



**50 Years of Service**  
**1956 - 2006**

## Tri-County Regional Planning Commission

913 West Holmes Road, Suite 201  
Lansing, Michigan 48910  
Telephone: (517) 393-0342  
Web Page: www.mitrpc.org  
Email: tcrpc@acd.net  
Fax: (517) 393-4424

### COMMITTEE REPORT

#### TRANSPORTATION REVIEW COMMITTEE

Date: July 22, 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

C/Pohl called the meeting to order at approximately 4:00 p.m.

#### I. Minutes

It was MOVED by C/McGrain, SUPPORTED by C/Beard, to approve the minutes of June 10, 2009 as printed. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### II. Draft 2010 Work Program

Hamilton said the Draft 2010 Work Program was enclosed in packets, along with a copy of the FY 2009 budget summary for comparison. Hamilton briefly summarized changes between the 2009 Work Program and the Draft 2010 Work Program as follows.

Hamilton reviewed the revenue assumptions shown on page 89 of the work program. Hamilton explained that we're being conservative and assuming no change or carryover for the current year. Upon completion of an assessment and if any carryover is available, the budget would be amended to capture any carryover funds. Hamilton said the transportation program is currently down by approximately \$467,000.

Hamilton has supported activities of the economic development position to assist on such activities as the freight survey, ARRA activities, etc. Since transportation funds are down, the economic development position will now be funded with Commission dollars. Transportation funds were also

(Over)

previously used to support portions of the land use planner position. This difference has now also been transferred to Commission funds. Hamilton explained that revenue assumptions are down by about ½ FTE (full time equivalent staff person).

Hamilton explained TCRPC's efforts in being aggressive in applying for additional federal dollars. There are two very large national grant programs that staff is currently pursuing. EPA has announced a 10 million dollar national funding availability to address climate change – community leadership grants with up to ½ million each.

Staff has submitted an application along with the Land Policy Institute (LPI), the MI Trails and Greenways Alliance and Mid-MEAC for this grant. TCRPC could possibly be awarded \$313,000 in federal funds through this grant.

Staff envisions using efforts of the Regional Growth project and its implemented regional land use vision that attempts to direct growth as an example of how the region has been working to reduce greenhouse gas emissions that create climate change as an initiative consistent with EPA's requirements. Hamilton explained that this is a major step towards reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. Hamilton mentioned MSU's efforts in reducing VMT (vehicle miles of travel) on campus. They've managed to reduce their VMT by 30-40%. This milestone will be used as a case study in the grant. Hamilton also noted other efforts that are ongoing relative to clean commute and clean alternatives in the region. The Michigan Avenue Corridor study will also serve as a case study. Hamilton will keep the Committee posted on progress of these efforts.

The other program pending relates to the Secretaries of Transportation, HUD and EPA who collectively have signed a memorandum of understanding nationally and announced a 50 million dollar national livability/sustainability program, which also adds a housing focus and could be tied to the climate change emphasis.

Hamilton said revenue assumptions in this budget are consistent with the preliminary budget that was adopted by TCRPC. Hamilton noted the significant impact on TCRPC's ability to match future funds if Ingham County decides to cut their dues to TCRPC by 5%. This however, is still pending.

Hamilton said this is a continuation Work Program with minimal initiatives. Hamilton briefed the Subcommittee on work scope changes and tasks as follows. Tasks begin on page 18. Unless otherwise noted, there were either no changes, slight increases or decreases in funding for tasks in the Work Program that are not listed below.

*501.01 Data Monitoring, Page 18:* Hamilton said there is a slight increase in funding for the data task. Hamilton said we're trying to get the traffic count data system in place. It's up and running for Ingham County, Lansing, Eaton County, Clinton County. Work is in progress with East Lansing and MDOT. Hamilton will touch base with each implementing agency to get their go ahead to publish their counts online. There was a lot of discussion on performance standards in Washington – this will help address future requirements.

*501.04 Traffic Forecasting Model Update, Page 30:* Once the plan is adopted this will be the major activity in beginning to update the socio-economic forecasts for the model for the year of 2040. Modeling is down by about ½ with no consultant costs.

Hamilton said once this plan is adopted we'll start working on the 2040 plan. Hamilton said the new ozone standard has been put into effect. We don't know what our designation will be under the new ozone standard. If we're designated as an attainment area, this could mean we'd lose our CMAQ funding unless they adopt a grandfathering provision that would allow former non-attainment areas to continue to get CMAQ dollars. There will be very significant initiatives related to climate change. Hamilton explained the process of having to convert to a new emissions model, both as a state and as an MPO. This conversion is reflected in the Work Program.

*502.02 Long Range Transportation Plan, Page 43:* This is still pretty well funded; however, its still down by 50% from what was in this year's program. Staff is discussing with the Executive Committee the end game of additional public meetings prior to adopting the plan.

*502.03 "Regional Growth: Choices for Our Future," Page 47:* Hamilton said this is at a minimal level of effort – its down because the land use planner has been taken out of the transportation program.

*503.01 Transportation Systems Management (TSM), Page 51:* Hamilton said there is a section in here that includes items related to energy sustainability/climate change.

*503.03 Safe Routes to Schools, Page 55:* Hamilton explained that Safe Routes to Schools was identified as a top issue in the region based on the Safety Forums that were conducted. Hamilton explained the logistics of this program and explained that in order to fully implement this concept in the region, a full time staff person would likely be needed. At this time this task is only funded for a minimal amount of effort.

*506.01 Public Transportation Planning, Page 73:* Hamilton eliminated the separate GIS task that was in the program for years. This has been folded back into transportation planning to simplify this task. This budget is about what the sum of the two tasks were before. This will also include any time staff spends on the Michigan Avenue corridor study.

Hamilton said the Michigan Avenue corridor study is a significant addition to the Work Program. Funds are available for this 1.8 million dollar task. Manzella explained that this study will look at transportation issues, multi modal solutions, land use impacts, etc. from the Capital Building to the Meridian Mall.

Hamilton said that completes his summary of revenues and changes to the Work Program. This program has been reviewed by the Work Program Subcommittee and CARTS who both recommended approval.

C/Veenstra suggested as a general policy to write out the descriptions of the acronyms.

It was MOVED by C/Monsma, SUPPORTED by C/Veenstra, to recommend approval of the Draft FY 2010 Work Program and budget to the Commission. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

III. TIP Amendments

A. CATA

Hamilton said a request from CATA is enclosed to add Job Access Reverse Commute (JARC) and New Freedom (NF) funds to the TIP for automatic vehicle locators, mobile data terminals and related technology purchases. Hamilton said CARTS recommends approval.

It was MOVED by C/Monsma, SUPPORTED by C/McGrain, to recommend approval of CATA's TIP request to the full Commission. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

B. Transportation Economic Development Funds (TEDF)

Hamilton said a portion of an announcement concerning award of two TEDF grants to Ovid and East Lansing was enclosed in packets. Hamilton said these projects have been awarded and need to be amended into the TIP. CARTS recommends approval.

It was MOVED by C/Monsma, SUPPORTED by C/Beard, to recommend approval of adding the Ovid and East Lansing projects into the TIP. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

C. Administrative Amendments

Staff briefed members on administrative changes made since the June Commission meeting. There have since been administrative changes to include an EATRAN medical cutaway bus, and several MDOT projects (these were previously approved by the Commission, but line item changes were made by MDOT).

IV. Status of Projects

Staff distributed an excerpt of the July 7, 2009 CARTS draft meeting minutes to provide an update on members' status of projects. Hamilton noted that a number of projects have been obligated (identified in bold). It was noted that if a project has been obligated this means that the project has received a commitment from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) to fund the project. It was also noted that GI is an acronym being used to indicate that the respective municipality has submitted plans for their grade inspection.

Hamilton said all stimulus projects are moving forward, as are the Urban STP and CMAQ projects. Hamilton noted that staff is currently in the process of assessing bids to determine whether or not additional funds can be made available to other projects.

Hamilton mentioned that August 1<sup>st</sup> is the traditional date for redistribution of obligation authority but that all states met the 120 day requirement for expending 50 percent of the ARRA funds, so no new ARRA stimulus funds would be forth coming.

Hamilton will keep the committee informed.

V. Regional 2035 Transportation Plan

Hamilton said meetings have been set for the Long Range Plan Task Force members to meet on the following days at the Ingham County Human Services (ICHS) Building, 5303 S. Cedar Street in Lansing.

- July 23 (Thursday) from 1:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. (Room A)
- July 30 (Thursday) from 9:30 – noon (Rooms D/E)
- July 31 (Friday) from 9:30 a.m. to noon (Room D/E) – optional, if necessary

The Non-Motorized Task Force is also scheduled to meet on Tuesday, July 28<sup>th</sup> at CATA's offices from 9:30 a.m. – noon and on July 31, if necessary at the above referenced location.

Hamilton said the committees will be working on finalizing the goals and objectives and looking at the project options. The Non-Motorized Task Force will also be looking at the regional system plan. Hamilton plans to provide a constrained list of proposed improvement projects to the Committee at their August meeting. The Committee will then be asked to recommend that the Commission grant preliminary approval of these projects in order to begin the modeling process.

Hamilton distributed copies of the turning point results by question from the June Town Hall Forums. There were approximately 50 participants voting on the proposed "options". C/Veenstra commented that having the road agencies present to explain their "options" was a significant improvement. C/Beard noted that based on information he learned about the projects, he was able to take that information and report back to city council.

Hamilton reported that we're on schedule with the Long Range Plan update.

VI. Status Reports/Other

- Federal Legislation – Hamilton discussed in detail three different pieces of legislation that are currently on the table regarding climate change. Hamilton explained the significant impacts these pieces of legislation would have on the TCRPC. Hamilton offered to forward information on proposed/pending legislation upon request. Hamilton will keep the Committee informed.

Hamilton discussed litigation and provisions under the Clean Air Act.

- Michigan Ave/Grand River Alternatives Analysis – Study was kicked off.

- Greening Mid-Michigan – Phase II work has been completed and is being reviewed.
- Power of We Transit Needs Survey – Approximately 450 surveys have been received to date and coded.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at approximately 5:20 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					
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					
Lansing City: CATA	Hewitt Monsma	X X	X X	C C	X X	X X	X X	X X					
MDOT:	McBurrows		X	C	X	X	X	X					
<b>TOTAL VOTING MEMBERS</b>		8	12	C	8	12	8	10					
<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					
EATRAN:	Webb			C									
CRAA:	Otto	X		C	X		X						
FHWA:	Tupica			C									
MDNR:	Rusch			C									
<b>TOTAL</b>		10	13	10	10	13	10	11					

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