

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

MEETING MINUTES

August 6, 2020

Members Present:

Matt Farrar, Muskegon County (Chairperson)
Craig Bessinger, City of Ferrysburg
Jay Bolt, Village of Fruitport
Marcia Jeske, Rural Township Rep
Doug Kadzban, City of Muskegon Heights
Steve Biesiada, Muskegon Urban Township Rep
Leo Evans, City of Muskegon
Luke Walters, MDOT Lansing
James Murphy, City of Norton Shores
Brett Laughlin, OCRC
James Koens, MATS
Paul Bouman, MCRC(
John Nash, Spring Lake Township
Ben Van Hoeven, City of Roosevelt Park
Mark Disselkoen, City of North Muskegon
Scott Beishuizen, City of Montague
Wally Delamater, Village of Spring Lake
Derek Gajdos, City of Grand Haven
Brian Armstrong, City of Whitehall

Members Absent:

Andy Pickard, FHWA (Non-Voting)
Heather Bowden, MDOT- OPT
Steven Patrick, Harbor Transit

Others Present:

Tyler Kent, MDOT Grand Region

Staff Present:

Brian Mulnix, WMSRDC
Amy Haack, WMSRDC
Joel Fitzpatrick, WMSRDC

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Matt Farrar called the meeting to order at 1:31. Attendance was taken via roll call. A quorum was present.

II. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Minutes from the previous meeting were reviewed. A motion was made and supported to approve minutes as presented of the May 7, 2020 Technical Committee meeting. Motion approved. *M/S Jeske/Murphy*

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. HIP FUNDING - Mr. Brian Mulnix presented the projects which were proposed to use the available HIP funding. Two projects were considered for funding.

- Project #: **205362**- City of Muskegon Heights- Hackley from Park to Fifth, Add HIP funding to federal portion making project an 80/20 split- Total cost \$324,000 Federal \$259,200 Local \$ 64,800
- Project #: **205349**- City of Montague- Hancock from Sheridan to Old Channel Trail- Add HIP funding to federal share, increase total project cost from \$329,315 to \$404,000. Total cost \$404,000 Federal \$319,176 Local \$ 84,824

A Grand Haven was proposed to use the remainder of the HIP funding. After discussion, it was agreed that this third project would come back to the committee in September. A motion was made and seconded to approve the projects, and to include them in Amendment 9. Motion approved. *M/S Bolt/ Murphy.*

II. FY2020-FY2023 TIP – Amendment 9: Mr. Mulnix presented Amendment 9 for the FY 2020-2023 TIP, Mr. Tyler Kent reviewed the MDOT projects.

2021

- Project #: **127479**- MDOT- M-104 from Kruger to 148th- ADD ROW Phase- \$8,000
- Project #: **200664**- MDOT- M-104 from Spring Lake Channel east to Lake Ave. – GPA Cost Change- Total Cost \$747,000 State Cost \$135,581

2022

- Project #: **127478**- MDOT- US-31 @ Pierce, Winans, 158th Ave. Indirect Left Turns- Moving project from 2020 to 2022- Total Cost \$865,000 State \$156,997

A motion was made and seconded to approve the amendment, including the previously approved HIP projects. Motion approved. *M/S Laughlin/Beishuizen*

V. 2045 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN –Mr. Brian Mulnix stated was no update at this time.

VI. US-31 CORRIDOR STUDY- (GRAND HAVEN) MDOT – Mr. Tyler Kent gave a PowerPoint presentation on the proposed Corridor Study. Discussion ensued.

VII. MPO ROUNDTABLE

- Mr. Jay Bolt gave an update on the Village of Fruitport’s 3rd Avenue project for FY2020.

- Ms. Amy Haack gave an update on air quality issues.
- Mr. Luke Walters gave an update on the UWP.

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 member of the public spoke. Mr. Brian Mulnix noted that he had received an email from a Mr. Jim Thompson regarding traffic issues in the area of M-120/US-31 and River Road. Discussion ensued. The letter is included as an attachment to these minutes.

X. ADJOURN- Meeting adjourned at 2:13 p.m.

From: jim thompson [<mailto:jhtclub@yahoo.com>]

Sent: Monday, July 27, 2020 11:43 AM

To: Mulnix, Brian

Subject: Traffic Safety

WARNING: This email originated outside of the Muskegon County email system!
DO NOT CLICK links if the sender is unknown.
NEVER provide your User ID or Password.

Mr. Mulnix;

A little over a year ago, I read in the Muskegon Chronicle that the area of M-120 and US-31 (and River Road) was one of Muskegon County's hot spots for accidents. I have personally seen many accidents in that area. We have lived on East River Road since 1965 and have seen the addition of hundreds of new homes and more being built daily and the traffic is scary.

One would think that the west bound traffic on East River Road would safely enter M-120 traffic via Old Orchard Lane at the traffic signal but, that is not always the case. I am not a traffic engineer but, I do have a couple of ideas. If you are not familiar with this area, take some time and park your car near there most any time of the day and count the close calls.

Please Consider:

#1) Blocking west bound traffic from River Road onto M-120. Traffic would still be open to: the bank, the gas station, the beauty shop and Rigler Road but, blocked from turning west onto M-120. This would direct west bound traffic to use Old Orchard Lane with the safety of a traffic signal.

#2) East bound traffic from M-120 onto River Road would remain the same. Remove the "stop" sign at Old Orchard Lane and make east bound traffic on River Road a thru lane. The left turn from East River onto Old Orchard Lane would remain the same as a stop. East bound traffic from Old Orchard Lane would become a "stop".

Sincerely,

Jim Thompson

2775 East River Road

Twin Lake, MI 49457

231-744-5546