

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

MEETING MINUTES

May 7, 2026

Members Present: Brett Laughlin, OCRC, Chairperson
Ben VanHoeven, City of Roosevelt Park, Vice Chair
Paul Bouman, MCRC
Luke Walters, MDOT
Scott Borg, Harbor Transit
Wes Sanford, MATS
Jim Murphy, City of Norton Shores
Mark Dissolkoen, City of North Muskegon
Craig Bessinger City of Ferrysburg
Michael England, City of Grand Haven
Amy Haack, Village of Fruitport
Jeff Marcinkowski, Rural Township Rep
Todd Myers, City of Muskegon
Wade Vandebosch, Muskegon County DPW
Dale Lee, Fruitport Township, Muskegon Urban Township Rep
Khi Guy, City of Muskegon Heights
Kyle Botbyl, Village of Spring Lake

Members Absent: Jenny Staroska, FHWA (Non-Voting)
Scott Beishuizen, City of Montague
Don Bond, City of Whitehall

Others Present: Marc Frederickson, MDOT Muskegon TSC
Tyler Kent, MDOT Grand Region
Tina Hawley, MDOT OPT

Staff Present: Joel Fitzpatrick, WMSRDC
Brian Mulnix, 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 VanHoeven/Botbyl

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 8

Mr. Brian Mulnix explained that job 223031 has been split into two jobs which also resulted in the creation of job 226883. The reason for the split is due to the Muskegon County Road Commission and the City of Muskegon working jointly to rehabilitate the road and the underlying water/sewer lines. The limits will remain the same, but the advance construction will no longer take place and occur when originally scheduled. Job 223048 was quoted higher than anticipated so the local amount put towards the project is being increased.

Mr. Tyler Kent outlined the remaining jobs which are all MDOT jobs. There are two phases for job 220465; both are design phases. Job 225096 was added after an internal financial review showed that there was available money to include this project in the current TIP. Lastly, there was a GPA budget adjustment which included several phases for bridge rehabilitation on US-31 SB over CSX Railroad. A motion to approve the amendment was made. Motion approved.
M/S Bessinger/Guy

V. 2050 METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN (MTP)

Mr. Brian Mulnix explained that there is no major update regarding the MTP.

Mr. Jack Grice shared that the MPO received the socioeconomic data from the state modeling team. The MPO is currently exploring how to best provide this data for review.

VI. PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION UPDATE (INFORMATION)

Mr. Scott Borg shared that construction on the new Harbor Transit facility is progressing well.

Mr. Wes Sanford shared that MATS has not yet made a hire for their open Director position.

VII. MPO ROUNDTABLE

Mr. Marc Frederickson provided updates on several projects. The US-31/I-96 Interchange work on the NB lanes and loop ramps are progressing well. The next phase will begin in early summer. Phase 2 will affect both SB lanes, but they will stay open during this process until work shifts to the SB bridge structure. The Apple Avenue project is ahead of schedule with plans to open the downtown portions in a few weeks. At this point, work will shift to the eastern half of the project. The White Lake Drive Bridge is now open but only one lane. Both directions will use the same lane with a temporary traffic signal installed. The previously existing TIP project to reconstruct the bridge deck has been moved to FY27. Lastly, Lakewood Drive bridge will be closed after Memorial Day for preventative maintenance.

Mr. Tyler Kent explained that MDOT has begun their update to the Grand Region Active Transportation Plan. He further explained that this plan is more of a repository of local non-motorized networks which will act as a resource to identify gaps, priorities, and as a supporting resource for funding applications.

Mr. Joel Fitzpatrick explained that the MPO will be updating the Safety Action Plan after the Muskegon County Road Commission has an authorized contract with the federal government. As part of this update, the MPO will be soliciting feedback for new proposed projects to be included as well as updating the progress tracking and transparency chapters of the plan. The MPO will also be adding line items to discuss safety concerns at the Technical and Policy Committee meetings.

Mr. Jack Grice shared that the MPO is developing a new safety dashboard with multiple safety data layers. He also shared that the MPO has received 23 Near-MISS submissions since the formal launch on May 4, 2026.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

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

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 1:46 PM.