



**KALAMAZOO AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY
POLICY COMMITTEE
MEETING OF DECEMBER 16, 2009**

The December 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

Dennis Berkebile, (Chair), Dave Anderson, Jeff Bither, Allan Bussema, Carol Fricke, Dave Healy, Rob Heasley, Libby Heiny-Cogswell, Tim Hudson, Jack Mekemson, Pete Pfeiffer, Lee Philport, Claudette Reid, Ron Reid, Susan Richardson, Greg Rosine, Karen Siegwart, Jeff Sorensen, Tom Swiat, Jr., Don Ulsh, Jack Urban, and Bob Vlietstra.

MEMBERS ABSENT

Dan DeVries and Phyllis Simmons.

OTHERS PRESENT

Dale Hein, Bill Schomisch, Frank Szopo, Kathy Schultz, Jon Start, and Steve Stepek.

MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 18, 2009 MEETING

Motion by the Policy Committee, *“to approve the minutes from the November 18, 2009 meeting.”*
Motion approved.

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE REPORT

Jon Start reported on the December 3rd Technical Committee meeting. The committee recommended Policy Committee approval of several amendments to the FY 2008 - 2011 Transportation Improvement Program and discussed the potential for additional ARRA funds for Kalamazoo County. They approved the 2010 meeting schedule and received updates on the 2035 Transportation Plan.

CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT

Jon Start reported that at the recent Citizens Advisory Committee meeting, he provided a report on public transportation, the FY 2011 - 2014 Transportation Improvement Program and the 2035 Transportation Plan. He also discussed the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA) funds received during 2009. A comment was made by one of the attendees requesting better maintenance of trailways during the winter months. The Policy Committee requested further clarification on what areas were not being maintained during the winter months.

CITIZENS COMMENTS - None

TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP)

Several amendments were brought before the Policy Committee for action. The following additions were requested:

Fiscal Year	Responsible Agency	Project Name	Limits	Federal Cost (\$1000s)	Federal Fund Source	State Cost (\$1000s)	State Fund Source	Local Cost (\$1000s)	Local Fund Source	Total Cost (\$1000s)	MDOT Job No.
2010	Road Commission	Kalamazoo River Valley Trailway	Mayor's Riverfront Park to Sprinkle Road	627	STE			627	PRVT	1,255	102073
2010	MDOT	M-96	over Kalamazoo River, 0.2 mile E of Kalamazoo			230	MER			230	108296
2010	MDOT	US-131 BR	Kalamazoo Avenue to Dunkley Street, City of Kalamazoo	276	STE	31	M	98	CITY	404	107824
2011	Road Commission	Kalamazoo River Valley Trailway	Sprinkle Road to 35th Street	902	STE			902	PRVT	1,803	108129
2011	MDOT	I-94	at Portage/Kilgore Road	24	ST	5	M			29	104026
2011	MDOT	US-131	at Centre Avenue	6	ST	1	M			7	104027

The following project was deleted from the TIP:

Fiscal Year	Responsible Agency	Project Name	Limits	Federal Cost (\$1000s)	Federal Fund Source	Local Cost (\$1000s)	Local Fund Source	Total Cost (\$1000s)	MDOT Job No.
2011	MDOT	M-331 (Westnedge Avenue)	Kilgore Road and Whites Road Intersections						87246

Motion by the Policy Committee, ***“to approve the amendments to the FY 2008 - 2011 Transportation Improvement Program.”*** Motion approved.

Several candidate projects were brought before the Policy Committee for American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA) funds if they become available in January, 2010. MDOT has notified the Metropolitan Planning Organizations of potential funds for additional projects. Susan Richardson stated that the project list needs to be to MDOT by December 22 at 4:00 p.m. MDOT is working to program all of the existing ARRA funds within the agencies. Kalamazoo has obligated all of the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA) funds received. The following projects were proposed for additional funds:

- City of Kalamazoo: Arboretum Development East End to Solon Street Improvements. This project would construct two roundabouts: one at Solon and Arboretum Parkway and one at Solon and Howard/Kendall. Solon between these roundabouts would be two way. Estimated cost is \$1 million.
- City of Portage: Romence Road from Westnedge to Constitution. Mill and resurface with estimated cost of \$550,000. Oakland Drive from Vincent to I-94. Mill and resurface with estimated cost of \$257,000.
- Kalamazoo County Road Commission: 8th Street from KL Avenue to M-43 (West Main). Overlay project with estimated cost of \$440,000.

If there is rural funding available, the Road Commission would like to see funds for 12th Street from C Avenue to the north county line. This overlay project has an estimated cost of \$950,000. Also proposed were chip seal force account projects at various road segments.

The agencies have committed to meeting the January 15th deadline for having grade inspection packages to MDOT if selected for additional funds.

The Policy Committee discussed the projects and determined that the Technical Committee members would be better suited for determining a priority for the identified projects.

Motion by the Policy Committee, ***“to send the proposed ARRA project list to the Technical Committee members for ranking.”*** Motion approved.

A meeting will be set in the upcoming days. Jon Start noted that the Policy Committee members will also be invited to attend.

2010 OFFICERS

At the November meeting, Tom Swiat, Jr. was nominated as Chairperson and David Anderson as Vice-Chairperson of the Policy Committee. This would be for a one-year term.

Motion by the Policy Committee, ***“to close the nominations for the Policy Committee and to appoint Tom Swiat as Chairperson and David Anderson as Vice-Chairperson for 2010.”*** Motion approved.

2010 MEETING SCHEDULE

The new meeting schedule was provided to the committee. No comments were received by staff to change the meeting dates.

Motion by the Policy Committee, ***“to approve the 2010 Policy Committee meeting schedule.”*** Motion approved.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION UPDATE

A Manager’s Report was provided to the Policy Committee highlighting items from Metro Transit. The Kalamazoo City Commission approved the budget on Monday night. The next Transit Authority Board meeting will be Friday at 8:15 a.m.

Jack Mekemson reported that the Transit Talks are continuing around the area. On November 19, several transit system representatives met in Lansing to discuss Public Act 196. They are looking at how to have multiple taxing options for transit in Michigan.

Bill Schomisch reported that the Comprehensive Operations Analysis is continuing and should be finishing up in January or February, 2010. Work is continuing on the Adopt a Bus Shelter program. \$300,000 was received in ARRA funds to replace bus shelters.

OTHER NEW BUSINESS

Jon Start reported that the accounting and auditing services contracts have started and that the audit report will be presented at the January Policy Committee meeting.

The MDOT Five-Year Program is available online. Several shaded projects on the list for Kalamazoo County are contingent on funding from the State of Michigan.

Kathy Schultz provide the committee with CDs containing data and the Executive Summary on Asset Management that she handed out at the November meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chairperson Berkebile adjourned the meeting at 9:45 a.m.