

TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
Thursday, May 7, 2020, 1:30 p.m.

MINUTES

The Technical Advisory Committee met at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 7, 2020 via a Zoom Conference Call due to the closure of the Genesee County Administration Building in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

I. Call to Order

Chairperson Markland called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m.

II. Roll Call

Present: Aaron Dawson, Alex Patsy, Andrea Schroeder, Derek Bradshaw, Don Mayle, Eric Johnston, Jay Reithel, Lynn Markland, Mark Adas, Shawnice Dorsey, Tim Elkins, and Trevor Block.

Absent/Excused: Adam Zettel, Andy Harris, Betty Wideman, Bonnie Mathis, Brad Barrett, Brian Saad, Chad Young, Chris Yeates, Craig Williams, Curtis Armstrong, Dave Miller, David Dorr, Ed Benning, Ellen Glass, Emily Alexander, Eric Weiderhold, Fred Peivandi, Frederick Thorsby, Gary Stevens, Joseph Madore, Joseph Rizk, Karyn Miller, Larry Green, Mark Emmendorfer, Mary Ann Price, Michael Pifer, Neil Rankin, Paul Fortino, Robert Johnson, Sam Stiff, Scott Bennett, Sheri Wilkerson, Steven Furh, Steven Katenhus, Teresa Onica, Thomas Spillane, Vicki Fishell, and Wendy Jean-Buhrer.

Others Present: Amber Abbey, Anita Boughner, Lane Masoud, Pete Wingblad, Jason Nordberg, Sharon Gregory, Jacob Maurer, and Nichole Odette.

III. New Business

A. FY 2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment #8

Sharon Gregory stated that TIP Amendment #8 includes the addition of three Genesee County Road Commission Safety Projects, two MDOT projects on I-475, which are using bond money from the Rebuilding Michigan Program, and a City of Fenton project that needs increased funding because the final cost estimate came back higher, which will increase the local match only. At this time, staff is recommending endorsement of the attached Amendment #8 to the FY 2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program from the Technical Advisory Committee to the Genesee County Metropolitan Alliance.

Motion: Action: Approve, **moved by** Eric Johnston, **supported by** Mark Adas, to recommend endorsement of the FY 2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment #8 to the Genesee County Metropolitan Alliance Committee as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

B. FY 2021 Unified Work Program (UWP)

Jacob Maurer stated that the FY 2021 Unified Work Program will primarily focus on the roundabout study, implementing the 2045 LRTP and the 2020-2023 TIP. Additionally, staff will work on data collection related to building permits, non-motorized planning, safety data analysis, and pavement data collection and analysis. At this time, staff is requesting that the Technical Advisory Committee provide a recommendation of approval for the FY 2021 Unified Work Program (UWP) to the Genesee County Metropolitan Alliance and to authorize Derek Bradshaw to sign all contracts and agreements related to the work program.

Motion: Action: Approve, **moved by** Eric Johnston, **supported by** Mark Adas, to recommend approval for the FY 2021 Unified Work Program (UWP) to the Genesee County Metropolitan Alliance and to authorize Derek Bradshaw to sign all contracts and agreements related to the work program.

Motion carried unanimously.

C. Issues with Obligating FY 2020 TIP Projects due to Covid-19

Sharon Gregory explained that there have been quite a few delays with obligating projects for FY 2020. Some committees skipped meetings until they were set up for remote participation, which delayed approvals on some items. Reduced staffing levels at the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) have caused delays in getting responses. The new additional NEPA requirements have also slowed the approval process. According to MDOT, approximately 84% of FY 2020 obligational authority has been used as of yesterday. Since the agenda was sent out, the City of Burton's project for South Grand Traverse Street has been obligated. Ms. Gregory asked representatives of the agencies with unobligated projects to give a brief update on the status of their projects. Chairperson Markland, Mark Adas, Eric Johnston and Shawnice Dorsey gave updates on the City of Fenton, City of Flint, GCRC, and MTA projects, respectively. Discussion ensued.

IV. Old Business

A. Approval of Genesee: Our County, Our Future Plan

Jacob Maurer stated that the draft *Genesee: Our County, Our Future* plan went through a 30-day public comment period and a public hearing was held in April. No comments were received during the public comment period or during the public hearing. Three public input sessions were cancelled due to Covid-19 concerns; however, the draft plan and related GIS maps were available through the plan website. The draft *Genesee: Our County, Our Future* plan does meet all federal transportation requirements, such as Air Quality, Environmental Justice, Environmental Mitigation and Consultation, Public Participation, Performance Measures, and Fiscal Constraint. The Plan Steering Committee approved the draft plan at their April 20th meeting. At this time, staff is requesting a recommendation of approval to the Genesee County Metropolitan Alliance for the *Genesee: Our County, Our Future* Plan.

Motion: Action: Approve, **moved by** Eric Johnston, **supported by** Mark Adas, to recommend approval to the Genesee County Metropolitan Alliance for the *Genesee: Our County, Our Future* Plan.

Motion carried unanimously.

Alex Patsy requested an update on PASER rating and the FY 2022 Call for Safety Projects. Jason Nordberg stated that MDOT has released the FY 2022 Call for Safety projects. Staff notified all local units of the Call for Projects and requested that applications are returned to GCMPC in June. Please let staff know if you did not receive the notification. Derek Bradshaw explained that the Asset Management Council has no available PASER trainings; however, they would allow individuals to rate this year if they attended a training in 2018 or 2019. The Asset Management Council discussed whether to cancel PASER rating this year and decided to allow each road agency to follow their own protocols and procedures.

Derek Bradshaw announced that there are fifteen \$2,000 placemaking mini-grants available to agencies and non-profits throughout the I-69 Thumb Region. There are match requirements for the grant and if awarded, agencies should receive their grants by the end of September.

Genesee County will be receiving approximately \$1.1 million in Community Development Block Grant funds and \$500,000 in Emergency Solutions Grant funds in response to Covid-19. Staff has reached out to various agencies, the Health Department, and the City of Flint to determine needs and discuss potential projects.

V. Adjournment

Chairperson Markland adjourned the meeting at 2:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Nichole Odette, Secretary
Genesee County Metropolitan Planning Commission