



**KALAMAZOO AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY
POLICY COMMITTEE
MEETING OF MAY 26, 2010**

The May 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

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

MEMBERS ABSENT

Don Banner, Dan DeVries, Carol Fricke, and Linda Teeter.

OTHERS PRESENT

Carla Benison, John Byrnes, Dale Hein, Larry Hummel, Joanna Johnson, Bill Schomisch, Frank Szopo, Kathy Schultz, Jon Start, and Steve Stepek.

MINUTES OF THE APRIL 28, 2010 MEETING

MOTION by R. Reid, SUPPORT by Berkebile, *“to approve the minutes from the April 28, 2010 meeting.”* Motion approved.

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE REPORT

Jon Start reported on the May 13th Technical Committee meeting. The committee approved resolutions for Local Bridge funding submitted by the Kalamazoo County Road Commission and the City of Portage and supported the Kalamazoo County Road Commission’s application for Transportation Economic Development Funds for N Avenue / 11th Street / ON Avenue. They also heard status reports on local road and transit projects, as well as planning efforts within the community.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Joanna Johnson informed the committee that the Road Commission will be hosting a meeting on the Road Commission map on June 16 starting at 10:00. She also informed the committee that the County Road Association of Michigan (CRAM) will be hosting a workshop on road millage campaigns on June 11. Those interested in attending can contact Joanna at the Kalamazoo County Road Commission.

CHANGES OR ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

MOTION by Sorensen, SUPPORT by C. Reid, *“to accept the agenda as presented.”* Motion approved.

PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE FY 2011 - 2014 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP)

Chairperson Swiat opened the public hearing on the FY 2011 - 2014 Transportation Improvement Program.

Jon Start presented the draft project list of projects for the FY 2011 - 2014 Transportation Improvement Program. The Policy Committee will be taking final action on the entire document on June 30. The FY 2011 - 2014 TIP includes federal, state, and local funded projects. It also includes the illustrative projects for MDOT since the state currently cannot fund their entire four year program. It was noted that both FY 2011 years of the old and new Transportation Improvement Program will need to match until the FY 2011 - 2014 program is approved by the Federal Highway Administration, the Federal Transit Administration, and the Environmental Protection Agency. Once the final draft is complete, it will be forwarded to the Policy Committee for review prior to June 30th.

No citizen comments were made before the committee.

No Policy Committee comments were recorded.

Chairperson Swiat closed the public hearing on the FY 2011 - 2014 Transportation Improvement Program.

An amendment from the Michigan Department of Transportation was presented to the Policy Committee for approval. The amendment included:

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	MDNRE	Kal-Haven Trail State Park	Trail resurfacing from Kalamazoo County line to 10 th Street	32	NRT					32	109237

NRT = National Recreational Trail Funds

Larry Hummel from the Van Buren County Road Commission noted that the trailway work has started on this project and that this funding is for the Kalamazoo County portion only. A total of \$165,000 will be spent on the trail this summer. Upgrades to signs and road crossings will also be done.

Jon Start noted that the Technical Committee did not take formal action on this amendment due to when it was received by KATS staff.

MOTION by Heasley, SUPPORT by R. Reid, *“to approve the FY 2008 - 2011 Transportation Improvement Program amendment as presented.”* Motion approved.

PUBLIC HEARING ON CANDIDATE PROJECTS FOR POSSIBLE ADDITIONAL FEDERAL STIMULUS FUNDS

Chairperson Swiat opened the public hearing on the candidate projects for possible additional federal stimulus funds.

The cities of Kalamazoo, Portage, and Parchment, along with the Kalamazoo County Road Commission and the villages of Schoolcraft and Richland, submitted proposed projects for additional stimulus funds. Currently there is no bill in Washington for additional money. This public hearing would meet the public involvement criteria for the projects. The list as presented did not have a priority order but will be prioritized should funding be identified. The candidate projects included:

Responsible Agency	Project Name	Limits	Proposed Federal Cost	Proposed Federal Cost
City of Kalamazoo	Pitcher Street	Lovell Street to Water Street	Mill and resurface with spot curb and gutter and sidewalk replacement	\$121,700
City of Kalamazoo	Rose Street	Frank Street to Paterson Street	Mill and resurface with spot curb and gutter and sidewalk replacement	\$147,300
City of Kalamazoo	Alamo Road	West City Limits to Douglas Avenue	Mill and resurface with spot curb and gutter and sidewalk replacement	\$142,800
City of Kalamazoo	Howard Street	Oakland Drive to Merrill Street	Mill and resurface with spot curb and gutter and sidewalk replacement	\$264,000
City of Kalamazoo	Gull Street	Harrison Street to Riverview Drive	Mill and resurface with spot curb and gutter and sidewalk replacement	\$194,200
City of Kalamazoo	Ransom Street	Pitcher Street to Harrison Street	Mill and resurface with spot curb and gutter and sidewalk replacement	\$130,000
City of Parchment	Riverview Drive	G Avenue south to Parchmount	Mill and resurface	\$273,278
City of Portage	Romence Road	Westnedge Avenue to Constitution Boulevard	Mill and resurface	\$646,000
City of Portage	Oakland Drive	Kilgore Road to I-94	Mill and resurface	\$257,600
City of Portage	Centre Street	Shaver Road to Oakland Drive	Mill and resurface	\$656,000
Road Commission	Sprinkle Road	S Avenue to Zylman	Mill and resurface; widen to 3 lanes from S Avenue to 2000 ft of Zylman	\$1,458,000
Village of Richland	D Avenue	M-43 to Village of Richland limits	Reconstruct; sanitary sewer work updates	\$333,525
Village of Schoolcraft	Lyon Street	East of Grand Street to east of school drive	Extend 3 lanes east of US-131; ADA ramps	\$230,000

With the current stimulus bill, American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA), the local agencies have programmed all of the funding to date. There may be some bid savings from the Texas Drive project that will be reprogrammed. Currently there is approximately \$18,000 identified. If a project is selected for the remaining funds, it must be obligated by the September 15th deadline.

It was noted that the Village of Richland will be completing the sanitary sewer work without federal stimulus funds.

Chairperson Swiat closed the public hearing on the candidate projects for possible additional federal stimulus funds.

BRIDGE RESOLUTIONS OF SUPPORT

The following bridge resolutions were presented to the Policy Committee for action:

Kalamazoo County Road Commission Bridges

- 8th Street Bridge over Amtrak Railroad
- 40th Street Bridge over Little Portage Creek
- S Avenue Bridge over the Portage River
- Sprinkle Road Bridges over the Kalamazoo River and Norfolk Southern Railroad
- TS Avenue Bridge over the Portage River

City of Portage Bridge

- Kilgore Road Bridge over the Portage Creek

Village of Augusta

- Washington Street over Augusta Creek

Jon Start noted that the Technical Committee did not take action on the Washington Street resolution due to when KATS received the arrival of the request. The Road Commission will be requesting coordinated maintenance with the Michigan Department of Transportation should funding for maintenance be awarded for the Sprinkle Road Bridges. The local agencies are submitting the applications and should funding be awarded, the projects will be put into the Transportation Improvement Program.

The committee asked how much weight is given to resolutions or letters of support for bridge applications. Larry Hummel from the Van Buren County Road Commission serves on the board for selecting projects and said that support documentation has some weight to the process. The bridge selection committee is looking at having the letters mean more to the applications. The funding of urban bridges is also being looked at since many rural and urban bridge applications are submitted but more rural bridges are funded with the available funds.

MOTION by Sorensen, **SUPPORTED** by Healey, ***“to adopt the Resolutions of Support for the Local Bridge Program applications as presented.”*** Motion approved.

TRANSPORTATION ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND APPLICATION RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT

The Kalamazoo County Road Commission requested Policy Committee support of a Transportation Economic Development Fund Application for N Avenue / 11th Street / ON Avenue. The application would be applying for funds for upgrading the street from 9th Street to 12th Street to all-season road standards. The project would have shoulder upgrades and some tree removal. Joanna Johnson reported that the Board of County Road Commissioners approved the application at their recent board meeting.

The N Avenue project from 9th Street to 11th Street is in the proposed FY 2011 - 2014 Transportation Improvement Program and if the application is approved by the Michigan Department of Transportation, funding would extend the project on 11th Street and ON Avenue. The Technical Committee supported the resolution at their May 13th meeting. The Transportation Economic Development fund program is competitive statewide, with applications due June 10.

The committee asked whether Texas Township and Oshtemo Township have supported similar resolutions of support for the project. Neither of the township representatives present acknowledged that their boards were in favor or opposed to the grant application submittal. Susan Richardson noted that if the road is improved with federal funds and later restricted to truck traffic that the Michigan Department of Transportation could ask for the funding back from the local agency. It was noted that the Road Commission board did not unanimously support the application.

Libby Heiny-Cogswell noted that Oshtemo Township will be studying the Genesee Prairie area in the upcoming months, including traffic circulation and truck movements.

MOTION by Anderson, SUPPORT by C. Reid, *“to suspend action on the Resolution of Support for the Transportation Economic Development Fund application by the Kalamazoo County Road Commission.”* Motion approved with one objection.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION UPDATE

Greg Rosine reported that the City of Kalamazoo and Kalamazoo County are continuing to work on forming one system for public transportation in the county. Next month, the Kalamazoo County Transportation Authority (KCTA) will be presenting the results of the Transit Talks held last fall/winter around the community. A legislative meeting was being held Friday to discuss Public Act 196. On June 3, the KCTA will be talking at the Portage Community Center about the future changes in the Portage bus routes. It was noted that KATS has a copy of the Comprehensive Operations Analysis recently completed by Metro Transit and partially funded with transit planning funds through KATS.

2035 TRANSPORTATION PLAN

KATS staff has received the data from the Michigan Department of Transportation and is currently reviewing trips throughout the county. Traffic volumes and road capacity are also being reviewed based on the model run by MDOT.

GOALS AND VISION COMMITTEE

The Goals and Vision Committee will be meeting again soon to continue looking at KATS. They are currently reviewing the *What is KATS* document developed a few years ago.

KATS FINANCIAL ACTIVITY

A copy of the Year to Date Comparison to Budget and April 2010 Check Register was presented to the committee.

OTHER NEW BUSINESS

Dennis Berkebile thanked Kalamazoo Metro Transit for providing bus transportation to the MRC participants to their new building on 26th Street.

Libby Heiny-Cogswell noted that the H Avenue sewer work under US-131 from 9th Street to Drake Road came in 22% under engineering estimate.

Pete Pfeiffer noted that the M-43 viaduct will be closing July 6th for several weeks. He also noted that the I-94 project at Westnedge Avenue is moving along well.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chairperson Swiat adjourned the meeting at 9:50 a.m.