



**KALAMAZOO AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY  
TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING  
MINUTES OF MAY 14, 2009**

The May meeting of the Kalamazoo Area Transportation Study Technical Committee was called to order at 9:07 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), Shahid Abbas, Christopher Barnes, Dennis Durham, Rick Fowler, Darrell Harden, Keith Hernandez, Tom Hohm, Dwight Leeks, Carmine Lewis, Fred Nagler, Michelle O'Neill, Jodi Stefforia, Frank Szopo, Mike West, and Dallas Williams.

***MEMBERS ABSENT***

Muhammad Arif and Dale Hein.

***OTHERS PRESENT***

Carolyn Hobbs-Kreiger, Paul MacNellis, Jon Sytsma, Nicole Dalman, Kathy Schultz, Jon Start and Steve Stepek.

***MINUTES FROM THE APRIL 9, 2009 MEETING***

Kathy Schultz made a change to the members absent section of the meeting minutes to remove Dennis Durham from the list. Dan Lewis was present at the April meeting as Mr. Durham's alternate.

Fred Nagler corrected the second sentence of the City of Kalamazoo's status report on page 3 to read "The 2009 bridge project in the Veterans Memorial Park will begin construction on Monday, April 13<sup>th</sup>."

Motion by the Technical Committee, "***to approve the corrected minutes from April 9, 2009.***" Motion approved.

***POLICY COMMITTEE REPORT***

Jon Start gave an update of the April 29<sup>th</sup> Policy Committee meeting. The group approved the amendments to the 2010-2011 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). There was a status update on the FY 2010-2013 TIP and the bridge applications were approved. There was a presentation given by MDOT's Bobbi Welke on the US-131/US-131 BR. FHWA advises to stay away from environmental areas of the project. The study can be matched with cash and not soft match.

Jon also noted that the MTPA/MAR Conference will be held in Kalamazoo this year. Anyone may participate at the conference and more information is available from KATS staff.

### ***CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT***

Jon Start told the committee that there was a meeting held on April 16<sup>th</sup> with low turn out. He is hopeful that in the future, more citizens would be interested in coming to the meetings.

***CITIZENS' COMMENTS*** - None

### ***TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP)***

Darrell gave an update on MDOT's M-96 over the Mill Race bridge replacement project. The project is being amended to use 2009 instead of 2010 funding. Construction will be in 2010, with a September 2009 letting date. MDOT's M-96 to 35<sup>th</sup> Street project will be added to FY 2011.

Motion by the Technical Committee to ***"to approve FY 2009 Transportation Improvement Program amendments."*** Motion approved.

Because of the work on ARRA projects and the fact that we have a TIP that goes through 2011, the new TIP that we are working on will be for FY 2011-2014 instead of FY 2010-2013. We will need project proposals for 2014. Changes for 2010 still need to be amended into the current TIP.

### ***CONGESTION MITIGATION AIR QUALITY***

Jon Start reported that the Congestion Mitigation Air Quality Subcommittee had met recently. Along with the 2010 Community Ridesharing program, the committee recommends two signal optimization projects: Rose Street corridor from Vine Street to North Street; and Mill Street from Lake Street to King Highway. The Rose Street project has local match. The subcommittee recommended that the Technical Committee support and recommend Policy Committee approval of these two projects.

Motion by the Technical Committee, ***"to recommend Policy Committee approval of the 2010 CMAQ projects to the Michigan Department of Transportation."*** Motion approved.

### ***NATIONAL FUNCTIONAL CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM***

Jon Start noted that the subcommittee needs to meet to review an offer from Oshtemo Township to remove 10<sup>th</sup> Street from M-43 to H Avenue from the National Functional Classification System. An offer was made when KATS thought that in order to add mileage, there had to be a reduction in mileage for a zero net gain. A meeting will be set later to discuss this situation. Jon stressed that anyone could attend but both road agencies and Oshtemo Township should be on this committee.

### ***2035 TRANSPORTATION PLAN***

Mr. Start is currently working on 2008 employment data. Projections are going through analysis, then MDOT will run the models. The 2035 Plan should be adopted by September 2010.

***PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION UPDATE***

Carmine Lewis reported that the county millage had passed, and that the plans are good for three years. There is speculation of a fair increase possibly this fall. Collection of the tax revenue will begin with summer taxes.

***STATUS REPORTS***

Chris Barnes said the Milham Road from Oakland Drive to Angling Road project is under construction and going well. It will be closed for sewer work, with a temporary roadway to open May 28th. The letting for ARRA projects is scheduled for June 15th.

Fred Nagler reported that the Rose Park Veterans Memorial construction is underway. A pre-construction meeting is set for May 22nd for the Lovell Street and Bronson Boulevard projects. The City of Kalamazoo's ARRA projects are set for letting in August.

Tom Hohm reported that the Kalamazoo County Road Commission's project on 43rd Street from R Avenue to Q Avenue is moving along well. The CMAQ Sprinkle Road corridor project is waiting on mast arms. Progress is being made with the Kalamazoo River Valley Trailway Segment 1, with boardwalk installation and other improvements. The ARRA projects: 8th Street from R Avenue to Q Avenue; 12th Street from D Avenue to C Avenue; and S Avenue from Sprinkle Road to 29th Street are set for a July letting. In addition, there is a joint CMAQ project with the City of Kalamazoo on Drake Road.

Michelle O'Neill told the committee that the I-94 project is set for the May 15<sup>th</sup> letting. Westnedge Avenue at Crosstown Parkway opened May 13<sup>th</sup>.

Dennis Durham noted that the demolition at the River Reach site in Parchment is moving along.

Jodi Stefforia reported that the Alamo and Kalamazoo Township objection about the Oshtemo Township truck ordinance was proceeding through the resolution process. A public hearing is scheduled for May 25th at the Kalamazoo County Road Commission at 7:00 p.m.

***AGENCY TIME SHEETS***

Jon Start reminded the committee to get their time sheets in to KATS by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month.

***OTHER NEW BUSINESS***

Shahid Abbas attended the Strategic Highway Planning Conference in Chicago. Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), as well as state department of transportation and other government agencies attended. The conference focused on safety projects. Shahid presented Michigan's Strategic Safety Plan on behalf of MDOT. He noted that Michigan is ahead of many other states in data and is the highest in seat belt use. Mr. Abbas also reminded the group of the webinar on May 28<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 that the City of Kalamazoo is hosting.

Jon reminded the group of the deadline for funding assistance for the MTPA conference in July.

***ADJOURNMENT***

There being no further business, Chairperson Byrnes adjourned the meeting at 10:25 a.m.