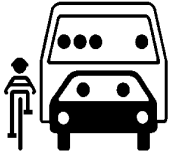


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## WASHTENAW AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY

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### MINUTES OF MEETING

#### POLICY COMMITTEE

DATE: March 19, 2008

TIME: 9:30 a.m.

PLACE: Scio Township Hall, 827 N. Zeeb Road, Ann Arbor, MI 48103

Members Present: City of Saline – Gretchen Driskell, Chair  
Pittsfield Township – Jim Walter, Vice Chair  
Ypsilanti Township – Ruth Ann Jamnick  
Village of Dexter – Jim Carson  
Superior Township – Brenda McKinney  
WCBOC – Jessica Ping  
Northfield Township – Cindy Wilson  
AATA – David Nacht  
City of Chelsea – Ann Feeney  
WCRC – Steve Puuri (for Wes Prater)  
MDOT Brighton TSC – Larry Dropiewski (for Pam Boyd)

Members Absent: Dexter Township/WCPAB – Pat Kelly, Secretary-Treasurer  
SWWCOG – Ron Mann  
Scio Township – Jean King  
City of Ann Arbor – Mike Anglin  
City of Ypsilanti – Bill Nickels  
Ann Arbor Township – Cheryl MacKrell

Others Present: WATS – Terri Blackmore, Ryan Buck, Eric Bombery, Nick Sapkiewicz  
FHWA – Chris Dingman  
SEMCOG – Carmine Palombo  
LSL Planning – Brad Strader, Robert Cramer, Rose Scovel  
U of M – Dave Miller  
EMU- John Donegan  
AATA – Chris White

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#### POLICY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

• CITY OF ANN ARBOR • ANN ARBOR TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY • ANN ARBOR TOWNSHIP • CITY OF CHELSEA • VILLAGE OF DEXTER •  
• DEXTER TOWNSHIP • EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY • MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION • NORTHFIELD TOWNSHIP • PITTSFIELD TOWNSHIP •  
• CITY OF SALINE • SCIO TOWNSHIP • SOUTHWEST WASHTENAW COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS • SUPERIOR TOWNSHIP • UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN •  
• WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS • WASHTENAW COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION • CITY OF YPSILANTI • YPSILANTI TOWNSHIP •  
• EX OFFICIO: FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION • SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS •

AN INTERMUNICIPALITY COMMITTEE ORGANIZED UNDER ACT 200 OF PUBLIC ACTS OF MICHIGAN (1957)  
REPRESENTING WASHTENAW COUNTY

City of Ypsilanti – Karen Hart  
Pittsfield Township – Bruce Fowler  
Village of Dexter – Rhett Gronevelt  
City of Saline – Gary Roubal, Todd Campbell  
City of Chelsea – Chris Linfield  
City of Ann Arbor – Eli Cooper  
MDOT Lansing – Tom Doyle

1. Call to Order

Chair Driskell called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. She asked those present to introduce themselves.

2. Public Participation

Chair Driskell asked if any members of the public wished to address the Committee, no one addressed the Committee, so the public participation time was closed.

3. Approval of the February 19, 2008 Policy Committee Minutes

Ms. Jammick made a motion to approve the February 19, 2008 Policy Committee Minutes. Mr. Walter supported the motion and the minutes were approved as presented.

4. Communications and Announcements

Ms. Blackmore reported that a response from the Airport Authority to the letter sent on behalf of the Michigan flyer was received and that a meeting had been set up for March 31 to discuss the letter.

Ms. Blackmore recommended that people contact their Representatives and Senators and tell them to support increased transportation funding. She recommended having those that contact local communities to complain about transportation problems contact their legislators to share their complaints about the system.

Ms. Blackmore explained the handouts at each place, which included:

1. Upcoming meetings
2. Transit Plan Summary Brochure
3. Invitation to Transit Summit
4. Draft letter of support for improved AMTRAK service in response to increased ridership
5. Email from Michigan Flyer
6. January Crashes
7. Transportation Profile

5. Approval of Bills over \$500

Ms. Blackmore reported that there were two bills over \$500.

1. \$9,128.00– LSA Associates for model update
2. \$1,964.00 – For a fourth desk set up and additional credenza

Mr. Nacht made a motion to approve the bills over \$500, Mr. Walter supported and the motion passed.

6. Report on WATS Activities

Ms. Blackmore reported that an update on the Ann Arbor to Detroit Rapid Transit Study would be provided at the Transit Town Hall meeting on March 24.

Ms. Blackmore reported that four proposals were received for the North-South rail validation study. A firm will be selected next Friday. A cost sharing proposal has been developed with GLCRR, SEMCOG and U of M each providing \$20,000 and Washtenaw County providing 65% and Livingston County 35% of the remaining cost of the study. The coalition continues to work towards a two county regional transit authority.

Ms. Blackmore stated that the Asset Management conference has been scheduled and is included in the list of upcoming meetings. The Asset Management Council will require MPO's to only collect data on 50% of the federal aid system. The Council has requested that the MPO's concentrate on assisting locals with complying with the reporting requirements of Act 51. MDOT has indicated that failure to complete the Asset Management reporting could result in the withholding of MTF dollars.

Ms. Blackmore reported that WATS recently completed a review of a City of Ypsilanti Plan Amendment as well as the Salem Township Growth Management Plan Update.

Ms. Blackmore reported Ms. Burleigh is working on the last of the February crashes and waiting on January and February corrections. A meeting has been scheduled with Mr. Harshberger, the City of Ypsilanti Police Chief to discuss moving the county to electronic crash reporting.

Ms. Blackmore reported that BBT's local options were presented in Lansing on February 21 at the Michigan Public Transit Association Legislative Conference and the Centers for Independent Living were invited.

Mr. Buck reported that the WATS model development effort is progressing and that both WATS and MDOT are actively tracking the progress of the consultant. Mr. Buck reported that a preliminary run of the model was performed but that it used a rudimentary mode choice model rather than the full mode choice model which is still being developed. Mr. Buck reported that the model should be completed in late spring.

Ms. Blackmore stated that the Transit Plan has been put into a graphically enhanced version and is undergoing a final review before being printed for distribution.

Mr. Nacht made a motion to have Ms. Blackmore author a letter on behalf of the committee to Congressman Dingell as well as Robert Ficano to discuss the importance of the Michigan Flyer service. Ms. McKinney supported the motion and the motion passed.

7. Old Business

A. 2006 Transportation Profile – Information

Ms. Blackmore stated that the graphically enhanced version of the Profile was available at each persons place.

8. New Business

A. Presentation on Access Management Plan

Mr. Strader and Mr. Cramer presented information on Access Management and the findings and recommendations of the Access Management study along the I-94BL/US-23BR/M-17 corridor.

Ms. Jammick made a motion to endorse the Access Management Plan. Ms. Ping supported and the motion passed.

B. FY 2009 Unified Work Program - Action

Ms. Blackmore reported that the Work Program covers the task of the agency during the upcoming year. She noted that the Policy Committee would review the budget again

Mr. Carson stated that in the next UWP the Dexter Village Council would like to have added a sentence that states the Village Council has never supported a Parker Road bypass.

Ms. Jammick made a motion to approve the FY 2009 Work Program. Mr. Carson supported and the motion passed.

9. Agency Reports

A. City of Ann Arbor

A representative was not present.

B. AATA

Mr. Nacht was no longer present

C. Ann Arbor Township

A representative was not present

D. City of Chelsea

Ms. Feeney had nothing to report.

E. Dexter Village

Mr. Carson had nothing to report.

F. Dexter Township

A representative was not present.

G. Planning Advisory Board

Ms. Blackmore had nothing to report.

H. Eastern Michigan University

A representative was not present.

I. FHWA

Mr. Dingman reported that since it is likely that a new transportation authorization will not be completed before SAFETEA-LU expires that FY2009, including its rescissions, will likely be the basis used for a continuing resolution to SAFETEA-LU.

J. Northfield Township

Ms. Wilson had nothing to report.

K. Pittsfield Township

Mr. Walter reported that three new business developments are coming to Pittsfield.

L. MDOT Planning

A representative was not present.

M. MDOT Region/TSC

Mr. Dropiewski reported on upcoming MDOT projects. Sign work will occur on US-23. Bridge rehabilitation work on M-14 at Gotfredson and Ford has started. The work on M-14 will not include peak period lane closures. Huron from Main to Fletcher will have a lane closed for two years as work continues on the North Quad building.

N. City of Saline

Ms. Driskell reported that she recently attended the League of Cities conference in Washington D.C.

O. SWWCOG

A representative was not present.

P. SEMCOG

Mr. Palombo reported that he recently went on a tour of the proposed Airport rail stop location. He added that discussions continue with Norfolk Southern and Canadian National for the proposed Ann Arbor to Detroit Rapid Transit Study.

Q. Scio Township

A representative was not present.

R. Superior Township

Ms. McKinney had nothing to report.

S. University of Michigan

Mr. Miller had nothing to report.

T. County Board of Commissioners

Ms. Ping had nothing to report.

U. WCRC

Mr. Puuri reported that the MTF funding for the Road Commission is down 6% from last year and that the agency is \$600,000 over budget in winter maintenance. Mr. Puuri reported that the State has agreed to cover any shortfall from salting trunkline roads. Mr. Puuri reported that the Carpenter Road project has resumed. Mr. Puuri reported that the Design for the Dexter-Pinckney bridge is complete. Mr. Puuri stated that the Dexter Main Street Bridge would be constructed to accommodate Phase 2 of the project, should it occur. Mr. Puuri reported that the Superior and Geddes roundabout construction would begin in March and that culvert replacements along Leforge would also begin in spring. He also reported that the Jackson Road Phase 3 bid's came in 3 million under budget.

V. Ypsilanti Township

Ms. Jarnick had nothing to report.

W. City of Ypsilanti

A representative was not present.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:35 A.M.