

**Twin Cities Area Transportation Study  
Fiscal Year 2011 to 2014 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)**

Project Selection Subcommittee Meeting  
Round II  
Monday October 25, 2010  
9:00 A.M.  
St. Joseph City Council Chambers

**TwinCATS Members in Attendance:**

Dave Austin	Lincoln Township (Williams+Works)
Brian Berndt	Berrien County Road Commission
Chris Cook	City of Benton Harbor (Abonmarche)
Ray Lenze	MDOT – Statewide Planning
John Olson	Royalton Township (Merritt Engineering)
Derek Perry	Village of Stevensville / City of St. Joseph
Bill Purvis	Twin Cities Area Transit Authority
Dick Stauffer	Lincoln Charter Township
Tim Zebell	City of St. Joseph

**Staff in Attendance:**

Anna Rahtz	Southwest Michigan Planning Commission
Trevor Thomas	Southwest Michigan Planning Commission

**1. Call to Order**

- Rahtz called the meeting to order at 9:05 A.M.

**2. Purpose of Meeting**

- To review projects that may not be able to make the local match to receive the federal funding.
- To develop a contingency plan for 2011-2014 to use available funds left from projects that cannot make local match.
- **Options to discuss:**
  - Moving up projects planned for future years to FY 2011
  - Moving up projects from Illustrative Projects List to FY 2011
  - BCRC schedule of seal coat jobs to preserve pavement

**3. Currently programmed projects**

- Cook noted that the City of Benton Harbor plans to make its local match for its planned projects in FY 2010, 2012, and 2013, as well as make good on its local contribution payments to TwinCATS.
- Berndt stated that the Berrien County Road Commission is not able to make the 20% local match for the Lincoln Ave resurfacing project in FY 2011, which leaves **\$450,506** of federal surface transportation funds available for local agencies to use in FY 2011.
- Berndt added the road commission is in negotiations with Benton Township to come up with the 20% local match for the Highland Ave and E Britain Ave projects in FY 2012. It was noted that

\$103,250 of local dollars are needed for that match. *If* that match cannot be made, then that will leave another \$413,000 of federal surface transportation money available for local agencies to use in FY 2012.

- Berndt also mentioned that the Hollywood Road Corridor working group is putting together the vision for the Hollywood Road project, will be funded in FY 2013 and FY 2014.
- Berndt added that the County Road Commission is putting together a working group to look at levying a countywide road millage, to be able to make the local match for projects in the future.

#### **4. Suggestions / requests to use newly available federal funds**

- Cook stated that the City of Benton Harbor is now hoping to do work on Riverview Drive to coincide with the planned Whirlpool campus development. He stated that this project would most likely occur in fall 2012 and estimates that the cost would be \$192,000 for resurfacing. The exact scope of the project is not decided, and other funding sources such as Economic Development or Enhancement funds may be sought for additional elements of the project beyond resurfacing.
- Cook also noted that as part of the Whirlpool campus project, River Street would be closed. Lenze asked if that road is federal aid eligible, noting that if so the Long Range Transportation Plan for TwinCATS would have to be amended to reflect that change in the road system. Cook responded that River Street is a local road and not eligible for federal aid. Thus, it does not need to be amended in the Long Range Plan.
- Perry and Rahtz noted that the Village of Stevensville's John Beers Rd project had recently been moved from the Illustrative List to the list of funded projects for FY 2011, but that the Village was still in need of another \$24,806 of federal funds for that project. Those present agreed that \$24,806 of the available \$450,506 should go to the Village of Stevensville for John Beers Rd. This still leaves \$425,700 of federal funds available in FY 2011.
- Zebell noted that the City of St. Joseph is collecting advance construct dollars for the S. State St. and Kingsley Ave. project, which will be constructed in FY 2011, in FY 2012 and FY 2013. Thus, if the ACC dollars were moved up so that all federal dollars would be received in FY 2011, then that would leave \$409,100 available in FY 2012 and FY 2013 for other projects.
- Cook noted that doing this would only delay a decision on how to use those dollars in FY 2012 and FY 2013.
- Zebell added that the City had also had a Kingsley Ave project on the Illustrative List, and so that project could be moved up to FY 2011 and combined with the S. State and Kingsley Ave project. Cook noted that it is a general practice of TwinCATS agencies to combine adjacent projects together when possible. This would add \$195,000 to the S. State St and Kingsley Ave project in FY 2011,

and extend the limits of that project on Kingsley Ave to Niles Ave. Those present agreed this would be a good use of \$195,000 in FY 2011. This leaves **\$230,700** available in FY 2011.

- Berndt proposed that instead of resurfacing Lincoln Ave and adding shoulders like originally planned, BCRC would like to seal coat Lincoln Ave for \$76,900. They would also like to seal coat Benton Center Rd for \$76,900 and Pipestone Rd for \$76,900 in FY 2011. This would be a part of BCRC's program of seal coating roads every 7-8 years. The total cost for the three seal coat jobs in FY 2011 would be **\$230,700**. Those present agreed to add the three seal coat projects. This uses the remaining funds for FY 2011.

## **5. Public Comment**

- None.

## **6. General Discussion**

- It was noted that the full resurfacing of Lincoln Ave from John Beers Rd to Maiden Ln should be added to end of the Illustrative Projects list for FY 2019.
- It was also discussed that the Village of Shoreham's Brown School Rd project and the City of Benton Harbor's Riverview Dr project should be placed at the top of the Illustrative Projects list in case funding opens up in FY 2012.
- It was also noted that the Kingsley Ave project will now be removed from the Illustrative Projects list, since it is being combined with S State St and Kingsley Ave in FY 2011.
- *Motion by Zebell, seconded by Cook, to recommend that the TwinCATS Technical Advisory and Policy committees amend the FY 2011-2014 Transportation Improvement Program to include the following amendments:*
  - Add \$24,806 to the Village of Stevensville's John Beers Rd project in FY 2011, for a federal cost of \$305,039.
  - Add BCRC's three seal coat projects in FY 2011, for Lincoln Ave, Benton Center Rd, and Pipestone Rd. Federal cost of \$76,900 each, total federal cost of **\$230,700**.
  - Amend the limits of the City of St. Joseph project named S State St and Kingsley Ave, to add Kingsley Ave from S State St to Niles Rd, increasing the federal cost by **\$195,000** for a federal cost of \$403,000 in FY 2011.
  - *Above three amendments use total of \$450,506 remaining federal funds in FY 2011.*
  - *Motion approved unanimously.*
- Cook noted that the Village of Shoreham should be advised to have the Brown School Rd project shelf-ready in case something else happens that causes federal funds to open up in FY 2011 or FY 2012.

- Lenze was asked about the FY 2011 CMAQ (Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program) applications, and responded that they are in the process of being reviewed and sent to the Federal Highway Administration.

**7. Meeting Adjourned at 9:45 A.M.**

*Minutes prepared by SWMPC transportation planners Anna Rahtz and Trevor Thomas, 11-01-10*