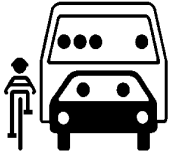


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## WASHTENAW AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY

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### MINUTES OF MEETING

#### POLICY COMMITTEE

DATE: December 16, 2009

TIME: 9:30 a.m.

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

Members Present: Village of Dexter – Jim Carson, Chair  
Dexter Township– Pat Kelly, Vice-Chair  
City of Ann Arbor –Carsten Hohnke  
WCRC- Doug Fuller  
City of Chelsea – Jason Lindauer  
Pittsfield Township – Mandy Grewal  
University of Michigan – Hank Baier  
AATA – Jesse Bernstein  
City of Ypsilanti – Bill Nickels  
MDOT Statewide Planning – Pam Boyd  
Northfield Township – Deb Mozurkewich  
SWWCOG – Ron Mann  
WCBC– Wes Prater  
City of Saline – Gretchen Driskell  
Superior Township – Bill McFarlane  
Ypsilanti Township – Brenda Stumbo  
Scio Township – Nancy Hedberg

Members Absent: Ann Arbor Township – Mike Moran  
EMU – John Donegan

Others Present: WATS – Terri Blackmore, Ryan Buck, Eric Bombery, Nick Sapkiewicz,  
Sarah Pressprich  
Guests: Tony Derezinski, Larry Dropiewski, Nathalie Edmunds, Darryl Fecho,  
Ann Feeney, Michael Ford, Jeff Fordice, Barb Fuller, Rhett Gronevelt, Melinda  
Hart, Ruth Ann Jamnick, Stan Kirton, Karl Kleitsch, Chris Linfield, Paul Lott,

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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

Judy Mann, Kari Martin, Paul Montagno, Meri Lou Murray, Julie Nixon, Homayoon Pirooz, Bob Polens, Steve Puuri, Jeff Reid, Gary Roubal, David Rutledge, Ingrid Sheldon, Sheryl Siddall, Frances Szuma, Paul Tait, Bob Tetens, Roy Townsend, Chris White

1. Call to Order

Chair Carson called the meeting to order at 9:39 a.m. He asked those present to introduce themselves.

2. Approval of the Agenda

Mr. Prater made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Ms. Kelly supported and the agenda was approved.

3. Public Participation

Chair Carson asked if any members of the public wished to address the Committee. No members of the public wished to comment so public participation time was closed.

4. Approval of the November 18, 2009 Policy Committee Minutes

Ms. Driskell made a motion to approve the November 18, 2009 Policy Committee minutes as presented. Mr. Mann supported and the minutes were approved.

5. Communications and Announcements

Ms. Blackmore discussed the \$256 million federal rescission which eliminated the state fund balances from the enhancement, STP, bridge, CMAQ, rail, safety, TEDF-D and Metropolitan Planning programs.

6. Approval of Bills over \$500

Ms. Blackmore reported that there were no bills over \$500.

7. WATS Activities

The monthly report on WATS activities was distributed at the meeting.

8. Old Business

There was no old business.

9. New Business

A. Approval of Technical Committee Special Membership representatives - Action

Ms. Blackmore reported that discussions about adding special member representatives to WATS started with a public comment that requested seats on the Policy Committee. The WATS bylaws do not provide for non-dues paying members on the Policy Committee. After a review of other agencies' policies it was determined that this type of membership is typically provided on the Technical Committee. WATS received applications for each of the five special interest groups; non-motorized, senior community, disabled community, freight and environmental.

Ms. Blackmore reported that staff reviewed each of the applications and recommends the following representatives for each of the special interest groups:

Non-motorized: Larry Deck (Washtenaw Biking and Walking Coalition)  
Senior community: Wes Armbruster (Peoples Express)  
Disabled community: Dave Reid (Select Ride)  
Freight: Lance Hagler (Conway)  
Environmental: Tim Fischer (Michigan Environmental Council)

Ms. Kelly made a motion to approve the representatives for special interest on the Technical Committee. Ms. Mozurkewich supported and the special interest representatives were approved for a one year term to begin in January 2010.

B. Provide list of Washtenaw County needs for MDOT facilities - Action

Ms. Blackmore reported that Jeff Reid, University Region Engineer for MDOT agreed to discuss Washtenaw County needs with the WATS Technical and Policy Committees. The needs identified by staff and the WATS Technical Committee were displayed. The Policy Committee added several needs to the list. The complete list can be found on the WATS Blog at [miwats.blogspot.com](http://miwats.blogspot.com).

Ms. Kelly motioned to approve the list of needs and forward the list to MDOT. Mr. Mann supported and the motion passed.

10. Agency Reports

A. City of Ann Arbor

Mr. Hohnke reported that the City of Ann Arbor has signed an MOU with the University of Michigan for the Fuller Road Station project and that additional funds have been made available for design work. He added that the City is planning to expand the SCOOT traffic signal system as well as continue work on the Stadium Boulevard corridor in 2010.

B. AATA

Mr. Bernstein reported that the Plymouth Road Park and Ride lot would likely be opening in January. He stated that one of the next steps for AATA is to work towards better educating the public about transit and to start discussing benchmarking and measures as the Authority looks to expand countywide.

C. Ann Arbor Township

A representative was not present.

D. City of Chelsea

Mr. Lindauer requested that Ms. Linfield provide a short report. She reported that the City's road work is complete for the year.

E. Dexter Village

Mr. Carson reported that the Village received a parks grant for \$450,000 which will be used to help expand and provide access to the new Mill Creek area park.

F. Dexter Township

Ms. Kelly reported that the 8 communities of the Chelsea Area Planning Team and Dexter Area Regional Team (CAPT/DART) have set up interviews for 3 unpaid internships as the group moves forward with its Access Plan.

G. Eastern Michigan University

A representative was not present.

H. FHWA

Mr. Dingman reported that as it stands at the time of the meeting a continuing resolution was not in place for when SAFETEA-LU set to expire on Friday. He reported that the TIGER grant awards will be announced before February 17.

I. Northfield Township

Ms. Mozurkewich reported that the Township has applied for a Washtenaw County Parks Connecting Communities grant for Barker Road. She also reported that SEMCOG would be working with the Township on a walking audit in 2010. She added that the Township offices will soon be making their long awaited move to the new public safety building.

J. Pittsfield Township

Ms. Grewal reported that Pittsfield Township received funding from the DNR for Township parks. She added that the Township is working on a sidewalk gap filling program. Ms. Grewal encouraged everyone to go to the new Township Master Plan webpage and take the survey on their Master Plan update.

K. MDOT Planning

Ms. Boyd reported that the 1<sup>st</sup> FY 2010 TIP amendments would be receiving approval in January and encouraged agencies to be mindful of Local Agency Program deadline of December 30 to make sure all of the ARRA funds are spent.

L. MDOT Region/TSC

Mr. Dropiewski thanked the Committee for its active role in developing a list of needs. He added that this type of input was invaluable to the Region and TSC.

M. City of Saline

Ms. Driskell reported that the City recently completed a Non-motorized Plan and will be working on a new Master Plan in 2010.

N. SWWCOG

Mr. Mann reported that the Council is waiting to hear what will happen with M-52 in 2010.

O. SEMCOG

Mr. Tait reported that Regional Transit Authority legislation would be introduced later in the day. He added that the Ann Arbor to Detroit rail is still set to have a start date in October 2010.

P. Scio Township

Ms. Hedberg reported that the Scio DDA will be studying the area of Zeeb Road from Jackson to Pratt. She added that the township will be putting together a non-motorized planning committee.

Q. Superior Township

Mr. McFarlane reported that Superior Township is also working on a Master Plan which will be distributed to neighboring communities for their review in January. He added that there have only been a few crashes at the Superior and Geddes roundabout and that they have not been severe. Mr. McFarlane indicated the Township is interested in adding more roundabouts.

R. University of Michigan

Mr. Baier reported that the U of M Regents would meet tomorrow and discuss the North Campus Research Complex. He added that a Transportation Technology forum would be held March 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> to discuss different types of transportation between Central and North Campuses and the North Campus Research Complex.

S. County Board of Commissioners

Mr. Prater reported that the County Board would hear the second reading of the 2010-2011 budget at the next meeting. He stated the county has worked very hard to have to cut 25 million dollars from the budget and has managed to do with only around 20 job eliminations.

T. WCRC

Mr. Puuri briefly reviewed the Road Commissions new policy for road plowing and salting during overtime hours. He stated that the core services review will result in other service level adjustments. Mr. Puuri reported that the new Capital Improvements Program has been printed.

U. Ypsilanti Township

Ms. Stumbo reported that the Township has applied for a connecting communities grant through Washtenaw County Parks.

V. City of Ypsilanti

Mr. Nickels reported that street closures had resulted from the recent fire at the Thompson building. He stated that the City is looking for a way to save the building but also to open non-motorized and motorized traffic in the area.

11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 A.M to the 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of the UATS/WATS regional planning efforts.