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MINUTES OF MEETING

TECHNICAL ADVISORY SUBCOMMITTEE

DATE: May 7, 2008

TIME: 9:30 a.m.

PLACE: 555 North Zeeb Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48103

Members Present: University of Michigan – Dave Miller, 1st Vice-Chair
Ypsilanti Township – Dave Nicholson, 2nd Vice-Chair
City of Ann Arbor Engineering – Homayoon Pirooz
City of Ann Arbor Planning – Eli Cooper
Village of Dexter – Christine Cale
Eastern Michigan University – John Donegan
FHWA – Chris Dingman
MDOT Region – Kari Andrewes
Pittsfield Township – Bruce Fowler
Washtenaw County Road Commission Engineering – Roy Townsend
City of Ypsilanti DPW – Stan Kirton
MDOT Planning – Ola Williams

Members Absent: City of Saline – Gary Roubal, Chair
AATA – Chris White
City of Chelsea – Christine Linfield
Washtenaw County Planning & Environment – Brett Lenart

Others Present: MDOT – Paul Lott, Jeff Reed
SEMCOG – Jeff Tumidanski
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 •

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1. Call to Order

Vice-Chair Miller called the meeting to order at 9:32 am.

2. Public Participation

Vice-Chair Miller 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 April 2, 2008 Minutes

Mr. Dingman noted that he was at the April Technical Committee meeting but was not listed in attendance. Mr. Townsend made a motion to approve the April 2, 2008 minutes as amended. Mr. Nicholson supported the motion and the minutes were approved as amended.

4. Communications and Announcements

Handouts at place:

1. Upcoming meetings
2. Transit Plan Summary Brochure
3. Non-motorized Plan Summary Brochure
4. Transportation Profile Summary Brochure
5. Michigan Traffic Crash Data and Information Brochure
6. SEMCOG AA to Detroit Update
7. February and March Crashes
8. Transit Plan.

5. WATS Activities

Ms. Blackmore reported that an update of the Ann Arbor to Detroit Rapid Transit Study has been provided at your place.

Ms. Blackmore reported that four meetings on the North – South Rail Coalition were held with the WALLY consultant for the Validation Study and that the consultant also met with the Great Lakes Central Rail Road and MDOT. The consulting team also completed the rail review of the tracks. The validation study kick off meeting with the Technical Steering Committee was also held. The consultant provided a preliminary review of the capital needs that was submitted to Congressman Dingell, Congressman Rogers and Senator Stabenow.

Ms. Blackmore reported the asset management 2007 data and previous year's data including tables, charts and maps are available on the Agency's website. Staff attended the 2008 Asset Management Conference and is available to provide assistance to local agencies including compliance with the reporting requirements. MDOT has indicated that they can withhold Act 51 dollars from agencies that do not report.

Ms. Blackmore reported WATS had submitted the second round of HPMS error checking for the 2007 data.

Ms. Blackmore reported that staff recently completed a review the Sylvan Township Comprehensive Plan Update. WATS commented that the 2 acre lot requirement does not preserve farm land.

Ms. Blackmore reported that Susan Burleigh is currently working on the last of the April crashes and waiting on the February, March and April corrections. On April 9 staff presented to the Chiefs Association on the possibility of electronic crash submission.

Ms. Blackmore reported the next few months of the Sustainable Transportation Financing group will be focused on gaining the support of Speaker Dillon, Senator Bishop and the Governor in an effort to be ready for a lame duck passage. The legislators need to hear from constituents so if your agency or community is receiving complaints, please continue to recommend that they share their complaints with their legislators.

Mr. Buck reported that the WATS model update is still close to schedule. He indicated that LSA gave a quick demonstration to WATS staff on the new model interface and summary reports that will be automatically generated.

Ms. Blackmore reported the final Transit Plan for Washtenaw County has been put into a graphically enhanced document and the final copy and summary brochure has been provided at your place. WATS has also conducted many presentations on the transit plan throughout the County.

6. Old Business

A. Transit Plan for Washtenaw County

Ms. Blackmore stated that the Transit Plan for Washtenaw County is at the committee members spot. She also indicated that staff is available to make a presentation on the plan to communities boards and any interested should contact her.

7. New Business

A. 2007 Crash Report

Mr. Bombery stated that the final 2007 Crash Report is at the committee members spots. All comments received after the distribution of the draft report last month were incorporated into the final. The report expanded on pedestrian and bicycle crashes from the prior year.

Ms. Blackmore stated that in the beginning of 2008 the City of Milan has also started sending their crash reports to WATS which will be included in next year's report.

Mr. Townsend made a motion to recommend approval of the final 2007 Crash Report to the Policy Committee. Mr. Nicholson seconded and the motion passed.

B. FY 2008-2011 TIP Amendments

Mr. Bombery stated that the call for amendments to the FY 2008-2011 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) program was issued on April 15, 2008. This is the last call for amendments for 2008

and is the first opportunity for amendments in FY 2009. Of the 11 projects being amended, 7 projects are additions and 2 projects are being deleted from the FY 2008-2011 TIP. The remaining 2 projects changed the limits.

Mr. Bomberly stated that two of the projects used Washtenaw County's STP Urban federal funding but both replaced the 2 deleted projects, therefore the FY 2008-2011 TIP will remain fiscally constrained. The other 5 projects using federal transit funds, STP small urban, or STP enhancement and do not need to be fiscally constrained by WATS.

Mr. Bomberly stated two of the 7 new projects being amended to the FY 2008-2011 TIP impact Environmental Justice (EJ) protected populations; as the projects are located within or near EJ areas. Three of the projects are transit and 1 other project is a payback for a pavement project, so no new EJ analysis is required as it was completed previously. And one project is not within an EJ area. The City of Ann Arbor has one new project that will be constructed within an EJ area. The City of Ann Arbor project will reconstruct an intersection providing bike lanes and improved pedestrian movement at the intersection which will positively impact the EJ area. MDOT has one new project that will be constructed within an EJ area. The project will resurface an existing carpool lot and will have minimal effect on the adjacent EJ areas.

Mr. Bomberly stated that SEMCOG provides the environmental analysis which determined the areas might be impacted by the projects: Water Resources 2 projects, Wetlands 2 projects, Flood Prone Areas 1 projects, Groundwater Resources 3 projects, Woodlands 3 projects, Parks & Rec. Areas 2 projects, Historic Sites 1 projects, Heritage Route/Natural Beauty roads 1 project, and Non-Motorized Facilities 2 projects.

Mr. Bomberly stated that staff requests that the Technical Committee recommend that the Policy Committee approve the attached amendments to the FY 2008-2011 TIP pending positive outcome of the public comment period.

Mr. Townsend made a motion to recommend approval by the Policy Committee of the amendments to the FY 2008-2011 TIP. Mr. Cooper seconded the motion and the motion passed.

C. Five Year Plan Call for Projects Presentation

Ms. Andrews gave a presentation on the upcoming projects in the University Region and Washtenaw County. She asked that any suggestions on the projects scheduled for FY 2014 be forwarded to her. The presentation will be attached to the approved minutes in the meeting packet in the WATS office.

8. Agency Reports

A. City of Ann Arbor

Mr. Cooper reported that the City Transportation Plan update continues. There will be public workshops later in the year when students return. The City is also working closely with MDOT on a possible park and ride lot at Plymouth and US-23. Mr. Cooper mentioned that this month is Curb your Car Month which includes the commuter challenge in downtown Ann Arbor. Work

continues to be done on an application for the 2010 active transportation campaign. A draft RFP for a transit corridor study is done.

Mr. Pirooz reported that the Huron Parkway bridge project is nearly complete. There is a bit more of centerline work that needs to be done on the bridge. The 2008 resurfacing program has started in the city including the Eisenhower and Main intersection currently underway. The Broadway Bridge decorative concrete pillars are cracking already and the consultant will be back to repair it with the correct specifications. The Huron River Drive project contractor has been selected and will begin work in May; work will likely go into 2009. The water main that needs to be replaced on Miller and Maple will be replaced while the road is reconstructed.

B. AATA

Mr. Cooper reported that AATA has published the service changes and only about 3% of service is affected. The Chelsea commuter service begins May 15 and AATA will be offering free weeks to kick off the service. There will be emergency service back to Chelsea if someone misses the bus back. There will be a new carpooling initiative called Greenride which AATA will be involved with starting in Washtenaw County.

C. City of Chelsea

Ms. Linfield was not present.

D. Village of Dexter

Ms. Cale reported that the Dexter/Ann Arbor reconstruction will go from June to August. The Village has also set up a web cam to view the Main St bridge construction, the link is on the Village's website.

E. Eastern Michigan University

Mr. Donegan was not present.

F. FHWA

Mr. Dingman had nothing to report.

E. Pittsfield Township

Mr. Fowler reported that the acquisition of right of way for the Platt Greenway is still ongoing.

F. MDOT Planning, TSC and Region

Mr. Lott reported that M-153 will be resurfaced this year. There will also be a long term single lane closure on Huron for the new University of Michigan dorm. I-94 will receive an overlay from US-12 to Harris this year. I-94 will also receive new cantilever signs. M-14 will have single lane closures off peak for the repair and reconstruction of the bridges from Ford into Wayne County.

G. City of Saline

Mr. Roubal was not present.

H. SEMCOG

Mr. Tumidanski reported that the FY 2008-2011 TIP amendments and 2009 CMAQ projects will be submitted to the SEMCOG committees for approval in the next coming months.

I. U of M

Mr. Miller confirmed that UM retracted the request to close a lane on Main for the stadium construction.

J. WCPE

Mr. Lenart was not present.

K. WCRC

Ms. Townsend reported that if the WCRC was to actually restripe Ford Blvd. that they would have to repay the federal portion of the project as well as the jobs today funding. The Toyota project and Carpenter project have been carried over from last year and being finished. Other projects for 2008 include Dexter Main Bridge, Geddes/Superior roundabout; Geddes/Leforge left turn lanes, Holmes from Rue Deauville to Spencer, Rawsonville south of Bemis, Jackson Blvd phase 2 start, a signal interconnect in Pittsfield and Ypsilanti townships around WCC, and E. Delhi bridge rehabilitation. There are also two private jobs to start, one by the Walmart on Michigan and State, and the other a resurfacing of Earhart by Dominos Farms. After this year's bridge review one lane was closed on Wiard over Tyler and the Feldcamp Bridge was closed.

L. City of Ypsilanti

Mr. Kirton reported that a local project on Armstrong was set to begin shortly.

M. Ypsilanti Township

Mr. Nicholson reported that the Township's vote to support the restriping of Ford Blvd. was not based on a staff recommendation. The private project on Merritt has also started.

8. Adjournment

Mr. Nicholson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Fowler supported the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 11:10.