

GLS REGION V PDC
July 26, 2016

The GLS Region V Planning and Development Commission met at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 26, 2016, in the Conference Room of the Genesee County Metropolitan Planning Commission (GCMPC), 1101 Beach Street, Room 223, Flint, Michigan.

I. INTRODUCTION

Chairperson Grinnell called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

A. Roll Call:

Present: Alan Himelhoch, Cheryl Clark, Derek Bradshaw, Gary Roy, Jeffrey Kelley, John Horvath, John Mandelaris, Robert McLaren, and Sidney Grinnell.

Absent/Excused: Bill Henry, Charles Van Duren, Christina Johnson, David Hetfield, Ed Benning, Julie Hales-Smith, Mary Ann Ketels, Mike Hemmingsen, Richard Van Haaften, and Robert Johnson.

Others Present: Jason Nordberg, Anna Pinter, and Debby Compton.

B. Approval of the Minutes of the GLS Region V PDC Regular Meeting held May 24, 2016

Motion: Action: Approve, **moved by** John Mandelaris, **supported by** Cheryl Clark, to approve the minutes of the May 24, 2016 regular meeting as presented.

Motion passed unanimously.

(Approved minutes on file in the GCMPC office)

C. Approval of the Agenda of GLS Region V PDC Meeting to be held July 26, 2016

Motion: Action: Approve, **moved by** John Mandelaris, **supported by** Cheryl Clark, to approve the Agenda of the GLS Region V meeting to be held July 26, 2016 as presented.

Motion passed unanimously.

(Document on file with minutes in the GCMPC office)

D. Opportunity for the Public to Address the GLS Region V PDC

No one spoke at this time.

E. Communications

There were no Communications.

II.

ACTION ITEMS

A. Financial Report

1. Report

Mr. Derek Bradshaw reviewed the Financial Report ending June 30, 2016.

Motion: Action: Approve, **moved by** Cheryl Clark, **supported by** Gary Roy, to approve the Financial Report ending June 30, 2016 as presented.

Motion passed unanimously.

(Documents on file with minutes)

2. Checks

Mr. Derek Bradshaw reviewed the checks.

Motion: Action: Approve, **moved by** Jeffrey Kelley, **supported by** Cheryl Clark, to approve the checks in the amount of \$59,102.82 and to authorize the signing by the proper authorities.

Motion passed unanimously.

(Documents on file with minutes)

III.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. MAR Update

Ms. Anna Pinter stated that she went to the annual meeting for MAR. She stated that it was hosted by SEMGOG and was held in Detroit. Ms. Pinter stated that SEMCOG Executive Director, Kathleen Lomako talked about some of the plans that SEMCOG works on. Ms. Pinter shared with the committee some of those plans; Green Infrastructure Plan which looked at watersheds, tree canopy and conservation priorities; Bicycle and Pedestrian Travel Plan and a study on access to core services which examines public transportation, grocery stores, and health care. She stated they had a presentation on Gordie Howe International Bridge and one thing that really stuck out from that was that the speaker mentioned more than once that the U.S. has contributed 0.00 dollars. Ms. Pinter stated that the Regional Transit Authority did a presentation on expanding transit opportunities in Metro Detroit. She stated that there was a representative from EDA that was there from Chicago who provided an update on funding. She stated that there is going to be work done to update the MAR website with new content. Ms. Pinter stated that MAR discussed applying for a grant from the EDA for organizational support. She stated that they walked to Comerica Park and heard an update on the new Red Wings stadium in the downtown district and also took a tour of Belle Isle.

Mr. Derek Bradshaw stated that he is representing MAR on the State Transportation Asset Management Council. He stated that the council met to decide what their focus will be for the next three (3) years. He stated that there was a 50/50 split between making sure a good job is being done on the major roads and the need to do something about the local roads. Mr. Bradshaw stated that another issue that is going to come up is MDOT is going to start withholding ACT 51 money from road agencies that are not submitting reports and Asset Management Plans and a lot of these different activities that they are supposed to be doing. He stated that there is legislation that says they can do it. Discussion ensued.

B. Region 6 Regional Prosperity Initiative Update

Ms. Anna Pinter stated that Olsson Associates is nearing completion of the Site Strategy and Square Footage study for the region. She stated that they presented their final report to economic developers and stakeholders in May and made final revisions during the month of June. Ms. Pinter stated that the I-69 Thumb Region continued to provide support for educational talent tours through the month of June. She stated that in total 1,714 students participated visiting more than 50 different companies at a cost of \$7,644.72. Ms. Pinter stated that there is \$27,000 remaining in this project budget that will be discussed at the next Steering Committee meeting. She stated that staff is working to set up regional training events for economic developers and local officials across the region later this year. She stated that several opportunities are being explored which would provide workshops and hands-on training to assist communities in attracting small businesses to the region. Ms. Pinter stated the next I-69 Thumb Region Steering Committee meeting will be held on August 11, 2016 at 10:30 a.m. at the Lapeer County Health Department. Discussion ensued.

C. MDOT Regional Traffic Safety Plans Update

Ms. Anna Pinter stated that the second stakeholder meeting took place on May 20th where road agencies, transit agencies, and police departments discussed emphasis areas for traffic safety in the region and strategies to address them. She stated the top issues identified by the group were intersection-related crashes, lane departures, young drivers, impaired driving, and pedestrian-involved crashes. Ms. Pinter stated that in a group activity stakeholders discussed strategies that have worked well for their agency as well as strategies that did not work. Some of the top strategies identified include installing rumble strips, social media outreach, targeted enforcement, and targeted education for young drivers, seniors and other groups. Ms. Pinter stated that the consultant, Atkins, will take the input provided at the meeting and begin a draft plan for the region. She stated that staff will work with Atkins during the

upcoming months and discuss the draft plan at the next stakeholder meeting scheduled for Tuesday, September 13th.

D. MDOT Regional Transit Mobility Initiative Update

Ms. Anna Pinter stated that today GLS Region V staff met with representatives from two of the three primary transit providers, Genesee and Shiawassee counties. She stated that they reviewed the phase II report, recorded what strategies each agency is pursuing, and listed any upcoming initiatives. Ms. Pinter stated that now staff will summarize the information shared and provide the conclusions in a brief report to MDOT. She stated that staff will also share the final summary and identified next steps with the Prosperity Region 6 committee and neighboring Region 7. Ms. Pinter also stated that the Flint-MTA will begin their I-69 Corridor Regional Transit Needs Study; studying the needs along the I-69 corridor and surrounding areas in the greater region that feed onto the I-69 corridor. Discussion ensued.

MDOT FY 2018 Call for Safety Projects

Ms. Anna Pinter stated that project applications are due to MDOT no later than Friday, September 23, 2016. She stated that for road agencies wanting a letter of support for their project, Region V staff must receive a project description including costs by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, September 16, 2016. Ms. Pinter stated that it is still the local agencies responsibility to submit applications to MDOT by September 23rd. She stated that if anyone needs assistance with selecting safety projects or has questions about the application process to please contact Damon Fortney of our office.

E. 2016 Michigan Transportation Planning Association (MTPA) Conference

Mr. Jason Nordberg stated that Christine Durgan attended this conference for Region V. He stated that several Genesee County transportation employees attended as well and the conference was held in Kalamazoo. Mr. Nordberg stated that some of the topics that were discussed were the passing of the Fast Act and Performance Measures. He stated that we are just now getting the rulemaking from the federal government on a lot of these issues. He stated that the one effecting MPOs most is the rulemaking is proposing to realign MPOs. He stated that it takes a look at the boundaries of the MPOs. Mr. Nordberg stated that they did take one day and go out and visit some local planning projects in the area. He stated that they discussed a concept that MDOT is working on right now on U S 23. He stated that it's where they take a wider two lane road and they make it three lanes and make the third lane something they call a flex lane and it can only be used at a certain time. Mr. Nordberg stated that it will have dynamic speed signs and dynamic lane signs and the speeds will change depending on the time of

day. Mr. Nordberg stated that this MPO received the Best Practice Award at the MTPA Conference for our Story Maps on our website. Discussion ensued.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. John Mandelaris stated that he noticed that Derek Bradshaw made a motion at the May meeting. The Committee stated that Mr. Derek Bradshaw is on the commission.

V. ADJOURNMENT

Chairperson Grinnell adjourned the meeting at 6:34 p.m.

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