



**Macatawa Area
Coordinating Council**

A Cooperative Effort Among Units of Government

MACC POLICY COMMITTEE

Policy Board

*Rosemary Ervine, Chair
*Blaine Koops
*Hannes Meyers, Jr.
*Pankaj Rajadhyaksha
*William Vanderbilt
Howard Baumann, Jr.
Terry Burns
Kurt Dykstra
Terry Hofmeyer
Lester Hoogland
John Kleinheksel
Dal McBurrows
Al Myaard
Terry Nienhuis
Keith Potter
Amanda Price
Gordon Schrottenboer
Russ Te Slaa
Dave Vander Kooi
Todd Wolters

*Executive Committee

**February 22, 2010
Park Township Hall
52 – 152nd Avenue
Holland, MI 49424
12:00 p.m.**

MINUTES

PRESENT: Rosemary Ervine, Terry Burns, Kurt Dykstra, Sally Gruppen (for Les Hoogland), Terry Hofmeyer, John Kleinheksel, Hannes Meyers, Jr., Steve Redmond (for Dal McBurrows), Terry Nienhuis, Keith Potter, Amanda Price, Pankaj Rajadhyaksha, Gordon Schrottenboer, Russ TeSlaa, Dave Vander Kooi

OTHERS PRESENT: Dennis Kent, Aaron Deiter, Andrea Goodell, Greg Chandler, Steve Bulthuis and Stephanie Beyer

I. Introductions and Approval of Minutes—Following self-introductions, **a motion was made by Terry Hofmeyer and supported by Pankaj Rajadhyaksha to approve meeting minutes of the January 25, 2010 meeting as presented. Motion carried.**

A motion made by Terry Burns and supported by Gordon Schrottenboer to add an agenda item, Approval of Amended Air Quality Conformity Finding, to the MPO Transportation Issues as item E. Motion carried.

II. US 31/M-231 Final Environmental Impact Statement – Steve Redmond, Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT), announced that the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the US 31/M-231 project had been released for public review with a 30 day comment period. The MACC office is one of the locations where the FEIS may be reviewed. Public comments on the document must be submitted to MDOT by March 22, 2010. The portion of the US 31/M-231 that has a direct impact on the MACC area is the proposed widening of existing US 31 from Lakewood Blvd. – Quincy Street to six lanes. This particular improvement was identified as a “priority segment” by MDOT in 2006 and amended into the MACC’s Long Range Transportation Plan by the Policy Committee members in September 2006. Steve Redmond requested a letter of support for the project be submitted to MDOT from the MACC Policy Committee Board.

Dennis Kent, from MDOT, gave a brief history of this project explaining that it actually began in early 1990. There have been many suggestions, changes and extensive research performed in order to bring this project to this point for review.

Upon further discussion, a motion was made by Hannes Meyers, Jr., supported by Dave Vander Kooi, to authorize staff to submit a letter endorsing the improvements contained in the US31/M-231 Final Environmental Impact statement. Motion carried.

III. MPO Transportation Issues

A. Jobs for Main Street Projects Nominations – Steve Bulthuis reported that upon receiving a letter from MDOT urging the MACC to develop a list of road projects should Congress enact the “Jobs for Main Street” (JMS) legislation, the Technical Committee assembled a list of candidate road projects. In developing the list several factors were considered:

- Assume a level of funding similar to what was received under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. For the MACC that was \$2,401,344 for local projects
- Projects would have to be under contract (not just obligated) in 90 days (per the legislation passed in the US House)
- Illustrative list with projects that could receive JMS funding approved and ready by March 1

Based on these factors the following list was compiled:

Tier A

Name	Limits	Work	Length (miles)	JMS Funds	Agency
120 th AVENUE	James - Quincy	Resurface roadway	2.0	\$866,404	OCRC
WASHINGTON AVENUE	Franklin – Fairview	Resurface roadway	1.5	\$550,000	City of Zeeland
WAVERLY ROAD	8 TH – 24 th	Resurface roadway	1.0	\$375,000	Holland City
48th STREET	138 TH – 140 th	Resurface roadway	1.0	\$460,000	ACRC

Tier B

Name	Limits	Work	Length (miles)	JMS Funds	Agency
BYRON ROAD	64 TH – 48 TH	Resurface roadway	2.0	\$900,000	OCRC
CENNTENIAL AVENUE	Main - Washington	Reconstruct roadway	0.25	\$290,000	City of Zeeland
LINCOLN AVENUE	24 TH – US 31	Resurface roadway	1.1	\$550,000	Holland City
48th STREET	136 TH – 138 th	Resurface roadway	1.0	\$460,000	ACRC

Tier C

Name	Limits	Work	Length (miles)	JMS Funds	Agency
WAVERLY ROAD	48 TH - M-40	Resurface roadway	0.35	\$900,000	Holland City
64 th STREET	Airport Ct. – M-40	Resurface roadway	2.1	\$1,200,000	Holland City

Transit Projects

Name	Limits	Work	Length (miles)	JMS Funds	Agency
BUS REPLACEMENT	Macatawa Area Express Service Area	Purchase replacement buses		\$650,000	MAX
CONSTRUCT FACILITY	Macatawa Area Express Service Area	Construct new facility		\$800,000	MAX
REHAB/RENOVATE FACILITY	Macatawa Area Express Service Area	Rehabilitate/renovate facility		\$200,000	MAX

Upon further discussion, a motion to release the list for public comment and add these projects to the FY2008-2011 Transportation Improvement Program’s illustrative list to be modified based on available funding and moved administratively into the TIP with the TIP Development Committee’s approval was made by Gordon Schrottenboer and supported by Kurt Dykstra. Motion carried.

B. FY2008-2011 Transportation Improvement Program Amendments – Steve noted that the City of Holland was awarded \$500,000 in federal Safety Program funding for a ditch closure project on 40th Street. **A motion to amend the FY2008-2011 Transportation Improvement Program to add \$500,000 (\$400,000 federal) to the FY2010 program for improvements on 40th Street from Waverly to Industrial was made by Kurt Dykstra and supported by Amanda Price. Motion carried.**

C. FY2010 Unified Work Program Amendments – Steve reported that as we near the mid-point of the fiscal year some amendments to the current Unified Work Program (UWP) are needed to bring funding from FY2009, or was recently awarded, into the program. The following amendments to the FY2010 Unified Work Program requested are:

- Addition of \$13,893 in federal Section 5303 funds for transit-related activities
- Addition of \$51,284 in federal Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality funds for implementation of the Clean Air Action! Program
- Addition of \$29,726 in federal STP funds for traffic counting related activities
- Addition of Task 3.6 Western Ottawa Traffic Signal Optimization Study

A motion to amend the FY2010 Unified Work Program to include the amendments included in the staff memo on this topic dated February 15, 2010 as well as Task 3.6

Western Ottawa Traffic Signal Optimization Study was made by Gordon Schrottenboer and supported by Amanda Price. Motion carried.

D. MDOT/FHWA Comments – Steve Redmond reviewed a couple of items on behalf of Dal McBurrows. Within the next couple of weeks the annual pre-Unified Work Program (UWP) meeting will be scheduled where MDOT staff meet with MACC staff to review the MACC’s transportation planning process and look at funding issues for FY2011. This discussion will then be used to form the FY2011 UWP.

Steve talked about the importance of the CMAQ funding for local agencies and MDOT projects. The 2010 projects have been approved by the FHWA and obligated for this year. The FY2011 is in draft form and still being reviewed for eligibility. There will now be a call for projects with a letter being sent to local agencies for 2012, 2013 and 2014.

E. Amendment to Air Quality Conformity Finding – Steve Bulthuis distributed and reviewed a memo from Grand Valley Metropolitan Council staff describing a new air quality conformity analysis that was completed as the result of an amendment to their 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). Concurrence with the results by the MACC and WMSRDC is required by the US Environmental Protection Agency due to the linked air quality attainment areas (Kent and Ottawa Counties). Steve noted that there is no significant impact as a result of the proposed changes and the area remains well within the emission budgets.

A motion to approve the Air Quality Conformity Findings as represented in the GVMC memo dated February 17 was made by Terry Burns and supported by Sally Gruppen. Motion carried.

IV. Macatawa Watershed Project

A. Draft Farmland Preservation Map – Steve Bulthuis reviewed the development of a farmland protection priority map based on a GIS analysis conducted for the MACC by John Fraser, an independent GIS contractor. This project is a required task for the Section 319 watershed grant presented to the MACC by the MDEQ. The purpose of the task was to identify and prioritize locations where highly qualified farmland is likely to exist, based on each county’s Purchase of Development Rights Scoring Criteria.

The land area within the watershed was divided into quarter-quarter sections (approximately 40 acres each) to be evaluated and scored on the following criteria:

- Agricultural Soil Quality (Soil indicating prime farmland)
- Farmland Area (Size of parcel)
- Proximity to Other Farmland
- Type of Agricultural Production
- Water Accessibility
- Road Frontage
- Development Pressure

The final map will be presented to the Watershed Project's Agricultural Outreach Committee on February 23, 2010.

B. Agricultural Survey Update – Steve gave an update on the Agricultural Survey that was distributed during January and early February to approximately 547 landowners that own greater than 20 acres of agriculturally zoned land. The goal of the survey was to learn from area farmers about 1.) their views on water quality related issues, 2.) the use of best management practices (BMPs) on the farm and 3.) the level of participation in government funded conservation programs. During the survey the landowners were contacted at least five times. The mailing list was reduced to approximately 493 active addresses after we received returned mail from 54 vacant addresses. In order to achieve a 30% response rate, 148 surveys would need to be completed and returned. To date there has been 116 surveys received. Copies of the survey were distributed for review.

C. Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Proposals Update – Steve reminded members that the MACC submitted two proposals to the Environmental Protection Agency for funding under the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative in late January. The first proposal called for a watershed wide monitoring effort for nutrients, total suspended solids and E-coli. The second proposal called for widespread implementation of rain barrels and rain gardens in one critical urban subwatershed. Review of EPA's GLRI website indicates that the first project is one of 15 proposals being considered in that category, whereas the second project is one of 235 proposals being considered in its respective category. Announcements are expected to be made in late spring.

D. Geomorphology Study Request for Proposals – Steve gave a brief overview of this request for proposals to conduct a geomorphology study that is another watershed grant requirement. The Watershed Project is soliciting proposals for the study of three sub basins including Noordeloos Creek, South Branch and North Branch Macatawa River. The geomorphology study will examine channel depth and shape, channel erosion and channel evolution over time. Consultants will make recommendations for appropriate best management practices in each sub basin. Recommendations will be incorporated into the revised watershed management plan. Requests for proposals were sent to five different consultants and proposals are due on March 5, 2010.

V. 2010 Census Activities

A. 2010 Census Road show Program – Steve Bulthuis noted that there will be a media event utilizing a Census Bureau traveling exhibit to be held at Holland East K-7 School (E. 24th Street) on March 5th at 1:30 p.m. A 30 minute program including speakers from the educational, social services and local government sectors as well as Victor Orozco will highlight the importance and confidentiality of the 2010 Census. School children will be participating in the program. Members of the committee are encouraged to attend if possible.

B. Other Activities – Steve reported that the 2010 Census Complete Count Committee has been active in staffing the census display at local events. There will be an entry representing the 2010 Census in the St. Patrick’s Day parade as well a reminder that Census Day is April 1st. There will be a loss of \$10,000 per person, per decade, to our community for each person not counted.

VI. Administrative Issues

A. MACC Executive Committee Report - Rosemary Ervine reported that most of the items on the Executive Committee agenda were covered on the Policy Committee agenda including watershed and transportation issues.

Steve presented information on the upcoming MS4 Permit Compliance Assistance Workshop that will be co-sponsored by the MACC. The workshop will be presented by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources & Environment (MDNRE). The MDNRE requested Beth McDonald, Stormwater Specialist for the MACC, to highlight the operation and cooperation of our permittee program. The event will be held at the Haworth Inn and Conference Center.

B. Monthly Financial Report – Steve noted that one third of the fiscal year is completed and revenues are at 44% and expenditures are at 32%. This report does not include the January billing to MDOT. The budget is tracking as expected.

VII. Public Comments – There were no public comments.

VIII. Members’ Comments

A. Host Member: Amanda Price, Park Township Supervisor welcomed everyone to Park Township. Amanda reports that Park Township is in the budget process. They are working on updating an integrated master plan for the township which will include an updated parks component. A consultant team has been retained to help with this process.

B. Other Members – There were no other comments.

IX. Other Issues, Adjournment and Next Meeting

Next Meeting will be scheduled as follows:

**Monday, March 22, 2010
Zeeland Township Hall
6582 Byron Road
Zeeland, MI 49464**

Meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.