



**KALAMAZOO AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY
POLICY COMMITTEE
MEETING OF AUGUST 31, 2011**

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 and introductions were made.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Tom Swiat, Jr. (Chair), Dave Anderson, Jeff Bither, Pam Boyd, Larry Doyle, Carol Fricke, Dave Healy, Rob Heasley, Libby Heiny-Cogswell, Tim Hudson, Jeff Maddox, Jack Mekemson, Lee Philport, Claudette Reid, Ron Reid, Greg Rosine, Karen Siegwart, Phyllis Simmons, Jeff Sorensen, Don Ulsh, Jack Urban, and Bob Vlietstra.

MEMBERS ABSENT

Allan Bussema and Dan DeVries.

OTHERS PRESENT

Chris Barnes, Lew Bashaw, Matt Crawford, Darrell Harden, Joanna Johnson, Michelle McGowen, Fred Nagler, Bill Schomisch, Randy Smith, Kathy Schultz, and Jon Start.

MINUTES OF THE JULY 27, 2011 MEETING

MOTION by Heasley, SUPPORT by Hudson, *“to approve the minutes from the July 27, 2011 meeting.”*
Motion approved.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOTION by Sorensen, SUPPORT by Ulsh, *“to approve the agenda for the August 31, 2011 meeting.”*
Motion approved.

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE REPORT

Jon Start reported on the August 11th Technical Committee meeting. The committee took action to recommend approval of several amendments to the FY 2011 - 2014 Transportation Improvement Program and discussed the local agency contributions to the KATS program for FY 2011. They also heard progress reports on the various road and land use projects occurring in Kalamazoo County. Their next meeting is September 8 at 9:00 a.m.

CITIZENS COMMENTS - None

FY 2011 - 2014 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

The following amendments were presented to the Policy Committee for action:

Additions

Year	Responsible Agency	Project Name	Project Description	Federal Cost	Federal Fund Source	State Cost	State Fund Source	Local Cost	Local Fund Source	Total Phase Cost	MDOT Job No.
2012	MDOT	I-94	Cold milling and HMA resurface	1,985	IM	221	M			2,205	113831
West of Kalamazoo County Line east to 12 th Street, Texas Township, Kalamazoo County; CON Phase; Addition of project 8/31/11											
2011	Public Transit	Vehicle Replacement	30' bus (\$81,019) and communication equipment (\$10,000) per 2004 Discretionary Funding (Section 5309) under MI-03-0213)	73	5309	18	M			91	40070
Demand Response Vehicle and Communication Equipment; T-Cap; Addition of project 8/31/11											
2012	Public Transit	CY 2012 Operating Assistance	Travel Training for New Freedom	100	5317					100	
10-1-12 through 9-30-13; T-Ops; Addition of project (New Freedom) for FY 2013 8/31/11											

Cost

Year	Responsible Agency	Project Name	Project Description	Federal Cost	Federal Fund Source	State Cost	State Fund Source	Local Cost	Local Fund Source	Total Phase Cost	MDOT Job No.
2011	MDOT	I-94	Environmental study to determine the proper interchange reconfiguration with removal and replacement of the structure and maintenance of the traffic concepts	900	IM	100	M			1,000	112614
Over East Michigan Avenue (40 th Street), approximately 7 miles east of I-94BL; EPE Phase; Addition of project 2/23/11; Increase Federal Cost from \$360,000; State Cost from \$40,000; Total Phase Cost from \$400,000; Total Project Cost from \$400,000 8/31/11											

Year	Responsible Agency	Project Name	Project Description	Federal Cost	Federal Fund Source	State Cost	State Fund Source	Local Cost	Local Fund Source	Total Phase Cost	MDOT Job No.
2011	MDOT	I-94	Bridge removal and replacement, road approaches, interchange improvements	711	IM	134	M	5	CITY	850	110524
Under Sprinkle Road in Kalamazoo; EPE Phase; Addition of project phase; Construction scheduled for 2015 2/23/11; Increase Federal Cost from \$315,000 Increase State Cost from \$35,000, Increase Local Cost from \$0, Increase Total Project Cost from \$9,557,365 4/27/11; Decrease Federal Cost from \$720,000; Increase State Cost from \$125,000 8/31/11											
2011	MDOT	US-131	Resurface Carpool Lot	47	ST	10	M			57	90201
at D Ave in Kalamazoo County; CON Phase; Increase Federal Cost from \$28,648; State Cost from \$6,352; Total Phase Cost from \$35,000; Total Project Cost from \$35,000 8/31/11											

The Travel Training program will help with training people to ride public transportation. Metro Transit anticipates continuing the program for several years, with the program being a part of the Coordinated Public Transit Human Services Plan.

Larry Doyle noted that there will be a meeting on September 26 from 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. at the MDOT Transportation Service Center to discuss the alternatives for the I-94 at Sprinkle Road interchange.

MOTION by Sorensen, SUPPORT by C. Reid, ***“to approve the amendments to the FY 2011 - 2014 Transportation Improvement Program.”*** Motion approved.

POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULE CHANGES

The originally scheduled October meeting for the Policy Committee conflicts with a Michigan Township Association meeting. It was requested that the meeting be moved to October 19.

MOTION by Heiny-Cogswell, SUPPORT by Heasley, ***“to move the October Policy Committee meeting to October 19, 2011 starting at 9:00 a.m.”*** Motion approved.

Jon Start noted that the September meeting was moved to September 21 due to conflict that he had on September 28. That conflict no longer existed and asked whether the committee would like to move the meeting date back to September 28. The committee asked that the meeting date remain September 21.

UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM

Jon Start reported that KATS staff is tracking the amount of third party contributions for FY 2011. Currently the agencies are slightly ahead for the year. KATS is awaiting word regarding the amending of the work program to include effort from Kalamazoo County Planning’s GIS work.

US-131/US-131BR STATUS REPORT

Jon Start has been working with Ron Reid, Libby Heiny-Cogswell, and the City of Parchment on the development of the Pass Through Agreements and the request for proposals. A meeting will be held Friday, September 2 to discuss the information available to date. Libby Heiny-Cogswell reported that Oshtemo Township had approved the matching agreement.

UPCOMING WORK ITEMS

KATS staff is currently drafting the Title VI Plan for the Kalamazoo Area Transportation Study. The draft document will be available for the September 21st meeting.

Staff has been looking at the inclusion of Mattawan, Lawton, and Paw Paw into the study area based on the preliminary data from the 2010 Census. Final numbers will not be available until the spring. Should the area be included in KATS study area, it will increase the size of the Policy Committee. There will be pros and cons of moving to a Transportation Management Area. More information on the inclusion of the new areas will be forthcoming over the next few months.

Staff is also starting the review of a formal Transportation Improvement Program administrative change policy. Currently, all changes come to the Policy Committee for action. A list of what is considered an administrative change and what is considered an amendment will be prepared for the Policy Committee's review.

MOTION by Heasley, SUPPORT by Bither, ***“to direct staff to develop the Transportation Improvement Program Administrative Change Policy for review and action.”*** Motion approved.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION UPDATE

Jack Mekemson reported that the Kalamazoo County Transportation Authority (KCTA) will be setting the date for the budget public hearing. They are working on the recommendations for funding based on Public Act 196 changes. The KCTA is also working with a search committee to find an Executive Director.

Carol Fricke noted that the Transit Authority Board did not meet in August. Bill Schomisch reported that the Metro Transit line haul system had a slight decrease in ridership for July but an increase in the demand response system. The Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) contract was recently awarded. Five new hybrid buses will arrive in November. Eventually the entire fleet will be hybrid.

FINANCE AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Libby Heiny-Cogswell asked that evaluation forms for the Executive Director be returned to her by the end of the meeting.

Jon Start asked the Policy Committee to begin consideration of the health care payment requirements recently passed for government employees. The new legislation goes into effect January 1, 2012. The Kalamazoo Area Transportation Study currently purchases health insurance through the Kalamazoo County Road Commission, and KATS staff does not pay a contribution towards the monthly premiums. Based on the new legislation, this could change for KATS staff.

Currently, three staff members are receiving health insurance. Joanna Johnson noted that the Road Commission is beginning the review of their health insurance and the amounts paid by the employee. There would need to be a decision made by the Policy Committee on what the policy for health insurance would be for KATS staff. Dave Healy and Matt Crawford will work with KATS staff and the Road Commission to develop options for the Policy Committee's consideration.

KATS FINANCIALS

No questions or comments were noted on the KATS financials through July 31, 2011.

OTHER NEW BUSINESS

Pam Boyd reported that Connie Morrison is no longer with the Michigan Department of Transportation and they are awaiting an announcement on a section manager for the planning department. Other staff changes have occurred as well. She also noted that projects for FY 2011 need to be obligated by September 16.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chairperson Swiat adjourned the meeting at 10:00 a.m.