



**KALAMAZOO AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY
POLICY COMMITTEE
MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2009**

The September 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. Dennis Berkebile announced that the Road Commission will be having an open house from 2:30 - 6:30 October 2 to celebrate their 100 year anniversary.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Dennis Berkebile, (Chair), Dave Anderson, Jeff Bither, Carol Fricke, Karen Hayward, Dave Healy, Rob Heasley, Libby Heiny-Cogswell, Tim Hudson, Jack Mekemson, John Nieuwenhuis, Lee Philport, Claudette Reid, Ron Reid, Susan Richardson, Greg Rosine, Jeff Sorensen, Tom Swiat, Jr., and Bob Vlietstra.

MEMBERS ABSENT

Allan Bussema, Pete Pfeiffer, Phyllis Simmons, Don Ulsh, and Loren Warfield.

OTHERS PRESENT

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

MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 26, 2009 MEETING

Bill Schomisch noted that the Policy Committee minutes should read that the Care-A-Van vehicles will be maintained by the Apple Company, the contractor for the program. The minutes incorrectly indicated that Metro Transit would maintain the fleet. The start up for Metro County Connect is November 2.

Motion by the Policy Committee, “*to approve the minutes from the August 26, 2009 meeting as corrected.*” Motion approved.

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE REPORT

Jon Start reported on the September 10th Technical Committee meeting. The committee recommended approval of several FY 2008 - 2011 Transportation Improvement Program amendments. The amendments included adjustments to the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA) funds. Status reports were given on the 2030 Transportation Plan and the local road and planning projects occurring in Kalamazoo County.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS - None

TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Several amendments were presented to the Policy Committee for approval. They included the addition of the following projects to 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.
2010	Kalamazoo	Portage Street	City Limits to Lakeway	438	STUL	150	CITY	588	108255
2010	KCRC	24th Street & AB Avenue	D Avenue to AB Avenue; 24th Street to M-89	47	ARL	17	CNTY	65	108163
2010	KCRC	C Avenue	East Gull Lake Drive to 48th Street	50	ARL	15	CNTY	65	108162
2010	KCRC	Mercury Drive	MN Avenue to East County Line	25	ARL	14	CNTY	39	108161
2011	Kalamazoo	Balch Street	Park Street to Burdick Street	315	STUL	85	CITY	400	108256
2011	Kalamazoo	Douglas Avenue	Kalamazoo Avenue to City Limits	459	STUL	123	CITY	582	108258
2011	Parchment	River Reach Boulevard	Between Riverview Drive and G Avenue	771	STUL	807	CITY	1,578	108261
2011	Portage	Portage Road	Lakeview Avenue to Osterhout Road	328	STUL	369	CITY	697	108269
2011	Portage	South Westnedge Avenue	Centre Avenue to 800' north of Melody Lane	129	STUL	146	CITY	275	108274

The amendments adjust the costs for the following projects (new figures shown):

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.
2009	Kalamazoo	Burdick Street	Cork Street to Crescent Street	180	ARUL			180	105995
2009	Kalamazoo	Cork Street	Westnedge Avenue to Lovers Lane	493	ARUL			493	105971
2009	Kalamazoo	Edwards Street	South Street to Kalamazoo Avenue	330	ARUL			330	105994
2009	Kalamazoo	Lovers Lane	150 feet south of Cork Street to Kilgore Road	254	ARUL			254	105989
2009	Kalamazoo	Reed Street	Burdick Street to Portage Street	194	ARUL			194	103869
2009	KCRC	12 th Street	D Avenue to C Avenue	518	ARL			518	106603
2009	KCRC	8 th Street	R Avenue to Q Avenue	337	ARUL			337	106604
2009	KCRC	S Avenue	South Sprinkle to 29 th Street	941	ARUL	450	Cnty EDF	1,391	102767
2009	Portage	Kilgore Road	South Westnedge Ave to Norfolk Railroad	648	ARUL	84	City	732	105992
2009	Village of Schoolcraft	Eliza Street	West Village limits to 14th Street	246	ARUL			246	105996
2010	Kalamazoo	North Street	Douglas Avenue to Gull Road	602	STUL	156	City	758	108254
2010	KCRC	35th Street	I-94 Westbound Off Ramp to Kalamazoo River Bridge	815	STUL	365	Cnty	1,180	89645
2010	KCRC	Stadium Drive	4th Street to 6th Street	225	STUL	225	Cnty	450	89646
2010	KCRC	Texas Drive	at 8th Street	288	ARUL			288	108128
2010	Portage	West Milham Avenue	Angling Road to South 12th Street	1,040	STUL	921	City	1,961	89644
2011	KCRC	South Sprinkle Road	S Avenue to Zylman Avenue	774	STUL	697	Cnty	1,471	108259

The projects were deleted from the TIP:

Fiscal Year	Responsible Agency	Project Name	Limits	MDOT Job No.
2010	Kalamazoo	Drake Road	West Main Street to Grand Prairie	103433
2011	Kalamazoo	North Street	Douglas Avenue to Porter Street	
2011	Kalamazoo	Riverview Drive	Gull Road to Mosel Avenue	89649
2011	KCRC	9th Street	KL Avenue to M-43	89652
2011	Portage	Mall Drive	J.C. Penny Drive to Constitution Boulevard	89650

The following project was moved from FY 2009 to FY 2011:

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	Portage	Oakland Drive	Shaver Road to Katie Court	317	STUL	356	CITY	673	108208

Jon Start noted that the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA) projects were adjusted to reflect new costs based on bid prices. An addition of \$26,000 was added to the Village of Schoolcraft's Eliza Street project. Texas Drive at 8th Street received an additional \$5,284. An additional project from the City of Kalamazoo will be using the remaining ARRA funds. Action to include that project in the Transportation Improvement Program will be taken at the October meeting.

The Drake Road project from West Main to Grand Prairie was removed from the TIP. The City of Kalamazoo is currently reviewing the project and what year the improvements will take place. KATS staff is currently working on the development of the FY 2011 - 2014 Transportation Improvement Program.

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

TRANSIT TALK SESSION WITH KALAMAZOO COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

Blaine Lam of Lam and Associates presented the Policy Committee with the purpose of the Kalamazoo County Transportation Authority's "Transit Talks" that they are holding throughout the county. The KCTA is working to learn more about what the public wants in regards to the public transportation in the county. The talks will be held at locations requested by groups, agencies, and individuals. Contact Dale Hein to establish a talk time.

The KCTA hopes to conclude the talks by the end of December and report back the results. More information on the talks can be found online at: www.kalcountytransittalk.com.

Some of the comments will also feed into the Comprehensive Operations Analysis currently taking place with Metro Transit.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION UPDATE

Jack Urban reported that the Kalamazoo County Transportation Authority (KCTA) passed their 2010 budget. They are now reviewing the Public Transportation Human Services Plan. The plan will be coming to the Policy Committee in October for the committee's endorsement. The plan allows for the KCTA to apply for New Freedom and Job Access Reverse Commute funds from the federal government.

Carol Fricke informed the committee that the Apple Company will be maintaining service for Metro County Connect starting November 2. The Transit Authority Board is currently working on a fare increase systemwide.

Claudette Reid reported that Friends of Transit is working on the November 3 millage campaign for City of Kalamazoo residents. The request will be for 0.6 mils. The amount, if approved, will bring City of Kalamazoo residents up to 1.0 mils for public transportation.

Bill Schomisch reported that Metro Transit has entered an agreement with a firm out of Seattle to complete the Comprehensive Operations Analysis for the entire public transportation system in Kalamazoo County. He anticipates the study to take approximately six months. He also reported that a contractor was selected for working on the design of a AVL system for the system. He met with the editorial board recently with the Kalamazoo Gazette to inform them and the Gazette's readers about the plan for the \$3.1 million allocated for the AVL system. He noted that the ARRA funds that were being used for the AVL system cannot be used for operational expenses, only capital. The AVL system qualifies for these funds.

2009 SAFETEA-LU RESCISSION

Jon Start reported that in the current transportation legislation, there is a provision to rescind unobligated balances from the states. By rescinding money from the states, the local agencies will not be able to obligate projects after October 1 until a new transportation bill is approved at the federal level. MDOT has been aware for some time that this rescission would be coming and the State of Michigan legislators are working to have it repealed. There may be an impact to the Metropolitan Planning funds as well which currently fund KATS operations and staff.

FINANCE AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Dennis Berkebile requested volunteers contact him about serving on the Finance and Personnel Committee. The committee reviews the Executive Director and makes salary recommendations for staff. Please contact Dennis to volunteer.

Mr. Berkebile also requested volunteers to serve on the nominating committee for the Policy Committee Chair and Vice-Chair positions. Jeff Sorensen and Jeff Bither volunteered to serve on that committee.

OTHER NEW BUSINESS

KATS staff noted that a public hearing will be needed at the October 28th meeting to add the City of Kalamazoo's American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA) project. The project being proposed is currently not on the Tier I or Tier II project lists so public comment will be requested. The project will use remaining ARRA funds for Kalamazoo County.

Mr. Start also noted that the Policy Committee will be taking action to approve contractors for accounting and auditing services. The Request for Proposals are currently out to bid.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chairperson Berkebile adjourned the meeting at 9:43 a.m.