

**WEST MICHIGAN METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLANNING PROGRAM  
(WESTPLAN)  
TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING**

**MEETING MINUTES**

November 7, 2019

**Members Present:** Matt Farrar, Muskegon County (Chairperson)  
Brett Laughlin, OCRC  
Dennis Kent, MDOT Grand Region  
Marcia Jeske, Rural Township Rep  
Leo Evans, City of Muskegon  
Craig Bessinger, City of Ferrysburg  
James Koens, MATS  
Paul Bouman, MCRC  
Scott Beishuizen, City of Montague  
Steven Patrick, Harbor Transit  
Wally Delamater, Village of Spring Lake  
Derek Gajdos, City of Grand Haven  
Heather Bowden, MDOT- OPT  
Mark Disselkoen, City of North Muskegon  
James Murphy, City of Norton Shores  
John Nash, Spring Lake Township

**Members Absent:** Ben VanHoeven, City of Roosevelt Park  
Tony Barnes, Muskegon Urban Township Rep  
Aaron Dawson, FHWA (Non-Voting)  
Jay Bolt, Village of Fruitport  
Doug Kadzban, City of Muskegon Heights  
Brian Armstrong, City of Whitehall

**Others Present:** Laird Schaefer, Citizen Grand Haven Township  
Ryan Gladding, MDOT- Lansing  
Marc Fredrickson, MDOT-Muskegon TSC  
Joel Brookens, City of Muskegon

**Staff Present:** Brian Mulnix, WMSRDC  
Amy Haack, WMSRDC  
Joel Fitzpatrick, WMSRDC

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Farrar called the meeting to order at 1:31 p.m. Mr. Farrar asked all attending to introduce themselves.

## II. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Minutes from the previous meeting were reviewed. It was noted that Ben Van Hoeven was now working for the City of Roosevelt Park. After discussion a motion was made and supported to approve minutes as amended of the October 3, 2019 Technical Committee meeting. Motion approved. *M/S Laughlin/Delamater*

## III. PUBLIC COMMENT

The WestPlan Public Participation Plan procedure was followed to achieve public participation for this meeting. There were no comments from the public.

## IV. TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

- FY2020-2023 TIP - Mr. Mulnix reviewed Amendment 3. A motion was made to approve the amendment. Motion approved. *M/S Laughlin/Gajdos* \* Due to a glitch in JobNet what was approved as Amendment 3 by the Tech Committee will be submitted to MDOT/FHWA as Amendment 4. A list of projects included in the amendment is attached on the following page.

## V. LONG RANGE PLAN & TRAVEL DEMAND MODEL UPDATE

- **Long Range Plan Draft Chapter 9** - Mr. Mulnix began a discussion regarding the chapter, which was included in the agenda packet. MDOT and the City of Muskegon had submitted suggested changes. MPO staff agreed with the changes. A motion was made to approve the draft chapter with the suggested changes. Motion approved. *M/S Laughlin/Evans*
- **List of Local Concerns** - Mr. Mulnix and Mr. Fitzpatrick spoke on the list of local concerns. Both the City of Muskegon and MDOT submitted suggested changes and or additions. Mr. Fitzpatrick asked that committee members review the list and send any changes to MPO staff.
- **Travel Demand Model update** - Mr. Ryan Gladding, MDOT gave an update on the travel-demand model process. He stated he was encountering issues with the model, specifically as it relates to M-231. He asked that anyone familiar with the area stay after and provide insight.

## VI. MPO ROUNDTABLE

- James Koens mentioned that neither MATS nor Harbor Transit were able to take advantage of the CMAQ funding that became available at the end of the previous fiscal year.
- Marc Fredrickson, MDOT Muskegon TSC gave an update on area MDOT jobs including Grand Haven lighting and the ITS camera system.
- Mr. Joel Fitzpatrick asked Committee members to review their plans for the Tech meetings currently scheduled for January 2, 2020 and April 2, 2020. He stated that with the work on the Long Range Transportation Plan a quorum would be necessary, especially for the April meeting.

VII. **NEW BUSINESS** – There was no new business to discuss.

VIII. **OLD BUSINESS** – There was no old business to discuss.

**IX. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

The WestPlan Public Participation Plan procedure was followed to achieve public participation for this meeting. No members of the public spoke. Staff presented the email, which was sent by Darma Canter. The content of the email is included below.

To: WMSRDC MPO  
Re: Public Comment

Nov 7, 2019

I am unavailable to attend the meeting today. Please read my comment into the record.

I am concerned that no action has been taken regarding my previous comments about LEP discrimination. The materials presented for public communication are not effect because their format is not comprehensible to the general public.

The survey distributed this quarter was inadequate to gather information, values and priorities from all the people impacted by the LRTP / TIP

I am concerned that the plans developed are directed at spending the money and not at creating a vision for a transportation system that addresses the racial and economic inequities in the region. Public Transit is necessary for an expanding economy but the plan doesn't identify or address the needs of non-drivers; minorities, seniors and disabled residents.

I expect to receive a response from my comment / request of the policy committee to develop a policy statement or position paper addressing the need to expand and enhance our public transportation system to insure environmental justice. I look forward to hearing from you.

Respectfully,  
Darma J Canter  
1898 Orshal Rd  
Muskegon MI 49445

**X. ADJOURN-** Meeting adjourned at 1:58 p.m.

**ATTACHMENT II**

**FY2020-2023 TIP AMENDMENT 3\***

*\*Due to a glitch in JobNet, this amendment will be sent to Policy Committee as well as MDOT/FHWA as Amendment 4)*