



TRI-COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Planning for People in the Greater Lansing Region Since 1956

MINUTES

Capital Area Regional Transportation Study (CARTS) Technical Committee

2011 OFFICERS

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VICE-CHAIRPERSON

Howard Pizzo, Eaton County

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Carol Wood, City of Lansing

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Clinton, Eaton and Ingham

County Chairpersons

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Susan M.C. Pigg, CEcD

Date: July 5, 2011 (Tuesday) at 9:30 a.m.
Place: Ingham County Human Services Building – Rooms D/E
5303 S. Cedar Street, Lansing MI 48910
Attendance: See attached.
Staff Present: Susan M.C. Pigg, Executive Director
Paul Hamilton, Chief Transportation Planner
Maria Habba, Executive Assistant

I. Introductions/Minutes

V/Chair Cypher called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. Those present introduced themselves. It was MOVED by Martin, SUPPORTED by Johnson, to approve the June 14, 2011 minutes as presented. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

II. Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) Five Year Plan

Paul Lott, MDOT's University Region, distributed the Five Year Road and Bridge Program and reviewed the project development process. He highlighted 2011-2015 programmed projects. MDOT implements strategies that improve transportation operation and mobility. They use Twitter and Facebook to advertise public opportunities. MDOT is projecting a shortfall for years 2013-2015 and an inability to match federal aid that will significantly impact road maintenance.

MDOT will begin scoping meetings in the fall on US-127 at Lake Lansing Road (bridge repair). This will be an opportunity to look at potential non-motorized improvements. **IMPORTANT: Please attend the annual "Maintaining Traffic" Summits in October or November** for an opportunity to meet with MDOT to discuss and coordinate upcoming projects. Mr. Lott encouraged city officials and staff to attend the county meetings.

III. TIP Amendments

The Clinton County Rural Task Force proposes to adjust their 2012 and 2014 projects in the Small Urban Program. Costs will not change (request enclosed in packets).

2012 deletion: St. Johns-Oakland Street from Sturgis St. to Railroad St.

2012 replacement: St. Johns-Sturgis St. from Scott Rd. to the west .11 mile, and Scott Road from Sturgis St. to Jones St. **Adjusted length:** .57 mile to .35 mile

2014 deletions: Clinton Transit bus purchase and St. Johns-Gibbs Street (Lansing Street to US 127 BR) and Spring Street (M-21 to Railroad Street)

2014 replacement: CCRC-Townsend Road (US 127 BR to US 127) **Adjusted length:** .20 mile to 1.3 miles

It was MOVED by Peterson, SUPPORTED by Martin, to recommend approval of Clinton County's Small Urban adjustments to the 2011-2014 TIP. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

IV. **Election of Officers**

V/Chair Cypher called for nominations of 2012 officers from the floor. Seeing none, the nominating committee will recommend a slate of officers at the next meeting and an election will be held.

V. **Status of Projects/Administrative Changes**

Hamilton said members discussed contingency projects at the last meeting in case Michigan Avenue Extension is not obligated. Hannahs indicated that the St. Joe project could be ready to obligate and should be considered as a contingency project. Ms. Pigg said MDOT Director, Steudel, replied to TCRPC's letter regarding the Environmental Assessment of the Michigan Avenue Extension project. TCRPC discussed and reviewed the letter. It was agreed that unless Eaton County decides to pull their project, it will move forward. Ms. Pigg explained the prioritization process and encouraged discussion on what projects are ready if needed. TCRPC will be regularly contacting MDOT and FHWA to check on the status. If action needs to occur after the July meeting schedule, Hamilton can call for a Project Selection Committee meeting to advance projects if necessary. The Project Section Committee includes the TCRPC Executive Committee, Chairs of TRC and CARTS, and CARTS representatives from six major member agencies.

Members reported the following projects status.

2011 Urban STP Projects

- CCRC, Clark Road (Watson to Webster) – Project has been let.
- ECRC, St. Joe Highway (Canal to Broadbent) – Reduced to accommodate Michigan Avenue Extension cost increase.
- ECRC, Nixon Road (St. Joe to Rockbridge – AC job) – Complete.
- Grand Ledge, DeGroff Street (M-43 to Edwards) – Work begins on June 27 (no new update).
- ECRC, Michigan Avenue (Canal to Creyts) – Additional information was submitted to FHWA, but no response yet. Andy Pickard will follow up. Correspondence from MDOT to TCRPC indicated that will be forwarded for FHWA legal review and a FONSI is expected in July.
- ICRC, Waverly Road (bridge over I-96 to 50 feet south of Jolly) – Rebid July 15. Project has been obligated.
- Lansing, Clippert Street (Saginaw to Michigan) and (Michigan to Kalamazoo) – Construction began this week.
- Lansing, Jolly Road (Aurelius to Dunckel) – Complete.
- Lansing, Turner street (Sheridan to Carrier) – Complete.
- Lansing, Pennsylvania Avenue (Miller to Cedar) – ½ way complete.
- ICRC, Cedar Street (Hancock to Keller - AC job) – Obligated, will begin on July 11.

Hamilton asked about possible right-of-way issues with an ICRC and a City of Lansing CMAQ application. ICRC and City of Lansing said they don't anticipate any problem with the obligation schedule.

2011 CMAQ Projects

- Clinton Transit, Bus Facility Construction – Determined non-eligible; TIP amendment redirected funds to CATA hybrid bus purchase; flexing of bus purchase complete, application submitted to FTA.
- CATA, Public Education and Clean Commute Options – Flexing is complete; application was submitted to FTA.
- Lansing, Waverly (Jolly to Moores River) – Plans have been submitted; finalizing right-of-way issues. They hope to have everything ready in July.
- Lansing (MLK and Willow Intersection) – The final bid packet is under review; project should be obligated soon.
- Round-about (Park Lake Road at Burcham Drive) – Public hearing was held; project should be obligated at the end of July; they are also looking at right-of-way issues.
- St. Johns, Townsend Road – Under construction.

VI. Cancellation of the August Meeting

It was MOVED by Mason, SUPPORTED by Martin, to cancel the August CARTS meeting. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

VII. Status Reports/Other

- CMAQ Process Redesign – Hamilton participated in developing a new CMAQ process which, if implemented, will make the program more efficient and reduce the time to get through the process by 40%. All recommendations have been approved by MDOT and implementation task forces will begin working on automating this process. There will be a pre-screening requirement at the application stage. Discussion ensued on the difficulties of predicting issues with CMAQ projects early on, i.e. right-of-way issues.
- Non-Motorized Task Force – Members evaluated survey results from MSU faculty and staff relative to the non-motorized plan. Potential improvements will be discussed and forwarded to MSU. The Michigan Avenue/Grand River Corridor was also discussed. Andy Kilpatrick is the new Chair of the Task Force. Members are appointed by the Chair.
- MTPA Conference – The Conference will be in Flint July 11-15.

VIII. Michigan Flyer (Old Business)

Michigan Flyer seeks operating assistance to startup expanded service from the Lansing area to Detroit Metro Airport by way of I-96 and US 23 with stops in Howell, Brighton and Ann Arbor areas. They seek one year of funding to start November, 2011. If approved, the project will be placed in the TIP illustrative list pending award. Funding source: FHWA's Transportation, Community, and System Preservation (TCSP) Program; Project cost: \$1,563,660 Federal + \$390,915 private sector = \$1,954,575

This item was tabled at the June meeting pending further information. It was MOVED by Martin, SUPPORTED by Brinkley to remove the item from the table. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Michigan Flyer distributed information about their application for \$1.5 million in federal "Transportation, Community, and System Preservation Program" (TCSP) funds to expand its shuttle service between Lansing, Howell and Brighton along the I-96 corridor to Detroit Metropolitan Airport. They have applied

for a one-time investment of TCSP funds to establish the route. MDOT is sponsoring Michigan Flyer's application and directed them to request TCRPC support to enhance their application. Rob Pearson, MDOT Passenger Transportation, announced their participation. Chad Cushman, Indian Trails/Michigan Flyer, stated that they are a private venture providing public transportation services. They are a private company that operates as a public transportation agency and could receive public funding. Mr. Cushman said they are not competing with the Lansing Airport and feel that their application will enhance Airport services. He feels that public/private partnerships and opportunities should be explored and encouraged. Mr. Cushman requested action on this application based on the merits of the application. He also noted that Michigan Flyer is the only mode of public transportation not receiving federal assistance.

Committee members asked about placing this project on the TIP, if it is funded. Hamilton said TCRPC is required to include all projects receiving federal funds in the TIP. The project would be listed as an MDOT/Michigan Flyer project. Members asked about other MPO's on the proposed Flyer route.

Michigan Flyer has submitted a CMAQ application to SEMCOG. Lott is a member of SEMCOG and would recommend that they also follow the MPO procedures in placing their project on that TIP. Hamilton said action from TCRPC should be taken based on our area and not contingent on another MPO.

Discussion continued on Michigan Flyer's relationship with the Lansing Airport. Chris Holman, Airport Authority Chair, spoke as a small business owner of Lansing Business Monthly magazine. He feels that it should not be a taxpayer function to support a private entity. Mr. Homan and Mr. Daigel addressed questions related to Capital City Airport's operating and capital improvement funding.

Hamilton said the TCSP program is intended to fund projects that offer a positive benefit to the existing transportation system, preserve and foster compatible development in existing communities, offers sustainability, livability, and a reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. Michigan has not historically received many of these grants. He noted that the City of Lansing has also applied for TCSP funding.

Cypher clarified that there was a motion and support on the table to not add this project to the TIP illustrative list. C/Martin recommended voting the motion down and called for a vote. Colburn in favor. The majority opposed. MOTION FAILED.

Johnson stated that the Michigan Flyer TCSP application is consistent with federal requirements, is an eligible activity, and the objective is consistent with the region's Long Range Plan. It was MOVED by Johnson, SUPPORTED by Martin, to recommend approval of adding the Michigan Flyer application to the TIP illustrative and to prioritize any other TCSP applications in the illustrative list, including the Lansing application. Discussion was held.

Hamilton said all Michigan TCSP applications have been submitted to MDOT and FHWA. Daigle asked if this application could be awarded without TCRPC action. Hamilton said yes, but if awarded, this project must be included in the TIP. Maleck commented that MSU strongly supports both CATA and Michigan Flyer.

MOTION CARRIED (Opposed: Daigle).

- VIII. Other – Colburn encouraged Indian Trails/Michigan Flyer to open discussions with the Airport and other area transit agencies. He said we need to help build positive relationships in our region.

Ball discussed the region's priority transit corridors and asked that in the future MDOT show justification for their support, particularly consistency with identified priority corridors.

IX. Adjourn – There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

COMPOSITE ATTENDANCE RECORD: 2011 CARTS TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

D = Delegate
A = Alternate
A-1 = 1st Alt.

A-2 = 2nd Alt.
A-3 = 3rd Alt.
C = Cancelled

GOVERNMENTAL UNIT/AGENCY & DELEGATE	MONTH/DAY												
	1/4	2/1	3/1	4/5	5/3	6/14	7/5	8/2	9/6	10/4	11/1	11/29	Total
Bath Township - J Foulds - D - T Feltman - A	C		C										
Clinton County Rd Comm - J Pulver - D - D Armentrout - A1 - A Gove - A2	C	A1	C	D	D	D	D						
Bd Comm - L Martin - D - Vacant - A	C	D	C	D	D	D	D						
Eaton County Rd Comm - B Ballou - D - M Hannahs - A	C	A	C	D	D		A						
Bd Comm - C Hannold - D	C		C										
Bd Comm - D Barr - D - B Ballou - A	C		C			D							
Ingham County Rd Comm - W Conklin - D - B Peterson - A	C	A	C	D	D	D	A						
Bd Comm - J Cypher - D - D Holman - A	C	D	C	D	D	D	D						
E Lansing Community Dev - VACANT - D *** - T Schmitt - A	C		C			D							
Public Works - T Sneathen - D - R Lacasse - A	C	A	C	A	D	D	A						
Lansing Transportation Office - A Kilpatrick - D - M Whisler - A	C	D	C	A	D	D							
Planning Office - B Johnson - D - B Rieske - A	C		C										
Public Service - C Gamble - D - S House - A	C		C	D		D							
City Engineer - D Johnson - D - V Rose - A	C		C			D	D						

*** Appointment Pending.

COMPOSITE ATTENDANCE RECORD: 2011 CARTS TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

GOVERNMENTAL UNIT/AGENCY & DELEGATE	MONTH/DAY												Total
	1/4	2/1	3/1	4/5	5/3	6/14	7/5	8/2	9/6	10/4	11/1	11/29	
Asst City Engineer - J Dykema - D - A Parry - A	C	D	C	D		D	D						
Delhi Ch Twp Pub Serv - T. Miller - D - J Elsinga - A	C	D	C										
Delta Ch Twp Engr Dept - Vacant - D - D Nimphie - A	C	D	C										
DeWitt Ch Twp - R Trent - D - R Taylor - A	C	D	C										
Lansing Ch Twp - J Daher - D - M Brinkley - A	C	D	C	A	D								
Meridian Ch Twp Planning Dept - M Kieselbach - D - G Oranchak - A	C	D	C	D	D	D	D						
Public Works - R Severy - D - Y Ishraidi - A	C	A	C		D								
DeWitt City - D. Coss - D *** (Feb 11) - R Miller - A	C		C	A	D								
Dimondale - J. Hilliard - D - M. Spittler - A	C		C	D									
Grand Ledge - L LaHaie - D - A = None	C	D	C	D									
Mason - M. Colburn - D - D. Heck - A	C	D	C	D	D		D						
Capital Reg Airport Authority - M. Daigle - D *** - M Lynn - A	C		C				D						
Capital Area Transit Authority - D Alexander - D1 - J. Ball (July) - D2 - N Wilson - A1 - C Edgerly - A2	C	D2 A1	C	D2 A1	D2 A1	D2 A1	D2 A1	D2 A1					

*** Appointment Pending.

COMPOSITE ATTENDANCE RECORD: 2011 CARTS TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

GOVERNMENTAL UNIT/AGENCY & DELEGATE	MONTH/DAY												Total
	1/4	2/1	3/1	4/5	5/3	6/14	7/5	8/2	9/6	10/4	11/1	11/29	
Clinton Area Transit System - R M Mason - D - D. Benson - A	C	D	C	D		D	D						
Eaton County Transit Authority - D. Webb - D - D. Martin - A	C	D	C			D							
MDNR Air Pollution Control - R Rusch - D - J Schroeder - A	C		C										
MSU Campus Park & Planning - T Maleck - D - S O'Donnell - A	C	D	C	D	D	D	D						
MDOT - TSC - S Bower - D - VACANT - A1 - R. Leppala - A2	C	A2	C	A2		D	D						
MDOT - CCFC Sec. - R. Fowler - D - A = None	C	D	C		D								
MDOT University Region - P Lott - D - K Martin - A	C	D	C	D	D	D	D						
TCRPC Susan M.C. Pigg (non-voting) - D P Hamilton - A-1 S Skinker - A-2	C	D	C	A1	A1	A1	D						
FAA District Office Vacant (non-voting)	C		C										
FHWA-Division Office Region V A. Pickard (non voting) - D (March) VACANT - A1 D. Cameron - A2	C	D	C	D		A	D						
FTA-Regional Office Chicago R. Stewart McKenzie (non-voting)	C		C										
Total Voting Membership	C	24	C	21	17	19	17						
Total Membership Present	C	25	C	23	18	21	19						

COMPOSITE ATTENDANCE RECORD: 2011 CARTS TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Others Present

<p>January 4, 2011 – Meeting was cancelled.</p>	<p>February 1, 2011 – Paul Hamilton, TCRPC; David Pohl, Clinton County Board of Commissioners/TCRPC Chair; Gerrad Godley, C2AE (Williamston/Eaton Rapids); Ray Lenze, MDOT; Jeffrey Stephens, City of St. Johns; Doug Christensen, Auburn Dalle; Amy Schoonover, City of Charlotte.</p>	<p>March 1, 2011 – Meeting was cancelled.</p>
<p>April 5, 2011 – Bob Peterson, ICRC; Cheryl Hudson, MDOT; Noelle Tobias, Delhi Charter Township; Doug Christensen, Auburn Dalle; Amy Schoonover, City of Charlotte; Gerrad Godley, C2AE (Williamston/Eaton Rapids); Alexis Vertalka, MichiVan; Griffin Rivers, Citizen; Jeffrey Stephens, City of St. Johns; Mathew Hannahs, ECRC; Dan Armentrout, CCRC; W.J. Ballenger, Citizen; Gary Bozek, Delta Charter Township.</p>	<p>May 3, 2011 – Don Skittenhelm, Citizens Against Extending Michigan Avenue (CAEMA); Carl Bond, CAEMA; Rich Miller, City of DeWitt; Dan Armentrout, CCRC; Jeffrey Stephens, City of St. Johns; Amy Schoonover, City of Charlotte; Gerrad Godley, C2AE (Williamston/Eaton Rapids); Ron LaCasse, City of East Lansing; Gary Bozek, Delta Charter Township; Ralph Monsma, TCRPC Commissioner/CATA Board Member; Alexis Vertalka, MichiVan; Michelle Romano Rockwood, MichiVan.</p>	<p>June 14, 2011 – Dan Armentrout, CCRC; Jeffrey Stephens, City of St. Johns; Jerry Hillman, Village of Dimondale; Gerrad Godley, C2AE (Williamston/Eaton Rapids); Mary Finch, FHWA; Jeanne Day-LaBo, MDOT-DBE Program; Ody Norkin, Michigan Flyer, LLC; Gary Bozek, Delta Charter Township; Angie Payne, VPSI, Inc/MichiVan;</p>
<p>July 5, 2011 –Noelle Tobias, Delhi Charter Township; Roger Marks, C2AE; Jeffrey Stephens, City of St. Johns; Rob Pearson, MDOT; Chad Cushman, Indian Trails; Ody Norkin, Michigan Flyer; Mark Holoweiko, Citizen; Chris Holman, GLBM/MBN; Amy Schoonover, City of Charlotte.</p>		