

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

## MEETING MINUTES

March 19, 2025

### I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Chairperson Kim Arter called the meeting to order at 1:34 p.m. A quorum was present.

### II. ATTENDANCE

#### **A. Members Present**

Kim Arter, Laketon Township, Chairperson  
Richard Carlson, Mayor of Ferrysburg  
Bob Hires, City of Montague  
Field Reichardt, Ottawa County Road Commission  
Roger Morgenstern, City of Norton Shores  
Steven Salter, City of Whitehall  
Roger Vanderstelt, Village of Fruitport  
Diane Goodman, City of Roosevelt Park  
Josh Brugger, Ottawa County  
Ryan Kelly, Crockery Township  
Heather Bowden, MDOT  
Ron Jenkins, City of Muskegon Heights

#### **B. Members Not Present**

Michelle Hazekamp, Muskegon County Board of Commissioners, Excused  
Robert Monetza, City of Grand Haven  
Jack Kennedy, Muskegon County Road Commission  
Rachel Gorman, City of Muskegon  
Chris McGuigan, Muskegon County (MATS)  
Bill Mogren, City of North Muskegon  
Luke Walters, MDOT  
Wally Delameter, Village of Spring Lake  
Kevin Mclaughlin, Harbor Transit  
Jenny Staroska, FHWA, Excused

#### **C. Others Present**

Marc Frederickson, MDOT  
Tyler Kent, MDOT  
Willie German Jr., MCC  
John Morrison, West Michigan Trails & Greenways Coalition

#### **D. Staff Present**

Lauryn Blake, WMSRDC  
Brian Mulnix, WMSRDC  
Joel Fitzpatrick, WMSRDC  
Jack Grice, WMSRDC

### III. APPROVAL OF THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

The minutes were reviewed from the February 19, 2025, meeting. A motion was made and supported to approve the minutes of the February 19, 2025, meeting. Motion approved. ***M/S Kelly/Morgenstern***

### IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

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

### V. TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

A. FY2023-2026 TIP AMENDMENT 24 – Mr. Brian Mulnix informed the committee that business has returned to normal and approvals for amendments have been fully caught up. He reported on the projects contained in Amendment 24 to the committee, stating that a majority of the line items are bundled into 4 total jobs made up of different phases and budgets. Mr. Marc Frederickson clarified that Job Number 223531 has additional job numbers pertaining to bridge work in the S/TIP. A motion was made and supported to approve the FY2023-2026 TIP Amendment 24. Motion carried. ***M/S Brugger/Carlson***

B. FY2026-2029 TIP PROJECT LIST – Mr. Joel Fitzpatrick presented on the FY2026-2029 TIP Project List, informing the committee that these are considered rural jobs and have been approved by the Rural Task Force (RTF), but need MPO approval as they fall within MPO boundary. Mr. Brian Mulnix confirmed that these jobs will be added to the TIP spreadsheet once approved. A motion was made and supported to approve the FY2023-2026 TIP Project List. Motion carried. ***M/S Jenkins/Morgenstern***

### VI. FY2025 UWP AMENDMENT

Mr. Brian Mulnix elaborated on the purpose of the UWP for newer members of the committee, emphasizing that it's a federal requirement to have alongside a TIP document. The commission requested approval for an amendment to the FY2025 UWP. This amendment covers a study, that may or may not occur pending future acceptance of the study, to determine the need for a transit authority in the area. With FY2025 funding, this study is planned for 2026. Questions regarding the transit authority opened the floor for discussion to ensue. A motion was made and supported to approve the FY2025 UWP amendment. Motion carried. ***M/S Jenkins/Morgenstern***

### VII. WEST MICHIGAN TRAILS & GREENWAYS COALITION- REGIONAL TRAILS MASTER PLAN

A. Mr. John Morrison presented on the West Michigan Trails & Greenways Master plan with intention to gain support from the committee. In his presentation, he defined the main, but not all, priorities of this master plan as covering the Lake Michigan Shoreline trails, wayfinding, the Central West Michigan corridor, the Grand River Greenway, and the Muskegon to Fremont and the White Pine trails. A motion was made and seconded

to provide a signed resolution of support to Mr. Morrison. Motion carried. *M/S Brugger/Kelly*

VIII. 2050 METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN (MTP)

The commission continues to monitor the MTP, but there are no updates at this time.

IX. NEW BUSINESS/MPO ROUNDTABLE

Ms. Lauryn Blake informed the committee that advertising contracts for the West Michigan Clean Air Coalition 2025 season have been signed and money is being distributed to the appropriate vendors. All that's left is purchasing promotional items and getting out into the community for community events that have been scheduled.

A. PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION – No transit members were present to give a report.

B. MDOT UPDATES – Mr. Marc Frederickson informed the committee that the 31/96 bridge job is continuing to move forward as planned. Mr. Tyler Kent mentioned their 5-year plan requiring TIP amendments. Ms. Heather Bowden announced to the committee that the 2026-2029 S/TIP project list is nearly complete. She included that this list includes any trunkline, RTF, small urban, and transit jobs. The public comment for this will begin between July 1<sup>st</sup> through the 15<sup>th</sup>. The comments received during this period will automatically be sent to the appropriate people.

X. PUBLIC COMMENT

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

XI. ADJOURNMENT – The meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.