



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, September 19, 2016

TIME: 9:30AM

PLACE: Kinexus (Michigan Works!) Anchor Rooms A + B,
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 August 15, 2016 Meeting *TAC & Policy Action***
5. **Staff Report**
 - 2016 MPO Project Review
6. **Committee Reports**
 - Walk and Roll Non-Motorized Planning – Napier Corridor Study update – Kim Gallagher
7. **Community Land Use and Zoning Member Updates**
8. **Public Transit**
 - SWMPC Transit Updates – Kim Gallagher, SWMPC
 - Twin Cities Area Transportation Authority – Bill Purvis, Twin Cities Area Transportation Authority
9. **Airport Updates** – Vince Desjardins
10. **Agency Project Status**
11. **Old Business**
 - Officer Election Update
12. **New Business**
 - Employment and demographic data review for the Long Range Plan
 - Approve 2017 Meeting Schedule *TAC & Policy Action*
 - State and Federal Updates
13. **Privilege of the Floor**
14. **Adjournment**
 - The next TwinCATS meeting is scheduled for: **Monday, October 17, 2016 @ 9:30 am.**

TWIN CITIES AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY

TAC and Policy Committee Combined Minutes

August 15, 2016 9:30 A.M.

Kinexus, Anchor Rooms A&B

Attendance		Committee	
PERSON	REPRESENTING	TAC	POL
Carolyn Fowler	Benton Charter Township		x
Cali Berg	Benton Charter Township	x	
Bill Chickering	Berrien County Commission	x	x
Bill Hodge	Berrien County Planning Commission	x	x
Brian Berndt	Berrien County Road Commission	x	x
Chris Cook	City of Benton Harbor	x	x
Tim Zebell	City of St. Joseph	x	x
Joanne Johnson	Disability Network Southwest Michigan	x	x
Dick Stauffer	Lincoln Township	x	x
Jonathan Smith	MDOT Coloma Office	x	x
Jim Sturdevant	MDOT Statewide Planning	x	x
Steve Tilly	Royalton Township	x	x
Vince DeJardins	Southwest Michigan Regional Airport	x	x
Roger Seeley	St. Joseph Charter Township		x
Denise Cook	St. Joseph Charter Township	x	
Katie Beck	MDOT Urban Travel Analysis		
Rob Maffeo	MDOT Urban Travel Analysis		
Jonathan Fisk	St. Joseph Charter Township		
Ron Griffin	St. Joseph Charter Township		
Kim Gallagher	SWMPC Staff		
Brandon Kovnat	SWMPC Staff		
Committee Members Absent			
Tim Lynch	Berrien County Road Commission		x
Deb Kavanaugh	Hager Township		x
John Hodgson	City of St. Joseph		x
John Gast	Lake Charter Township		x
Juan Ganum	City of Bridgman	x	x
David Chandler	Sodus Township	x	x
Stewart McKenzie*	Federal Transit Administration	x	x
Andrea Dewey*	Federal Highway Administration	x	x
Darwin Watson	City of Benton Harbor		x
Cathy Tilley	Cornerstone Alliance	x	x
Bill Purvis	Twin Cities Area Transportation Authority	x	x
Fred Featherly	MDOT Passenger Division	x	
Evan Smith	Berrien County Planning Commission	x	
Gloria Payne	Lake Charter Township	x	
Terrie Smith	Lincoln Charter Township	x	
John Olson	Consultant	x	
Scott Webber*	NIRPC	x	x

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Brain Berndt called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. and Dick Stauffer led the group in introductions.

2. CHANGES TO THE POSTED AGENDA:

None. Motion to approve Agenda as is made by Tim Zebell, 2nd by Steve Tilly

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

4. MINUTES:

- A motion was made by Bill Hodge with support Carolyn Fowler to approve the minutes of the June 20th TAC meeting as presented. **Motion passed.**
- Two corrections to the June 20th Policy Committee minutes, a date correction and a change of name
- A Motion was made by Steve Tilley with support by Carolyn Fowler to approve the minutes of the June 20th Policy meeting with the correction. **Motion passed.**

5. STAFF REPORT

Kim Gallagher explained that FHWA asked for an amendment to the 2040 Long Range plan to add in explanation of the I-94 & Business loop Interchange reconstruction. Because this project is adding ramps it is considered a capacity expansion. SWMPC will keep the committees updated on the amendment progress.

6. Walk and Roll Committee

Kim Gallagher gave an update on the Napier Avenue Corridor Study. It is being 100% funded through federal and state funds with no required local match. The official award letter will arrive in September and work will begin in October. The first step is creating the RFP which is reviewed by MDOT passenger division. Walk and Roll committee will meet in October to assist with the RFP

Brandon read a letter sent by Heather Cole from Be Healthy Berrien (see attached).

7. COMMUNITY LAND USE AND ZONING UPDATES

Kim Gallagher explained that this section is for committee members to update SWMPC and other members about development happening in their own community. Any development that will affect traffic should be shared. This is important for the creation of the travel demand model and programming future transportation projects.

Dick Stauffer discussed the recently approved Fenner condo project on Maiden lane in Lincoln Township. This is a Planned Unit Development and required a zoning variance. Construction has begun for an onsite water retention pond. The project will be 78 units in 39 buildings. Small lots and no playground make this a good fit for seniors but the project is not age restricted.

8. PUBLIC TRANSIT

- **SWMPC update**

Kim gave an update on the countywide service plan, saying that the contract is still awaiting MDOT approval. There is a backlog with MDOT and we are hoping to get the contract approved this week.

Kim gave a brief overview of SMART Mobility. Partnership with University of Michigan transportation research group. It will complement the county wide transit service plan. SMART has done similar work in larger cities, where they look at the nodes and various multimodal transportation methods being utilized. The main local contact on this project is Benton Harbor mayor Marcus Muhammad.

- **TCATA Updates**

Since Bill Purvis was absent Kim gave the TCATA update. Last meeting TCATA was close to closing doors due to a missed grant. They have received funding and are stable for now. Ridership and fare revenue is down. But ridership on the fixed route service is up.

The Red route is Job Access Reverse Commute funded and goes down to exit 23. The bus has been using fast food locations as stops, being kicked out and then looking for another option, TCATA was just kicked out of Long John Silver's lot and is considering options for a permanent stop along the road. Currently there is a temporary stop south of Marquette Woods. They are considering the Merritt Engineering property on Red Arrow at Locust Street. First priority is to get a sign permit from MDOT, then to create a permanent shelter. Kim explained that businesses don't want liability or damage caused by buses on their parking lots.

Bill Hodge asked if the final stop would involve purchasing property or an easement along the road. Kim said it will be an easement in MDOT road right-of-way.

9. Project Status Reports

St. Joseph

Tim Zebell: Lakeview is functionally complete and just has some check list items to finish.

City of Benton Harbor

Chris Cook: Pavement markings are set for a November letting. The local cost will be \$52,000 making the total amount \$74,847. Construction is ongoing for the traffic signal on Pipestone at Wall St.

Berrien County Road Commission

Brian Berndt: Traffic Signal on Pipestone at Meijer entrance will have an October letting.

MDOT

Jonathan Smith: M-63 construction is done. I-94 still has bridge work and paving to complete. 60% has been done so far. The project is on schedule.

No work has begun on 2017 projects

10. OLD BUSINESS

Jim Sturdevant announced that the 2017 Unified Work Plan has been approved.

11. NEW BUSINESS

- Katie Beck gave a presentation on travel demand models and the process she will use to create TwinCATS new model for the 2045 Long Range Plan. The base year of the model is 2014 which is the year of the most recent American Community Survey. SWMPC staff may have to ask local communities about existing land use in 2014.

Questions about if the model predicts traffic calming. The model only uses the speed limit and traffic volumes to predict speed. Another question was about modeling transit use. Katie replied that the model only predicts if a person will use transit mostly based on demographic characteristics. The model will not assign transit riders to a specific route. MDOT's model will not predict the number of buses on the road.

- **Officer Nominations:**

Kim Gallagher asked about how the committee wanted to handle officer nominations. She explained that the nomination period begins now and is open until voting at the October meeting.

Dick Stauffer nominated Tim Lynch for Policy Committee chair.

Dick Stauffer nominated Vince deJardins for Policy Committee vice chair.

Tim Zebell nominated Brian Berndt to continue as Technical Advisory Committee Chair.

- **State and Federal Updates**

Jim Sturdevant: 2017-2020 TIP is going to FHWA today, looks good.

Jonathan Smith: I-94 Stevensville Ramp exit 22 Grand Mere closure from August 17-October 12.

12. PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

Thank you to MDOT for the excellent work on I-196

Request from Jonathan Smith to not throw cigarettes out of vehicles. There was a fire at I-94 and I-196

Andrea Dewey from FHWA will be on maternity leave in late August.

Agreement that the combined meeting went well. Request for more tables/seats due to larger attendance,

13. ADJOURNMENT at 10:28 A.M.

Next meeting is July 18, 2016 at 9:30 am at Kinexus/Michigan Works! Anchor Rooms A+B.

Compiled by: Brandon Kovnat, SWMPC Associate Planner & Jerrid Burdue, SWMPC Planning Intern, 2016.



Richard (Dick) Stauffer
Chair, TwinCATS Policy Committee
2055 John Beers Road
Stevensville, MI 49127

Dear TwinCATS Policy Committee members:

On behalf of Be Healthy Berrien, I'm writing to thank you for your consideration of our position regarding the projects in the 2017-2020 Twin Cities Area Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). We appreciate the opportunity to submit public comment concerning the inclusion of complete streets components. Be Healthy Berrien's work aims to reduce and prevent obesity through enhanced community infrastructure that supports physical activity and healthy eating. We believe complete streets initiatives provide long-term, sustainable solutions for improving access to safe places for physical activity, particular for those community members living in environmental justice areas.

Be Healthy Berrien thanks the municipalities/agencies that are implementing complete streets and/or pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure improvement projects in the 2017-2020 TIP, especially:

- Inclusion of bicycle lanes, improvement of crosswalks, and replacement of ADA ramps on Colfax Avenue
- Construction of 5' wide paved shoulders on John Beers Road
- Creation of a non-motorized path on Lemon Creek Road
- Widening shoulders to 6' paved on Marquette Woods
- Creation of a non-motorized path on S. Roosevelt Road
- Construction of 5' wide paved shoulders on Shawnee Road

Thank you again for the opportunity to participate in this process.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Heather Cole".

Heather Cole
Director, Be Healthy Berrien
2015 Lakeview Avenue
Saint Joseph, MI 49085
269-982-1700 x. 25
Heather.cole@uwsn.org

Be Healthy Berrien is a union of organizations working to reduce obesity in Berrien County through policy, systems, and environmental change

TwinCATS Fiscal Year 2016 Obligation Report

For FY 2016 the 2014-2017 TIP had \$944,828 programed for federal Surface Transportation funds. The obligated amount will be \$945,237, which is overspending by \$409. The most current MDOT obligation report was published in August and includes the period ending August 1, 2016. Therefore, this report does not include the \$22,847 Pavement Marking project for Benton Harbor. This project has been cleared by MDOT so should meet obligation before the fiscal year ends.

Of the total amount spent in FY 2016, \$436,305 was spent on three construction projects and \$508,932 was used for two advance construction conversion (ACC) projects. Two of the construction projects were resurfacing while the two ACC projects were paying back local agencies for reconstructions occurring in 2015.

TwinCATS FY 2016 Surface Transportation Program TIP Amount v. Actual									
MDOT Job No.	Responsible Agency	Project Name	Limits	Primary Work Type	Obligation Date	Costs	Federal Cost	Local Cost	Total Phase Cost
120952	Berrien County Road Commission	Shawnee Road	Bridgman City limits to 0.1 miles East of Jericho Road	Resurface	2/5/2016	TIP Amount	\$323,049	\$71,635	\$394,684
						Actual	\$323,458	\$71,726	\$395,184
						Balance	-\$409	-\$91	-\$500
129959	City of St. Joseph	Lakeview Avenue	From Hilltop Road to West Highland Avenue	Resurface	3/3/2016	TIP Amount	\$90,000	\$370,000	\$460,000
						Actual	\$90,000	\$262,809	\$352,809
						Balance	\$0	\$107,191	\$107,191
131803	City of Benton Harbor	Paving Markings	Various Federal Aid Routes within City	Miscellaneous		TIP Amount	\$22,847	\$52,000	\$74,847
						Actual*	\$22,847	\$52,000	\$74,847
						Balance	\$0	\$0	\$0
120954	City of St. Joseph	Botham Avenue	Botham Avenue - Niles Avenue (M-63) to Morton Avenue	ACC for a 2015 Project		TIP Amount	\$205,333		\$205,333
122749	Village of Shoreham	Brown School Road	Lakeshore Drive, east to CSX railroad tracks	ACC for a 2015 Project		TIP Amount	\$303,599		\$303,599
*This is estimated. The most recent MDOT obligation, for the period ending August 1, 2016, does not include this project.			Totals			TIP Amount	\$944,828	\$493,635	\$1,438,463
						Actual	\$945,237	\$386,535	\$1,331,772
						Balance	-\$409	\$107,100	\$106,691

FY 2017 S/TIP Amendment Schedule *Draft*

October 2016						
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2	3*	4	5	6	7	8
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16	17 ¹	18	19	20	21 ²	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

January 2017						
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22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

April 2017						
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23	24 ¹	25	26	27	28 ²	29
30						

July 2017						
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30	31					

November 2016						
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February 2017						
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26	27	28				

May 2017						
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28	29	30	31			

August 2017						
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27	28 ^{**1}	29	30	31		

December 2016						
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11	12	13	14	15	16 ⁵	17
18	19 ¹	20	21	22	23 ²	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

March 2017						
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26	27	28	29	30	31	

June 2017						
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25	26 ^{**1}	27	28	28	30 ²	

September 2017						
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10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22 ⁶	23
24	25	26	27	28	29 ³	30

Amendment Schedule Action Items:
* FHWA Approves STIP/TIP documents
MAP Database Query ¹
Projects submitted to MPO ²
MPO Submission Deadline ³
MDOT finished with reviews/send letter ⁴
FHWA/FTA Approval ⁵
STIP Amendments posted for Public Review and Comment ⁶

Other Notes

* FHWA approves FY 2017-2020 STIP and TIP documents
 ** June 26 is last snapshot to amend the FY 2017 program
 ***August 28 Snapshots would not be approved until October
 ****August 28 Snapshots are to amend FY 2017 program - not FY 2016
 Updated: 9/13/16

TwinCATS proposed 2017 Meeting Dates

When: Mondays at 9:30 AM

Where: Kinexus (Michigan Works), Anchor Rooms A + B
499 W Main St, Benton Harbor, MI 49022

Proposed Dates:

1. October 17, 2016
2. November 14, 2016
3. December 12, 2016
4. January 23, 2017
5. February 27, 2017
6. March 20, 2017
7. April 17, 2017
8. May 15, 2017
9. June 19, 2017
10. July 17, 2017
11. August 21, 2017
12. September 18, 2017

Note: The November and December dates are the 2nd Monday of the month to minimize conflicts with holidays. As per the bylaws, January and February are scheduled on the 4th Monday since the 3rd Monday of January is Martin Luther King Jr. Day and the 3rd Monday of February is President's Day.

INCLEMENT WEATHER MEETING CANCELATIONS: Please check WSJM or WNDU for Michigan WORK/Kinexus closings.

If you have any questions about meeting dates please contact

Brandon Kovnat or Kim Gallagher
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Southwest Michigan Planning Commission
376 West Main Street, Suite 130
Benton Harbor, MI 49022-3651
Work Phone # 269-925-1137 x 1524 and x1518
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