



705 NORTH ZEEB ROAD 2ND FLOOR
ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN 48103-1560
PHONE: (734) 994-3127 FAX: (734) 994-3129
WEBSITE: WWW.MIWATS.ORG
E-MAIL: WATS@MIWATS.ORG

MINUTES OF MEETING

TECHNICAL ADVISORY SUBCOMMITTEE

DATE: January 7, 2009

TIME: 10:30 a.m.

PLACE: Scio Township Hall, 827 N. Zeeb Rd

Members Present: Ypsilanti Township – Dave Nicholson, 1st Vice-Chair
City of Ann Arbor Planning – Eli Cooper, 2nd Vice-Chair
AATA – Chris White
City of Ann Arbor Engineering – Homayoon Pirooz
Village of Dexter – Rhett Gronevelt
Eastern Michigan University – Dieter Otto
MDOT Planning – Ola Williams
Pittsfield Township – Bruce Fowler
Washtenaw County Planning & Environment – Brett Lenart
Washtenaw County Road Commission Engineering – Roy Townsend
City of Ypsilanti DPW – Stan Kirton
MDOT – Kari Martin
City of Chelsea - Christine Linfield
University of Michigan – Bitsy Lamb (for Dave Miller)

Members Absent: City of Saline - Gary Roubal

Others Present: MDOT – Paul Lott
FHWA – Chris Dingman
SEMCOG – Jeff Tumidanski
City of Ann Arbor – Wendy Rampson
Midwestern Consulting – Sue Dickenson, Jeff Young
WATS – Terri Blackmore, Ryan Buck, Nick Sapkiewicz, Eric Bombery

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 •

1. Call to Order

Chair Nicholson called the meeting to order at 10:30 am and asked those present to introduce themselves.

2. Public Participation

Chair Nicholson asked if there was anyone from the public who would like to address the Committee. No one present from the public wished to address the Committee at that time.

3. Approval of the November 5, 2008 Minutes

Mr. White made a motion to approve the November 5, 2008 Technical Committee minutes. Ms. Linfield supported the motion and the minutes were approved.

4. Communications and Announcements

Ms. Blackmore reported that although the house passed a transportation package that did not include the local options funding, the Senate did not take any action before the lame duck session concluded. There has been discussion that the senate has been looking at the TF2 recommendations.

Handouts at place:

1. Upcoming meetings
2. January Newsletter
3. A copy of the Transportation Equity Network's Transportation Authorization Platform summary
4. October and November Crashes

5. WATS Activities

Ms. Blackmore reported that the Ann Arbor to Detroit rail service has the plan of four roundtrips per day to start in October 2010 in addition to the three roundtrips made by the Amtrak service currently. The proposed service is scheduled to arrive in Ypsilanti at 6:12 am/Ann Arbor at 6:30 am and Ypsilanti at 8:27 am/Ann Arbor at 8:45am on train outbound from Detroit. The afternoon/evening trains are scheduled to depart for Detroit from Ann Arbor at 3:45pm/Ypsilanti at 4:03pm and Ann Arbor 6:45pm and Ypsilanti 7:03pm. Mr. White stated that he has requested that the Advisory Committee convene to discuss coordination of support? scheduling.

Ms. Blackmore reported the WALLY Coalition meeting was held on Monday, December 15 and AATA presented the work that is underway to move the project forward. AATA staff is quickly moving the WALLY project forward working on completing the Environmental Compliance, development of a process chart and the needed rolling stock safety plan. The next steps include receiving the Environmental Clearance, initiating the process for station agreements for construction and operations as well as the public outreach efforts. The next WALLY Coalition meeting is scheduled for January 26 at 10:00 am.

Ms. Blackmore reported that WATS completed processing the traffic counts for this year's HPMS data submission. WATS will submit the database to MDOT upon the completion of the error checking. Traffic counts showed a significant decrease in traffic.

Ms. Blackmore reported that WATS received a copy of the Lodi Township Master Plan update on December 12 and will provide comments to the PAB by Monday January 12.

Ms. Blackmore reported that Susan Burleigh is currently working on the December crashes as well as October and November corrections. This program will be eliminated upon completion of this year's data collection. The State has begun to contact local agencies to correct location. The Office of Highway Safety Planning has also provided a grant to Clemis and it is anticipated that the local agencies will be able to begin submitting crashes electronically no later than October 1, 2009. WATS will be providing some crash analysis to Toyota for use in the design of safer vehicles with regard to run off road and pedestrian crashes.

Ms. Blackmore reported on the 2035 Long Range Plan: Intersection crash, Bridge, Non-motorized, and congestion deficiencies are complete while Transit and Pavement are nearly complete. WATS is waiting for financial estimates from State and SEMCOG. The kick-off meeting for goals, objectives, and process is scheduled for January 14 at the Morris Lawrence Building at WCC from 2-4 and 6-8. The WATS Blog has posted all of the deficiencies types included in the plan on the blog with 6-8 comments received as well as other via email.

Ms. Blackmore reported the final plan has been presented at 5 of the regional planning groups, three City Councils (AA, Saline and Ypsilanti), one DDA, two chambers and two Township Boards. This is primarily an education effort to help the communities understand the recommendations of the plan. Presentations are planned for Superior Township on January 20, Ypsilanti DDA on January 28, and Dexter Chamber on February 18. Anyone interested in a presentation should contact Ms. Blackmore.

Ms. Blackmore reported that there has not been any action since last meeting for urban service area protection. A meeting with Diane Keller on was held on December 1 to discuss the next steps and this group will resume meetings in early January.

Ms. Blackmore reported that in an effort to implement the countywide plan, WATS has been collecting data on other authorities funding, organizational laws and board make up. WATS has also been working with the County Board chair to meet with County leaders members to advance the countywide transit plan.

Ms. Blackmore reported on the Statewide Transit Vision has been completed. The document outlines the need and benefits of a statewide system and a vision of the system. The document has been endorsed by:

- Michigan Municipal League
- Michigan Land Use Institute
- Let's Get Moving coalition
- Disability Network of Northern Michigan
- Disability Connection of West Michigan

Ms. Blackmore reported that the necessary agreements for mobility management have been approved by MDOT. The Director and the Board are working on a work plan as well as goals and objectives for the first year.

6. Old Business

There was no old business.

7. New Business

A. A2D2 Presentation

Ms. Rampson from the City of Ann Arbor presented information on Ann Arbor Discovering Downtown (A2D2). The presentation included a brief history of the downtown as well as the adopted policies used to shape the downtown over the last 50 years. The presentation also discussed some of the issues the City is facing now as it continues to grow.

B. STPU Program Amendment

Ms. Blackmore reported the Federal Aid Committee-Urban met before Technical to work out the urban program. With the revised targets for funding every year was over programmed except 2009. The advance construct payback for Forest was removed in 2009 since it has already been paid back to Ypsilanti. Lowell was increased slightly to a full conversion while the remaining balance was transferred to W. Stadium. The Ann Arbor non-motorized project to stripe bike lanes and add signage was moved to 2010 due to the fact it was not yet in the TIP.

Ms. Blackmore reported that all projects in the years 2010-2012 were reduced by the percent the program was over the target and in 2013 the uncommitted funds were reduced.

Mr. Cooper made a motion to approve the recommendation of the FAC-U on the STP Urban program. Mr. Townsend supported the motion and the motion was approved.

The approved program is on the following page.

Urban Surface Transportation Program
FAC Adopted 1/7/09

		Washtenaw County UA	Livingston County UA	
FY 2009	<i>Allocation*</i>	\$ 4,440,006	\$ 145,886	
Whittaker (@ Stony Creek) - WC		\$ 680,000		
Lowell (Huron River to Forest) - YC		\$ 137,000		
W. Stadium (Pauline to Seventh) - AA		\$ 1,333,668		
Hewitt (Packard to Clark) - WC		\$ 360,520		
Mansfield (Washtenaw to Westmoreland) -YC		\$ 232,162		
Dexter-Ann Arbor (Dan Hoey to Meadowview) - DV		\$ 338,940		
Huron Parkway (at Nixon) Nixon (Huron Parkway to Plymouth) - AA		\$ 800,000		
Washtenaw NM (Glenwood to Toumy)		\$ 239,716		
Plymouth Rd Bridge CE (over Fleming Creek) - WC		\$ 72,000		
Preventive Maintenance - WC		\$ 200,000		
Traffic Counters - Regional		\$ 46,000		
Total		\$ 4,440,006	\$ -	
Ending Balance		\$ -	\$ 768,230	
FY 2010	<i>Allocation</i>	<i>Revised*</i>	\$ 4,187,689	\$ 134,828
W. Stadium (Pauline to Seventh) - AA	1,575,178	\$ 1,671,279		
Willis (S Ann Arbor to Arboretum Dr) - SC	364,912	\$ 387,175		
Border to Border - WC/WCPRC	182,543	\$ 193,680		
Ford Blvd (Ecorse to US-12) - WC	179,434	\$ 190,381		
Holmes (Spencer to Michigan) - WC	667,710	\$ 708,447		
Geddes Road Bikepath (Prospect to Ridge) - WC/Superior Twp	364,912	\$ 387,175		
Washtenaw NM (Glenwood to Toumy)	207,627	\$ 220,294		
Whittaker (@ Stony Creek) - WC	169,650	\$ 180,000		
Preventive Maintenance - WC	188,500	\$ 200,000		
Non-Motorized Bikelane striping - AA	50,080	\$ 53,135		
N University Transit Center (Church Street to Natural History Museum)	124,043	\$ 131,611		
Dexter-Pinckney Bridge CE (over Portage Lake canal) - WC	113,100	\$ 120,000	\$ 120,000	

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Total	4,187,689	\$ 4,443,177	\$ -
Ending Balance	0	\$ (255,488)	\$ 783,058
FY 2011	Allocation	Revised*	\$ 4,187,689 \$ 134,828
E. Stadium (Seventh to White) -AA	1,078,748	\$ 1,200,000	
Ford Blvd (Ecorse to US-12) - WC	89,896	\$ 100,000	
N University Transit Center (Church Street to Natural History Museum)	780,644	\$ 868,389	
Golfside (Packard to Clark) - WC	269,687	\$ 300,000	
Liberty NM (State to City Limit) AA	107,875	\$ 120,000	
Holmes (Spencer to Michigan) - WC	692,196	\$ 770,000	
Preventive Maintenance - WC	269,687	\$ 300,000	
Mansfield (Westmoreland to Congress) -YC/WC	449,478	\$ 500,000	
Carpenter (Washtenaw to Packard) - WC	449,478	\$ 500,000	
Total	4,187,689	\$ 4,658,389	\$0
Ending Balance	0	\$ (470,700)	\$ 917,886

8. Agency Reports

A. City of Ann Arbor

Mr. Pirooz reported that the Huron Parkway and Nixon roundabout project was approved and be constructed in 2009. The W. Stadium project from Pauline to 7th was also approved and will begin in 2009.

Mr. Cooper reported that the Ann Arbor Transportation plan comments are being reviewed and will go to the Planning Commission on February 3rd. The Washtenaw shared use path is moving forward to the final plan; there was a public meeting on the project in December. The city would be discussing possible changes to the ordinances regarding non-motorized transportation at the next alternative transportation meeting. The City has also put together draft non-motorized guidance for distribution throughout the City.

B. AATA

Mr. White had nothing to report.

C. City of Chelsea

Ms. Linfield had nothing to report.

D. Village of Dexter

Mr. Gronevelt reported that the Central reconstruction plan was underway and there will be a public meeting on the project on January 22nd. The plan includes the possible connection of Central to Baker.

E. Eastern Michigan University

Mr. Otto had nothing to report.

F. FHWA

Mr. Dingman reported that he is working with Mr. Buck to incorporate a freight workshop as part of the MTPA Conference this summer. The latest stimulus plan rumors are that there will be no earmarks and eligible projects must be obligated and ready to construct; still no word on whether match will be required or not.

E. Pittsfield Township

Mr. Fowler reported that there is still one property owner holding out on the Platt Greenway.

F. MDOT Planning, TSC and Region

Mr. Williams reported that the LRP estimates are being worked on and will be available soon.

Ms. Andrewes reported that the region was preparing lists for the possible stimulus package. She noted that all projects that hope to receive funding must have already passed environmental clearance.

G. City of Saline

Mr. Roubal was not present.

H. SEMCOG

Mr. Tumidanski reported that TIP and LRP projects will be submitted online this year.

I. U of M

Mr. Lamb had nothing to report.

J. WCSP

Mr. Lenart had nothing to report.

K. WCRC

Mr. Townsend reported Milan-Oakville will be in the March letting. The Plymouth Bridge will be in the February letting. The signals interconnect in the Huron River, Dixboro, and Clark area is still underway and should be completed shortly. There will be a public meeting in Ypsilanti

Township to discuss the Whittaker/ Stony Creek roundabout. The construction on E. Delhi, Main St Bridge and Jackson have stopped for the year.

L. City of Ypsilanti

Mr. Kirton reported that there will be three 2009 projects; S. Mansfield, LeForge Bridge deck rehab and Mansfield Washtenaw to Westmoreland.

M. Ypsilanti Township

Mr. Nicholson reported that the planning for the Whittaker/ Stony Creek round about is ongoing.

8. Adjournment

Mr. Nicholson adjourned the meeting at 11:39.