



**KALAMAZOO AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY  
TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING  
MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 11, 2010**

The February meeting of the Kalamazoo Area Transportation Study Technical 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***

John Byrnes (Chair), Muhammad Arif, Chris Barnes, Michael Bippley, Dennis Durham, Rick Fowler, Darrell Harden, Keith Hernandez, Tom Hohm, Lotta Jarnefelt, Dan Lewis, Fred Nagler, Bill Schomisch, Steve Skalski, Jodi Stefforia, Frank Szopo, and Dallas Williams.

***MEMBERS ABSENT***

Chris Forth and Dale Hein.

***OTHERS PRESENT***

Nicole Dalman, Kathy Schultz, Jon Start and Steve Stepek.

***MINUTES FROM THE DECEMBER 3, 2009 MEETING***

Motion by the Technical Committee, "*to approve the December 3, 2009 minutes.*" Motion approved.

***POLICY COMMITTEE REPORT***

Jon Start and Kathy Schultz reported on the December and January Policy Committee meetings. At the December meeting, members discussed additional ARRA money from agencies. The Policy Committee directed KATS to prioritize the list before December 22<sup>nd</sup>. After prioritization, the list was submitted to MDOT.

A FY 2009 audit presentation was given at the January meeting. An expense report will be provided at the February meeting to the Policy Committee. The group approved the TIP amendment adding funds to rural public transportation operating funds. The prioritized list for additional ARRA funding was also shared with the members, along with a public transportation update.

***CITIZENS' COMMENTS*** - None

***TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM***

The committee was provided a copy of the public transportation amendment. The Policy Committee already took action to approve the amendment at their January meeting.

Motion by the Technical Committee, ***“to approve the FY 2008-2011 public transportation amendment.”***  
Motion approved.

The second action item was additional FY 2008-2011 TIP amendments. These included six MDOT, two City of Kalamazoo, and one Metro Transit amendments.

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

Kathy Schultz spoke about the FY 2011-2014 Transportation Improvement Program public information materials that were sent out with the meeting materials. A postcard was sent to all property owners near a project in an effort to gather comments. The comments will be directed to the KATS website to send a web-based comment. Each township and village will receive a multi-page document with comment cards. The Kalamazoo Gazette will also be notified to do further outreach.

The FY 2011-2014 TIP will need to show total project cost including design engineering, construction engineering, and right of way.

Mr. Start spoke briefly about Jobs for Main Street. These projects need to be compiled and shovel ready with 90 days under one version of the legislation. The Tier II list from ARRA can be included, as well as new projects. The rules have not been established yet, but KATS will be setting up a subcommittee meeting to prepare the list.

### ***2035 TRANSPORTATION PLAN DEVELOPMENT STATUS***

Jon Start told the group that MDOT has the population and employment data for development of the 2035 Transportation Plan. KATS will be collecting Act 51 financial reports from each road agency. Approval of the 2035 Plan should take place in September.

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

Bill Schomisch gave the public transportation update. The ridership totals for 2009 were down 3.6% for fixed route, up 6% for Care-A-Van, and up 20% for Metro Van service compared to 2008. The Comprehensive Operations Analysis draft report is complete and can be found as a link to [www.kmetro.com](http://www.kmetro.com). The draft will go to the Transit Authority Board on February 26<sup>th</sup> and changes will be made if necessary, then distributed. The Kalamazoo County Transit Authority is working to have an “adopt a shelter” program for business, agencies, and individuals.

The ITS project is moving along well and new farebox installation on the busses is complete. The ticket vending machine installations have been delayed but are still scheduled for installation.

### ***STATUS REPORTS***

Chris Barnes said the City of Portage submitted the West Milham from Angling Road to 12<sup>th</sup> Street project to MDOT. However, due to the short extensions to SAFETEA-LU, there is not enough funding on hand to bid the project.

Fred Nagler told the group that the City of Kalamazoo's STP project has been submitted for GI review. The city expects a June letting for the North Street from Douglas Road to Gull Road and Portage Street from Lakeway to the city limit.

The bridge is not set yet on the Kalamazoo Valley River Trail due to cold weather. There are two ARRA projects: Lovers Lane from Kilgore Road to Burdick Street and Burdick Street from Cork Street to Crescent that will begin construction in the spring. Delivery is expected soon on the mast arms for the CMAQ project on Drake, Patterson, and Edwards corridors. The grade inspection will be soon for the Mills Street and Rose Street corridor CMAQ traffic signal projects.

Tom Hohm said the Kalamazoo County Road Commission's STP projects: Stadium Drive from 4<sup>th</sup> Street to 6<sup>th</sup> Street and 35<sup>th</sup> Street from I-94 to the Kalamazoo River are scheduled for May or June lettings. The 24<sup>th</sup> Street bridge over Portage Creek is scheduled for a spring start of construction. The 8<sup>th</sup> Street at Texas Drive ARRA project is scheduled for a March letting. The ARRA force account chip seal projects will start in June. The Sprinkle Road at G Avenue safety project will begin construction in April.

Dennis Durham reported that several containers have been removed from the River Reach Development project. Waiting on the Department of Environmental Quality, but moving ahead well.

Dan Lewis updated the committee on the Village of Schoolcraft's Eliza Street project. The sidewalk has been postponed until spring due to weather.

Michael Bippley from MDOT said that the M-43 CMAQ project: from 9<sup>th</sup> Street to Berkley will be completed as weather permits. The sound walls are going up on I-94, and repair to the cable barrier is being done as needed.

Jodi Stefforia said that Oshtemo Township's Streetscape proposal will be out in February and, then Phase I will begin.

Keith Hernandez reported that the City of Kalamazoo will be releasing the draft Master Plan to the steering committee.

Lotta Jarnefelt told the group she is working to get all of the parcels in Kalamazoo County in the GIS. Census counters will be working with organizations to contact people and make sure they get counted. The census forms will be mailed out in March.

### ***AGENCY TIME SHEETS***

Kathy Schultz informed the committee that KATS time sheets are due by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month. Please turn in your timesheets for the previous month at each Technical Committee meeting.

### ***OTHER NEW BUSINESS***

Calls for High Risk Rural Roads and Local Safety projects went out. The deadline for project proposals are March 19 for the High Risk Rural Roads and April 16<sup>th</sup> for Local Safety.

### ***ADJOURNMENT***

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