



**KALAMAZOO AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY
POLICY COMMITTEE
MEETING OF AUGUST 26, 2009**

The August meeting of the Kalamazoo Area Transportation Study Policy Committee was called to order at 9:00 a.m. at the Kalamazoo County Road Commission lower level conference room. Meeting attendance was recorded on the sign-in sheet.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Jeff Bither (Vice-Chair), Dave Anderson, Deb Everett, Karen Hayward, Dave Healy, Rob Heasley, Don Martin, Jack Mekemson, Pete Pfeiffer, Lee Philport, Claudette Reid, Susan Richardson, Jeff Sorensen, Tom Swiat, Jr., Don Ulsh, and Bob Vlietstra.

MEMBERS ABSENT

Dennis Berkebile, Allan Bussema, Carol Fricke, Tim Hudson, Greg Rosine, Phyllis Simmons, Jack Urban, and Loren Warfield.

OTHERS PRESENT

John Byrnes, Dale Hein, Joanna Johnson, Frank Szopo, Kathy Schultz, Jon Start, and Steve Stepek.

MINUTES OF THE JULY 29, 2009 MEETING

Motion by the Policy Committee, *“to approve the minutes from the July 29, 2009 meeting.”* Motion approved.

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE REPORT

Jon Start reported on the August 13th Technical Committee meeting. The committee took action to approve the Texas Drive at 8th Street ARRA project. The project was funded using the remaining American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA) funds from the 8th Street and S Avenue ARRA projects for the Kalamazoo County Road Commission. The committee also heard status reports on the FY 2010 - 2014 Transportation Improvement Program and the 2035 Transportation Plan.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS - None

TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Jon Start provided the committee the breakdown of costs for the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA) projects to date. MDOT is requesting any reobligation of remaining funds be completed by December 31, 2009. Some money has been released for the ARRA projects, and staff is currently waiting for final figures for the City of Kalamazoo projects. Because of excess funds on the rural side, the Kalamazoo County Road Commission will be looking for projects to spend the excess funding. An amendment for the rural program will be coming to the committee in September. Currently only the Village of Schoolcraft's Eliza Street project has not been bid. The project is scheduled for an October letting.

The Kalamazoo County Road Commission requested an amendment to the FY 2008 - 2011 Transportation Improvement Program to add 8th Street at Texas Drive using ARRA funds. Details of the project are outlined below:

Fiscal Year	Responsible Agency	Project Name	Limits	Project Description	Federal Cost (\$1000s)	Federal Fund Source	State Cost (\$1000s)	State Fund Source	Local Cost (\$1000s)	Local Fund Source	Total Cost (\$1000s)	Local ID No.
2010	KCRC	Texas Drive	at 8 th Street	Intersection realignment; new curb and gutter and drainage improvements	283	ARUL	0	0	0	0	283	2009-A25

Jon Start noted that with ARRA funds, if the project is less than the amount in the TIP, the TIP will need to be adjusted to reflect the actual cost of the project. This is the reason the Texas Drive at 8th Street project is receiving ARRA funds. If all of the ARRA funds are not spent in Kalamazoo County prior to March, 2010, they will not be able to be accessed in the future. Projects for Kalamazoo County are lump sum and capped at a specific amount. Any expenses over the capped ARRA amount are the responsibility of the local agency.

MDOT also requested an amendment to the FY 2008 - 2011 TIP. The project included:

Fiscal Year	Responsible Agency	Project Name	Limits	Project Description	Federal Cost (\$1000s)	Federal Fund Source	State Cost (\$1000s)	State Fund Source	Local Cost (\$1000s)	Local Fund Source	Total Cost (\$1000s)	Local ID No.
2010	MDOT	I-94	Exit 88 (40th Street) east to the Kalamazoo/Calhoun County line	Construct median cable barrier	505	STH	56	M	0	0	561	102278

Motion by the Policy Committee, ***“to amend the FY 2008 - 2011 Transportation Improvement Program to include the Kalamazoo County Road Commission and Michigan Department of Transportation projects.”*** Motion approved.

2035 TRANSPORTATION PLAN

Jon Start reported that staff is wrapping up meetings with the local agencies to discuss current and future population and employment for Kalamazoo County. He thanked those who have assisted in this effort. Staff hopes to have the figures to MDOT by the end of the month. He requested that the Policy Committee approve of the submission of the Socio-Economic Projections for the 2035 Transportation Plan.

Motion by the Policy Committee, ***“to approve the submission of the socio-economic projections to the Michigan Department of Transportation.”*** Motion approved.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION UPDATE

Jack Mekemson reported that the Kalamazoo County Transportation Authority (KCTA) is working to approve the 2010 budget. It is scheduled for approval in September.

The City of Kalamazoo City Commission will be receiving a recommendation for a fare increase soon.

Kalamazoo County Connect, the new name for the Metro Van and Care-A-Van services, will be operated by the Apple Company starting October 1. The vehicles will be maintained by Metro Transit.

A copy of the draft countywide Human Service Plan has been completed, with the working group meeting in September to go over the initial draft. Once the draft is approved by the working group, it will go to the KCTA and the Transit Authority Board and be available for public comment.

OTHER NEW BUSINESS

Frank Szopo reported that Arboretum Road has officially opened for traffic. It was dedicated to the City of Kalamazoo and runs between Drake Road and Solon/Kendall near Western Michigan University’s campus.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Vice-Chairperson Bither adjourned the meeting at 9:42 a.m.