

GENESEE COUNTY TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Thursday, April 4, 2024 1:30 p.m.

MINUTES

The Genesee County Technical Advisory Committee met at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 4, 2024 in the Harris Auditorium of the Genesee County Administration Building, 1101 Beach Street, Flint, Michigan, 48502.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Lynn Markland called the meeting to order at approximately 1:33 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

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

Present: Alex Patsy, Andrea Schroeder, Eric Johnston, Lynn Markland, Max Gierman, Melinda Johnson, Michael Pifer, and Reggie Smith.

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

Others Present: Jacob Maurer, McKenna Dutkiewicz, Dylan Campbell, Jeff Clark, Trevor Vincke, Paige DeHate and Renate Soto.

III. MINUTES

*****A. Minutes of the March 7, 2024 Regular Meeting**

Motion: Action: Approve, **Moved by** Reggie Smith, **Supported by** Andrea Schroeder, to approve the minutes of the March 7, 2024 regular meeting as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

None

Mr. Maurer stated that there will be two adjustments to the agenda: Under New Business, Item A does not need any action; it is an informational item only and Item C, Amendment #16, will be deleted.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. FY 2025 Unified Work Program

Mr. Jacob Maurer stated that staff has started working on the FY 2025 Unified Work Program (UWP) as well as the budget. The UWP is how the Metropolitan Alliance uses federal planning funds received to carry out all the transportation activities and projects that staff does, as well as working with the transit agencies on regional transit projects and studies, and the UWP is also where some of the major corridor studies originate from. Staff is inviting committee members to provide suggestions for work activities for the upcoming fiscal year. The primary activities for FY 2025 will focus on finalizing the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) and updating the next cycle of the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The call for projects for the TIP will begin in September 2024. The US-23 Corridor Study and the Safety Action Plan will continue as well. Please contact Jacob Maurer by April 26, 2024 with any questions or suggestions for the FY 2025 UWP. Discussion ensued.

*****B. FY 2026 List of Proposed Safety Projects**

Mr. Kris Garris stated that in January, MDOT released the Call for Local Safety Programs to all local road agencies. Applications for FY 2026 safety projects are due to MDOT by May 1, 2024. Staff previously requested the safety project applications be sent to the GCMPC office for prioritization and support. Seven applications were received, six of which were reviewed according to MDOT Time-of-Return (TOR) Analysis and were listed in the memo provided in the agenda packet. One project did not have the data available to complete the analysis, but staff is confident that the final project application will be completed prior to the deadline. Mr. Garris reviewed the seven project applications received with the Committee members. At this time, staff is requesting that the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) provide a recommendation of approval to the Metropolitan Alliance for the prioritized list of FY 2026 Safety Projects for MDOT consideration.

Motion: Action: Approve, **Moved by** Michael Pifer, **Supported by** Reggie Smith, to provide a recommendation of approval to the Metropolitan Alliance for the prioritized list of FY 2026 Safety Projects for MDOT consideration as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion ensued.

*****C. FY 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment**

Item cancelled.

D. US-23 Corridor Study – Progress Update

Mr. Maurer stated that recently staff met with our US-23 Corridor Study consultant, Rowe Professional Services. Rowe has provided staff with some preliminary detailed crash data, particularly at the major interchanges along the US-23 Corridor, from Hill Road to Owen Road. Rowe is reviewing historical crash data along the corridor itself including crash types, severity of the crashes, intermittent congestion and vehicle stacking. They are finishing up the data aspect of the Study and will start transitioning into developing possible solutions soon. A project website that Rowe is developing for public involvement is almost complete. The next Steering Committee meeting will be held in late April/early May. Discussion ensued.

E. Genesee County Coordinated Transit Plan – Progress Update

Ms. Dru Hajec stated the Genesee County Coordinated Transit Plan is currently under development. In the past, GCMPC staff has prepared the Coordinated Transit Plan in partnership with the Mass Transportation Authority (MTA). For this Coordinated Plan, MDOT has hired a consultant, to develop the plan statewide. Over the past several months, staff has participated in focus groups and provided local data to the consultant. The focus groups work to identify transportation needs and possible improvements. Once the data has been received, staff will review and provide comments to the consultant.

F. Genesee County Transportation Safety Action Plan – Progress Update

Mr. Garris stated that in early March, staff finalized and released the Request for Proposals (RFP) to procure a consultant for the Genesee County Transportation Safety Action Plan. Questions were accepted until March 26, 2024 and proposals will be due April 18, 2024. The proposals will be reviewed and scored, followed by an interview to recommend the best candidate. The RFP can be found on the Genesee County Purchasing website. Staff is very optimistic and expects good engagement with the RFP and multiple consultants have reached out to staff inquiring about the RFP. Any questions can be directed to Mr. Garris at the contact information provided in the memo.

G. 2024 Local Traffic Count Program

Mr. Garris stated that on an annual basis, GCMPC staff requests that local units of government update traffic count information on roads under their jurisdiction. Traffic counts are used for a variety of transportation planning activities. Staff has met with a few of the local road agencies across Genesee County to discuss the local traffic count program. Mr. Garris reminded Committee members that traffic counters are available for rent at \$5.00 per day and staff can assist in setup and training. The counters can collect vehicle counts, classification and speed information. Please upload the data to the web-based traffic count system. Mr. Garris stated that if you are not participating in the system, you may send the data to him via email and he can upload it. Please reach out to Mr. Garris with any questions or if you would like to rent a traffic counter. Mr. Maurer added that having updated traffic count information is important for various reasons. One being traffic count information is one of the indicators in the scoring for the TIP Call for Projects happening later this year and the other being that traffic count information will be added to the transportation model which is vital to our Long-Range planning.

H. Upcoming MDOT Transportation Projects in Genesee County

Trevor Vincke, from MDOT's Davison TSC, gave a presentation on upcoming MDOT projects in Genesee County. Mr. Vincke reviewed 2024 projects including the I-475 reconstruction project, as well as projects on M-57, I-75 at M-21 and M-54. He also summarized scheduled projects in years 2025-2027. Committee members asked that the information provided in the presentation be sent to them.

VI. OTHER BUSINESS

None

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Genesee County Recycle Days

Mr. Maurer announced that our very popular Recycle Days events will be held again this year on May 21, June 18, July 16 and August 20. Registration is required and will begin two weeks prior to each event. Locations and timeslots will be released when an appointment is secured. Fliers were made available to Committee members.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Chairperson Markland adjourned the meeting at approximately 2:13 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Renate Soto, Secretary
Genesee County Metropolitan Planning Commission