



The Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Greater Kalamazoo Area

5220 Lovers Lane, Suite 110
Portage, MI 49002
☎ 269-343-0766
✉ info@KATSmpo.org

February 27, 2023

Mr. Todd White, Bureau Director
Michigan Department of Transportation
Bureau of Transportation Planning, B340
P.O. Box 30050
Lansing, MI 48909

Dear Mr. White:

On February 22, 2023 the Kalamazoo Area Transportation Study's Policy Committee adopted the attached resolution, supporting the State's Pavement, Bridge and Reliability targets. Draft minutes from the meeting are included.

KATS appreciates the Michigan Department of Transportation's cooperative planning process in developing these targets. KATS looks forward to supporting the state's performance measures through our metropolitan planning process.

If you have any additional questions, please contact me at (269)343-0766.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve Stepek".

Steve Stepek, AICP
Executive Director



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RESOLUTION

Supporting State Targets for Bridge, Pavement, and Reliability

WHEREAS, the Kalamazoo Area Transportation Study is the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Kalamazoo Urbanized Area; and

WHEREAS, the Kalamazoo Area Transportation Study fosters a collaborative, cooperative, and comprehensive planning process; and

WHEREAS, the Kalamazoo Area Transportation Study recognizes the Transportation Performance Measure regulatory requirements outlined in 23 CFR 490.105 and 23 CFR 490.107; and

WHEREAS, the Michigan Department of Transportation has cooperatively developed State Bridge, Pavement, and Reliability Targets for Calendar Years 2022-2025; and

WHEREAS, the Kalamazoo Area Transportation study recognizes the importance of supporting the following Michigan Department of Transportation’s Performance Targets;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kalamazoo Area Transportation Study Policy Committee recognizes the importance of a safe transportation system and supports the Michigan Department of Transportation’s Targets for the Performance Period shown below:

<i>Performance Area</i>	<i>Measure</i>	<i>Baseline Condition (2022-2025)</i>	<i>2-Year Targets</i>	<i>4- Year Targets</i>
Bridge	Percent of National Highway System (NHS) Deck Area in Good Condition	22.1%	15.2%	12.8%
	Percent of NHS Deck Area in Poor Condition	7.00%	6.8%	5.8%
Pavement	Percent of Interstate Pavement in Good Condition	70.4%	59.2%	56.7%
	Percent of Interstate Pavement in Poor Condition	1.8%	5.0%	5.0%
	Percent of Non-Interstate NHS in Good Condition	41.6%	33.1%	33.1%
	Percent of Non-Interstate NHS in Poor Condition	8.9%	10.0%	10.0%
Reliability	Level of Travel Time Reliability of the Interstate	97.1%	80.0%	80.0%
	Level of Travel Time Reliability of the Non-Interstate NHS	94.4%	75.0%	75.0%
	Freight Reliability Measure on the Interstate	1.31	1.60	1.60



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Libby Henry-Cogswell, Vice-Chairperson
Kalamazoo Area Transportation Study Policy Committee

2/22/2023
Date

KALAMAZOO AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY POLICY COMMITTEE

DRAFT Minutes of the February 22, 2023 Meeting

CALL TO ORDER

The February 22, 2023 Policy Committee Meeting was called to order at 9:03 a.m. at Metro in Kalamazoo, by Vice-Chairperson Heiny-Cogswell.

INTRODUCTIONS

Introductions were made by all present.

ROLL CALL

Meeting attendance was recorded on the sign-in sheet.

MEMBERS PARTICIPATING

Curtis Aardema	Central County Transportation Authority
Rob Britigan, Treasurer	City of Parchment
Tim Frisbie	Village of Vicksburg
John Gisler	Kalamazoo County
Libby Heiny-Cogswell	Oshtemo Township
Jeff Heppler	Village of Augusta
Lisa Imus	Village of Lawton
Martin Janssen	Kalamazoo County Transportation Authority
Pat McGinnis	City of Portage
Sherine Miller	Kalamazoo Township
Chris Praedel	City of Kalamazoo
Jerry VanderRoest	Charleston Township
Mark Worden	Road Commission of Kalamazoo County

MEMBERS ABSENT

Marsha Drouin	Richland Township
Jeff Franklin	Michigan Department of Transportation, Planning
Robert Henderson	Van Buren Public Transit
Sarah Joshi	City of Galesburg
Greg Kinney	Van Buren County Road Commission
Tracy Locey	Brady Township
Pete Pfeiffer	Michigan Department of Transportation, TSC
Jeff Sorensen	Cooper Township
Randy Thompson, Chair	Comstock Township
Don Ulsh	Schoolcraft Township

OTHERS PARTICIPATING

Cheri Bell	Oshtemo Township
Sean McBride	Central County Transportation Authority

Megan Mickelson
Fred Nagler
Elizabeth Rumick
Jordan Smith
Steve Stepek
Ali Townsend

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CHANGES OR ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

Stepek stated later in the meeting that the Fiscal Year 2023 Unified Planning Work Program Amendment is also an action item although it was not listed as such on the agenda.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Britigan moved, and it was duly seconded by Janssen, **“to approve the agenda of the February 22, 2023 Policy Committee Meeting.”** MOTION CARRIED.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Selden of Bike Friendly Kalamazoo (BFK) announced this year’s annual Bike Week will be held May 13, 2023 through May 20, 2023. Selden brought examples of bike related literature that is available for municipalities to distribute. After handing out the ‘Invitation to Participate in Kalamazoo Bike Week’ form, Selden encouraged agencies to complete and return it to Selden by the deadline of April 15, 2023. BFK mini grant applications are available and award recipients are decided by April 2, 2023. Funds can be used for such items as bike locks, bike racks, and bike lights.

CONSENT AGENDA

- ACCEPTANCE OF THE TREASURER’S REPORTS
- ACCEPTANCE OF THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE REPORTS
- ACCEPTANCE OF THE SOUTHCENTRAL MICHIGAN PLANNING COUNCIL REPORTS
- APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE DECEMBER 21, 2022 MEETING

VanderRoest moved, and it was duly seconded by Aardema, **“to accept and approve the items on the Consent Agenda.”** MOTION CARRIED.

FISCAL YEAR 2022 AUDIT PRESENTATION AND REPORT

The Audit Governance Letter is included with the meeting materials along with a link to the Fiscal Year 2022 Audited Financial Statements. Jordan Smith, Principal Auditor from Maner Costerisan presented Kalamazoo Area Transportation Study (KATS) financial highlights for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2022. Upon completion of the audit, Maner Costerisan issued a clean opinion, the highest level of assurance, that the financial statements present fairly in all material respects, the financial position of Kalamazoo Area Transportation Study as of and for the year ended September 30, 2022 in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. There were no audit findings nor adjusting journal entries. The Current Ratio or ability to meet obligations, at September 30, 2022 was 2.6. Unrestricted Net Position, or the ability to operate without generating additional revenue is 27%. Graphs depicted 5-year trends of revenues, expenses, and total net position. During the audit, material deficiencies in internal controls were not identified. Upcoming accounting pronouncements to be aware of include reporting of accounting changes and error corrections, and

compensating absences liability reporting, GASB No. 100 and No. 101, respectively. Gisler asked how long it takes to complete the audit. Smith responded there are many variables including client preparation, responsiveness, and size.

FY 2023 – 2026 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM AMENDMENTS

Referring to the proposed amendments included in the meeting packet, Stepek highlighted the Inkster Avenue bridge replacement is waiting for approval to get obligated. There are three new projects from the statewide safety program. The last project is an increase in funding for Central County Transportation Authority bus purchases. KATS Staff and Technical Committee recommends approval of the proposed amendments.

Heppler moved, and it was duly seconded by Janssen, **“to approve the FY 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program Amendments.”** MOTION CARRIED.

RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR STATE TARGETS FOR BRIDGE, PAVEMENT, AND RELIABILITY

The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) summary of state and national performance program targets for Bridge, Pavement, and Reliability is included in the packet. Stepek summarized the Metropolitan Planning Organization may support the state targets or establish their own. If an MPO elects to establish their own performance measures, they must still support state targets. Therefore, Kalamazoo Area Transportation Study (KATS) has always adopted state targets. The last page of the MDOT data shows a nice summary. KATS is only under target in the National Highway System Bridge Deck Area category. Surface area of the 131 bridge is in desperate need of repair. Additionally, ratings were done before the I-94 bridge replacements. Stepek pointed out that the reliability conditions are a measure of travel time reliability as opposed to the system condition. If the system is congested nearly all the time, it is reliably congested so will have a high reliability rating. KATS Staff and the Technical Committee recommend approval of the statewide performance targets for bridge, pavement, and reliability.

Heppler moved, and it was duly seconded by Worden, **“to approve the Resolution of Support for State Targets for Bridge, Pavement, and Reliability.”** MOTION CARRIED.

FISCAL YEAR 2023 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM AMENDMENT

A link to the Amendment is included in the meeting materials. Stepek explained that since Kalamazoo Area Transportation Study (KATS) adopts the Unified Planning Work program (UPWP) several months prior to the start of the Fiscal Year, we have traditionally amended our budget mid-year to portray conditions more accurately. Key points of the amendment:

- The amendment adds \$2,863 of revenue to align with the Region Rural Task Force authorization approved after KATS development of the UPWP.
- There is a slight overall increase in Personnel Costs of 2.6% although there is no change to Direct Salaries.
- Direct Costs have been realigned for the purchase of Non-Motorized Equipment Counters.
- The Provisional Fringe and Indirect Rates did not change significantly [.07% and 1.1%, respectively].

Staff recommends that the Policy Committee approve the proposed FY 2023 UPWP Amendment.

Aardema moved, and it was duly seconded by Janssen, **“to approve the Fiscal Year 2023 Unified Planning Work Program Amendment.”** MOTION CARRIED.

URBANIZED AREA DISCUSSION

Maps of the new Census Urbanized Area are included in your packet. Stepek stated everything on the map is still eligible for funding through Kalamazoo Area Transportation Study (KATS). There is a change in the municipalities that make up the Rural Task Force and which municipalities are now their own Small Urban area. KATS received an increase in the Metropolitan Planning Organization funding but will likely remain functionally flat on road and transit funding. Once the Michigan Department of Transportation reviews and updates the boundaries, KATS will smooth the boundaries. Change is anticipated in the urban and rural National Classification of Road Commission of Kalamazoo County roads which potentially will impact Act 51 funding. Worden expressed difficulty distinguishing boundaries on the maps. KATS Staff have created the same maps with different colors to make boundaries more visible. The U.S. Census Bureau redefined their definition of an urbanized area resulting in most MPO areas shrinking even though many experienced population growth. Members further discussed population and urban area changes. Heppler pointed out that the state will lose gas tax Act 51 revenue used to fund road maintenance with increased popularity of electric vehicles. To alleviate some of that loss, discussions have included adding highway tolls or considering millages. Gisler echoed Kalamazoo County and inclusive jurisdictions may need to consider millages to maintain roads. Stepek added Kalamazoo County is unusual in that it does not have a millage for road maintenance unlike other neighboring counties.

CONTRIBUTED SERVICE UPDATE

The contributed services year-to-date is included in your packet. Gisler asked what incentive agencies have to submit timesheets if Kalamazoo Area Transportation Study (KATS) continues to meet their required match. Stepek responded Kalamazoo Area Transportation Study (KATS) may bill municipalities their signed agreement amount if KATS does not meet their requirement.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION UPDATES

Aardema reported Metro's Comprehensive Operational Analysis (COA) is wrapping up. The final presentation is available on the kmetro.com website. The Central County Transportation Authority (CCTA)/ Kalamazoo County Transportation Authority (KCTA) board, Metro Staff, and the community will determine which recommendations to implement. Janssen added some of the uncomplicated changes are expected to be implemented right away. Bell asked if there are plans to incorporate transit projects into the Kalamazoo County Master Plan. Aardema responded the new governance for the CCTA/KCTA boards may make this easier. It is important to integrate transit into the Kalamazoo County plans. One goal of the formally accepted new governance for the CCTA/KCTA boards is to create efficiencies in the organization. Changes include a new subcommittee structure, and a required rotation for board members. Janssen added FlixBus is taking over Greyhound. McBride reported FlixBus is a multi-national transportation conglomerate. FlixBus has been running parallel to Greyhound, but as of today, all ticketing and services transition to FlixBus software-based services. This has created an industry shakeup affecting passengers here and nationwide. Other transportation companies are also impacted. McBride reminded attendees to notify Metro of planned construction projects that will impact bus routes. Communication and planning is appreciated.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

In addition to the memo included in the meeting materials, Stepek added the Kalamazoo Area Transportation Study (KATS) was recently notified about Michigan Infrastructure Office funding for grant activities for federal infrastructure grants. \$240 thousand dollars was allocated for grant writing activities between the five counties, Battle Creek Area Transportation Study, and KATS.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business was brought forth.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Selden of Bike Friendly Kalamazoo spoke for the second time. Complimentary yard signs are available reminding motorists to give bicyclists 5 feet of space when passing. Additionally, 'Welcome Bike Week' signs can be requested. Contact Selden for more information on bike banners for light poles made locally by Kalamazoo Banner Works.

MEMBER COMMENTS

Imus reported the Village of Lawton is gearing up for summer projects.

Frisbie, Village of Vicksburg, congratulated Rumick and Stepek for a clean audit. Britigan, City of Parchment echoed Frisbie.

Elaborating on previously discussed potential future gas tax shortfalls, Worden stated the Road Commission of Kalamazoo County (RCKC) is a no-taxing authority so cannot impose taxes. There will be several billions of dollars in shortfalls for road maintenance if electric vehicles progress creating challenges.

Gisler reported Kalamazoo County is discussing a potential millage for veterans. The commissioners are also reviewing funding of the Road Commission and how Road Commissioners are elected.

Heppler reported the Village of Augusta is now a Trailhead Town. The Village continues to look at linking trails to surrounding areas. A large water project with corresponding road construction is planned for the summer. The Village of Augusta received \$8 thousand dollars of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) money from the county. Heppler reported the Village of Augusta does have a road millage.

McGinnis stated the City of Portage is a willing participant and supportive of Bike Friendly Kalamazoo efforts.

Praedel congratulated Heiny-Cogswell and thanked her for her service. Heiny-Cogswell recently submitted her resignation as the Supervisor of Oshtemo Township effective May 1, 2023. The City of Kalamazoo passed an \$111.1 million dollar capital improvement budget this year. In addition to ARPA funds, and state grant funds, the City of Kalamazoo will receive \$12 million dollars from the federal government for the two-way street conversion. This unprecedented budget will include upgrades for wastewater, sewer, water, road, and non-motorized.

Heiny-Cogswell reported the Oshtemo Township sewer project is out to bid again and is due March 9, 2023. Let Stepek know if you would be willing to serve as KATS Policy Committee Vice-Chair. Potentially Oshtemo Township may vote to select a new Supervisor in April.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Vice-Chairperson Heiny-Cogswell adjourned the meeting at 10:21 a.m.

The next meeting of the Kalamazoo Area Transportation Study Policy Committee will be held on Wednesday, March 22, 2023 at 9:00 a.m.