



**KALAMAZOO AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY  
POLICY COMMITTEE  
MEETING OF JUNE 24, 2009**

The June 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, Don Banner, Jeff Bither, Allan Bussema, Libby Heiny-Cogswell, Carol Fricke, Dave Healy, Tim Hudson, Jack Mekemson, Michelle O’Neill, Lee Philport, Claudette Reid, Ron Reid, Susan Richardson, Greg Rosine, Phyllis Simmons, Jeff Sorensen, Tom Swiat, Jr., and Loren Warfield.

***MEMBERS ABSENT***

Karen Hayward, Don Ulsh, Jack Urban, and Bob Vlietstra.

***OTHERS PRESENT***

Lew Bashaw, John Byrnes, Joanna Johnson, Bill Schomisch, Frank Szopo, Kathy Schultz, Jon Start, and Steve Stepek.

***MINUTES OF THE MAY 27, 2009 MEETING***

Motion by the Policy Committee, “*to approve the minutes from the May 27, 2009 meeting.*” Motion approved.

***TECHNICAL COMMITTEE REPORT***

Jon Start reported on the June 11<sup>th</sup> Technical Committee meeting. The committee heard a presentation from Midwestern Software Solutions on their traffic counting software program. KATS intends to purchase the traffic counting software in FY 2010 in order to better manage and provide information on counts around the county. The counts will also help with future planning of road improvements. Other items discussed included adoption of the FY 2010 Unified Planning Work Program and setting up a meeting for the National Functional Classification Subcommittee.

***CITIZENS’ COMMENTS*** - None

### ***FY 2009 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM***

A copy of the FY 2010 Unified Planning Work Program (UWP) was distributed to the voting members through email. The UWP outlines the activities of KATS staff and local agencies for the fiscal year. Jon Start noted that increased time in FY 2010 will be spent on the development of the 2035 Transportation Plan and the FY 2011 - 2014 Transportation Improvement Program. Funding for the web-based traffic counting software was also programmed in FY 2010 (\$18,000). A total of \$309,463 in FHWA Planning funds and \$84,912 in FTA Section 5303 funds was budgeted, as well as \$20,000 from the Asset Management Council. Mr. Start noted that Metro Transit will be starting their Comprehensive Operations Analysis this fiscal year and concluding it in FY 2010. Funding for the study will be provided through KATS.

Ron Reid asked about the funding and work identified in the Unified Planning Work Program for the US-131 / US-131 Business Route Interchange. Kalamazoo Township and Oshtemo Township are currently funding a study of the interchange as well as seeking match funding for the High Priority funds. The UWP identified a review of the previous Economic Impact Study and the identification of potential improvements. Mr. Start noted that staff will be working on the 2035 Transportation Plan and TIP this upcoming fiscal year and without identified match for the High Priority fund, staff cannot program the funds within the UWP. He did note that the UWP can be amended anytime during the fiscal year should funding be identified. After some discussion, it was recommended that language be inserted to note KATS staff assistance with the local agencies in identifying match for the High Priority funds.

Motion by the Policy Committee, ***“to approve the FY 2010 Unified Planning Work Program with the inclusion of language identifying assistance in seeking funding for the High Priority funds for the US-131/US-131 Business Route.”*** Motion approved.

### ***WEB BASED TRAFFIC INFORMATION PROGRAM***

At the June Technical Committee meeting, the local agencies heard a presentation by Midwestern Software Solutions on their traffic counting software. The software has the ability for local agencies to upload traffic counts directly to the website and provide data to the general public. The traffic count information will also be used for the development of the 2035 Transportation Plan and future TIPs. The cost of the program is \$18,000 with an annual update of \$3,000. Staff has looked for comparable programs and has not found any. With the approval of the FY 2010 UWP, KATS staff will look at purchasing the software after October 1.

### ***PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION UPDATE***

Carol Fricke noted that the Transit Authority Board will meet at 8:15 on Friday.

Jack Mekemson reported that the FY 2008 audit was received by the Kalamazoo County Transportation Authority (KCTA). The KCTA extended the contract for Care-A-Van and Metro Van. The contract extension will last three to six months. A copy of the first quarter Care-A-Van ridership figures was distributed to the committee. The KCTA is also considering a fare increase within the next year.

Bill Schomisch noted that Metro Transit will be opening bids for the demand response program on June 30. They also have a RFP out for the Comprehensive Operations Analysis. He commented that the MDOT 2010 budget cuts funding for the transit system and there is a possibility for a fare increase.

***NATIONAL FUNCTIONAL CLASSIFICATION REVIEW***

July 7<sup>th</sup> is the first subcommittee meeting to look at Oshtemo Township's request to move 10<sup>th</sup> Street to a local street on the National Functional Classification system. This would apply to the section from M-43 to H Avenue. Mr. Start encouraged the Policy Committee members to attend.

***PROJECT PRIORITIZATION PROCESS***

KATS staff has not met with the local agencies to continue the development of the evaluation process. Jon Start noted that the Lansing's process was discussed during their recently triennial review. Staff will schedule a meeting to continue the development process.

***2035 TRANSPORTATION PLAN***

Jon Start and Steve Stepek will be meeting with the local agencies to discuss the socio-economic projections by Traffic Analysis Zone in the next few months. They will be looking at employment projections for each jurisdiction as well as population.

***OTHER NEW BUSINESS***

A meeting was being held at 9:00 a.m. on June 25 at the Kalamazoo County Road Commission building on setting realistic speed limits. It is being conducted by the Michigan State Police.

***ADJOURNMENT***

There being no further business, Chairperson Berkebile adjourned the meeting at 9:55 a.m.