



**OAKLAND COUNTY FEDERAL AID FUNDING COMMITTEE**

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**MINUTES**

**Funding Committee Meeting - May 9, 2008  
Time: 9:15 AM  
West Bloomfield Township Public Library  
4600 Walnut Lake Road, West Bloomfield, MI**

**Present**

**Affiliation**

David Evancoe	RCOC
Dennis Kolar	RCOC
Tom Blust	RCOC
Tom Noechel	RCOC
Ken Hudak	RCOC
Harry Drinkwine	City of Clawson
Richard Haberman	City of Clawson
Tom Biasell	City of Farmington Hills
Kevin McCarthy	City of Farmington Hills
Paul Shumejko	City of Farmington Hills
Charles Hamilton	City of Hazel Park
Jim Schafer	City of Madison Heights
Rob Hayes	City of Novi
Kevin Yee	City of Oak Park
Allan Schneck	City of Pontiac
Paul Davis	City of Rochester Hills
Elden Danielson	City of Royal Oak
Bob Northrup	City of Southfield
Bill Huotari	City of Troy
Arthur Shufflebarger	Village of Milford
Robert Koski	Addison Township
Tom Zoner	Commerce Township
Don Green	Milford Township
David Flaisher	West Bloomfield Township
Pamela Boyd	MDOT
Gonzalo Puente	MDOT
Charlotte Burckhardt	Oakland County Planning
Christopher Mann	SEMCOG
Andy Thorner	SMART
Jennifer Chehab	AEW
Beata Lamparski	HRC
Kevin Maillard	OHM
Rob Lavoie	Nowak & Fraus
Julie LeBlanc	4 Towns Citizen Action Team
Lorna McEwen	4 Towns Citizen Action Team

## **I. INTRODUCTION & WELCOME**

Chairperson Mr. David Evancoe called the meeting to order at 9:20 AM. He welcomed the group and introduced himself as the new Chairperson for the FAC and stated that he looks forward to working with the group. Mr. Evancoe also thanked Mr. David Flaisher, West Bloomfield Township Supervisor, for hosting the meeting at the West Bloomfield Public Library. He then asked everyone in attendance to introduce himself or herself.

## **II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 8, 2008**

Mr. Evancoe referred the committee to the minutes included in the agenda packet and asked if anyone had any additions, changes or deletions. No changes were requested.

**Motion** by Mr. Zoner, supported by Mr. Northrup, to approve the minutes of the February 8, 2008 Federal Aid Funding Committee meeting. **Motion Carried**

## **III. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Evancoe asked if anyone would like to make a public comment or ask a question related to funding.

Julie LeBlanc of the 4 Towns Citizen Action Team took the opportunity to speak about revising the current funding system so that it also includes more roadway amenities – such as walking lanes and bicycle paths. Ms. LeBlanc believes that the public would be more open to approving additional funds for transportation if the aforementioned amenities were given more consideration.

No other attendees requested to make a comment and Mr. Evancoe closed the public comment portion of the meeting.

## **IV. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Mr. Evancoe reported to the committee that Mr. Brent Bair, RCOC Managing Director, has been appointed as a member on the Highways, Roads and Bridges Sub-Committee of the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC). The CAC is preparing a recommendation to the Michigan Transportation Funding Task Force (TF2). This group, appointed by the governor, is working to define the transportation needs of Michigan. The next TF2 meeting will be held May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2008 at Schoolcraft College in Livonia.

Mr. Evancoe then reported to the committee that Mr. Michael Culpepper has retired and there is now a vacancy in the membership. Mr. Culpepper was serving as the alternate voting member for Small Communities less than 20,000 population. Mr. Tom Biasell stated that the appointment should be made by the Small Communities when they are all present during the Fall meeting with the entire Task Force. The issue was tabled until October 2008.

Mr. Evancoe then introduced Mr. Tom Blust, RCOC Director of Engineering, who spoke about the benefits of asset management and preventative maintenance in terms of roadway preservation. Mr. Blust discussed new regulations which allow the committee to set aside STP funds to be used for preventive maintenance.

Mr. Blust requested that the committee review the two handouts he provided and recommended that a subcommittee be formed to establish guidelines that would fund preventative maintenance out of reallocated STP funds, if the committee would decide as a whole to do so. Comments, suggestions or questions should be directed to Mr. Blust.

**Motion** by Mr. Schafer, supported by Mr. Zoner, to establish a sub-committee from the Funding Committee membership to review the draft and provide a recommendation of funding

criteria and whether the Task Force should consider the proposal as a set-aside. **Motion Carried**

V. **State and Federal Funding Update, Project Tracking, and Upcoming Deadlines**

Mr. Chris Mann reported that SEMCOG has completed the Spring TIP amendment process and the amendments were approved by the SEMCOG Executive Board. The TIP is now moving to MDOT for approval. The next deadline for Fall amendments is September 2008.

Mr. Mann also reported that there were changes in targets since meeting in February. For FY 2008, available funds for Urban STPU declined 4% to \$16.5 million while Rural decreased 5%. The Category C program declined 35% to \$1.9 million on the Stateside, while Federal contributions decreased 11% to \$4.2 million.

For FY2009, SEMCOG is predicting a STPU target of \$17.3 million for Oakland County. Category C funding at the Federal level is expected to show a nationwide deficit of \$3.2 billion resulting in a total of \$16 billion in obligation authority.

SEMCOG is not requiring any re-programming as a result of these cuts, but Mr. Mann emphasized that the communities need to obligate their projects as quickly as possible because the money could run out sooner than the end of the fiscal year. This will also require strategic monitoring of project status.

Mr. Mann also emphasized that High Priority Program (HPP) projects should be moved forward as soon as possible.

Mr. Mann reported the following in regards to CMAQ and Safety Projects.

CMAQ PROJECTS

- FY 2009 projects are still in the process of being approved.
- FY2010 call for projects will begin this summer.

SAFETY PROJECTS

- FY 2009 Safety projects are approved.

Ms. Pamela Boyd, MDOT, reminded the committee that FY 2009 will be the last official year for CMAQ funding because it is part of the current federal transportation legislation that is set to expire. In order for the program to continue it will have to be part of the new legislation.

Ms. Boyd also explained that CMAQ funds may be less in the future because EPA has lowered the air quality standard. The result is that more counties nationwide will be in non-attainment and will be eligible for CMAQ funds from the same fund source. Mr. Gonzalo Puente added that there has been a policy change and that there is no longer a cap on the CMAQ grant amount.

Regarding the Local Jobs Today Program, Ms Boyd explained that a bill was passed and signed that extends the let dates until the end of FY2008. No *new* projects can be submitted during this extension.

**XI. Confirm FY2008 STPU Obligations**

Mr. Evancoe directed the committee's attention to Attachment B and asked each community to provide a brief status report and update for their projects.

<b>ROAD NAME</b>	<b>LIMITS</b>	<b>PROJECT TYPE</b>	<b>COMMUNITY</b>	<b>COMMENTS</b>
14 MILE RD (Adv. Con. 2010)	DRAKE TO FARMINGTON	RRR	FARMINGTON HILLS	LET, CONSTRUCTION BEGIN END OF MAY08
FARMINGTON RD (Adv. Con.2011)	13 MILE TO GLENMUER	RRR	FARMINGTON HILLS	LET, CONSTRUCTION BEGIN END OF MAY08
HALSTED (Conv.)	GRAND RIVER TO 11 MILE	RRR	FARMINGTON HILLS	CONVERSION COMPLETE
9 MILE RD (conv.)	TUCK TO MIDDLEBELT	RRR	FARMINGTON HILLS	CONVERSION COMPLETE
14 MILE RD (Adv. Con. 2010)	FARMINGTON TO ORCHARD LAKE	RRR	FARMINGTON HILLS	LET, CONSTRUCTION BEGIN END OF MAY08
9 MILE RD	E. OF COOLIDGE TO PINECREST	RRR	OAKPARK	JULY 2008 CONSTRUCTION
AUBURN AVE (Conv.)	WEST WOODWARD TO E. WOODWARD	RRR	PONTIAC	CONSTRUCTED
SOUTH BLVD (Conv.)	FRANKLIN TO BAGLEY ROAD	RRR	PONTIAC	CONSTRUCTED
BALDWIN AVE (Conv.)	CESAR CHAVAZ TO MONTCALM RD.	4R	PONTIAC	UNDER CONSTRUCTION
ORCHARD LAKE (Conv.)	VOORHEIS TO WIDE TRACK DRIVE	ROW	PONTIAC	AWAITING CONVERSION
ROCHESTER ROAD (Conv.)	GUNN TO PREDMORE	REPAIR & RESURFACE	RCOC	CONVERSION COMPLETE
PAVEMENT MANAGEMENT	COUNTYWIDE	UNIFORM PAVEMENT RANKING	RCOC	CONVERSION COMPLETE
HAMLIN ROAD	CROOKS TO LIVERNOIS	WIDEN 2 TO 4 LANE BLVD	ROCHESTER HILLS	ROW AQUITION PHASE
HAMLIN ROAD (Conv.)	CROOKS TO LIVERNOIS	WIDEN 2 TO 4 LANE BLVD	ROCHESTER HILLS	ROW AQUITION PHASE
13 MILE RD (Conv.)	E. OF SOUTHFIELD TO GREENFIELD	RRR	SOUTHFIELD	UNDER CONSTRUCTION

Mr. Paul Davis of the City of Rochester Hills advised the committee that the Hamlin Road project is in the ROW acquisition phase. Chairperson Evancoe referred to MDOT and SEMCOG to determine if attempting to obligate this job late in the FY will cause any problems. Ms. Boyd

stated that she does not see any references to the funds running out. Mr. Mann was asked what would happen if the project did not get obligated. He responded that with appropriate notice, the money could be obligated to other projects.

Mr. Davis asked Mr. Mann about the risk of monies being set aside for the project not being there late in the year. Mr. Mann responded that there is one pot of money for that obligation authority statewide. Project cost overruns, low estimates, and other issues lead to the risk of the exhaustion of funds before the end of the fiscal year. Mr. Mann added that in this circumstance TIP changes can be made administratively, and will not have to go through the amendment process.

As a solution if the Hamlin Road cannot get obligated, Mr. Bill Houtari said he could be flexible and move Troy's 2009 Rochester Road project to 2010 if there was a slot available.

Committee members indicated they were still uncomfortable with the status of the Hamlin Road project. In response, Mr. Evancoe recommended that Mr. Davis provide RCOC continual updates. If it got to the point where the job could not be obligated, the committee would be notified and a special meeting would be convened this summer.

**VII. UPDATE FY2009-2012 APPROVED PROJECTS**

Mr. Evancoe asked the Committee to review the 2009 through 2012 projects included in Attachment B. Several changes were announced, and annotated on the STPU table which follows.

**STPU Projects**

<u>PROJECT</u>	<u>LIMITS</u>	<u>COMMUNITY</u>	<u>CURRENT YEAR</u>	<u>MOVED TO</u>
MLK – ADVANCE CONSTRUCT	ELM TO M-59	PONTIAC	2010	2008
STEPHENSON HWY. ADV CONST.	14 MILE TO I-75	TROY	2010	2008
WALTON BLVD – ADV. CONST.	CLINTONVILLE TO PONTIAC CITY LIMITS	RCOC	2011	2008
MAIN ST. – ADVANCE CONSTRUCT	LINCOLN TO MAPLE RD	CLAWSON	2011	2008

**TEDF 'C' Projects**

For detailed listing on Cat C projects please see the attached spreadsheet.

**VIII. REQUEST ADDITIONAL OBLIGATION AUTHORITY**

Mr. Chris Mann suggested that there is not any additional obligation authority in the short term.

**IX. SCHEDULE ANNUAL TASK FORCE MEETING**

Mr. Evancoe informed the committee that the next Task Force meeting will be on October 10 2008. Mr. Biasell volunteered to host the meeting in Farmington Hills.

**X. ADJOURN**

Mr. Evancoe thanked everyone for attending and adjourned the meeting at 11:25 AM.

KH