

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

MEETING MINUTES

October 2, 2025

- Members Present:** Brett Laughlin, OCRC, Chairperson
Paul Bauman, MCRC
Luke Walters, MDOT
Todd Myers, City of Muskegon
Scott Borg, Harbor Transit
Ben VanHoeven, City of Roosevelt Park
Don Bond, City of Whitehall
Wade Vandebosch, Muskegon County DPW
James Koens, MATS
Jim Murphy, City of Norton Shores
Mark Dissolkoon, City of North Muskegon
Craig Bessinger, City of Ferrysburg
Scott Beishuizen, City of Montague
Kyle Botbyl, Village of Spring Lake
Amy Haack, Village of Fruitport
Khi Guy, City of Muskegon Heights
Dale Lee, Fruitport Township
Logan Cuddington, City of Grand Haven
- Members Absent:** Jenny Staroska, FHWA (Non-Voting)
Steve Biesiada, Muskegon Urban Township Rep
Jeff Marcinowski, Rural Township Rep
- Others Present:** Blake Wright, MDOT Grand Region
Marc Frederickson, MDOT Muskegon TSC
- Staff Present:** Joel Fitzpatrick, WMSRDC
Brian Mulnix, WMSRDC
Lauryn Blake, WMSRDC
Jack Grice, WMSRDC

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Brett Laughlin at 1:30 PM. A quorum was present. Attendance was recorded via sign-in sheet.

II. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

A motion to approve the minutes was made. Motion approved.
M/S Beishuizen/VanHoeven

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

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

IV. TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP)

A. FY2026-2029 TIP Amendment 2

Mr. Brian Mulnix noted that there were several jobs on the Amendment. The City of Norton Shores is abandoning a CMAQ job to install a traffic after the City was informed the Costco will fund the installation. These funds were re-allocated to a Roosevelt Park job that was amended at a prior meeting. A Muskegon County Road Commission job that is partially funded by MPO and Small Urban monies saw an increase in cost. The City of Muskegon is shifting a trail job from 2025 to 2026. An Ottawa County bridge job is being shifted from 2025 to 2026. A motion to approve the FY2026-2029 TIP Amendment 2 was made. Motion approved.
M/S Beishuizen/Vandenbosch

V. 2050 METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN (MTP)

Mr. Joel Fitzpatrick informed the committee that MPO staff will begin preliminary work on the 2055 MTP in early 2026 and that MDOT modeling is expected to begin in February 2026.

VI. NATIONAL FUNCTIONAL CLASSIFICATION (NFC)

Mr. Joel Fitzpatrick informed the committee that local agencies and municipalities should submit any NFC revisions to the MPO within a week. No action will be taken by the committee until all revisions have been pre-authorized by MDOT.

VII. FY2026 SCHEDULE

Mr. Brian Mulnix explained that the FY 2026 Technical Committee meetings will be held on the first Thursday of each month, except in January and July, which were moved due to holidays. The Policy Committee meetings will be held the third Wednesday of each month.

VIII. PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION UPDATE

Mr. Scott Borg informed the committee that the Harbor Transit NEPA approval was received on July 9th with the expectation that construction will begin March 6, 2026.

Mr. Jim Koens informed the committee that the initiative to start a Transit Authority in Muskegon County has stalled due to disagreements on Authority structure. MATS will continue to operate as a county department and are working on developing service agreements with the local municipalities.

IX. MPO ROUNDTABLE

Mr. Marc Frederickson informed the committee that the M46 work is almost complete and will be after final markings. He also shared that the City of Muskegon is beginning preliminary work to replace a water main and services along M46 that will begin next year. He updated the committee on the US31/I-96 job, noting it is in the November letting period. Lastly, MSP has signed off on the installation of stop signs on southbound US31 and Pontaluna interchange.

Mr. Luke Walters shared that they are still waiting on news regarding the federal budget but that they are expecting a continuing resolution to be the first step in the new budget. He also informed the committee that FHWA is still working and can process amendments but does not have money for any obligations. The Local Agency Planning is still operating as normal.

Mr. Joel Fitzpatrick informed the committee that the FY2026-2029 TIP was approved at the federal level. He also shared that the GIS staff at the MPO is working on several new dashboards relating to census and safety data.

Mr. Jim Murphy informed the committee that there is a watermain break between Pontaluna and Judson Road.

X. PUBLIC COMMENT

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

XI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 1:45 PM.