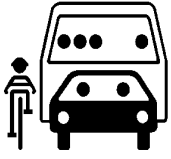


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WASHTENAW AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY

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TECHNICAL ADVISORY SUBCOMMITTEE

DATE: April 7, 2010
TIME: 9:30 a.m.
PLACE: WATS Meeting Space, 705 N. Zeeb Road, Ann Arbor, MI 48103

Members Present: City of Ann Arbor Planning – Eli Cooper, 1st Vice-Chair
AATA – Chris White
City of Ann Arbor Engineering – Homayoon Pirooz
Washtenaw County Road Commission – Sheryl Siddall (for Roy Townsend)
City of Ypsilanti DPW – Stan Kirton
MDOT University Region – Kari Martin
City of Chelsea - Christine Linfield
Eastern Michigan University – Dieter Otto
MDOT Planning – Ola Williams
Village of Dexter – Christine Phillips (for Rhett Gronevelt)
Dexter Township – Patrick Sloan
Pittsfield Township – Paul Montagno
University of Michigan – Bitsy Lamb
Disabled – Dave Reid
Non-Motorized – Larry Deck
Senior – Wes Armbruster
Environment – Timothy Fischer

Members Absent: Washtenaw County Public Health – Lily Guzman
City of Saline – Gary Roubal
Ypsilanti Township – Joe Lawson
Freight – Lance Hagler

Others Present: FHWA – Chris Dingman
SEMCOG – Jeff Tumidanski
OHM – Marcus McNamara
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 •

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

1. Call to Order

Vice-Chair Cooper called the meeting to order at 9:34 A.M. and asked those present to introduce themselves.

2. Public Participation

Vice-Chair Cooper asked if anyone from the public would like to address the Committee. No one asked to address the committee so Mr. Cooper closed public participation time.

3. Approval of the February 3, 2010 Minutes

Ms. Linfield made a motion to approve the February 3, 2010 Technical Committee minutes. Mr. Pirooz supported the motion and the minutes were passed as submitted.

4. Communications and Announcements

Ms. Blackmore welcomed the members to the new meeting space. Ms. Blackmore reported that she would be returning to the office after medical leave starting with half days.

Handouts at place:

1. Updated STP Safety Memo
2. Technical Committee Membership List
3. April Newsletter

5. WATS Activities

Ms. Blackmore explained that the office has been quiet in her absence and current WATS activities will be discussed in new business.

6. Old Business

There was no old business.

7. New Business

A. FY 2008-2011 Transportation Improvement Program amendment

Mr. Bombery reported that WATS issued the third call for amendments to the FY 2008-2011 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) program on March 8, 2010. Of the six project amendments, five projects are additions and one is a change.

The five new projects for amendment to the FY 2008-2011 TIP cost \$2,238,000. The new projects are using federal transit funds or are grant funds, and are not fiscally constrained by WATS. The one road project and all of the transit improvements will result in a positive Environmental Justice (EJ) impact.

Mr. Williams made a motion to recommend the FY 2008-2011 Transportation Improvement Program Amendments to the Policy Committee. Mr. Pirooz supported and the motion passed.

B. FY 2012 Safety Program Prioritization

Mr. Sapkiewicz reported that applications for STP Safety Funds were due to WATS by noon on March 12, 2010.

This year the local agencies calculated the cost and benefit analysis and WATS provided the subsequent review and ranking for all projects. WATS received two projects from the Washtenaw County Road Commission for 2012. WATS provided details for the projects submitted in the following table.

FY 2012 Safety Projects

Rank	Agency	Location	Safety Deficiency	Proposed Project	Total Cost	Federal Cost	Benefit/ Cost ratio (Present)
1	WCRC	Rawsonville at Martz	High number of angle crashes	Install traffic signal and left turn lanes	\$500,000	\$400,000	11.1:1
2	WCRC	Carpenter at Packard	High number of crashes	Install raised medians to direct left turns near intersection	\$60,000	\$50,000	9.2 : 1

Mr. Montagno made a motion to recommend the safety program prioritization to the Policy Committee as submitted. Mr. White supported and the motion passed.

C. FY 2011-2014 Transportation Improvement Program

Mr. Bombery reported that WATS issued the call for improvements for the FY 2011-2014 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) program on January 8, 2010.

The new FY 2011-2014 TIP includes 165 improvement items; 56 items included from the previous FY 2008- 2011 TIP and 109 new items. The federal funds in the FY 2011-2014 TIP are fiscally constrained.

Thirty-seven of the improvements upgrade the existing transportation system or add non-motorized facilities that are located within or adjacent to an Environmental Justice (EJ) area. Fifty-nine additional improvements are transit equipment purchases or operations. The ninety-six improvements with potential impact on the EJ area will result in a positive impact.

Mr. Fischer requested that an identification number be added for reference of projects at the committee meetings. Mr. Bombery stated that he would if the uniform State TIP file allowed it. Mr. Deck asked for clarification of the Fuller Road Station details. Mr. Cooper and Pirooz explained the details of the phased project.

Mr. White made a motion to recommend the FY 2011-2014 Transportation Improvement Program to the Policy Committee for approval. Mr. Pirooz supported and the motion passed with Mr. Deck abstaining.

D. Washtenaw County Urban Coordinated Transit Plan

Mr. Sapkiewicz reported that all transit providers who apply for funding under the Elderly Individuals and Individuals with Disabilities Program (Section 5310), the Job Access Reverse Commute (JARC, Section 5316) and the New Freedom Program (Section 5317) are required to select improvements from a locally coordinated public transit-human services transportation plan. This plan must be specific to the needs of individuals with disabilities, older adults, and persons with low income for their service area.

The Coordinated Plan identifies transportation deficiencies for target groups, strategies to address the deficiencies and prioritizes transportation services for funding and implementation. WATS adopted the first Coordinated Plan in 2007. Upon adoption of the Coordinated Plan, transit agencies will select improvements from the plan for funding grant applications.

Mr. White went over the types of projects that are eligible for this funding. Mr. Deck asked if the list of projects should be prioritized. Ms. Blackmore stated that the list was unranked because the County would fund what it could afford and that projects were a priority by being included in the plan.

Mr. White made a motion to recommend the Washtenaw County Urban Coordinated Transit Plan to the Policy Committee for approval. Mr. Fischer supported and the motion passed.

E. HAWK signal Presentation

Ms. Myers was not present so the Committee requested rescheduling the presentation for next meeting.

F. Elections

Ms. Blackmore explained that due to retirement and staff reassignment the WATS Technical Committee only had a 1st Vice Chair. Ms. Blackmore asked for nominations for 1st Vice-chair and 2nd Vice-chair as Mr. Cooper would move up to Chair.

Mr. Montagno was nominated for 1st Vice-Chair and Ms. Linfield was nominated for 2nd Vice-Chair.

Mr. White made a motion to recommend the officers of Chair - Mr. Cooper, 1st Vice-chair - Mr. Montagno, and 2nd Vice-chair Ms. Linfield. Mr. Pirooz supported and the motion passed.

8. Agency Reports

A. City of Ann Arbor

Mr. Pirooz reported on road construction projects: West Stadium Blvd. from 7th to Pauline is under construction, Miller from Main to Chapin is scheduled for construction, Broadway from Swift to Plymouth will be under construction, Geddes over US-23 have one-way eastbound traffic only and the City continues coordination with MDOT. Mr. Pirooz also reported one northbound lane of Main from Pauline to Stadium will be closed the Stadium construction and Main from Pauline to Stadium will be closed on May 1st for President Obama's speaking engagement for the University of Michigan commencement.

Mr. Cooper reported that the Ann Arbor Connector Study focus groups met to discuss options of service. Mr. Cooper thanked all the agencies for their support of the City's request for Enhancement funding for the Stadium Bridges project and added the City is applying for 2013 local bridge funds. Mr. Cooper reminded the committee that May is Commuter Challenge month.

B. AATA

Mr. White reported that AATA was in the process of selecting a consultant for the County Wide Service Plan. He also noted that construction will start on the N. University Transit Station on May 1st. AATA is seeking bids for the reconstruction of the Blake Transit Center.

C. City of Chelsea

Ms. Linfield reported that there will be minor maintenance projects in the City. She also reported that the City of Chelsea received a Connecting Communities grant to complete the sidewalk along Old US-12.

D. Dexter Township

Mr. Sloan reported that there have been slight delays on the Dexter-Pinckney Bridge but the project is proceeding.

E. Village of Dexter

Ms. Phillips had nothing to report.

F. Eastern Michigan University

Mr. Otto had nothing to report.

G. Federal Highway Administration

Mr. Dingman reported that the current SAFETEA-LU continuing resolution extends funding through December 31, and reinstated the previous rescission. The Jobs for Main Street bill passed by the House of Representatives is not moving at the Senate level currently. There have also been discussions of a second TIGER award but nothing official has been revealed.

H. Pittsfield Township

Mr. Montagno reported that there is a project to fill sidewalk gaps on Washtenaw and Golfside this summer. Design is underway for the non-motorized path along Lohr Road. He also reported that Carpenter Elementary School is hosting a Safe Routes to School workshop on April 20 at 6:30 p.m.

I. MDOT Planning

Mr. Williams had nothing to report.

J. MDOT Region

Ms. Martin reported on current projects. I-94 from Freer to Parker will be night work and start soon, Geddes at US-23 is one-way until October, N. Territorial at US-23 ramps will be improved, and MDOT plans to install a HAWK signal on Huron at Chapin. Region staff went out with Ypsilanti Township representatives and the Sherriff to review the proposed location of a HAWK signal on US-12BR.

Mr. White requested that MDOT coordinate with AATA on transit improvements at the Huron/ Chapin intersection as well.

Mr. Fischer inquired about the \$2.75 million rest area facility. Mr. Martin explained there was much more work being done than just the building and that MDOT has a specific rest stop fund for such projects. She stated that she would be able to provide a breakdown of the \$2.75 million cost. Mr. Fischer stated he would be interested in reviewing that information.

K. SEMCOG

Mr. Tumidanski reported that SEMCOG sent out a press release that Vehicle Miles Traveled are down another 6% and transportation funding is down accordingly.

L. City of Saline

Mr. Roubal was not present.

M. University of Michigan

Ms. Lamb reported the Central Campus Transit Station improvement will start soon and that President Obama will be the Commencement speaker.

N. Washtenaw County Road Commission

Ms. Siddall reported on upcoming and underway construction. She reported that the Dexter-Pinckney Bridge project has started, landscaping on Jackson Rd should begin shortly, Rawsonville at Bemis will begin in June, a curve at Sharon Hollow and Pleasant Lake will be reduced, Oak Valley will be resurfaced with one new pedestrian crossing, as well as ARRA funded preventive maintenance projects this year.

O. City of Ypsilanti

Mr. Kirton reported that the ARRA projects on College and Mansfield will start in the spring.

P. Ypsilanti Township

Mr. Lawson was not present.

Q. Washtenaw County Public Health

Ms. Guzman was not present.

R. Non-motorized

Mr. Deck reported that Ann Arbor discontinued their bike registration program and the Biking and Walking Coalition will be working with the City on a replacement program. Mr. Deck also reported that MDOT Enhancement staff was not willing to meet with the Ann Arbor-Saline Crossing group but did give some reasoning to not funding the improvement. The next opportunity for improving non-motorized access across I-94 along Ann Arbor-Saline Road identified was the possible interchange improvement in 2015.

S. Senior

Mr. Armbruster had nothing to report.

T. Disabled

Mr. Reid had nothing to report.

U. Environmental

Mr. Fischer reported that he was helping draft complete streets legislation and would like the Technical Committee to review it once complete.

V. Freight

Mr. Hagler was not present.

9. Adjournment

Mr. White made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Kirton seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned at 11:21.