



**KALAMAZOO AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY  
POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING  
MINUTES OF APRIL 25, 2007**

The April meeting of the Kalamazoo Area Transportation Study Policy Committee was called to order at 8:30 a.m. at the Kalamazoo County Road Commission lower level conference room. Meeting attendance was recorded from the sign-in sheet.

***MEMBERS PRESENT***

Tim Hudson (Chair), David Anderson, Richard Atwell, Dennis Berkebile, Jeff Bither, Gary Cramer, Carol Fricke, Lee Philport, Dan Pryson, Susan Richardson, Phyllis Simmons, Jeff Sorensen, Tom Swiat, Jr., Don Ulsh, Jack Urban, Terry Urban, John Van Dyke, Loren Warfield, Bobbi Welke, and Ron White.

***MEMBERS ABSENT***

Dan DeGraw, and George Weston.

***OTHERS PRESENT***

Lew Bashaw, Mike Boersma, Michele McGowen, Lara Meeuwse, Michelle O'Neill, Frank Szopo, Lewis Whalen, Kathy Schultz, Jon Start and Steve Stepek.

***MINUTES OF THE MARCH 28, 2007 MEETING***

Motion by the Policy Committee to, “*approve the minutes of the March 28, 2007 Policy Committee meeting.*” Motion approved.

***TECHNICAL COMMITTEE REPORT***

Frank Szopo reported on the April 12 Technical Committee meeting. The committee restored Chris Forth’s membership and requested that resolutions be given to Richard Skalski, Ron Reid, and Ron Copping for their years of service on the Technical Committee. A resolution was passed for the S Avenue TEDF application and discussion took place on the Village of Schoolcraft’s Eliza Street project. Jon Start is going to discuss the project with the Schoolcraft Village Manager. Updates were given on the Transportation Improvement Program, Unified Work Program and 2030 Transportation Plan. An amendment will be added to the May agenda to move the Mills Street project from FY 2009 to FY 2007 in the current Transportation Improvement Program.

**CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Michael Boersma reported on the April 19<sup>th</sup> Citizens Advisory Committee meeting. The committee reviewed the draft 2030 Transportation Plan and was informed of the public hearing scheduled for May 29<sup>th</sup>. An update was given on public transportation and the new bus service in the City of Portage. Their next meeting will be held May 17<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. at Kalamazoo Metro Transit.

**CITIZENS' COMMENTS** - None

**CONGESTION MITIGATION AIR QUALITY (CMAQ)**

The CMAQ Subcommittee and Technical Committee supported the following CMAQ projects for funding in FY 2009:

| Agency        | Project               | Description   | Total     | Federal CMAQ Funds |                | State | Local    |
|---------------|-----------------------|---|-----------|--------------------|----------------|-------|----------|
|               |                       |   |           | MDOT               | Local Agencies |       |          |
| Metro Transit | Community Ridesharing | 100% funding of Ridesharing program for staff support   | \$38,246  | --                 | \$38,246       | \$0   | \$0      |
| MDOT          | M-43                  | Perform PE services and construction for actuating, interconnecting, modernizing, and optimizing the existing signals at up to 11 intersections (at 9th; 10th; Maple Hill; Mall Hill; Drake; Picadilly; Turwill; Nichols; Kendall; Fletcher; Berkley) Work involves upgrading equipment | \$589,000 | \$589,000          | --             | \$0   | \$0      |
| MDOT          | M-43                  | Perform PE services and construction for actuating, interconnecting and modernizing existing signals at up to 3 intersections (at I-94BL; Mill; Riverview at M-43) Work involves upgrading equipment  | \$262,000 | \$262,000          | --             | \$0   | \$0      |
| Kalamazoo     | Paterson              | Signal interconnection, modernization, and optimization at five traffic signals (at Riverview; Burdick; Rose; Pitcher; Douglas)   | \$590,000 | --                 | \$532,706      | \$0   | \$57,294 |
| KCRC          | Drake Road            | Signal interconnection and optimization of Drake Road corridor (at West Michigan; KL; Green Meadow; Stonebrook) Equipment modernization at West Michigan and KL intersections   | \$300,000 | --                 | \$300,000      | \$0   | \$0      |

A total of \$1,721,953 is available in CMAQ funds being split between MDOT and the local agencies. MDOT provided \$9,976 to the local agency's program. The City of Kalamazoo will be applying \$57,294 in local match to the Paterson Street project.

Motion by the Policy Committee, ***"to approve the FY 2009 Congestion Mitigation Air Quality projects and their submittal to the Michigan Department of Transportation."*** Motion approved.

### ***2030 TRANSPORTATION PLAN***

Jon Start provided a PowerPoint presentation overview of the draft 2030 Transportation Plan. The Transportation Plan has 13 chapters and meets FHWA's requirements for SAFETEA-LU compliance. New chapters in the document include work to involve environmental mitigation and consultation on the proposed projects. The document provides an overview of the current transportation, transit, and non-motorized system in Kalamazoo, projected funding through 2030, and proposed preservation and capacity projects. The document is available on-line at the KATS website at [www.KATSmpo.org](http://www.KATSmpo.org).

The committee discussed the establishment of a public hearing for the document. May 29 was selected for the meeting date. The preliminary time and location was established for 7:00 p.m. at the Kalamazoo County Board of Commissioners Chambers in the Kalamazoo County Administration Building. KATS staff will confirm that is an available date and time and will notify Policy Committee members. A map viewing and a chance to talk to Technical Committee staff will be from 5:30 p.m. to 6:45 p.m. prior to the meeting.

No action will take place on the 2030 Transportation Plan at the public hearing due to the air quality testing not being completed.

The May 30<sup>th</sup> Policy Committee meeting would not take place due to the May 29<sup>th</sup> meeting date for the public hearing. Any additional business will be brought to the committee after the hearing.

### ***FY 2008 - 2011 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM***

KATS staff is working on the mailing of the brochures that will be used to notify the public about upcoming FY 2008 - 2011 Transportation Improvement Program projects. This is the third time KATS has used this method for contacting property owners along impacted project routes. The Transportation Improvement Program will be adopted by the Policy Committee in June if the air quality testing is done in the next few weeks and the findings are published for public comment.

### ***KALAMAZOO COUNTY PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION***

Richard Atwell reported that the ribbon cutting ceremony for the new City of Portage bus routes was well attended. In the first 3 days of service, 700 rides were delivered. He handed out a brochure about Michigan Public Transportation produced by the Michigan Public Transit Association.

Bill Schomisch reported that a three-year contract with Western Michigan University is being discussed. The Solon/Kendall and Lafayette routes would be eliminated and free access to off campus buses would be discontinued. WMU has lost revenues for the bus system due to the reduction in parking fees being collected. A public hearing on the reductions is being scheduled as well as a survey of the student body.

Bill Schomisch handed out the Transportation Director's Report dated April 18, 2007 and the State Fuel Tax Rates as of October 2006 provided by Drive Michigan.

***I-94 CONSTRUCTION PROJECT STATUS REPORT***

Michelle O'Neill reported that the I-94 construction project is progressing. Lane shifts are taking place and the bridge construction for Oakland Drive is advancing. The bridge should be opened in July, 2007. The 12<sup>th</sup> Street bridge work is currently behind schedule, and ramp closures will be taking place at I-94 and US-131. An email is sent out weekly by MDOT of the current status of the project.

Bobbi Welke informed the committee that MDOT will be reducing the weights on the I-94 bridge over the railroad and bike path west of Lovers Lane due to repairs being needed. They are applying for emergency funds to get the bridge repaired as quickly as possible.

***ADJOURNMENT***

There being no further business, Chairperson Hudson adjourned the meeting at 9:59 a.m.