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WASHTENAW AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY

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TECHNICAL ADVISORY SUBCOMMITTEE

DATE: May 5, 2010
TIME: 9:30 a.m.
PLACE: WATS Meeting Space, 705 N. Zeeb Road, Ann Arbor, MI 48103

Members Present: City of Ann Arbor Planning – Eli Cooper, Chair
City of Chelsea - Christine Linfield, 2nd Vice-Chair
AATA – Chris White
City of Ann Arbor Engineering – Homayoon Pirooz
Washtenaw County Road Commission – Roy Townsend
City of Ypsilanti DPW – Stan Kirton
MDOT University Region– Kari Martin
Eastern Michigan University – Dieter Otto
MDOT Planning – Ola Williams
Village of Dexter – Rhett Gronewelt
Washtenaw County Public Health – Lily Guzman
City of Saline – Jeff Fordice (for Gary Roubal)
Ypsilanti Township – Joe Lawson
University of Michigan –Bitsy Lamb
Disabled – Dave Reid
Non-Motorized – Larry Deck
Senior – Wes Armbruster
Environment – Timothy Fischer

Members Absent: Dexter Township – Patrick Sloan
Pittsfield Township – Paul Montagno, 1st Vice-Chair
Freight – Lance Hagler

Others Present: SEMCOG – Jeff Tumidanski
MDOT – Paul Lott, Larry Dropiewski
OPUS – Jeff Bagdade, Cynthia Redinger
WATS – Terri Blackmore, Ryan Buck, Nick Sapkiewicz, Eric Bombery

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 •

AN INTERMUNICIPALITY COMMITTEE ORGANIZED UNDER ACT 200 OF PUBLIC ACTS OF MICHIGAN (1957)
REPRESENTING WASHTENAW COUNTY

1. Call to Order

Chair Cooper called the meeting to order at 9:32 A.M. and asked those present to introduce themselves.

2. Public Participation

Chair Cooper asked if anyone from the public would like to address the Committee. No one asked to address the committee so Mr. Cooper closed public participation time.

3. Approval of the April 7, 2010 Minutes

Mr. Townsend made a motion to approve the April 7, 2010 Technical Committee minutes. Mr. Gronevelt supported the motion. Mr. White, Mr. Townsend, and Ms. Lamb asked for several changes of wording and the minutes passed as amended. A copy of the revised April 7, 2010 Technical Committee minutes is available at the WATS office.

4. Communications and Announcements

Ms. Blackmore reported that the FY 2010 Appropriations Act appropriated \$600 million for TIGER II. Although there are similarities to TIGER I, there are important differences.

- The project size limits are \$10 M to \$200 M and no more than \$150 M per state.
- TIGER II has a set aside of \$140 M for rural projects and the projects must have at least a 20% match unless in a rural area.
- Up to \$35 M may be used for planning, preparation, or design of projects for eligible applicants.
- Funds are available through September 30, 2012, however, projects must provide a schedule and those not adhering to their schedule may be reprogrammed.
- Selection criteria remain the same.
- Additional guidance provided on the Benefit/Cost analysis.
- Any project submitting for construction must have already initiated the NEPA process.
- A Multi-modal team overseen by the Secretary will evaluate pre-applications based on Eligibility, NEPA, and Match. If the team determines that projects are not eligible, they will notify project sponsors that their full application will not be reviewed.

Handouts at place:

1. Upcoming meetings
2. CMAQ worksheet
3. Penny Wise, Pound Fuelish: Cover/ Executive Summary

5. WATS Activities

Ms Blackmore reported that the steering committee met regarding the Ann Arbor to Detroit Rapid Transit Service. SEMCOG explained that even though regular service was delayed special event trains would still operate.

Ms. Blackmore reported that the agency of record changed to FTA for the North – South Rail Coalition that requires an update to the Environmental documentation. Great Lake Central is rehabilitating the rail cars along with cars for the Ann Arbor to Detroit project.

Ms. Blackmore reported that WATS would be completing the HPMS field data collection this year. There are new data requirements for HPMS and WATS will contact agencies for their help with the non-visible items.

Ms. Blackmore reported that WATS is assisting Pittsfield Township during their Master Plan update. WATS is also assisting the CAPT/DART on their Access Plan. CAPT/DART has also secured three unpaid interns to help with the project.

Ms. Blackmore reported that WATS has initiated the 2009 Crash report.

Ms. Blackmore reported that WATS continues to work with the County Department of Economic Development and Energy on the Washtenaw corridor effort and the City of Ann Arbor and U of M on the Ann Arbor Connector.

6. Old Business

There was no old business.

7. New Business

A. Congestion Mitigation/ Air Quality Prioritization

Mr. Sapkiewicz reported that applications for CMAQ Funds were due to WATS by noon on April 23, 2010. Agencies filled out the application and then SEMCOG forwarded the appropriate emission spreadsheet to agencies to fill out. Staff discovered errors in the spreadsheet and provided new emission reduction summaries at the committee member places. WATS provided details for the projects submitted in the following table.

FY 2011 CMAQ Transit Applications

Rank	Agency	Description	Cost		Emission Calculations (Cost of project per Kilogram over the life of the project)			
			Federal	State	VOC	NOx	CO	PM2.5
2011								
1	AATA	Outreach programs, including public education on transportation, advertising of transportation alternatives, and technical assistance to employers. Marketing programs to increase use of transportation alternatives and public education campaigns. Carpooling and vanpooling assistance including computer matching and employer outreach.	\$455,000	\$0	\$27.93	\$45.77	\$2.19	
2	AATA	Purchase ten new clean diesel buses to replace conventional diesel buses.	\$3,840,000	\$960,000	-\$78,563	\$75.00	\$338	\$7,656

FY 2011 CMAQ Non-Transit Applications

Rank	Agency	Location	Description	Cost		Emission Calculations (Cost of project per Kilogram over the life of the project)			
				Federal	Local	VOC	NOx	CO	PM 2.5
2011									
1	Ypsilanti	Oakwood at Washtenaw	Install a dedicated left for southbound Oakwood to Washtenaw. Install a dedicated right turn lane from westbound Washtenaw to Oakwood. Pedestrian improvements. Signal upgrading and timing optimization.	\$360,000	\$90,000	\$67.77	\$125.33	\$7.87	
2	Ann Arbor City	Fuller at Maiden/E. Medical Center	Reconstruct intersection as a multi-lane modern roundabout.	\$3,452,000	\$0	\$553.06	\$1,517.28	\$68.74	

Mr. White explained that AATA is applying for conventional diesel buses as this point since the hybrid buses are requiring a \$50,000 fix each 5 years. AATA will switch, as allowed by CMAQ, back to hybrid buses if it is cost effective.

Mr. Deck asked if there was University financial support for the Fuller pedestrian improvements as part of the project. Mr. Pirooz explained the City would pay for the design consultant and the project construction is 100% funded by CMAQ if awarded and pedestrian improvements were included. Mr. Deck stated that the University should pay their share of the additional costs. Mr. Pirooz stated that the University had a commitment to see the project to completion.

Mr. Otto explained that during rush hour at Oakwood drivers cannot turn and explained the need for turn lanes. Mr. White asked for coordination with AATA, as there is an opportunity for improved bus stops in the area.

Mr. Townsend made a motion to recommend the 2011 CMAQ prioritization as submitted. Mr. Kirton supported and the motion passed.

B. Pedestrian Crossing Presentation

Mr. Bagdade of Opus International gave a detailed presentation on Non-motorized crossing facilities. The presentation included information on different types of bike and pedestrian crossings as well as auto yielding rates for different facilities. The presentation is attached to the filed packet in the WATS office.

8. Agency Reports

A. City of Ann Arbor

Mr. Pirooz reported on road construction projects: West Stadium Blvd. from Seventh to Pauline is under construction, Geddes resurfaced East of Huron Parkway, Plymouth/Green ARRA project is ready to start. Mr. Pirooz also reported that there was a suicide jump off the Newport bridge over M-14. Ann Arbor is working closely with MDOT to explore installing a safety measure .

Mr. Cooper reminded the committee that May is Commuter Challenge month. There will be a public meeting on the Fuller Road Station on May 6 at 7 p.m. in the council chambers. An educational meeting on the Ann Arbor Connector study meeting scheduled for June 8 at 6:30 p.m. at the main library.

B. AATA

Mr. White reported that the park and ride lot on Plymouth will be dedicated on Monday. AATA also selected a consultant for development of the 25 year Transit Master Service Plan.

C. City of Chelsea

Ms. Linfield had nothing to report.

D. Dexter Township

Mr. Sloan was not present.

E. Village of Dexter

Mr. Gronevelt reported that the paving and shoulder addition to Dexter/Ann Arbor begins when school is out. The school district is looking into a signalized pedestrian crossing on Baker.

F. Eastern Michigan University

Mr. Otto had nothing to report.

G. Federal Highway Administration

Mr. Dingman was not present.

H. Pittsfield Township

Mr. Montagno was not present.

I. MDOT Planning

Mr. Williams reported that MDOT is moving to a bimonthly TIP amendment schedule that should not affect WATS.

J. MDOT Region

Ms. Martin reported on current projects. The US-23 rest area reconstruction and construction of roundabouts and a pedestrian bridge at Geddes at US-23 are on schedule, N. Territorial southbound ramps at US-23 will be improved but will have intermittent ramp closures. She also noted that MDOT was completing before pedestrian counts at the proposed HAWK signal on Huron at Chapin and at the East Michigan Avenue location which may not meet signal warrants.

Mr. Dropiewski reported that he was working with city staff on potential safety solution to the Newport Bridge over M-14. MDOT will also make improvements on US-23 from Bemis to Washtenaw yet this year.

K. SEMCOG

Mr. Tumidanski reported that the SEMCOG executive committee approved the second call TIP amendments.

L. City of Saline

Mr. Fordice reported that Willis reconstruction with bike improvements and new sewer installed will bid on June 4. The pedestrian crossing safety project on Woodland will be constructed this summer. Also, the City will stripe bike lanes and add signage on Woodland from Maple to Industrial.

M. University of Michigan

Ms. Lamb reported work on the Central Campus Transit Center would run through August.

N. Washtenaw County Road Commission

Mr. Townsend reported that the Dexter-Pinckney Bridge project has started, landscaping on Jackson Boulevard has begun, Rawsonville at Bemis will begin in June, and the Jackson Cruise will be held again in May.

O. City of Ypsilanti

Mr. Kirton reported that the ARRA resurfacing projects on College and Mansfield will start in June.

P. Ypsilanti Township

Mr. Lawson reported that the roundabout and non-motorized path at Stony Creek and Whittaker are under construction. Stony Creek is closed and Whittaker will close at some point for a month.

Q. Washtenaw County Public Health

Ms. Guzman reported that the County has helped Saline apply for a complete streets ordinance grant. The County is also working with a few schools on Safe Routes to School funding.

R. Non-motorized

Mr. Deck reported that Ann Arbor discontinued their bike registration program and the Biking and Walking Coalition will be working with the City on a replacement program.

S. Senior

Mr. Armbruster had nothing to report.

T. Disabled

Mr. Reid had nothing to report.

U. Environmental

Mr. Fischer reported that he was helping draft complete streets legislation and it would be introduced soon.

V. Freight

Mr. Hagler was not present.

9. Adjournment

Mr. Pirooz made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. White seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned at 11:35.