



**KALAMAZOO AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY
TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES OF APRIL 14, 2011**

The April meeting of the Kalamazoo Area Transportation Study Technical Committee was called to order at 9:00 a.m. at Oshtemo Township Hall. Meeting attendance was recorded on the sign-in sheet.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Chris Barnes (Chair), Muhammad Arif, John Byrnes, Dennis Durham, Chris Forth, Rick Fowler, Darrell Harden, Dale Hein, Tom Hohm, Lotta Jarnefelt, Debbie Jung, Dan Lewis, Michelle O'Neill, Steve Skalski, Jodi Stefforia, and Frank Szopo.

MEMBERS ABSENT

Andrea Augustine and Bill Schomisch.

OTHERS PRESENT

Larry Doyle, Libby Heiny-Cogswell, Jon Sytsma, Rachael Tupica, Kathy Schultz, Steve Stepek and Jon Start.

MINUTES FROM THE MARCH 10, 2011 MEETING

MOTION by Forth, SUPPORT by O'Neill, "*to approve the March 10, 2011 minutes.*" Motion approved.

CHANGES/ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA - None

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOTION by Stefforia, SUPPORT by Szopo, "*to approve the agenda for the April 14, 2011 meeting.*" Motion approved.

POLICY COMMITTEE REPORT

Jon Start reported on the March 30th Policy Committee meeting. The committee approved amendments to the FY 2011 - 2014 Transportation Improvement Program. They heard reports on the Project Prioritization Process and had extensive discussion regarding the freight subcommittee meeting. KATS will be looking to conduct a freight plan next fiscal year.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS - None

TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP)

The following amendments were presented to the Technical Committee for approval:

Addition to TIP:

Year	Responsible Agency	Project Name	Project Description	Federal Cost	Federal Fund Source	State Cost	State Fund Source	Local Cost	Local Fund Source	Total Phase Cost	MDOT Job No.
2012	MDOT	I-94 BL	Sidewalk ramp upgrades, modification of railroad approach to accommodate Grand Elk cantilever and gates, crossing surface repair, permanent pavement markings and signing and maintenance of traffic plans.	396	STR	44	M			440	111421
Addition of Project Phase 4/27/11											

Costs Adjustments:

Year	Responsible Agency	Project Name	Project Description	Federal Cost	Federal Fund Source	State Cost	State Fund Source	Local Cost	Local Fund Source	Total Phase Cost	MDOT Job No.
2011	MDOT	I-94	Bridge removal and replacement, road approaches, interchange improvements	76	IM	8	M	1	CITY	84	110524
Addition of project phase 10/13/10; Increase Total Project Cost from \$1,495,726 2/23/11; Increase State Cost from \$7,374, Decrease Local Cost from \$1,054, Increase Total Project Cost from \$9,557,365 4/27/11											
2011	MDOT	I-94	Bridge removal and replacement, approaches, and road work on Cork Street and I-94	73	BRI	8	M			81	110581
Addition of project phase 10/13/10, Increase Total Project Cost from \$4,549,611 2/23/11; Decrease Total Project Cost from \$4,565,658 4/27/11											

Year	Responsible Agency	Project Name	Project Description	Federal Cost	Federal Fund Source	State Cost	State Fund Source	Local Cost	Local Fund Source	Total Phase Cost	MDOT Job No.
2011	MDOT	I-94	Bridge removal and replacement, road approaches, interchange improvements	599	IM	62	M	4	CITY	666	110524
Addition of project phase 10/13/10; Decrease Total Project Cost from \$9,377,460 2/23/11; Increase State Cost from \$58,268, Decrease Local Cost from \$8,324, Increase Total Project Cost from \$9,557,365 4/27/11											
2011	MDOT	I-94	Bridge removal and replacement, approaches, and road work on Cork Street and I-94	254	BRI	28	M			283	110581
Addition of project phase 10/13/10, Decrease Total Project Cost from \$9,377,460 2/23/11; Decrease Total Project Cost from \$4,565,658 4/27/11											
2011	MDOT	I-94	Bridge removal and replacement, road approaches, interchange improvements	720	IM	125	M	5	CITY	850	110524
Addition of project phase; Construction scheduled for 2015 2/23/11; Increase Federal Cost from \$315,000 Increase State Cost from \$35,000, Increase Local Cost from \$0, Increase Total Project Cost from \$9,557,365 4/27/11											
2011	MDOT	I-94 BL	Preliminary Engineering services for design of sidewalk ramp upgrades, modification of railroad approach to accommodate Grand Elk cantilever and gates, crossing surface repair, permanent pavement markings and signing and maintenance of traffic plans	90	STR	10	M			100	111421
Addition of Project 10/13/10; Decrease Total Project Cost from \$1,646,500 4/27/11											
2011	MDOT	M-96	Widen at intersections (28th, 30th, and 35th streets) and resurface	1,473	ST	327	M			1,800	48550
Identified as Illustrative by MDOT 6/30/10; Moved to Project List and update project description 10/13/10; Remove Advance Construction, Identify funding for project phase 4/27/11											

Year	Responsible Agency	Project Name	Project Description	Federal Cost	Federal Fund Source	State Cost	State Fund Source	Local Cost	Local Fund Source	Total Phase Cost	MDOT Job No.
2014	MDOT	I-94	Bridge removal and replacement, road approaches, interchange improvements	7,440	IM	775	M	52	CITY	8,267	110524
Decrease Federal funds from \$7,764,538, State from \$754,884, Local from \$107,841; Decrease Total Project Cost from \$9,377,460 2/23/11; Increase State Cost from \$723,376, Decrease Local Cost from \$103,340, Increase Total Project Cost from \$9,557,365 4/27/11											
2014	MDOT	I-94	Bridge removal and replacement, approaches, and road work on Cork Street and I-94	3,611	BRI	401	M			4,012	110581
Addition of project phase 10/13/10; Increase Total Project Cost from \$4,549,611 2/23/11; Decrease Total Project Cost from \$4,565,658 4/27/11											

Deletion:

Year	Responsible Agency	Project Name	Project Description	Federal Cost	Federal Fund Source	State Cost	State Fund Source	Local Cost	Local Fund Source	Total Phase Cost	MDOT Job No.
2011	MDOT	I-94	Bridge removal and replacement, approaches, and road work on Cork Street and I-94 EPE Phase								110581
Addition of project phase; Construction in 2014 2/23/11; Removal of project phase from TIP 4/27/11											

The I-94BL project (Job 111421) adds funds to rail crossing improvements in the City of Kalamazoo. The majority of the project amendments include various program changes for the Michigan Department of Transportation based on cost estimates and bid savings. The I-94 project under Cork Street (Job 110581) deletes the early preliminary engineering phase within the Transportation Improvement Program.

MOTION by Harden, SUPPORT by Stefforia, ***“to approve the FY 2011 - 2014 Transportation Improvement Program amendments as presented.”*** Motion approved.

BRIDGE RESOLUTIONS OF SUPPORT

The Kalamazoo County Road Commission is requesting Technical Committee support for the following bridge applications:

- East Michigan Avenue over Comstock Creek: Rehabilitation
- S Avenue over Portage River: Replacement
- Sprinkle Road over Kalamazoo River: Maintenance
- Sprinkle Road over Norfolk Southern Railroad: Maintenance
- TS Avenue over Portage River: Replacement

Tom Hohm noted that the East Michigan Avenue bridge project will be a rehabilitation project instead of a replacement project as originally transmitted to the Technical Committee.

Jodi Stefforia asked the Kalamazoo County Road Commission why the 8th Street bridge was not being advanced for funding in FY 2014. She read off a number of questions from Oshtemo Township regarding their concern for the lack of advancement to obtain funding. A copy of the questions will be attached to the meeting minutes.

Tom Hohm noted that the 8th Street bridge is a local road and that the Kalamazoo County Road Commission Board did not support applying for funding for FY 2014. The Road Commission will formally respond to Oshtemo Township's questions regarding the bridge project.

MOTION by Szopo, SUPPORT by Byrnes, ***“to support the Kalamazoo County Road Commission’s Local Bridge Program applications for FY 2014.”*** Motion approved. One nay vote. Two abstentions.

PROJECT PRIORITIZATION PROCESS

The Project Prioritization Process Subcommittee met to look at the safety factors used for prioritizing projects. They are waiting for action by the Policy Committee to look at the freight factors used. Another subcommittee meeting will be held in the upcoming weeks. Libby Heiny-Cogswell suggested that the Technical Committee and Policy Committee hold a joint meeting to discuss the project prioritization process in order to get closure on the prioritization process development.

There was concern from Dennis Durham on whether the Technical Committee should be involved in the freight issue going before the Policy Committee. He made a motion to have the Technical Committee refrain from any further discussion on the freight restriction issue and to direct KATS staff or a third party to research and provide guidance to the Policy Committee. Motion failed due to a lack of support.

No formal action has been taken on the project prioritization process. There was consideration of whether weight restrictions should be a part of the project selection process. There are weight restrictions that are seasonal and those imposed by jurisdictions for various reasons.

MOTION by Durham, SUPPORT by Byrnes, ***“to not include weight restrictions as a part of the project prioritization process.”*** Motion failed. Two abstentions.

It was noted that whatever action taken by the Policy Committee needs to support the Goals and Objectives of KATS. Within the project prioritization process, use restrictions could be one of many factors to consider when selecting projects. Weight restrictions were part of the economic factors in the project prioritization process development a few years ago.

MOTION by Stefforia, SUPPORT by Byrnes, ***“to direct the Project Prioritization Process Subcommittee to include truck restrictions as one of many criteria used to rank projects.”*** Motion approved. One nay. Two abstentions.

UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM

A summary of hours submitted to date for FY 2011 was provided to the committee.

KATS staff is working to provide agencies with their estimates for FY 2012. Jon Start noted that the amount of effort will be scaled back from previous years. Staff will be working on a Complete Streets Plan, as well as a freight study and a congestion mitigation plan.

The Complete Streets Committee will be meeting on April 27 in Lansing.

2035 TRANSPORTATION PLAN

The air quality findings are complete and will be made available for comment soon. Staff plans to hold a public hearing on the 2035 Transportation Plan at the May Policy Committee meeting. Final adoption will be in June.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PLAN

Staff will be updating the Public Involvement Plan this fiscal year. Dennis Durham, Darrell Harden, John Byrnes, and Chris Forth volunteered to help in the review.

STATUS REPORTS

Michelle O'Neill reported that the I-94 project at Westnedge Avenue will include lane closures in the upcoming weeks.

Tom Hohm reported that Segment 3 of the Kalamazoo River Valley Trailway is being delayed a month due to fundraising.

Lotta Jarnefelt reported that all parcels for the jurisdictions in Kalamazoo County are available online at www.kalcounty.com.

AGENCY TIME SHEETS

Kathy Schultz reminded the committee that time sheets are due by the 15th of the month.

OTHER NEW BUSINESS

The MDOT High Risk Rural Roads call for projects information is available. Submission is due by July 1 to the Michigan Department of Transportation.

The Technical Committee congratulated Frank Szopo on his retirement from the City of Kalamazoo.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chairperson Barnes adjourned the meeting at 10:40 a.m.