Erin Jolivette, MDOT - Coloma TSC Ray Lenze, MDOT - Statewide Planning Kenton McAndrew, City of Benton Harbor John Olson, Royalton Township Gloria Payne, Lake Charter Township Bill Purvis, Twin Cities Area Transportation Authority Lee Scherwitz, Southwest Michigan Regional Airport Dennis Schuh, Berrien County Public Transportation Donald Schlipp, Village of Stevensville Dick Stauffer, Lincoln Charter Township Tim Zebell, City of St. Joseph</p>
<p>TAC MEMBERS ABSENT:</p>	<p>Mickey Bennett, Sodus Township Bill Brown, Northern Indiana Regional Planning Commission (ex officio) Fred Featherly, MDOT - Multi-Modal Services (ex officio) Bill Hodge, Berrien County Planning Commission Nora Jefferson, Benton Charter Township Jason Latham, MDOT - Southwest Region Stewart McKenzie, Federal Transit Administration (ex officio) Larry Merritt, Berrien County Road Commission Catherine Montoya, Berrien County Planning Commission Thad Rieder, Cornerstone Alliance Robert Rusch, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (ex officio) Brad Sharlow, MDOT Planning (ex officio) Brian Shutts, Village of Shoreham Alan Smaka, City of Bridgman Terrie Smith, Lincoln Charter Township Rachael Tupica, Federal Highway Administration (ex officio) Sarah Woolcock, MDOT – Coloma TSC</p>
<p>SWMPC STAFF PRESENT:</p>	<p>Christina Phippen Trevor Thomas</p>
<p>OTHERS PRESENT:</p>	<p>Joanne Johnson, Disability Network of SWMI Matt Kodis, Michigan Works John Preston, Southwest Michigan Regional Airport</p>

1. CALL TO ORDER:

- Scherwitz called the meeting to order at 9:36 a.m.

2. MINUTES:

- A motion was made by Zebell with support by Stauffer to approve the minutes of the Joint TAC and Policy Committee meeting minutes from June 18, 2012.
Motion passed.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT:

None.

4. STAFF REPORT:

- Thomas reported that he attended a conference in June put on by REMI, the economic modeling firm that developed the software used for MDOT population, housing, and employment projection. Thomas gave a very brief overview of the modeling process developed by REMI and took the time to remind committee members that a revised set of TAZ-level projections for the regions will need to be approved for incorporation into the travel demand modeling process that MDOT performs for long range plan updates. Staff will likely ask for approval of these projections at the August TwinCATS meetings.

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Walk and Roll**
Thomas reminded the committee of the TwinCATS Complete Streets Policy that was officially approved in June. He reported that the Walk and Roll subcommittee had not met in July, but that the subcommittee was still active, currently focusing efforts on developing a top-ten list of non-motorized projects.
- **Regional Interagency Consumer Committee (RICC)**
None
- **Berrien County Coordinated Transportation Coalition (BCCTC)**
Pippen reported that there will be an August 1st meeting at 9:00am at Michigan Works in Benton Harbor to discuss area transportation coordination policy and moving forward with Berrien County transit consolidation. The KFH consulting firm will be present via phone.
- **Twin Cities Area Transportation Authority (TCATA) Local Advisory Committee (LAC)**
None

6. PROJECT UPDATES

Fiscal Year	Job Number	Agency	Project Name	Update Information	Date of last update	Bid Savings
2010	NA			All projects have been completed	12-Mar	
2011		Berrien County Road Commission	John Beers Road CMAQ sidewalk	Construction has started; July 2012: Should be completed by July 20	July 2012	
		Berrien County Road Commission	Napier and Colfax CMAQ traffic signal	Completed	June 2012	
	113024	Berrien County Road Commission	Benton Center Rd. and Red Arrow Highway	Completed	12-Mar	
	100086	Berrien County Road Commission	Lincoln Ave, Lincoln Rd to Maiden Ln	Completed	12-Mar	
	113023	Berrien County Road Commission	Pipestone Rd and River Rd	Completed	12-Mar	
	111247	Berrien County Road Commission	California Rd City of Bridgman to Red Arrow Highway	Completed	12-Mar	
	111247	Berrien County Road Commission	Napier Ave. 200' section west of I-94	Completed	12-Mar	
	108921	MDOT	US-31 freeway signing upgrade	let, construction April-Aug 2012-Completed	June 2012	
	88086	MDOT	I-94 under John Beers Rd bridge work	Bridge is open for traffic-complete in August-Completed	June 2012	
	112949	MDOT	I-94 at I-196 and M-140 culvert inspection and bridge work	PE phase is complete, add to 5 year plan for 2017 construction Completed-	June 2012	
	113014	MDOT	M-63 from I-94 to Midway Ave	June-September construction 2012-Completed	June 2012	
	NA	MDOT	I-94BL (Main Street) resurfacing from Fair to Urbandale	Completed	12-Mar	
	109704	MDOT	I-94 BL Glenlord Rd to Pearl St	Completed	12-Mar	
	108174	MDOT	I-94 WB over Lake St, Galien River, I-196 NB and SB over I-94 JN	Completed	12-Mar	
	109087	MDOT	I-196 under Red Arrow Highway	Completed	12-Mar	
	NA	St. Joseph	S State St and Kingsley Ave	done and advanced-construct repayment done	12-Mar	

	NA	Village of Stevensville	John Beers Rd reconstruction and sidewalk	Completed	12-Mar	
	NA	Twin Cities Area Transportation Authority	Bus shelters	Will be located at MI Works and at the Triangle Park near the old Mercy Center-purchased, working with Abonmarche on where to set them-the City now wants cameras near the bus shelters and they would cost about \$10,000 a piece. Looking for other funding to purchase cameras. July 2012: Still waiting on permission from MDOT to install Main St. shelter. May have to install in Michigan Works parking lot, though this would make route less efficient.	July 2012	
		Twin Cities Area Transportation Authority	Transit vehicle replacements-3	Moving project to 2012;	12-Feb	
2012	114537	St. Joseph	Napier Avenue-from Langley to Niles Ave	construction July 2012, bid savings of \$18,000; Advance construct dollars; July 2012: Construction has begun	July 2012	18,500
	112088	St. Joseph	Lake St.-from Broad St. to Park St	April let; fall construction; \$14,000 over cap; July 2012: Construction to start after Labor Day	July 2012	
	115066	St. Joseph	Traffic signal modernization at Napier and Langley	July 2012: September let, with construction starting in spring '13	July 2012	
	107686	St. Joseph	South State St. from Granada Ave to Wallace Ave	advanced construct reimbursement done		
		Benton Harbor	Klock Rd (from North Shore to Paw Paw)-	Move to 2013	12-Mar	
		Benton Harbor	Broadway Ave. (from Pipestone St. to Empire Ave)-	July-September Letting; July 2012: September let date, with approval needed from Joe Harris in Benton Harbor; already obligated	July 2012	

				(delay would just push construction back to 2013)		
	100087	Berrien County Road Commission	E. Britain Ave and Highland Ave	Construction July 23; \$10,000 bid savings; construction started	June 2012	10,000
	113585	MDOT	I-94 Red Arrow Highway to Livingston Rd	PE Phase-design	12-Mar	
	103293	MDOT	I-94 at Nickerson Ave in Benton Township (roadside facility)	Schedule for October letting;	June 2012	
	110779	MDOT	I-94 EB and WB over Hickory Creek (bridge)	design phase; July 2012: Meeting in Kalamazoo (July) to discuss project design;	July 2012	
	110931	MDOT	I-94 Empire Rd. over I-94, Rural Carmody Rd over I-94 (bridge)	design moved back to 2013	12-Mar	
	109093	MDOT	I-94 under M-63 (bridge)	Bridge closing today, Construction completed by August 18	June 2012	
		Twin Cities Area Transportation Authority	New expanded hours	July 2012: Continued through 2013 (2014 funding seems less certain)	July 2012	
		Twin Cities Area Transportation Authority	New line haul route	July 2012: Continued through 2013 (2014 funding seems less certain)	July 2012	
		Twin Cities Area Transportation Authority	Transit vehicle replacement (3 total)	No update	12-Mar	

Scherwitz raised the issue of a potential gravel mine being developed off of M-139, asking engineers what impact access to this gravel might have on road construction costs and advising that committee members ought to provide input to the mine approval process. Olson raised the point that the mine's location near M-139 would make transportation of the gravel easier. Berndt cited a recent increase of gravel costs from \$5/ton to \$15/ton.

7. OLD BUSINESS:

None

8. NEW BUSINESS:

- Annual Unified Planning Work Program

Thomas gave an overview of the draft FY 2013 UWP, going through its table of contents, and its updated organization that provides more of an emphasis on describing the substantive areas of transportation planning that SWMPC staff engage in.

A motion was made by Berndt with support by Stauffer to put the draft FY 2013 UWP out for public comment. **Motion passed**

- Legislative Updates-Federal and State
Thomas reported on the passage of the federal transportation bill MAP-21. A two-year bill, MAP-21 maintains the population threshold for MPOs at 50,000.

Stauffer asked about the status of the state's Complete Streets Policy. Johnson responded that the state Complete Streets Council is currently taking comments on a draft policy, with a finalized version to be prepared in August.

9. PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

Johnson informed committee members of a movie event that the Disability Network is putting on, with a screening of Music Within, a movie about the experiences of a disable Vietnam veteran, to be held at the Disability Network building in St. Joseph from 12 to 2pm on Thursday, July 26th.

Thomas informed the committee that he will be leaving his position with SWMPC in September to return to school, and that he will attend in last TwinCATS meetings in August.

10. ADJOURNMENT at 10:04 a.m.

Motion by Purvis with support by Gruchot to adjourn the meeting.

- Next meeting is **August 20, 2012 at 9:30am**

Compiled by: Suzann Flowers and Trevor Thomas, Transportation Planners,2012