



## Tri-County Regional Planning Commission

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### COMMITTEE REPORT

#### TRANSPORTATION REVIEW COMMITTEE

Date: August 12, 2009 (Wednesday)  
Time: 4:00 p.m.  
Place: Southwind Conference Room  
(Down the hall from TCRPC offices)  
913 W. Holmes Road, Suite 201  
Lansing, MI 48910

#### OFFICERS

##### CHAIRPERSON

Carol Wood

##### VICE-CHAIRPERSON

Dianne Holman

##### TREASURER

Larry Martin

##### SECRETARY

Howard Pizzo

#### COMMISSIONERS

Russel Bauerle  
Kevin Beard  
James Dravenstatt-Mocerri  
Glenn Freeman, III  
Eric Hewitt  
Tim Kaltenbach  
Art Luna  
Brian McGrain  
Ralph Monsma  
David Pohl  
Shirley M. Rodgers  
Marsha Small  
Carol Strachan  
Darrell Tennis  
John Veenstra

#### EX-OFFICIO

#### LANSING MAYOR

Virgil Bernero

#### COUNTY BOARD

##### CHAIRPERSONS

Joseph Brehler  
Debbie DeLeon  
Larry Martin

#### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Jon W. Coleman

### MINUTES

Attendance: See attached attendance sheet.

Staff Present: Paul Hamilton, Steve Skinker, Maria Habba

Ch/Bauerle called the meeting to order at approximately 4:00 p.m.

#### I. Minutes

Ch/Bauerle noted that the date of the approved minutes was listed incorrectly on Page 1, Item I. The action was to approve the minutes of the *June 10, 2009* meeting.

It was MOVED by C/Monsma, SUPPORTED by C/McBurrows, to approve the minutes of July 22, 2009 as corrected. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### II. TIP Amendments

Ch/Bauerle said action is being requested on two TIP amendments. Hamilton will also add comments on administrative changes.

#### A. MDOT Trunkline Project List

Hamilton said the listed MDOT projects are either new, have cost adjustments, or year adjustments, etc. Hamilton said MDOT continues to backload the program as a result of the ARRA program. CARTS recommends approval.

It was MOVED by C/Monsma, SUPPORTED by C/Beard, to recommend approval of MDOT's trunkline project list. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

(Over)

B. MDOT 2010 General Program Accounts (GPA)

Hamilton explained that GPA's are programmatic type of activities where projects are not broken out individually. CARTS recommends approval.

It was MOVED by C/Tennis, SUPPORTED by C/Dravenstatt-Moceri, to recommend approval of the MDOT 2010 General Program Account additions. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

C. Administrative Amendments

Skinker distributed communication from the Ingham County Road Commission with regard to adjusting a couple funding amounts between their projects. It was noted that CARTS took action on the proposed adjustments; however, staff can handle these changes administratively. Hamilton briefed members on Ingham County's proposed changes.

Staff distributed a copy of the current assessment of ARRA projects based on the latest bids that staff has been monitoring. At this time, it appears that there will be enough funding to advance the Lansing Holmes Road project. Hamilton explained that the City of Lansing originally submitted for a \$475,000 resurfacing project, which now has to be a reconstruction (which could double the cost of the project). Lansing staff has noted their intent to cover the overages with local funds. Skinker noted that \$475,000 is the amount programmed in the TIP for this project. There was discussion that anything beyond this amount would be given to the next project on the list based on agreement of the committees that projects would be bought down the list.

Hamilton explained that ARRA projects need to be advanced as quickly as possible. Projects must be obligated by December, 2009. Hamilton noted timing constraints as follows: ARRA funds have to be obligated by December 15; they have to go through MDOT process and FHWA's process; and they must go through the Governor's office for signature. In order for these projects to move forward with some leeway, Hamilton asked for the Committee's concurrence on allowing staff to administratively advance projects in order to avoid losing funds. Staff previously received direction from the Committee to handle ARRA advancement as necessary in order to avoid losing funds. Hamilton asked for concurrence to handle the City of Lansing project administratively. C/Hewitt inquired about the City of Lansing's commitment to cover project overages. Staff will request written communication from the City explaining their intention to fund overages of this project.

C/Monsma MOVED concurrence with Hamilton's recommendation.

There was discussion on the technicalities of funding projects based on the anticipated available ARRA funding, based on revised program assumptions as a result of the latest bid costs. Hamilton explained his understanding of the Committee's intention on buying projects down from the list.

C/Dravenstatt Mocerri SUPPORTED, to concur with staff's recommendation to handle the City of Lansing, Holmes Road project administratively. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

III. Regional 2035 Transportation Plan

Hamilton said the proposed project list that was enclosed in packets is constrained by conformity period for analysis of the Long Range Transportation Plan. Upon preliminary approval, these projects would be modeled for air quality purposes. Hamilton said the illustrative list that was also enclosed would not be modeled. Illustrative list projects consist of trunkline projects that came out of the highways only network. Skinker briefed members on changes to the list as follows.

- 2009 STP Lansing, Dunckel Road project (map reference #25) – the bridge portion will be completed in 2010. The related road project is a separate baseline project.
- 2016 CCRC State Road (map reference #1) – Skinker was notified that they can't fund this through FAA, they are hoping for an earmark.
- 2016 ECRC, Mt. Hope Highway (map reference #11a) – termini change from Canal to Guinea (1 mile length).
- 2017 ECRC Mt. Hope Highway (map reference #11b) – termini change from Guinea to Nixon.
- MSU, North Shaw and South Shaw (map reference #55) – this project will now be done in 2030.
- MSU, Bogue Street (map reference #53) – this project will now be done in 2020.

Skinker said the proposed project list was distributed to CARTS and other local communities for scrutiny. Staff requested feedback on projects and asked to be notified of any changes.

C/Veenstra had several questions on the proposed projects (some of which were discussed below). He inquired about the rationale that two-way streets would be an improvement over one-way streets, particularly in the City of Lansing.

Hamilton said converting roads to a one-way in earlier decades was intended to move cars as quickly as possible – mainly out of the downtown areas. Hamilton explained that there is a more current school of thought that two-way streets are more conducive to pedestrian, bicycle and shopping traffic in the business community – components of “place making” by slowing traffic. Hamilton said as we try to rebuild our communities it is important that we try to make them function for all modes and users of transportation.

Hamilton explained that there's always been a trade-off, in terms of volume, capacity and speed, and how this might have an impact on our places. Hamilton noted that the City of Lansing is currently working on their comprehensive plan update and that the proposed changes are part of the City's overall comprehensive plan. C/Hewitt provided additional comments on the proposed one-way to two-way conversions as follows: they're expected to reduce the amount of time cars are on the road; provide a more direct route; and it is assumed that two-way streets cut down on emissions and the amount of gas that is used, etc. C/Hewitt noted that the City is in the process of working on multi-modal plans.

Based on questions raised, there was discussion on the theory behind reducing 4 lanes to 3 lanes. C/Veenstra noted that passing is prohibited on three lane roads. Hamilton explained that this conversion usually takes place when the roads have excess capacity, or in many cases there are safety issues. Hamilton noted that the City of East Lansing's study showed an approximate 50% reduction of pedestrian and bike accidents when they made the 4 to 3 lane conversion.

There was discussion on several other projects including #59 (ICRC, Cedar Street, Holt to Aurelius), #65a (ICRC, Lake Lansing Road, I-69 BL (Saginaw) to Sleepy Hollow Drive), #65b (ICRC, Lake Lansing Road, Sleepy Hollow Drive to March), #65c (ICRC, Lake Lansing Road, at Okemos and at Lake Lansing). Staff will clarify descriptions of #65 a, b, and c. C/Veenstra said he is opposed to 65a.

C/Veenstra raised question on #70 (ICRC for Meridian Township DDA, Okemos Road, Hamilton Road intersection): he said Paul Brake, Meridian Township DDA applied for a project that was not approved by the Meridian Township Board. C/Veenstra expressed concerns with this project being listed. Hamilton explained that a regional model is unable to evaluate roundabouts. He said CMAQ projects are also exempt from conformity. Hamilton said this project should be left on the list for transparency reasons.

C/Tennis inquired about the "New" listed projects. He was particularly concerned about the Charlotte, Reynolds Road, Kalamo Highway project being built on time. C/Tennis inquired about the implications of having to remodel if certain projects are not built in the anticipated year.

Hamilton explained that the TIP is conformed to the Plan and the first conformity period for the Plan will be 2011-2018. Whether the project is built in 2012 or not, it can still be built in 2018 before we have to remodel. Projects have to be in the TIP in order to receive funds. Hamilton explained that a TIP is done every two years; Plans are done every 4 years, so there is opportunity to move projects around. Hamilton also explained that the Michigan Avenue/Grand River Corridor study will likely need to be remodeled based on the conclusion of the study. In the event that some other project would need to be added or removed from the model, this could be done in conjunction with amending the model for the Michigan Avenue/Grand River Corridor project.

Hamilton is requesting that the Committee recommend to the Commission that this be the list that's modeled for the Regional 2035 Transportation Plan. Hamilton noted that this is not adopting the Plan, its only giving preliminary approval to have these projects modeled for air quality purposes that must be included in the Plan.

It was MOVED by C/Monsma, SUPPORTED by C/Beard, to recommend preliminary approval of the long range plan project list in order to begin the modeling process.

Luna noted that #10 (ECRC, Michigan Avenue, Canal to Creyts) was voted by the Delta Township Board to support this endeavor, although there are citizens that would like to bring this back up through the Road Commission. Hamilton said if this project does not go through, funding for the project would not necessarily stay in the county – it would go back to the STP Subcommittee and CARTS Committee to reallocate the funds for this project. If it were not to be built in 2010, we could have a conformity issue because 2010 is a base year project.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Hamilton reminded the Committee of the modeling conformity periods as follow: 2010; 2011-2018, 2019-2025, 2026-2030, 2031-2035 (base year is 2010).

IV. Status of Projects

Status of projects was enclosed in packets. The Committee reviewed the status of projects earlier in the meeting.

V. Status Reports/Other

- Long Range Plan Transit Projects – Transit agencies components of the Plan were also enclosed in packets for information. Action will be taken on these projects in September.
- Non-Motorized Plan Update – This Plan is in process. An additional task force meeting will be rescheduled to work on the text of the plan, projects and inventory, goals and objectives, etc.
- Freight Survey – Forty-seven responses have been received to date.
- Michigan Avenue/Grand River Corridor Study – The Technical and Steering Committees will meet within the next couple of weeks. Staff has provided the model and various other data to the consultants. CATA's consultants are working on calibrating the model for FTA purposes, which will need to be fed back into TCRPC's model upon completion.
- Updated TIP Schedule – MDOT has provided a draft 2011-2014 TIP schedule that shows a TIP adoption in May or June of 2010.

- Greening Mid-Michigan – Phases I and II are complete. The Phase II report is being reviewed. Both reports are available on the website at [www.greenmidmichigan.org](http://www.greenmidmichigan.org). Phase III is currently being planned. A series of focus groups will be held in each of the three counties to begin discussion on developing a green infrastructure plan in the fall. This will lead up to a mini-charette in January, with anticipated completion of the project in the spring.
- Power of We Transit Needs Survey – Staff has received and completed data entry for approximately 550 surveys. A summary report has been transmitted to key agency staff.
- Other/Adjourn – There being no further business the meeting adjourned at approximately 5:15 p.m.

COMPOSITE ATTENDANCE RECORD  
TRANSPORTATION REVIEW COMMITTEE 2009

C=Cancelled  
A=Alternate  
A1=1st Alternate  
A2=2nd Alternate  
A3=3rd Alternate

GOVERNMENTAL UNIT/AGENCY	MONTH/DAY												TOTAL
	2/11	2/25	3/11	4/15	5/13	6/10	7/22	8/12	9/9	10/14	11/10	12/9	
Clinton County: Clinton County Road Commission Clinton County Board of Commissioners	Bauerle Pohl	X X	X X	C C	X X	X X	X X		X X				
Eaton County: Eaton County Road Commission EATRAN	Pizzo Tennis Luna	X X X	X X X	C C C	X X X	X X X	X X X	X X X	X X X				
Ingham County: Ingham County Road Commission	Beard McGrain Veenstra Dravenstatt-Moceri	X X X X	X X X X	C C C C	X X X X	X X X X	X X X X	X X X X	X X X X				
Lansing City: CATA	Hewitt Monsma	X X	X X	C C	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X				
MDOT:	McBurrows		X	C	X	X	X	X	X				
<b>TOTAL VOTING MEMBERS</b>		8	12	C	8	12	8	10	9				
<b>NON VOTING MEMBERS:</b>													
CATA: D Alexander J Manzella N Wilson (A-1)		X X X	X X X	C C C	X X X	X X X	X X X	X X X	X X X				
EATRAN:	Webb			C									
CRAA:	Otto	X		C	X		X		X				
FHWA:	Tupica			C									
MDNR:	Rusch			C									
<b>TOTAL</b>		10	13	10	10	13	10	11	11				

Others in attendance: Date: 2/11/09 - Bill Conklin, Ingham County Road Commission  
Date: 2/25/09 - Ch/Wood, C/Holman