

GENESEE COUNTY TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Thursday, November 7, 2024 1:30 p.m.

MINUTES

The Genesee County Technical Advisory Committee met at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, November 7, 2024, in the Harris Auditorium of the Genesee County Administration Building, 1101 Beach Street, Flint, Michigan, 48502.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Alex Patsy called the meeting to order at approximately 1:30 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Chairperson Patsy announced that a sign-in sheet would be used for today's official roll call. No verbal roll call was done.

Present: Abdul Khandker, Alex Patsy, Amber Abbey, Andrea Schroeder, Dennis McDonagh, Ellen Glass, Lynn Markland, Max Gierman, Michael Pifer, Michelle King, Olayinka Ajimoko, Paige DeHate, Robert Johnson, Rod McGaha, and Shawnice Dorsey.

Absent/Excused: Adam Zettel, Brian Saad, Brian Ulman, Chad Young, Chris Yeates, Christina Nicholaides, Clyde Edwards, Coetta Adams, Connie Greene, Corey Jarbeau, Dan Eashoo, David Dorr, Derek Bradshaw, Dylan Campbell, Ed Benning, Eric Johnston, Frederick Thorsby, James Slezak, Jay Reithel, Jolena Sanders-Sims, Joseph Madore, Joseph Rizk, Karyn Miller, Mary Ann Price, Melinda Johnson, Neil Rankin, Paul Fortino, Rachel Stanke, Randall Naumann, Reggie Smith, Richard Bayus, Robert Bincsik, Scott Bennett, Sheri Wilkerson, Shirley Kautman-Jones, Spencer Lewis, Susan Weber, Thomas Spillane, Vadice Burgett, Vince Lorraine, and Wendy Jean-Buhrer.

Others Present: Jacob Maurer, Kris Garris, McKenna Dutkiewicz, and Dru Hajec.

III. MINUTES

*****A. Minutes of the October 3, 2024 Regular Meeting**

Motion: Action: Approve, **Moved by** Andrea Schroeder, **Supported by** Lynn Markland, to approve the minutes of the October 3, 2024 regular meeting as presented. **Motion carried unanimously.**

IV. OLD BUSINESS

A. US-23 Corridor Study Update

Cheryl Gregory, Project Manager, from Rowe Professional Services introduced herself, John Ward from Rowe, and Jill Bower from Fishbeck - key members of the consultant team.

Ms. Gregory gave a quick overview on the study, which contains about 13 miles of the US 23 corridor from the south county line north to Bristol Rd. including seven of the

interchanges along the corridor. Additionally, they are analyzing road segments one mile east and one mile west of each of these interchanges.

Ms. Gregory reported that the traffic study is approximately 80% complete, having commenced in late 2023. The draft report is nearing finalization. Data collection for traffic patterns, analysis of current and future no-build conditions, public survey results, and the Practical Alternative Analysis have all been completed. The study is hosted on a dedicated webpage within the Planning Commission's website, with the report formatted for seamless integration.

The study examines both motorized and non-motorized traffic, assessing existing facilities, intersections, and corridors. It includes data on current levels of service and a three-year crash history. Proposed short-term improvements include measures such as access management, signage, and lane striping. Long-term solutions under consideration include bridge widening, dual roundabouts at ramps, single-point urban interchanges, and diverging diamond interchanges. These alternatives are evaluated based on cost, right-of-way impacts, utility considerations, and environmental implications to determine the most effective options.

Mr. Jacob Maurer asked if any intersections studied currently use ITS (Intelligent Transportation Systems) technology. Ms. Gregory responded that she believes none are equipped with ITS.

Ms. Gregory highlighted specific issues along the US-23 corridor, particularly around interchanges, where weaving movements and crash-prone areas were analyzed. Suggested improvements include enhanced signage, striping, lighting, and crash investigation pull-offs, which MDOT has incorporated into newer roadway designs. Operational enhancements for both short- and long-term improvements between interchanges are also being explored.

The study also examines regional travel patterns, including origins and destinations on local streets and their connections to US-23. The team is exploring whether improvements to local corridors could reduce freeway congestion and improve accessibility.

In terms of north-south traffic flows, the study analyzes how many travelers use US-23 for regional versus local trips. This planning perspective aims to identify corridors with potential for improvement, relieving local traffic from the freeway by better utilizing the local road network.

The draft report is expected to be completed by November 21 for review by the steering committee. Following feedback and input, the team will refine preferred alternatives and cost estimates. Fishbeck will create 3D traffic simulations, and public information sessions will be scheduled. The final report is targeted for release in January.

Regarding funding, Ms. Gregory noted plans to identify potential grant opportunities. She also acknowledged that changing grant priorities, influenced by recent elections,

could shift from social justice-oriented projects to those addressing capacity and safety needs.

Discussion ensued.

B. List of Approved FY 2026 Safety Projects

Mr. Kris Garris reported that MDOT approved \$975,000 in federal funding for two Genesee County safety projects for FY 2026. These include constructing a roundabout at the Fenton and Baldwin Roads intersection and installing a traffic signal at Irish and Potter Roads.

Mr. Patsy noted increased traffic and crashes at the Fenton and Baldwin Roads intersection and suggested the roundabout be expandable from a single lane to a multi-lane design. At Irish and Potter Roads, where traffic has increased due to M-15 detours, the widened intersection requires a signal for improved safety.

V. NEW BUSINESS

*****A. FY 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment #20**

Ms. McKenna Dutkiewicz stated that TIP Amendment #20 is proposing to abandon one project, change four projects, add one new safety project and add one new safety GPA to the 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). These projects were brought to committee in October 2024, however were not brought through our public involvement process so they are still highlighted on this amendment.

The amendment includes reallocating funds from the abandoned 2026 Saginaw Street project to the 2025 Grand Blanc project, additional state funding for the 2025 Silver Lake Road trail project, and updated budgets for GCRC projects on N. Belsay Road and Genesee Road.

Additionally, federal funding of \$750,000 for the Fenton and Baldwin roundabout and \$225,000 for Irish and Potter signal improvements has been added to the local Traffic Operations and Safety GPA for increased flexibility.

Motion: Action: Approve, **Moved by** Michael Pifer, **Supported by** Lynn Markland, to approve the FY 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment #20.
Motion carried unanimously.

B. 2025 State Safety Performance Measures (attached)

Mr. Garris stated that on September 18th, MDOT provided Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) with the statewide safety targets for the calendar year 2025 as required by the FAST Act. The Genesee County Metropolitan Alliance (GCMA) previously adopted the 2024 Statewide Safety Targets last year. GCMA has until February 27, 2025, to either adopt the statewide targets or adopt our own local targets. The five performance measures and 2025 targets can be found in the memo. The baseline condition used to calculate those targets was the 2019-2023 data.

Staff is currently reviewing the Genesee County crash data and will see how they relate to the statewide trends. Staff's recommendation on the 2025 Safety Performance Targets will be brought through this committee for approval in December. Included in the memo are the State safety target documentation and letters that were sent to the MPO's.

Mr. Maurer pointed out that these are trends. Federally they have to be called targets. We will be looking at whether the trends in Genesee County are comparable to the state. The county tends to follow the state's trends.

*****C. 2025 Meeting Dates (attached)**

Mr. Garris stated the meeting dates for 2025 can be found in the memo. They are typically the first Thursday of the month at 1:30 pm except if affected by a holiday. There are two on the list (January and July). In addition, Mr. Garris noted that Genesee County facilities will be moving to the new building in the early half of next year. We will provide the updated meeting information for the meeting locations when we know them.

Motion: Action: Approve, **Moved by** Andrea Schroeder, **Supported by** Amber Abbey, to approve the 2025 Meeting Dates. **Motion carried unanimously.**

VI. OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Maurer stated that he will be touching base with some of the road agencies regarding fiscal year 2025 estimate updates. There was a small percent decrease for fiscal year 2025. There will not be amendments but will be working with road agencies to adjust projects down \$5,000 to \$10,000 per project.

Mr. Maurer stated that a TSM place holder for next Thursday will be going out and will be discussing next cycle's projects.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Patsy announced the completion of Cook Road and several other construction projects. He also noted the retirement of Richard Hill, GCRC Design Manager, after 24 years.

Mr. Maurer encouraged participation in the Genesee County Master Planning Process survey, open until year-end.

Ms. Shawnice Dorsey of MTA introduced Dennis McDonagh and announced his participation in future meetings.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Chairperson Patsy adjourned the meeting at approximately 2:19 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Theresa LeFavour
Genesee County Metropolitan Planning Commission