

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

**MEETING MINUTES**

August 18, 2021

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Arter called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. A roll call was taken and a quorum was present.

**ATTENDANCE (Roll call)**

**A. Members Present**

Kim Arter, Laketon Township, Chairperson  
Matt Fenske, Ottawa County  
Susie Hughes, MATS  
Jack Kennedy, Muskegon County Road Commission  
Robert Monetza, Harbor Transit  
Scott Blease, Ferrysburg  
Dennis Scott, City of Grand Haven  
Steven Salter, City of Whitehall  
Tom Lohman, City of Montague  
Roger Vanderstelt, Village of Fruitport  
Rillastine Wilkins, Muskegon County Commissioner  
Elmer Hoyle, Ravenna Township  
Missi Klos, City of Roosevelt Park  
Ryan Kelly Ottawa County- Township Rep  
Bonnie McGlothin, City of Muskegon Heights  
Jeff Franklin, MDOT

**B. Members Not Present**

Andy Pickard, FHWA (Non-Voting)  
Ken Johnson, City of Muskegon  
City of Norton Shores (vacant)  
Wally Delamater, Village of Spring Lake  
Betty Gajewski, Ottawa County Road Commission (excused)  
Bill Mogren, City of North Muskegon

**C. Others Present**

Tyler Kent, MDOT  
Bob Lukens, Muskegon County  
Luke Walters, MDOT  
Katherine Parker, MDOT  
Dennis Kent, MDOT

**D. Staff Present**

Brian Mulnix, WMSRDC  
Amy Haack, WMSRDC

## II. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

A motion was made to approve the minutes from the June 16, 2021, meeting as submitted. Motion approved. **m/s Hughes/Kennedy**

## III. PUBLIC COMMENT

The WestPlan Public Participation Plan procedure was followed to achieve public participation for this meeting. No member of the public spoke.

## IV. TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

### A. FY2020-FY2023 TIP AMENDMENT 17

Mr. Mulnix spoke on the proposed Amendment 17 of the 2020-2023 TIP. MDOT Steff discussed details of the amendment. A motion was made to approve FY2020-2023 TIP Amendment 17. In the discussion, Mr. Monetza asked to go on record that he does not support the widening of US-31 through Grand Haven. Motion approved with unanimous vote. **m/s Hughes/Klos**



#### ALL PROJECT SEARCH - STANDARD REPORT

Date: 08/11/2021

Fiscal Year(s) : 2021, 2022, 2023

Page: 1 of 2

Fiscal Year	Job Type	Job #	MPO	County	Responsible Agency	Project Name	Length	Let	Primary Work Type	Project Description	ADT	ACC	Phase	Status	S/TIP Cycle	Fed Estimated Amount	State Estimated Amount	Local Estimated Amount	Total Estimated Amount	Fund Source	Total Job Cost	Action Type	Action Approval Date	Local Fed Approval Date	FMSHA Approval Date	FTA Approval Date	Schedule Obligation Date	Actual Obligation Date	Schedule Let Date	Actual Let Date	Federal Amendment Type	S/TIP Exempt	Comments	S/TIP Status											
S/TIP Line Items																																													
2023	Transportation Planning Program (WESTPLAN)	88677	West Michigan Metropolitan Transportation Planning Program (WESTPLAN)	Oshtemo	MDOT	US-31 NB	0.803	Major Widening	Reconstruct and widen	CON	Programmed	20-23				\$491,180	\$108,900	\$0	\$600,080	NH	\$8,402,000.00							N/A	01/16/2023	03/06/2023		Phase Delayed		Pending											
2023	Transportation Planning Program (WESTPLAN)	105534	West Michigan Metropolitan Transportation Planning Program (WESTPLAN)	Oshtemo	MDOT	US-31 NB	0.817	Reconstruction	Reconstruct and widen	CON	Programmed	20-23				\$5,477,402	\$1,214,598	\$0	\$6,692,000	NH	\$8,402,000.00							N/A	01/16/2023	03/06/2023		Phase Delayed		Pending											
2023	Transportation Planning Program (WESTPLAN)	212864	West Michigan Metropolitan Transportation Planning Program (WESTPLAN)	Oshtemo	MDOT	US-31 South	0.824	Reconstruction	Culvert Replacement	CON	Programmed	20-23				\$2,814,572	\$637,428	\$0	\$3,452,000	NH	\$3,991,000.00							N/A	10/01/2022	12/02/2022				Pending											
GPA Type Subtotals:																\$8,843,074	\$1,880,926	\$0	\$10,724,000																										
Grand Total:																\$8,843,074	\$1,880,926	\$0	\$10,724,000																										

Total Job Phases Reported: 3

Job Phase(s) highlighted in yellow are delayed to future S/TIP cycle

#### Preferences:

Report Format: Standard

FISCAL Year(s): 2021, 2022, 2023

MPO/Non-MPO: West Michigan Metropolitan Transportation Planning Program (Muskegon)

County: ALL

Prosperity Region: ALL

MDOT Region: ALL

S/TIP Cycle: Fiscal Year 2020 - Fiscal Year 2023

S/TIP Status: Pending

(A - Approved, P - Pending)

Job Type: Trunkline, Local, Multi-Modal

Phase Type: ALL

Phase Status: ALL

(AP - Programmed, AC - Active, CP - Completed)

(Active - Obligated)

Amendment Type: ALL

## B. FY2021 COVID HIP funding distribution

An attachment was included with the agenda packet that summarized the proposed programming details of the COVID HIP and HIP funding as presented by the WestPlan Technical Committee. A motion was made to approve the proposed distribution as presented. **m/s Kennedy/Blease**

Job Number	Fiscal Year	County	Responsible Agency	Project Name	Limits	Primary Work Type	Covid Funding Amount	Current committed Federal	Federal Fund Source	State Cost	Local Cost (participating )	Total Cost
205368	2022	Ottawa	Ferrysburg	Dogwood Drive	174th to City Limits	Resurface	\$88,593	\$400,000	STUL		\$500,000	\$900,000
205373	2022	Ottawa	City of Grand Haven	Fulton Avenue	US-31 to Albee Street	Reconstruct	\$88,593	\$364,327	STUL, HIPS		\$1,046,428	\$1,410,755
205378	2022	Muskegon	MCRC	Harvey Street-Ada-Shonah Street	Laketon Avenue to Apple Avenue	Resurface	\$88,593	\$312,000	STUL		\$78,000	\$474,086
205376	2022	Muskegon	Muskegon	Terrace Street	Apple Avenue to Lakeshore Drive	Lane Diet/Road Rehabilitation	\$88,593	\$543,000	STUL		\$857,000	\$1,400,000
205366	2022	Muskegon	Norton Shores	Seminole Road	Park to Seaway	Reconstruct	\$88,593	\$445,000	STUL		\$344,500	\$789,500
205428	2023	Muskegon	Whitehall	Warner Street	White Lake Drive to Colby Street	Reconstruct	\$88,593	\$250,000	STUL			\$713,640
205427	2023	Muskegon	Muskegon Heights	Hackley Ave	Marz to Getty	Resurface	\$88,593	\$350,000	STUL		\$136,000	\$486,000
205401	2023	Muskegon	Roosevelt Park	Glenside Blvd. Reconstruction adding Non-Motorized Pathway	240ft south of Sherman Blvd. south 1,080 ft	Construct Non-Motorized pathway	\$88,593	\$300,000	STUL		\$137,000	\$437,000
	2022	Ottawa	OCRC	State Road	144th Avenue to 136th Avenue	Resurface	\$88,593					\$430,000
	2022	Muskegon	WMSRDC	Non-Motorized Traffic Counters	Areawide	Equipment Purchase	\$30,000					\$30,000

	2022	Ottawa	Village of Spring Lake	Exchange Street	Elm Street to William Street	Resurface	\$88,593					\$205,000
	2022	Muskegon	Montague	Old Channel Trail	Dowling Street to Church Street	Resurface	\$88,593					\$250,000
	2022	Muskegon	North Muskegon	Ruddiman Drive	Whitehall Road to Miltz	Resurface	\$88,593					\$250,000
	2022	Muskegon	Pioneer-Resources	Security-Cameras and-Fencing	Muskegon-Township-Location	Equipment-Purchase						\$60,000
	2023	Muskegon	Village of Fruitport	8th Street Bike Path	Park Street to Beech Street	Construct Non-Motorized Bike Path	\$88,593					\$200,000
	2024	Muskegon	MATS	MATS-Preventative-Maintenance	Areawide	Preventative-Maintenance						\$100,000

- C. **FY2023-FY2026 TIP:** Mr. Brian Mulnix discussed the schedule for the new TIP development.

**V. 2045 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN** – Nothing to report at this time.

**VI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN 45 DAY PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD**

Committee members were sent a copy of the draft Public Participation Plan in Transportation Decision Making for review and were asked to open the 45-day public comment period. There were also several hard copies available at the meeting. Ms. Haack discussed the plan and timeline. A motion to open the 45-day public review and comment period from August 23 to October 6 was made and supported. **m/s Hughes/Monetza**

**VII. NEW BUSINESS/MPO ROUNDTABLE**

**A. PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION**

Mr. Mulnix discussed the Regional Transit Study and the progress being made by the consultants.

**B. MDOT UPDATES**

Mr. Tyler Kent discussed the Statewide Long Range Plan and the 5-Year Plan

**C. PUBLIC COMMENT RESPONSE**

Committee members were sent a copy of a correspondence that was received by the MPO from Mrs. Darma Canter. MPO Staff replied to the correspondence which was also included in the packet.

**From:** [Joel Fitzpatrick](#)  
**To:** [Brian Mulnix](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Public Comment Opportunity at Transportation Planning Meeting  
**Date:** Thursday, July 29, 2021 10:35:58 AM

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**From:** Joel Fitzpatrick  
**Sent:** Friday, June 18, 2021 8:24 AM  
**To:** canter2000@aol.com  
**Cc:** Brian Mulnix (WMSRDC) <bmulnix@wmsrdc.org>; Erin Kuhn (WMSRDC) <ekuhn@wmsrdc.org>; Amy Haack <ahaack@wmsrdc.org>  
**Subject:** RE: Public Comment Opportunity at Transportation Planning Meeting

Darma,

Thank you for your recent comments. We will make sure to include them in the next Tech and Policy packets. Please note that the MPO committees do not typically meet during the month of July so the next meetings will most likely take place during August. Please feel free to recruit anyone you would like to attend meetings. Members of the public have two opportunities to participate during each meeting. Also, if you will forward the names and emails of these interested individuals, we will make sure that they are included on the transportation stakeholder list to receive public notices going forward.

Joel Fitzpatrick  
Transportation Planning Director  
West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission  
316 Morris Ave, Suite 340  
Muskegon MI 49440

(231) 722-7878 ext. 160

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**From:** [canter2000@aol.com](mailto:canter2000@aol.com) <[canter2000@aol.com](mailto:canter2000@aol.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 16, 2021 1:33 PM  
**To:** Amy Haack <[ahaack@wmsrdc.org](mailto:ahaack@wmsrdc.org)>; Brian Mulnix <[bmulnix@wmsrdc.org](mailto:bmulnix@wmsrdc.org)>; Joel Fitzpatrick <[jfitzpatrick@wmsrdc.org](mailto:jfitzpatrick@wmsrdc.org)>  
**Cc:** [ken.johnson@shorelinecity.com](mailto:ken.johnson@shorelinecity.com); [marciahwright@gmail.com](mailto:marciahwright@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Re: Public Comment Opportunity at Transportation Planning Meeting

WMSRDC / MPO  
Public Comment June 16, 2021

It is hard for me to get my mind around the purpose of this committee and the definition of "economic development." It seems like your interpretation is economic expansion and maintenance. I can't see your method for measuring the projects' impact on economic development, and I can't see how the MPO planning impacts the residents. Clearly the MDOT contract promotes environment justice and prohibits

disparate impact in order to protect the interests of minority communities; POC, Seniors, the Disabled, and segregated inner-city neighborhoods. I wonder about the efficacy of using census data to measure social justice outcomes.

I suspect the WMSRDC public participation plan is a failure because the commenters and their material isn't discussed, accepted, denied or responded to. The Public Participation Plan makes an odd gesture to minority communities by soliciting corporations as representatives. This actually excludes the knowledge and experiences of individuals by asking publicly funded service providers what their clients need and want. This application creates representation by people who are paid to participate and ignores the import information about the impact of your decisions on the quality of life. Seniors, the disabled, low-income families don't need someone to speak for them. They do need WMSRDC to support them with appropriate LEP documents and reports.

My purpose in participating as a senior resident with a disability is to assure my community is well-served by your decisions allocating our taxpayer dollars. There are many other people who have specialized knowledge you need to maintain our independent lives. For many seniors and people with disabilities our lives are not expanding but shrinking and narrowing. Transportation systems can increase our independence and self-sufficiency for a population that can no longer drive safely. You seem on the verge of abandoning this segment of the population and I urge you to seek out their advice and guidance for planning publicly funded transportation projects.

Again, I will assist WMSRDC to identify and support a panel of people with information critical to successful community development.

I hope to have your reply soon,  
Darma J Canter

-----Original Message-----

From: Amy Haack <[ahaack@wmsrdc.org](mailto:ahaack@wmsrdc.org)>

To: Amy Haack <[ahaack@wmsrdc.org](mailto:ahaack@wmsrdc.org)>

Sent: Wed, Jun 9, 2021 2:02 pm

Subject: Public Comment Opportunity at Transportation Planning Meeting

## **Public Comment Sought at Transportation Committee Meeting on June 16, 2021**

The Muskegon and Northern Ottawa County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), which is responsible for transportation planning in the area, is seeking public comment on the transportation planning process. The planning process includes the 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), the Fiscal Year 2020 – 2023 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Program of Projects (POP), and other agenda items.

The TIP is developed in a cooperative effort between federal, state, and local officials and serves as the final link in the transportation planning process. Its primary purpose is to identify transportation programs and projects to be funded with federal aid in accordance with federal law and regulations. This plan is an outline of the transportation needs of Muskegon County and Northern Ottawa County for the next four years. The LRTP is a look at the MPO's future transportation network and is to be used as a guideline for transportation investment. The FTA POP includes 5307 and 5308 funds for the Muskegon Area Transit System and Harbor Transit. Recommendations for new construction, safety improvements, congestion (traffic) management, air quality, non-motorized, transit, planning, etc. will be accepted.

**A public comment period is scheduled at the Policy Committee Meeting on June 16, 2021 at 1:30 p.m.** Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, this meeting is being held virtually using a video and telephone call in format. As in an in person meeting, the public will be given an opportunity to make public comment during the established agenda items at the beginning and end of the meeting. If possible, please mute your phone and only unmute to make a public comment during the established times. Thank you. Information to join the meeting by video or telephone and meeting materials will be available on the event calendar at [www.wmsrdc.org](http://www.wmsrdc.org).

You are receiving this correspondence because you, your agency, and/or organization are considered important in the transportation planning process. For more information or to view a hard copy of the meeting materials, contact Joel Fitzpatrick, Transportation Planning Director, WMSRDC, 316 Morris Avenue Suite 340, P.O. Box 387, Muskegon Michigan 49443-0387, (231) 722-7878 ext. 160, or by email at [jfitzpatrick@wmsrdc.org](mailto:jfitzpatrick@wmsrdc.org). To garner additional outreach, please post this notice on public information boards if applicable.

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

**VIII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

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

**VII. NEW BUSINESS** – No new business was discussed.

**VIII. ADJOURN**- Meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.