

**TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES
October 5, 2017**

The Technical Advisory Committee met at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, October 5, 2017, in the Conference Room of the Genesee County Metropolitan Planning Commission (GCMPC), 1101 Beach Street, Room 223, Flint, Michigan.

I. Call to Order 

Vice-Chairperson Benning called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

II. Roll Call 

Present: Aaron Dawson, Andrea Schroeder, Betty Wideman, David Guigear, Don Mayle, Ed Benning, Joseph Medici, Karen Miller, Karyn Miller, Larry Green, Mary Ann Ketels, Michael Pifer, and Robert Johnson.

Absent/Excused: Adam Zettel, Bob Slattery, Bonnie Mathis, Brad Barrett, Brian Saad, Chris Gehringer, Craig Williams, Curtis Armstrong, Dave Miller, David Dorr, Derek Bradshaw, Emily Alexander, Eric Wiederhold, Fred Peivandi, Frederick Thorsby, Gary Stevens, Jakki Sidge, Jay Reithel, Joseph Madore, Joseph Rizk, Larry Doyle, Lynn Markland, Mark Emmendorfer, Mary Ann Price, Neil Rankin, Paul Fortino, Paul Zelenak, Ryan Doyle, Sam Stiff, Scott Bennett, Steven Fuhr, Teresa Onica, Tom Svrcek, Vicki Fishell, and Wendy Jean-Buhrer.

Others Present: Ralph Pauly, Jason Nordberg, Sharon Gregory, Christine Pobocik, Damon Fortney, Jacob Maurer, Cody Roblyer, and Debby Compton.

III. Minutes

*****A. Minutes of the September 7, 2017 Regular Meeting**

Motion: Action: Approve, **Moved by** Robert Johnson, **Supported by** Michael Pifer, to approve the minutes of the September 7, 2017 regular meeting as presented.

Motion passed unanimously.

IV. Old Business 

A. Genesee County Travel Demand Model Completion

Christine Pobocik stated that in September of 2015 GCMPC entered into a contract with the Corradino Group of Michigan to update the Travel Demand Model in preparation for the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). Over the past two years staff and the Model Development Committee (MDC) have been working on that update with Corradino. To date, staff has received eleven technical memos that have been reviewed, edited and approved by the MDC. At this time the consultant has completed calibrating

and validating the new model and has delivered to staff the modeling files. In August of this year there was a two day training in our office with GCMPC staff and MDOT staff to learn how to use the new model. In September, the final report with calibration, validation statistics and the user's guide were delivered, reviewed, edited and approved by the MDC. At this time, the new Transportation Model, with a base year of 2014 and an out-modeling year of 2045, has been completed with some continuing support in the future.

Jason Nordberg stated that the main reason for this update is that it is the first step in the development of our next LRTP, which we will be starting in the next several months.

V. New Business

A. MDOT Safety Performance Targets

Damon Fortney stated that over the past year the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) and Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) have been meeting to talk about Safety Performance Targets. On August 31st MDOT officially submitted their Safety Targets to Federal Highway Administration for 2018. MPOs now have 180 days, which is February 27, 2018 to either agree with them or adopt their own targets. Mr. Fortney reviewed the five statewide Performance Targets with the 2016 five-year moving average, followed by the 2018 target. MDOT and MPOs are recommending that GCMPC adopt the statewide targets. There is no penalty either way, if we meet our target or not locally, so it makes sense to agree with what the state is setting. Staff will bring this back to the committee for approval before February. Discussion ensued.

B. Genesee County Safety Trends

Damon Fortney presented a PowerPoint on Genesee County Crash Trends. There were five slides, one for each Safety Performance Target MDOT reviewed. The slides showed the actual number and the five-year rolling average. Discussion ensued.

C. FY 2018 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment Schedule

Sharon Gregory presented MDOT's FY 2018 TIP Amendment Schedule and GCMPC's TIP Amendment Schedule. MDOT is recommending six (6) amendments per year. Staff does their best to follow MDOT's schedule, but occasionally situations come up and staff has to do an extra amendment. Staff passes that amendment along to MDOT. Staff also has their own amendment schedule they follow. During the two weeks before the TAC agenda is sent out in an amendment month, staff goes out and meets with local road and transit agencies and MDOT to see if they have any project changes. At the TAC meeting, staff will ask for the approval of the amendment. The day after the TAC meeting staff will place the amendment on our website in two different places. One notice is on our Public Notices page and the other one is on our Transportation Improvement Program page. We make sure that we have at least ten days between that

notification and the day of our Metropolitan Alliance meeting, because the Public Hearing is held at the Metropolitan Alliance meeting. The same day that we do the online public notice, we e-mail the amendment out to all of the people on our public involvement list. After Metro's approval, staff submits the amendment packet to MDOT. MDOT has two weeks to review the amendment and send it to FHWA. FHWA and FTA have two weeks to review the amendment simultaneously. When approved, it is returned to us and then it gets posted on the GCMPC website. Amendments take about 2 ½ months from the TAC meeting to the time staff gets the federally approved TIP file back.

D. Safe Routes to School Action Plan Development Assistance

Jacob Maurer advised the committee that staff was notified of this technical assistance opportunity and wanted to let the committee know about the Safe Routes to School and Action Plan Development. Applicants would be the schools, but communities work with the schools to submit the application. Elementary or middle schools can apply for infrastructure grants. The process to get an Action Plan done is eight to twelve months. Schools can apply for up to \$200,000 per school and can also receive \$8,000 in programming funds. There are five areas of focus: 1) Education; 2) Encouragement; 3) Enforcement; 4) Engineering; and 5) Evaluation. If schools are outside the City of Flint they can apply for this; if schools are inside the City of Flint, the Crim Fitness Foundation is the organization that can help with this application. This is a partnership between the Michigan Fitness Foundation (MFF) and Michigan State University (MSU). Up to eight schools (four communities) will be selected for full Action Plan assistance and up to ten additional schools for partial assistance. The application deadline is October 15th. It is a simple e-mail to the program, answering three questions and it requires a \$3,000 local contribution.

Jason Nordberg stated that an Action Plan has to be in place in order to apply for any of the funding for improvements.

E. Dort Highway Extension Project Update

Sharon Gregory presented two maps that were provided by the Genesee County Road Commission (GCRC). On October 11th, the GCRC will have a public hearing for the Environmental Assessment (EA) for this project. The EA was approved and signed by FHWA on August 16th. The EA is available for review at the GCRC or Grand Blanc Township offices. The EA is also on-line. The GCRC expects to complete the EA portion of the project by December 2017 and then move on to right-of-way acquisition and full design. The GCRC had considered three different routes. The preferred route was shown to the committee. Wetlands were taken into consideration when designing this. There are a couple of houses that are ready to sell as far as right-of-way. Genesys has decided to donate quite a bit of right-of-way for the project. At this point, it is looking good and things are moving ahead. Everyone is encouraged to go to the public input session.

Jason Nordberg stated that about \$13,000,000 in state funds are secured for this project. Discussion ensued.

F. Transportation Asset Management Plans 

Damon Fortney presented a workshop flyer and stated that there are two workshops coming up, one in Lansing and the other in Saginaw. These are for people that want to find out more information about making an Asset Management Plan for their community. An Asset Management Plan predicts conditions in the future, and helps communities use that data to make more guided decisions in what kind of fixes to make to current infrastructure. Staff is anticipating that these plans will be required in the future. Right now the Asset Management Counsel has indicated that if one of these plans is in place, there is more flexibility to switch between city minor and city major funds. There are workshops going on all the time, and the link to visit for training opportunities is ctt.mtu.edu/training. The Asset Management Representatives will come out to your agency to set up a workshop. There is also a Roadsoft User Conference on November 1st, which is a good event to attend for those who are looking to get more experience on Roadsoft.

*****G. FY 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment #7** 

Sharon Gregory stated that TIP amendment #7 changes four projects. These are all City of Flint projects. There were some issues with 2017 safety and bridge projects and all of these projects were in two separate General Program Accounts (GPA). The three safety projects were in the FY 2017 Safety GPA and the bridge project was in the FY 2017 Bridge GPA. The reason four projects are changing is because three safety projects were taken out of the FY 2017 GPA and put in the FY 2018 GPA, and one bridge project was taken out of the FY 2017 GPA and put in the FY 2018 GPA. 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 in Genesee County. Staff is recommending endorsement of amendment #7 to the FY 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program from the Technical Advisory Committee to the Genesee County Metropolitan Alliance.

Motion: Action: Approve, **Moved by** Karyn Miller, **Supported by** Robert Johnson, to approve Amendment #7 to the FY 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to the Genesee County Metropolitan Alliance.

VI. Other Business

There was no Other Business.

VII. Announcements 

A. Genesee County Recycle Day – Fall 2017

Cody Roblyer introduced himself and stated that he works on the Environmental Program here at the Planning Commission. Mr. Roblyer talked about the Recycle Day event, and what type of items are accepted at these

events. Flyers for the upcoming event on Saturday, October 21st were passed around. Staff is making some changes to these events. Thoughts are to keep the out-county events at the same location every year to utilize sites that support efficient traffic flows and are easily accessible. There will always be two locations. The City of Flint location will remain at the Water Service Center on East Court Street. We currently have three events each year and staff is thinking about reducing that to two events each year and have a small-scale one each month throughout the spring and summer taking hazardous waste only. We want to provide more convenience for people. If anyone has ideas or suggestions on a place, contact Cody of the GCMPC staff or let Jason know and he will pass that information along to Cody. Discussion ensued.

Jason Nordberg stated that we are looking to simplify the events, make them more successful, positive and with less wait time.

Alex Patsy passed around a handout highlighting the remaining schedule on the Dort highway extension and encouraged everyone to come out to the October 11th public hearing.

VIII. **Adjournment**

Vice-Chairperson Benning adjourned the meeting at 2:18 p.m.

Motion: Action: Approve, **Moved by** Robert Johnson, **Supported by** Michael Pifer, to approve the adjournment of this meeting.

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