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MINUTES OF MEETING

TECHNICAL ADVISORY SUBCOMMITTEE

DATE: June 4, 2008

TIME: 9:30 a.m.

PLACE: 827 North Zeeb Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48103

Members Present: City of Saline – Gary Roubal, Chair
University of Michigan – Bitsy Lamb for Dave Miller
Ypsilanti Township – Dave Nicholson, 2nd Vice-Chair
AATA – Chris White
City of Ann Arbor Engineering – Homayoon Pirooz
City of Ann Arbor Planning – Eli Cooper
City of Chelsea – Christine Linfield
Village of Dexter – Rhett Gronevelt
Eastern Michigan University – Dieter Otto
MDOT Planning – Ola Williams
MDOT Region – Kari Andrewes
Pittsfield Township – Paul Montagno
Washtenaw County Planning & Environment – Brett Lenart
Washtenaw County Road Commission Engineering – Sheryl Siddall
City of Ypsilanti DPW – Stan Kirton
SEMCOG – Jeff Tumidanski,

Members Absent: FHWA – Chris Dingman

Others Present: AATA – Tom Cornillie
Ann Arbor Township – Mike Moran
City of Ann Arbor Engineering – Pat Cawley
MDOT – Paul Lott, Larry Dropiewski
SEMCOG – Tom Bruff
WATS – Terri Blackmore, Eric Bombery, Ryan Buck, Nick Sapkiewicz

POLICY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- CITY OF ANN ARBOR • ANN ARBOR TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY • ANN ARBOR TOWNSHIP • CITY OF CHELSEA • VILLAGE OF DEXTER •
- DEXTER TOWNSHIP • EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY • MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION • NORTHFIELD TOWNSHIP • PITTSFIELD TOWNSHIP •
- CITY OF SALINE • SCIO TOWNSHIP • SOUTHWEST WASHTENAW COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS • SUPERIOR TOWNSHIP • UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN •
- WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS • WASHTENAW COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION • CITY OF YPSILANTI • YPSILANTI TOWNSHIP •
- EX OFFICIO: FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION • SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS •

1. Call to Order

Chair Roubal called the meeting to order at 9:30 am and asked those present to introduce themselves.

2. Public Participation

Chair Roubal asked if there was anyone from the public who would like to address the Committee. No one from the public wished to address the Committee so public participation time was closed.

3. Approval of the May 7, 2008 Minutes

Ms. Siddall gave some corrections to Mr. Bombery to make to the May 7th minutes. Ms. Linfield made a motion to approve the May 7, 2008 minutes as amended. Mr. Lenart supported the motion and the minutes were approved as amended.

4. Communications and Announcements

Ms. Blackmore reported that the AATA Strategic Planning Session took place on May 27 and she participated in the session which helped set the direction for AATA policy.

Ms. Blackmore reported that the current officers completing their 2nd year of a two year term on the WATS Technical Committee are Gary Roubal, Chair, Dave Miller, 1st Vice-chair and Dave Nicholson, 2nd Vice-chair.

Handouts at place:

1. Upcoming meetings
2. SEMCOG AA to Detroit Update
3. April Crashes

5. WATS Activities

Ms Blackmore reported that an Ann Arbor to Detroit Rapid Transit Study update is at the attendees place. A meeting has been set up with the three railroads in mid-June to discuss the needs for the proposed service.

Ms. Blackmore reported that the North – South Rail Coalition consultant, R.L. Banks were in Michigan May 1 and 2 to review the track and equipment and to hold the community meetings and the kickoff meeting with the Technical Steering Committee. Three progress reports have been received; a draft station report and a preliminary estimate of capital and operating costs were provided to Senator Debbie Stabenow and Congressmen John Dingell and Mike Rogers. The final report is due June 13th.

Ms. Blackmore reported that the 2007 asset management data and previous year's data including tables, charts and maps are available on the Agency's website. The Asset Management Council has requested that locals collect only 50% of the samples this year with the planning agencies concentrating on assisting local agencies with complying with the reporting requirement. MDOT has

indicated that they can withhold Act 51 dollars from agencies that do not report using the online tool.

Ms. Blackmore reported the WATS has sent out the requests for 2008 HPMS counts.

Ms. Blackmore reported that staff recently completed a review of the Sylvan Township Comprehensive update. Staff has received a copy of an amendment to the City of Ann Arbor Downtown Plan that will be reviewed in the next month.

Ms. Blackmore reported that Susan Burleigh is currently working on the 2nd week of May crashes and waiting on the March and April corrections. WATS is following up on the possibility of electronic crash reporting to the with the Chief's Association and hope to work toward a grant for electronic submission. The vendor meeting for electronic crash reporting will take place on June 10th and it would be helpful to have representatives from Washtenaw County at the meeting if they would like to apply for the OHSP grant.

Mr. Buck reported that the travel demand model update, to be used in the 2035 LRP, contract is nearly 80 percent complete and six of the tasks at 100%. The current work is on implementing the mode choice. The State Models User Group is working to develop a training session and best practice for implementing alternatives analysis in the regional plan development.

Ms. Blackmore reported that the final Transit Plan has been put into a public graphically enhanced document and was distributed at the April meeting. Copies were provided at both the Technical and Policy Committee meetings. Copies will be provided to all communities in the County and if you have not received a copy of the plan, please contact staff.

6. Old Business

There was no old business needing to be addressed.

7. New Business

A. 2007 Total Funding Mode Split Report

Mr. Buck stated that at the October 17, 2006 Policy Committee meeting, the Committee approved an updated Federal Funding Split Policy with revised funding targets of 80 percent for roads, 10 percent for transit and 10 for non-motorized improvements with a reevaluation to occur in late 2007 or early 2008. WATS was tasked with documenting the split of federal funds used for each category for 2007. When the original results were presented in February 2007 the Technical Committee requested that the evaluation in 2008 consist of all funding types and not just federal funds.

Mr. Buck stated that while little additional information was provided by local agencies for this year's evaluation, the information collected is shown in attachments. Using all funding sources, the non-motorized percentage is 9.96 and the transit supportive percentage is 2.87.

Mr. White apologized for not getting the transit data to WATS on time and asked if it would help with the evaluation if he got the data to WATS shortly. Mr. Lenart suggested that the committee wait until the transit data could be added to the evaluation.

Mr. Lenart made a motion to table the 2007 Total Funding Mode Split Report until WATS has the available transit information that will be added to the evaluation. Mr. Cooper supported the motion and the motion passed.

B. ITS Presentation

Mr. Bruff from SEMCOG gave a presentation on Michigan Regional ITS Architecture and Deployment Plans. The presentation is attached to the meeting packet filed in the WATS office.

C. Annual Meeting

Ms. Blackmore asked the committee if they would like to change the monthly meeting time or place. Mr. White made a motion to keep the meetings at 9:30am at the Scio Township Hall every 1st Wednesday. Mr. Nicholson seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Ms. Blackmore asked the committee who they would like to serve as officers for the next two years. Mr. White made a motion to have Mr. Miller be Chair, Mr. Nicholson serve as 1st Vice-Chair and Mr. Cooper serve as 2nd Vice-Chair. Ms. Linfield seconded the motion and the motion passed.

8. Agency Reports

A. City of Ann Arbor

Mr. Cooper reported that the City's 2010 Rails to Trails Campaign application document is in draft form. There will be a Transportation Plan update meeting on June 18th and there will be public meetings in the fall when the students return. The Commuter Challenge is underway through GetDowntown and the City is developing a commuter choice program for its employees. An outreach campaign will be conducted to educate the public on the rights of pedestrians in crosswalks.

Mr. Pirooz reported that Huron River Drive was closed to traffic from Bird to Main. The construction will suspend in September and then resume in the spring of 2009 with completion in the fall of 2009.

B. AATA

Mr. White introduced Tom Cornillie who has joined the planning staff at AATA. Mr. White also reported that AATA has ordered an additional 9 hybrid buses. Mr. White also reported that there was an AATA board retreat held; there is support for AATA to evolve into a regional agency. The express bus from Chelsea has started and there are still some seats available. AATA is offering limited time free bus passes to try out the Chelsea service. Ridership is up 8-9% in the last quarter and non-University of Michigan riders are growing faster rate than University riders.

C. City of Chelsea

Ms. Linfield reported that resurfacing will start this month on Park, Wilkinson, South and a municipal lot. Railroad and Dexter will be resurfaced in July. A new pedestrian bridge was completed in Veterans Park. East Middle, McKinley, and Taylor will also be resurfaced this year.

D. Village of Dexter

Mr. Gronevelt reported that the Third street construction will be completed this week. Ann Arbor St reconstruction will start June 16th. A DDA project on Jeffords and Forest will start in late June.

E. Eastern Michigan University

Mr. Otto had nothing to report.

F. FHWA

Mr. Dingman was not present.

E. Pittsfield Township

Mr. Montagno reported that a final good faith offer was extended to the last property hold out for the Platt Greenway.

F. MDOT Planning, TSC and Region

Mr. Williams reported that the TIP amendments for the regional had been forwarded to the FHWA and FTA for their review. The Agency's UWP has also been forwarded to FHWA.

Mr. Dropiewski reported that construction on Ford started this week, it is down to one lane with flag control. Resurfacing on I-94 BL in Ann Arbor has begun and it is night work. He also noted that I-94 from Washtenaw to Huron will have intermittent lane closures and the I-94 from Bridge to Harris in Ypsilanti will be resurfaced at night. WB M-14 will be closed Friday and EB M-14 will be closed Saturday night for bridge demolition.

Mr. Lott reported that there is a new list serve that people may sign up for on updates of road projects. Final reports of the Asset Management Plan have been distributed. He also noted that there was an article in the Lansing State Journal supporting the Michigan Flyer service.

G. City of Saline

Mr. Roubal reported that projects on Maple and Mills are out for bid.

H. SEMCOG

Mr. Tumidanski reported that the update on the Ann Arbor to Detroit rail progress was handed out.

Mr. Bruff reported that SEMCOG was awarded an excellence award in safety and long range plan integration.

I. U of M

Ms. Lamb had nothing to report.

J. WCPE

Mr. Lenart had nothing to report.

K. WCRC

Ms. Siddall reported that the conversion of Ford Blvd back to 4 lanes will require a 2 and a half year crash study to avoid not having to pay back the federal and state funds that were used. The road projects by Toyota are being paved. The Carpenter Road project should be finished in June. The Dexter Main St Bridge is down to one lane until the other side of the bridge is replaced. She reported that the intersections of Geddes at Leforge and Geddes at Superior are closed for reconstruction. Jackson Blvd remains open and utility work is underway for the third phase of the boulevard construction. A CMAQ project to interconnect many signals throughout the area near Washtenaw Community College has been completed. The rehabilitation of the East Delhi Bridge will begin in July.

L. City of Ypsilanti

Mr. Kirton reported that a local project on First Ct and Armstrong will start June 16.

M. Ypsilanti Township

Mr. Nicholson reported that Holmes was closed for construction. The negotiations with the WCRC about the Stony Creek and Whittaker roundabout are ongoing. Citizens have been complaining about promised improvements to Bemis that have yet to happen. Support within the township is growing for a regional transit system.

8. Adjournment

Ms. Linfield made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Siddall supported the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 11:17.