

GENESEE COUNTY METROPOLITAN ALLIANCE

Regular Meeting Minutes

July 17, 2019

The Genesee County Metropolitan Alliance Committee met at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, July 17, 2019, in the Harris Auditorium of the Genesee County Administration Building, 1101 Beach Street, Third Floor, Flint, Michigan.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Johnson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairperson Johnson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. ROLL CALL

Members present and absent were noted as follows:

UNIT REPRESENTED

MEMBERS PRESENT

MEMBERS ABSENT

Genesee County
City of Burton

City of Clio

City of Davison
City of Fenton
City of Flint

City of Flushing

City of Grand Blanc

City of Linden

City of Montrose
City of Mt. Morris
City of Swartz Creek

George Gray

Chris Douglas

Mark Richard

John Gilbert
Robert Plumb

Commissioner Ted Henry
Thomas Martinbianco
Danny Wells
Duane Mosher
Eric Wiederhold
Reuben Garcia
Leigh LaForest
Patricia Lockwood
Mayor Karen Weaver
Robert Bincsik
Betty Wideman

Mayor Susan Soderstrom
Ray Culbert
Paul Zelenak

William Daniels

Argentine Township	Dennis Cramer	Brian Saad Leslie Renckly
Atlas Township	Paulette Johnson	
Clayton Township	Shelley Thompson	Tere Onica
Davison Township		Chris Gehringer Matthew Karr Rhonda Clark
Fenton Township		Vince Lorraine Andrew Marko Robert Kesler Karyn Miller
Flint Township	John Whiteside	
Flushing Township		Tracey Tucker Jenifer Almassy
Forest Township	Bill Bain	Frederick Thorsby Mary Ann Price
Gaines Township		Lee Purdy Diane Hyrman Matt Davis Tod Sorensen Cheryl Woughter
Genesee Township		
Grand Blanc Township	Al Mansour Monica Shapiro	
Montrose Township		Tom Tithof Mark Emmendorfer
Mt. Morris Township	Robert Johnson Brian Baxter	
Mundy Township		Michael Dunklee Kay Doerr Mark Gorton
Richfield Township Thetford Township	Dan Morey	Gerry Masters Gary Stevens Mike LaPointe
Vienna Township	Pam Faris	
Goodrich Village	Doug McAbee Angie Adamec	Kerry Paulson

Otisville Village
Otter Lake Village
Lennon Village
Gaines Village

Tim Light
Joan Skias

Emily Alexander
Valerie Delauter
Melissa Neal
Andrea Dewey
Aaron Dawson
Jeff Wright

Federal Highway Admin

Gen Cty Drain Comm
Gen Cty Road Comm
GCMPC

Alex Patsy
Derek Bradshaw

Christine Durgan
Ed Benning

Mass Trans Authority

Shawnice Dorsey

Mich Dept of Trans

Jay Reithel

Anita Boughner

Trevor Block

Steven Katenhus

OTHERS PRESENT: Brad Barrett, Peggy Gray, John Gault, MaryAnn Pietrzyk, Jason Nordberg, Sharon Gregory, and Debby Compton.

IV. Minutes

*****A. Minutes of the June 19, 2019 Regular Meeting**

Motion: Action: Approve, **Moved by** Robert Plumb, **Supported by** John Whiteside, to approve the minutes of the June 19, 2019 regular meeting as presented.

V. Introduction of Guests

George Gray, Flushing City Council, introduced Brad Barrett, Flushing City Manager, John Gault, Flushing City Council, and Peggy Gray, Flushing Planning Commission.

VI. Public Comment

Bill Bain, Flushing Township, spoke regarding the roundabout proposed for the City of Flushing. Mr. Bain stated that at the meeting in April there wasn't any real data other than icons showing that there were a lot of accidents there. When it came to the questions of which direction they were coming from and was it due to people just not paying attention, there were no answers. The reason the roundabout was approved was under air quality. Mr. Bain stated there is no smog problem in Flushing. Mr. Bain indicated that he has talked to a lot of people, senior citizens, a lot of people in the business community, and a lot of residents have contacted him, and they oppose the roundabout. Mr. Bain stated that he would like to see another meeting in Flushing addressing these questions and to actually listen to the people. He said that the light is essential, that it provides a break in the traffic. Mr. Bain said there are a lot of senior

citizens, and the roundabout would make things hard on them so the intersection should not be changed. Mr. Bain went on to say that it is a waste of money because distracted drivers are causing these problems. He suggested better lighting and cameras would work to catch these issues.

MaryAnn Pietrzyk, new resident to Flushing, loves the town, feels safe, and thinks it's a beautiful town. Ms. Pietrzyk stated that a lot of people take that route and to have it disrupted by construction is a bad thing and the elderly would be very confused. If there is a police chase, she wondered how the police would navigate a roundabout. She thought the money was being wasted on something foolish. She suggested that if speeding is the issue, put up stands that display how fast people are going. Ms. Pietrzyk said to spend money on better lighting and cameras and safety things to protect the people, instead of wasting tax dollars.

George Gray, Flushing City Council, stated that the number one complaint in a city survey conducted by Epic MRA was about speeding on Main Street. The police chief in Flushing said the roundabout and striping lanes on Main Street would help the speeding in Flushing. Mr. Gray said the ranking of this project, the reason it was approved, is that it was one of the highest ranked projects in the county in terms of number of accidents at that intersection. He stated that there are statistics to back up the project, and that this is a very important project for Flushing, because speed is a real problem. Mr. Gray indicated that the roundabout will slow people down without stopping, will not delay traffic, and will probably make things smoother for drivers. He went on to say that there have been a number of important meetings, people at City Council meetings, public comment, the Planning Commission has met with extensive discussion, and a presentation at the last City Council meeting a week ago. He said there has been plenty of discussion and opportunity for people to make comments.

Another Metro committee member commented that people don't yield for the yield signs at the roundabout at Hill and Elms Road, however then it was pointed out that people also don't stop at stop signs.

Another Metro member expressed concern about the Metro meeting not being the proper forum for this type of discussion, because it is a waste of committee members' time. It was suggested that this seems to be a Flushing Township and Flushing City issue and they need to do a referendum or something similar.

VII. Public Hearing

None

VIII. Finances

None

IX. Committee Reports

None

X. Old Business

*****A. Approval of the Air Quality Conformity Analysis for the Flint MI Conformity Area (Genesee and Lapeer Counties)**

Sharon Gregory stated that at the meeting last month staff presented the committee with a draft document of the Air Quality Conformity Analysis for the Flint MI Conformity Area. The document has gone through a thirty-day comment period from June 2nd through July 2nd and staff held the public hearing on July 2nd. This is the document that makes the determination that the FY 2020-2023 TIP and all its projects are meeting the requirements of the Air Quality Conformity Regulations and that the document conforms to the State Implementation Plan (SIP). At this time the Technical Advisory Committee is recommending approval to the Metropolitan Alliance for the Air Quality Conformity Analysis for the Flint MI Conformity Area and for the approval of the Metropolitan Alliance Chairperson to sign the resolution.

Motion: Action: Approve, **Moved by** Pam Faris, **Supported by** John Whiteside, to approve the Approval of the Air Quality Conformity Analysis for the Flint MI Conformity Area (Genesee and Lapeer Counties) and for the Chairperson to sign the resolution.

Motion carried unanimously.

*****B. FY 2020-2023 Metropolitan Transportation Planning Process Self-Certification**

Sharon Gregory advised that when staff submits a new Transportation Improvement Program that process is self-certified and that means that the Metropolitan Alliance is acknowledging that the major transportation issues in Genesee County are being addressed and that is being done in accordance with all the federal regulations. At this time the Technical Advisory Committee is recommending the Metropolitan Alliance approve the FY 2020-2023 Metropolitan Transportation Planning Process Self-Certification and to approve the Metropolitan Alliance Chairperson to sign the resolution.

Motion: Action: Approve, **Moved by** Doug Mcabee, **Supported by** George Gray, to approve the FY 2020-2023 Metropolitan Transportation Planning Process Self-Certification and approval for the Chairperson to sign the resolution.

Motion carried unanimously.

*****C. FY 2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) approval**

Sharon Gregory stated that at the last meeting staff presented a draft version of the FY 2020-2023 TIP document. The required thirty-day public comment period was from June 2nd through July 2nd. A public hearing was

held on July 2nd. Staff received thirty-eight public comments on the TIP. They have all been responded to and incorporated into the document. The TIP is fiscally constrained, all the projects have gone through Air Quality Conformity Analysis, Environmental Justice Analysis, Environmental Consultation, and they are all approved for the identified funding. At this time the Technical Advisory Committee is recommending the Metropolitan Alliance approve the FY 2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and approve the signing of the resolution by the Metropolitan Alliance Chairperson. Discussion ensued.

Motion: Action: Approve, **Moved by** Doug Mcabee, **Supported by** George Gray, to approve the FY 2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and approve the signing of the resolution by the Chairperson.

Vote: Motion passed (No = 1)

Motion carried.

XI. New Business

***** A. FY 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment #20**

Sharon Gregory advised that the TIP Amendment #20 changes four (4) projects. They are all MDOT projects and one of them is a General Program Account (GPA) and that is changing because of the changes in two (2) of the projects. This amendment meets the financial constraints of the TIP and will have no disproportionately high or adverse impacts to any of the identified Environmental Justice (EJ) populations. These projects are eligible for the funding programmed. Staff and the Interagency Work Group (IAWG) have reviewed these projects and have determined that they are exempt from Air Quality Analysis. At this time the Technical Advisory Committee is recommending the Metropolitan Alliance approve the FY 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment #20.

Motion: Action: Approve, **Moved by** Robert Plumb, **Supported by** Doug Mcabee, to approve the FY 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment #20.

Motion carried unanimously.

XII. Other Business

Derek Bradshaw stated that the Household Hazardous Waste Recycle Day event that was held on Saturday, June 8th at Fenton High School received just over 1,300 vehicles. The first Tuesday Recycle Day event held on July 9th at Mott College received just under 500 vehicles. The next Tuesday event at Mott Community College will be held August 13th.

Derek Bradshaw announced that the Google Street View-like project of the rivers is almost finished. Eighty-four miles of the Shiawassee River was completed yesterday. They started on the Flint River yesterday over in Lapeer County and will probably be done this week. This is part of a regional project and they will be going up to the Thumb next to do around the coast.

Walking and biking trails will also be done in Genesee County. Staff is hopeful this project will be completed by the end of summer.

Derek Bradshaw mentioned the just-released Paddlers Guide that the Planning Commission did in partnership with the Watershed Coalition and County Parks. Staff did a lot of the mapping, the Watershed Coalition did field research, and County Parks got a grant to pay for the guides. If you are interested in getting one of the guides, please contact our office.

XIII. Announcements

Derek Bradshaw announced that at this time staff does not see any action items so it is expected that the August meeting will be cancelled. Staff will send an email a week prior to the meeting date if that should happen.

XIV. Adjournment

Chairperson Johnson adjourned the meeting at 7:31p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Debby Compton, Secretary
Genesee County Metropolitan Planning Commission