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MEETING MINUTES

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

DATE: August 4, 2021

TIME: 9:30 am

PLACE: This meeting was held virtually via Zoom in accordance with executive orders during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Members Present: Washtenaw County – Nathan Voght, Chair
City of Ypsilanti - Bonnie Wessler, Vice-Chair
City of Ann Arbor - Raymond Hess
Disability Representative - John Waterman
Environmental Representative - Evan Pratt
MDOT University Region - Mike Davis
City of Milan - Stanley Kirton, Second Vice-Chair
Non-motorized Representative - Sarah Walsh
TheRide – Caitlin Conway (for LaTasha Thompson)
Washtenaw County Road Commission - Matt MacDonell
Ypsilanti Township - Brenda Stumbo (for Jason Iacoangeli)

Members Absent: Ann Arbor DDA – Amber Miller
City of Chelsea - John Hanifan
Dexter Township - Vacant
City of Dexter – Dan Schlaff
Equity Representative - Weneschia Brand
Eastern Michigan University – Dieter Otto
Pittsfield Township - Vacant
City of Saline – Jeff Fordice
Senior Representative - Ruth Ann Jamnick
University of Michigan – Steve Dolen

Others Present: WATS – Nick Sapkiewicz, Suzann Flowers, Emily Lake
PEX - Doug Anderson and Matt Montalvo
Public - Jim Mogensen

POLICY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

City of Ann Arbor • Ann Arbor DDA • Ann Arbor Township • City of Chelsea • City of Dexter
Dexter Township • Eastern Michigan University • Michigan Department of Transportation • City of Milan • Northfield Township •
Pittsfield Township • City of Saline • Scio Township • Southwest Washtenaw Council of Governments • Superior Township • The Ride
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 •

SEMCOG - Tom Bruff
WCRC - Brent Schlack, Michele Ford
MDOT - Anita Boughner, Kari Martin
WAVE - Julia Roberts
Washtenaw County Office of Community and Economic Development
(WCOCED) - Teresa Gillotti
MDOT Statewide Planning - Max Gierman

1. Call to Order/Introductions

Chair Voght led the group in introductions at 9:35 AM and officially called the meeting to order at 10:40 AM once a quorum was present.

2. Approval of the Agenda

Ms. Wessler made a motion to approve the meeting agenda, Ms. Conway supported the motion, motion approved.

3. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Waterman made a motion to approve the June 2, 2021 meeting minutes as corrected, Ms. Wessler supported the motion, motion approved with abstention from Mr. Cooper.

4. Public Participation

Mr. Mogensen thanked WATS staff for working with the OCED and using the County's Opportunity Index to incorporate equity into the planning process. He noted that the U.S. DOT recently requested public input on transportation equity data and assessment tools.

5. Communications and Announcements

Mr. Sapkiewicz provided the following updates:

- The 2023-2026 TIP call for projects will be sent out at the end of August.
- There is one project left to obligate for 2021.
- Route Ypsilanti is being implemented and a final survey will be available for the public in September.
- The coordinated human services transportation program through the RTA has awarded the first call for 5310 applications to transit providers throughout the region.

6. Old Business

No old business.

7. New Business

A. Washtenaw Opportunity Index - Information

Ms. Gillotti provided a presentation on changes made to the County's Opportunity Index and gave a demonstration on how to use the new tool. The 2020 Opportunity Index can be found at www.opportunitywashtenaw.org.

B. Supplemental TIP Call - Action

Mr. Sapkiewicz provided a list of project applications received for the FY 2022 and 2023 supplemental TIP call for Highway Improvement Program (HIP), Rural and COVID relief funds

initiated in June per guidance from the Policy Committee. WATS received applications from Ann Arbor, People's Express, and WCRC, and drafted a preliminary funding approach that allows all agencies to receive their top priority project and allows all urban-area candidate projects in low or very low opportunity areas to receive funding. The draft list has been reviewed by the Urban and Rural Federal-Aid Committees to ensure the program can be delivered.

Mr. Davis made a motion to recommend the 2022 and 2023 supplemental TIP call program to the WATS Policy Committee as presented, supported by Ms. Stumbo, motion approved.

C. 2023-2026 TIP Development - Information

Ms. Flowers provided the following information:

- The 2023-2026 TIP call will be issued at the end of August for small urban, CMAQ, traditional urban and rural funds.
- All information and pertinent materials will be included with the call letter.
- Applications will be due mid to late September.
- WATS encourages all eligible agencies to submit applications for any and all projects they would like to use federal funding.
- A timeline will be forthcoming with key dates.

8. Agency Reports

A. City of Ypsilanti

Ms. Wessler reported:

- Construction is beginning on the Oakwood resurfacing project.
- Preliminary work and engineering designs for the 2023 Huron River Drive project are ongoing.
- YCUA has begun work on W Cross, from Huron to Summit, to be followed by a mill and overlay project with MDOT.

B. City of Ann Arbor

Mr. Hess reported:

- The City's Vision Zero transportation plan update was adopted in June. The City has a request for proposals for a consulting firm to assist with strategies to implement the plan.
- The 2021 Healthy Streets program will be implemented next week.

C. Washtenaw County Road Commission (WCRC)

Mr. MacDonell reported:

- The WCRC continues to make progress on 2021 projects, including over 100 miles of preventative maintenance work.
- The WCRC is currently working on obligation for the 2022 program.

D. TheRide

Ms. Conway reported:

- Full service restoration is scheduled for August 29th.

- The Gold Ride senior service will also be restored with expanded service coverage.
- TheRide introduced a new fare structure that includes a low income fare.
- Football shuttles for home games will resume in September with mobile ticketing service.
- The draft FY 2022 budget will be available on the website at the end of August, The board will take action on the budget in September.

E. MDOT University Region

Mr. Davis reported:

- The M-14 Road Safety Audit will be incorporated into an upcoming planning and environmental linkages study for the M-14/Barton interchange.
- Mill and overlay project on W. Cross street will start in September.
- A public meeting will be held for the 2022 Huron pathway and the Hamilton/Huron road diet projects on August 11.
- The Grove pathway extension over I-94 will be completed this year.

F. People with Disabilities Representative

Mr. Waterman reported:

- PEAC is wrapping up summer programs in Dexter, Saline, and Ypsilanti. Students are excited to use the mobile adaptable bike shares as part of the program. Mr. Waterman encourages more inclusive options as bike shares are expanded in Washtenaw County.

9. Adjournment

Chair Voght adjourned the meeting at 11:09 AM.