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## WASHTENAW AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY

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### MINUTES OF MEETING

#### POLICY COMMITTEE

DATE: February 15, 2012

TIME: 9:30 a.m.

PLACE: WATS Meeting Space, 705 N. Zeeb Road, Ann Arbor, MI 48103

Members Present: Village of Dexter – Jim Carson, Chair  
Dexter Township– Pat Kelly, Vice-Chair  
WCBOC – Yousef Rabhi  
Northfield Township – Deb Mozurkewich  
MDOT Statewide Planning – Kari Martin (for Pam Boyd)  
Ann Arbor Township – Mike Moran  
City of Ann Arbor – Tony Derezinski  
EMU – Leigh Greden  
City of Saline – Linda Terhaar (for Gretchen Driskell)  
Ypsilanti Township – Brenda Stumbo  
Superior Township – Bill McFarlane  
City of Ypsilanti – Peter Murdock  
Scio Township – Nancy Hedberg  
City of Ann Arbor DDA – John Mouat  
WCRC – Doug Fuller  
Pittsfield Township – Mandy Grewal

Members Absent: University of Michigan - Hank Baier  
City of Chelsea - Jason Lindauer  
SWWCOG – Ron Mann  
City of Milan – Mike Armitage, Secretary-Treasurer  
AATA –Jesse Bernstein

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#### POLICY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- CITY OF ANN ARBOR • ANN ARBOR DDA • ANN ARBOR TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY • ANN ARBOR TOWNSHIP •
- CITY OF CHelsea • VILLAGE OF DEXTER • DEXTER TOWNSHIP • EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY •
- MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION • CITY OF MILAN • NORTHFIELD TOWNSHIP • PITTSFIELD TOWNSHIP • CITY OF SALINE •
- SCIO TOWNSHIP • SOUTHWEST WASHTENAW COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS • SUPERIOR TOWNSHIP • UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN •
- WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS • WASHTENAW COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION • CITY OF YPSILANTI •
- YPSILANTI TOWNSHIP • EX OFFICIO: FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION • SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS •

AN INTERMUNICIPALITY COMMITTEE ORGANIZED UNDER ACT 200 OF PUBLIC ACTS OF MICHIGAN (1957)  
REPRESENTING WASHTENAW COUNTY

Others Present: WATS – Terri Blackmore, Nick Sapkiewicz, Mark Ferrall  
SEMCOG – Carmine Palombo  
Washtenaw County – Greg Dill  
Clean Energy Coalition – Erica Briggs, Sean Reed  
Wake Up Washtenaw – Larry Krieg  
VPSI – Michelle Romano Rockwood

1. Call to Order

Chair Carson called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. He asked those present to introduce themselves.

2. Approval of the Agenda

Ms. Kelly made a motion to approve the agenda. Ms. Hedberg supported and the Committee approved the agenda.

3. Public Participation

Chair Carson asked if any members of the public wished to address the Committee.

Ms. Briggs introduced herself as Clean Energy Coalition staff and explained that the bike-share program, listed with the Committee's FY 2013 and FY 2014 CMAQ project rankings, is a scaled back project based on the amount of funding allocated for the project by SEMCOG. The amount of funding applied for was \$778,660 and the SEMCOG amount was \$500,000.

4. Approval of the December 21, 2011 Policy Committee Minutes

Mr. Greden made a motion to approve the January 18, 2012 Policy Committee Minutes. Mr. Fuller supported and the Committee approved the minutes.

5. Communications and Announcements

Ms. Blackmore informed the Committee that there is no new State or Federal transportation legislation but that a host of bills are moving through both the House and Senate. Ms. Blackmore added that the Senate bill is for two years and the House bill is for a longer period, and some of the funding is anticipated from outside the trust fund which removes contract authority.

Ms. Blackmore reported that under potential new legislation, many MPOs would no longer exist, causing a significant rift in established planning practices. Ms. Blackmore explained that the Technical Committee recommend signing onto a letter calling for existing MPOs to remain in place under legislation that would change population requirements for MPOs.

Ms. Blackmore also noted the upcoming meetings and Asset Management training inviting a policy member to attend the Asset Management Conference.

6. Approval of Bills over \$500

1. Brian Rakovitis - \$912.50 Toyota Intern 1/16/12-2/10/12
2. Kris Kleinsmith - \$525.00 Toyota Intern 1/20/2012 – 2/10/2012

Ms. Hedberg made a motion to approve the bill over \$500. Mr. Fuller supported and the motion passed.

7. Old Business

A. MPO Exploration Committee Update - Information

Mr. Rabhi stated that the MPO Exploration Committee asked Ms. Blackmore to draft a letter outlining the inefficiencies and duplication of work with the SEMCOG/WATS process and sent it to FHWA and FTA.

8. New Business

A. CMAQ Prioritization - Action

Mr. Sapkiewicz explained that the CMAQ call for projects is for FY 2013 and FY 2014 and that projects get ranked by their cost/benefit ratio which weighs the cost of a project over the project emissions reductions over its useful life. Mr. Sapkiewicz went on to provide a description of the projects submitted, the project cost/benefit ranking and the Technical Committee's recommendation to the Policy Committee on prioritizing the projects. Ms. Blackmore added that CMAQ projects are still eligible for 100% funding.

**FY 2013 CMAQ Non-Transit Applications**

Rank	Technical Committee Priority	Agency	Location	Description	Cost	
					Federal	Local
<i>2013</i>					<i>Federal</i>	<i>Local</i>
4	1	Ann Arbor	Miller at Newport	Construction of a modern roundabout	\$680,000	\$120,000
1	2	WCRC	Washtenaw Avenue (M-17) between Carpenter Road and Oakwood Avenue.	Broadband radio interconnection of 7 intersections, signal hardware upgrades, video surveillance cameras, centralized traffic signal system software, and signal coordination.	\$300,000	

2	3	WCRC	Huron River Drive/Dixboro Road; Clark Road; Hogback Road	Broadband radio interconnection of 6 intersections, signal hardware upgrades, video surveillance cameras, centralized traffic signal system software, and signal coordination.	\$190,000
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### FY 2013 CMAQ Transit Applications

Rank	Technical Committee Priority	Agency	Location	Description	Cost	
					Federal	Local
<i>2013</i>					Federal	Local
3	1	AATA		Bike-share travel demand management program	\$778,660	\$383,586
1	2	AATA		Outreach and Rideshare	\$455,000	
2	3	AATA		Replacement buses	\$920,000	

### FY 2014 CMAQ Non-Transit Applications

Rank	Technical Committee Priority	Agency	Location	Description	Cost	
					Federal	Local
<i>2014</i>					Federal	Local
2	1	WCRC	Intersection of Pontiac Trail and Seven Mile Road	Conversion of all-way stop controlled intersection into single lane roundabout.	\$750,000	
1	2	WCRC	Ann Arbor-Saline Road; Ellsworth Road; Lohr Road/Waters Road; Oak Valley Drive	Broadband radio interconnection of 10 intersections, signal hardware upgrades, video surveillance cameras, centralized traffic signal system software, and signal coordination.	\$320,000	
3	3	Saline	Citywide	Replace old street sweeper with new, less polluting model	\$202,600	

### FY 2014 CMAQ Transit Applications

Rank	Agency	Location	Description	Cost		
<i>2014</i>					Federal	Local
1	AATA		Outreach and Rideshare	\$455,000		
2	AATA	I-94 at State or Ann Arbor-Saline	Construct a 200-space park and ride lot near either the I-94/State Street interchange (Exit 172) or the I-94/Ann Arbor-Saline Rd interchange (Exit 173) to intercept commuters.	\$1,200,000		

Mr. Mouat asked for clarification on the amount of funding requested for the bike-share project. Ms. Blackmore explained that the CEC has submitted for \$778,660 in capital funds in FY 2013, but the SEMCOG has reduced that amount to \$500,000 in FY 2013 and \$100,000 in FY 2014. Mr. Palombo explained that SEMCOG is trying to adhere to the federal process. Mr. Mouat questioned prioritizing the bike-share program ahead of AATA's outreach program (GetDowntown) because of the value of the GetDowntown program. Ms. Blackmore offered that AATA has previous year's CMAQ funds, which will continue to support the GetDowntown program. Ms. Kelly questioned why Saline's street sweeper project was moved. Ms. Blackmore explained that the Technical Committee felt it would compete better in FY 2014 and maximize the funding coming into Washtenaw County while giving Saline a better chance of receiving funding.

Mr. Greden made a motion to accept the Technical Committee's prioritization of CMAQ projects for Washtenaw County and submit the list to SEMCOG for consideration in the regions selection process. Mr. Fuller supported the motion and the CMAQ prioritization passed as approved by the Technical Committee.

B. Unified Planning Work Program - for Action in March

Ms. Blackmore explained that the UWP was included in preparation for Committee action in March. Mr. Williams asked if the updated UWP had any significant changes. Ms. Blackmore noted there would be changes to accommodate moving the WATS office as well as for replacing the Asset Management computer.

C. WATS Space Update - Action

Ms. Blackmore explained that the space sub-committee did meet, however Mr. Dill contacted WATS the day prior to the Policy Committee meeting and the space options were unclear. Ms. Hedberg and Mr. Fuller offered that their respective agency's meeting spaces could be considered for WATS Committee meetings. Mr. Dill addressed the Committee noting the County's organizational plans to consolidate office space, which prompted transitioning WATS to the County Annex Building. Mr. Dill added that two space options are available to WATS: the Annex Building and the current office space. Ms. Blackmore noted that WATS offices and meetings should be accessible by public transit as a federally funded agency. Ms. Blackmore added that the County would move WATS and make up any local match needed for increased rent through an adjustment in the County dues. Ms. Grewal noted the opportunity to extend the lease term. Mr. McFarlane questioned how WATS would accommodate parking for Committee meetings. Mr. Dill stated that parking arrangements would be settled in a lease negotiation.

Mr. Fuller made a motion to have the space sub-committee negotiate a lease for WATS office space in the County Annex building and bring the final agreement back for the Policy Committee to accept. Ms. Grewal seconded the motion.

Ms. Stumbo suggested looking into LLRC space or other Ypsilanti locations. Mr. Dill stated the LLRC is used for training a variety of departments. Mr. Rabhi suggested the Committee take action presently to approve WATS' move to the Annex Building. Chair Carson called for a vote on Mr. Fullers motion. The motion passed with Ms. Stumbo voting against the motion.

Mr. Fuller added that his wish would be for the lease to consider a 20-year horizon. Mr. Dill stated a long-term lease is his goal as well, but ultimately the County Commissioners will decide.

D. MPO Support Letter - Action

Ms. Blackmore explained that proposed legislation would alter the urbanized area population needed to require an MPO and that many agencies are signing onto a letter in support of grandfathering existing MPOs that would fall below the proposed population requirements. Ms. Blackmore explained that grandfathering existing MPOs would preserve the planning process for eight MPOs in Michigan and that the Technical Committee recommends the Policy Committee sign the letter.

Ms. Grewal made a motion for WATS to sign the letter supporting the preservation of existing MPOs. Ms. Kelly seconded and the motion passed.

9. Agency Reports

A. City of Ann Arbor

Mr. Derezinski reported that the City of Ann Arbor is continuing to evaluate the four-party transit agreement. Mr. Derezinski also reported that City has put the the parking deck portion of the Fuller Rd. Station on hold. Mr. Derezinski added that Ms. Grewal and he would be hosting a regional symposium titled "No Locale is an Island" as part of the Reimagine Washtenaw effort.

B. City of Ann Arbor DDA

Mr. Mouat reported that Fifth Ave. would reopen in the spring with the underground parking structure opening this summer. Mr. Mouat added that the GetDowntown program is expecting transportation survey results soon.

C. AATA

There was no one present from AATA.

D. Ann Arbor Township

Mr. Moran reported that Ann Arbor Township has received two proposals to build new commercial space and that the additional traffic may increase the need for a roundabout at Dixboro and Plymouth.

E. City of Chelsea

Mr. Lindauer was not present.

F. Dexter Village

Mr. Carson reported that the Boundary Commission met the previous day to discuss the proposed city boundaries. Mr. Carson stated that there were no objections.

G. Dexter Township

Ms. Kelly had nothing to report.

H. Eastern Michigan University

Mr. Greden had nothing to report.

I. FHWA

A representative was not present.

J. City of Milan

A representative was not present.

K. Northfield Township

Ms. Mozurkewich had nothing to report.

L. Pittsfield Township

Ms. Grewal reported that Pittsfield will hold a public meeting on the State and Ellsworth roundabout Wednesday February 29.

M. MDOT Planning

Ms. Martin reported that MDOT is preparing for completing work on M-52 from Dutch to I-94 and initiating the Austin to Dutch portion in April as well as work on M-14 beginning in March. Ms. Martin also reported that MDOT will host a public meeting on converting Huron from Jackson Rd. to Dexter Rd. from four to three lanes on February 16 at Slauson Middle School.

N. MDOT Region/TSC

A representative was not present.

O. City of Saline

Ms. Terhaar had nothing to report.

P. SWWCOG

A representative was not present.

Q. SEMCOG

Mr. Palombo reported that transportation legislation bills are in both the State House and the Senate and including a provision for Counties to take over Road Commissions. Mr. Palombo added that a new round of TIGER funding has a call for projects that is due next week.

R. Scio Township

Ms. Hedberg had nothing to report.

S. Superior Township

Mr. McFarlane had nothing to report.

T. University of Michigan

A representative was not present.

U. County Board of Commissioners

Mr. Rabhi acknowledged the good relationship between the County and WATS and his wish to continue the relationship with WATS' move to the Annex Building.

V. WCRC

Mr. Fuller reported that the Road Commission is scheduling meetings with the Townships for the upcoming construction season.

W. Ypsilanti Township

Ms. Stumbo reported that Ypsilanti Township is working with MDOT to place a park-and-ride lot on Huron and with the Road Commission to issue bonds and develop improvements.

X. City of Ypsilanti

Mr. Murdock had nothing to report.



10. Adjournment

Ms. Stumbo made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Rabhi supported the motion and the meeting adjourned at 11:11.