



**KALAMAZOO AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY  
POLICY COMMITTEE  
MEETING OF MAY 27, 2009**

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***

Dennis Berkebile (Chair), Jeff Bither, Allan Bussema, Karen Hayward, Rob Heasley, Libby Heiny-Cogswell, Tim Hudson, Linda Kerr, Jack Mekemson, Pete Pfeiffer, Claudette Reid, Ron Reid, Susan Richardson, Phyllis Simmons, Jeff Sorensen, Tom Swiat, Jr., Don Ulsh, Jack Urban, Bob Vlietstra, and Loren Warfield.

***MEMBERS ABSENT***

Dave Anderson, Carol Fricke, Lee Philport, and Greg Rosine.

***OTHERS PRESENT***

Lew Bashaw, Dale Hein, Michele McGowen, Bill Schomisch, Jodi Stefforia, Frank Szopo, Kathy Schultz, Jon Start, and Steve Stepek.

***MINUTES OF THE APRIL 29, 2009 MEETING***

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

***TECHNICAL COMMITTEE REPORT***

Jon Start reported on the May 14<sup>th</sup> Technical Committee meeting. The committee recommended Policy Committee approval of the FY 2008 - 2011 Transportation Improvement Program amendments and the FY 2010 CMAQ projects. They also heard reports on public transportation and the road agency projects.

***CITIZENS' COMMENTS*** - None

***FY 2008 - 2011 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM***

MDOT submitted a request for two amendments to the FY 2008 - 2011 Transportation Improvement Program. The projects included:

Fiscal Year	Project Name	Limits	Project Description	Federal Cost (\$000)	Federal Fund Source	State Cost (\$000)	State Fund Source	Local Cost (\$000)	Local Fund Source	Total Costs (\$000)	Job Number
2009	M-96	Over Mill Race, Augusta	Removal of existing bridge and reconstruct the new bridge	709	BRT	177	M			887	83617
2011	M-96	Michigan Avenue to 35th Street	Widen for left turns, storm sewer with curb and gutter on the southside only. Coldmill existing pavement and resurface	3,368	ST	747	M			4,115	48550

Tim Hudson thanked MDOT for advancing the M-96 projects and reminded them of the sidewalk along M-96 and the desire to keep it in place.

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

Due to the recent advancement of the ARRA funding, MDOT has decided to not complete a new Transportation Improvement Program this year but instead will work on FY 2011 - 2014 TIP. The document will be due to MDOT in FY 2010. In the mean time, KATS staff will be working with the local agencies to amend the FY 2010 and FY 2011 elements of the FY 2008 - 2011 Transportation Improvement Program.

***CONGESTION MITIGATION AIR QUALITY***

Three Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) applications were submitted for FY 2010 funding. They included:

- Community Ridesharing: \$39,400
- Traffic Signal Modernization, Interconnection, and Optimization along Rose Street from Vine Street to North Street for \$420,000 total; \$120,000 from the City of Kalamazoo.
- Traffic Signal Modernization, Interconnection, and Optimization along Mills Street from Lake Street to King Highway for \$720,000 total. MDOT is contributing \$200,000 of their CMAQ funds toward this project because the King Highway at Mills intersection is under MDOT control.

Motion by the Policy Committee, ***“to approve the FY 2010 Congestion Mitigation Air Quality projects and their transmittal to the Michigan Department of Transportation.”*** Motion approved.

***US-131/US-131BR***

Jon Start reported that he met with Ron Reid of Kalamazoo Township and Libby Heiny-Cogswell of Oshtemo Township to discuss their plans to hire a consultant to look at the US-131/US-131 Business Route interchange and to propose ideas for the interchange reconfiguration. Both townships have contributed \$5,000 towards the study and are welcoming any other agency contributions. Jon noted that the study cannot be used towards match for the High Priority Funding available through KATS. Staff is looking into the early preliminary and preliminary engineering requirements from MDOT.

***PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION UPDATE***

Jack Mekemson reported that the millage request passed recently for the county. The KCTA made a resolution to start collecting the funds in July for cities and in December for the townships. Notices will be sent to the local units of government.

Bill Schomisch reported that Metro Transit will be working on a Comprehensive Operations Analysis this summer into next fall. Bids will be open on June 30<sup>th</sup>. The study will look at the line haul system as well as Care-A-Van and Metro Van. Funds for the study are coming from KATS Section 5303 planning funding. Metro Transit will be purchasing Automatic Vehicle Locator (AVL) equipment with American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA) funding recently received. Mr. Schomisch also reported that the contract with Care-A-Van and Metro Van expires June 30<sup>th</sup>. Metro Transit currently owns most of the entire fleet of vehicles for both programs. Additional vehicles are being purchased so that contractors will not have to augment the fleet with their vehicles. New vans and cutaway vehicles are scheduled for purchase.

***WEB BASED TRAFFIC COUNT INFORMATION PROGRAM***

KATS staff is reviewing the purchase of a traffic counting software package that will allow the local agencies to directly download their count information onto a computer and then have traffic count information available online and in other formats. The software will cost approximately \$18,000 with an annual maintenance fee. The vendor is conducting a demonstration at the June 11<sup>th</sup> Technical Committee meeting starting at 9:00 a.m. Jon Start encouraged the Policy Committee members to attend if interested.

***FEDERAL AID ELIGIBLE SYSTEM***

At the April meeting, there was a question about what roads in Kalamazoo County are eligible for federal funds. KATS staff provided maps to each jurisdiction highlighting the roads that can receive federal funds. Any questions regarding the maps can be directed to KATS.

***OTHER NEW BUSINESS***

Dennis Berkebile informed the committee that the Kalamazoo County Road Commission held a hearing on May 21 to determine a resolution to the border road dispute between Kalamazoo Township, Alamo Township, and Oshtemo Township. The Road Commission Board determined that the Kalamazoo Township and Alamo Township's objections were valid and that the truck restrictions and diverting of truck traffic should be lifted. Final action by the Road Commission will take place at the Road Commission's June 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.

A question was raised about the new sound wall installation on I-94. Pete Pfeiffer informed the committee that there was an error in the design of the wall and additional segments are being added.

Jeff Sorensen informed the committee that the Kalamazoo Chapter of the Michigan Township Association will be holding a golf outing June 5 at Crestview Golf Course in Cooper.

***ADJOURNMENT***

There being no further business, Chairperson Berkebile adjourned the meeting at 9:36 a.m.