



Interurban Transit Partnership

Planning & Technology Committee Members

Mayor Rosalynn Bliss

Jack Hoffman

Robert Postema

Terry Schweitzer (Chair)

Paul Troost

Citizen Members:

Ryan Anderson

Dave Bulkowski

PLANNING & TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, January 10, 2022 – 8:30 a.m.

Rapid Central Station Conference Room (250 Grandville Avenue, SW) | Virtual Meeting

AGENDA

	<u>PRESENTER</u>	<u>ACTION</u>
1. PUBLIC COMMENT		
2. MINUTES REVIEW – November 15, 2021	Terry Schweitzer	Review
3. DISCUSSION		
a. TMP Goals & Objectives (prep for the Board Retreat)	Nick Monoyios	
b. Laker Line Expanded Scope Update	Nick Monoyios	
c. TDM Study Update	Nick Monoyios	
d. Division United – Identifying Action Items	Nick Monoyios	
e. Preview of Planning & Technology Items	Applicable Staff	
• IT		
4. ADJOURNMENT		

Next meeting: March 14, 2022



Future Planning & Technology Committee Members

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PLANNING & TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Monday, November 15, 2021, – 8:30 a.m.

Rapid Central Station Conference Room (250 Grandville Avenue, SW) | Virtual Meeting

ATTENDANCE:

Committee Members Present:

Mayor Bliss, Terry Schweitzer, Paul Troost, Dave Bulkowski

Committee Members Absent:

Jack Hoffman, Robert Postema, Ryan Anderson

Staff Attendees:

Bill Kirk, Max Dillivan, Deb Prato, Nancy Groendal, Kris Heald, Jason Prescott, Kevin Wisselink, Steve Schipper, Steve Luther, Mike Wieringa, Nick Monoyios, Linda Medina, Andy Prokopy

Other Attendees:

Mr. Schweitzer called the meeting to order at 8:34 a.m.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT

No Public Comment were offered

2. MINUTES – September 13, 2021

Minutes were submitted and approved as written

3. Information

a. Recap of the October 13, 2021, Planning and Technology Workshop

Mr. Schweitzer stated that we have been talking a lot about the future of transit especially because of Covid and decreased ridership, it raised questions as far as getting back to what we had before. Mr. Hoffman has shared some of his thoughts from an earlier time. Also, Mayor Bliss shared about we need different modes of transport. Mr. Ryan Anderson approached Deb and offered his services. He works with Miller Knoll, and in terms of their planning for their industry, he works with Global Planning and insights and offered his services to work with us. We met with Ms. Prato, Mr. Schipper, Mr. Monoyios, our conclusion at the end of the discussion gave Mr. Anderson a better perspective of what the agency is all about right now. Mr. Bulkowski is talking about taking us out of the six cities. Steps are being taken in the Transit Master Plan.

b. Transit Master Plan (TMP) 101

Mr. Monoyios presented the executive summary of the outcome of the 2018 Master Plan. He wants to showcase this from eleven (11) years ago and re-familiarize ourselves with this and we look forward to this process in the spring of 2022. Looking at the needs of how we are going to grow. At a very high level, we have had a lot of public outreach and community participation. There were 3 scenarios that came out of this. Top five (5) priorities were Expand Service Hours, more frequent service, more choices like BRT and Streetcars, extend service to growth areas, and improve service in underserved areas. New services, Modern Streetcar, Express Bus. Cost was too high. How should this be paid for?? Increased gas tax revenue, additional contracted services, increased millage, increased fares.

Mr. Bulkowski inquired about Kent County Needs Assessment by the Metro Council. Mr. Monoyios said that we did look at that and it is rolled into the plan.

Mayor Bliss really appreciates all this background. The world is so different. Technology is coming so fast. The pandemic created different ways people work and commute to work. She is looking forward to more conversation with the Board on this and talking through more options. Ie: On-Demand.

Ms. Prato stated that we have been talking about transportation network. How do we move through so people can get to the next place so that they can make a connection? It's good to look back on the history to see what the plan was. What did we execute? What didn't we execute, and why?? What are the community-based outcomes? When we fail, we need to be more strategic in terms of our messaging. We are excited to move forward and how do we raise the trajectory.

Mr. Troost stated when we talk about expansion, we should think region-wide instead of county wide. West side is feeling underserved.

Mr. Schweitzer asked how do we set up the Master Transit Plan? We had parallel studies that were taken. We need to have a more unified approach.

Ms. Prato said when we met for the planning workshop, Mr. Anderson said the most interesting statements, "if you were paying me, what would you want me to do?" We need the right people, right strategies, the right big thinkers and where would we go? We need to be very deliberate, how we engage, and how we reach the broadest people.

Mr. Monoyios says the sequence is very important. Bring transit to where the growth is happening. Timing of all of this is ideal.

Mr. Schweitzer as we talk about this, we're looking at a consequence of the COA looking at the On Demand service in the Northwest and Southeast part of the metro area. Arguably West Michigan Express is another outgrowth. Wheels of work program that's another opportunity to partner with.

c. Planning & Technology Committee Timeline

Mr. Monoyios wanted you to know that the last item in the packet is about all the committee meeting and technology items that will be happening in the spring and fall. Ie; APTA, etc.

Mayor Bliss inquired about attending any conferences. Please express your interest as soon as you know, and we will get that booked.

d. Rail-Volution Participant Experience Overview

Mr. Schweitzer attended the virtual Rail-Volution. They were a driving force for the millage. They shared their experiences on what could happen. Took part in the TOD study involving The Rapid. The recommendations were equitable approaches to the redevelopment along the corridor. The Division United study to not displace any businesses or residences. The recovery of ridership. Some are doing very well. Denver had a tremendous amount of growth. We're recovering comparable to other agencies.

Mr. Prato wanted to elaborate on what she loves about her new community. Don't let a good idea die. There is enough people, resources, and consistencies. If you have a good idea, we will get it to the right people and make it happen!

e. COA – High-Level Ridership Update

Ms. Prato stated that everyone asks about ridership. It's not about ridership, it's about the value. The ridership to Ms. Prato is not so much about recovering from the pandemic, its more about the COA yield the results we wanted in terms of productivity and efficiency of the assets we have.

Mr. Dillivan provided some of the ridership trends. Holding strong around 50%. GRPS is 71% Laker Line ridership around 60%. We are averaging over 100 students per day.

4. AJOURNMENT

This meeting was adjourned at 9:27 a.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 10, 2022

Respectfully submitted,



Kris Heald, Board Secretary

Date: January 6, 2021
To: Planning & Technology Committee
From: Nicholas Monoyios
Subject: TRANSIT MASTER PLAN (TMP) GOALS & OBJECTIVES – PREPERATION FOR BOARD RETREAT

DISCUSSION

On January 22, 2022, the ITP Board will hold a Board retreat and discuss goals and objectives to incorporate within the scope of work for the TMP. The purpose of this Committee discussion is to develop a framework for the Board retreat to identify desired elements to include in the TMP scope of work.

Attached to this item to guide this discussion include:

- TMP preparation timeline
- Stakeholder roles & responsibilities diagram
- Scope of work outline exercise (2010 versus now)

TRANSIT MASTER PLAN – SCOPE OF WORK OUTLINE

2010	2021
INTRODUCTION	
10-month process	
20-year vision	
Fixed Route & Paratransit	
Planning, Policy, Financial, and Operational Framework	
Near Term (0-4 years)	
Mid-Term (4-10 years)	
Long Term (10-20 years)	
PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT	
Mobile Metro 2020 Task Force	
Technical Advisory Committee	
8-10 public workshops	
Presentations to various jurisdictions	
2-4 Telephone surveys (400 sample size)	
Online survey	
RECOMMENDED TASKS/DELIVERABLES	
Public Outreach/Involvement Strategy	
Project Management Plan & Schedule	
Define Regional Transit Context	
Transit peer Review & Interviews	
Review & Update COA	
Review ITP's Fiscal Setting & Recommend Funding Strategies for Expanded Services	
Develop Planning Guidelines, Policies, and Performance Measures	
Transit Service Assessment (Short, Mid, and Long-Term)	
Transit Master Plan	

Transit Master Plan Timeline

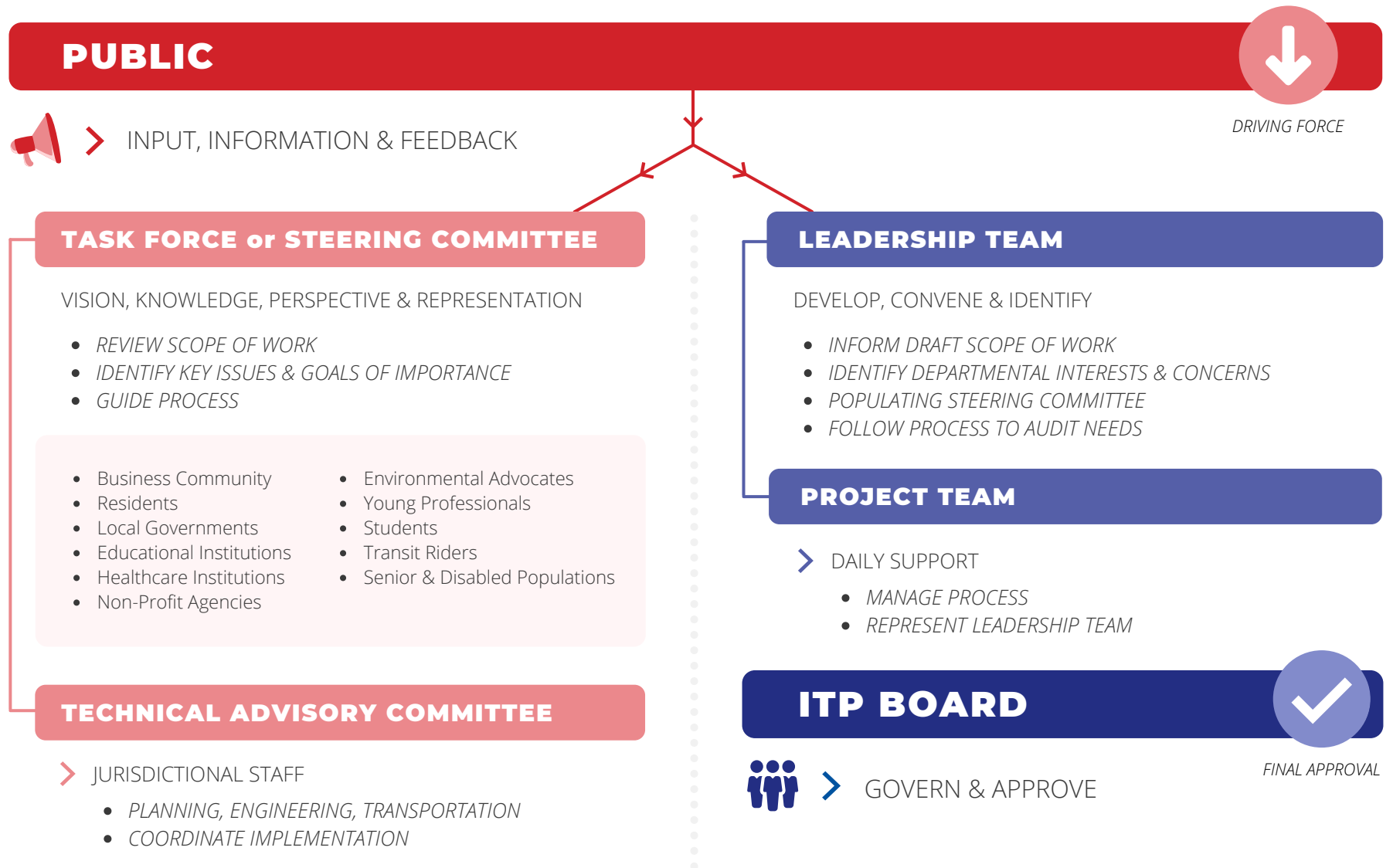
Task	Responsible Party	Due Date	Note
Rapid Leadership Meeting #1	Project Team with Leadership Team	10/19/2021	Overview of TMP, review of last TMP, beginning of brainstorming around TMP
Rapid Leadership Meeting #2	Project Team with Leadership Team	11/2/2021	Continue brainstorming discussion of TMP
Rapid Leadership Meeting (optional)	Project Team with Leadership Team	11/16/2021	Hold meeting if additional discussion is needed
Rapid Leadership Meeting #3	Project Team with Leadership Team	12/7/2021	Present results of TMP brainstorming, discuss the Board retreat and assign tasks
Preperation complete for Board Retreat	Project Team with Leadership Team	12/31/2021	Agenda finalized, materials created, facilitator secured - tasks created and assigned during Leadership Meetings
Board Retreat TMP Discussion	Rapid Board and Leadership Team	Jan-22	Educate the Board about TMPs, get their input into the TMP process and get input on what interests should be represented on the Steering Committee
Steering Committee Members Identified	Project Team with Leadership Team	2/7/2022	Discuss at a Leadership Team meeting
Steering Committee List sent to Board	Project Team	2/15/2022	
Invitations sent to Steering Committee Invitees	Project Team	3/1/2022	
Draft RFP for TMP finalized, sent to Leadership Team	Project Team	3/15/2022	
Meeting with Leadership Team to Discuss RFP	Project Team with Leadership Team	3/29/2022	
Steeting Committee Meeting #1	Steering Committee and Project Team	4/12/2022	Overview of TMP and Steering Committee responsibilities; draft RFP presented
Steering Committee Meeting #2	Steering Committee and Project Team	5/10/2022	Discuss and finalize Committee input into the RFP; select Committee Chair, Vice Chair and Review Team appointees
Final Draft of RFP created and sent to Leadership Team and Steering Committee for review	Project Team	5/17/2022	
Final date to make comments on RFP	Leadership Team and Steering Comm.	5/31/2022	
RFP Released	Procurement	6/7/2022	
RFP Due Date	Procurement	7/8/2022	
RFP Selected	RFP Review Team	8/15/2022	RFP Review team meets to discuss, score and select winning proposal
RFP Awarded	Rapid Board	8/24/2022	Rapid Board approves firm selection

TMP Financial Resources

Fund	Amount	Availability
2021 Planning Funds	\$65,000	Sep-21
2022 Planning Funds	\$315,000	Sep-22
2022 Community Outreach Funds*	\$180,000	Sep-22
2023 GVMC Funds	\$285,000	Oct-22
Total Available Funds	\$845,000	

*Community Outreach Funds will not directly fund the TMP, but are intended to largely be used for activities that support the TMP

TMP PROCESS | ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES



Date: January 6, 2021
To: Planning & Technology Committee
From: Nicholas Monoyios
Subject: LAKER LINE EXPANDED SCOPE UPDATE

BACKGROUND

Work will begin on the Laker Line expanded scope in January 2022, and all construction activities will conclude by the end of the 2022 construction season. The list of expanded scope elements and their respective timelines are outlined below.

TIMELINE

Table 1 – Laker Line Expanded Scope Elements & Timeline

LAKER LINE – EXPANDED SCOPE ELEMENTS		TIMELINE
1	Vehicle Safety & Operational Enhancements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procurements in February 2022 • Installation Spring 2022
2	Additional CNG Compressor at fueling station	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procurements in February 2022 • Installation between Spring/Summer 2022
3	Park & Ride Lot at Cummings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NEPA & A/E – Spring 2022 • Construction – Summer/Fall 2022
4	One (1) Additional BRT Vehicle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procurement in February 2022 • Production/Delivery at the earliest in late 2022 (TBD)
5	Wireless Point-to-Point or Fiber Configuration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engineering in Spring 2022 • Installation in Summer 2022
6	Landscaping at Standale Trail	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engineering in Spring 2022 • Construction in Summer/Fall 2022

Date: January 6, 2021
To: Planning & Technology Committee
From: Nicholas Monoyios
Subject: TRANSPORTATION DEMAND MANAGEMENT (TDM) STUDY UPDATE

BACKGROUND

In September 2021, ITP staff presented the background for the Grand Valley Metro Council (GVMC) Transportation Demand Management (TDM) study and identified an array of regional general TDM goals and strategies.

An RFP was released, and a consultant team was selected in December 2022. The proposed schedule will begin in February 2022 and conclude in September 2023. The primary data and public inputs, TDM needs assessments, and overall strategy development for the TDM study will be timely to effectively inform the initial data stages of the Transit Master Plan process slated to begin in September 2022.

TDM SCOPE & PROCESS

The proposed scope includes a range of tasks. These include:

1. Stakeholder and Public Outreach and Engagement (Feb 2022 – Sep 2023)
2. Regional TDM Needs Assessment and Program Evaluation (Mar 2022 – Nov 2022)
3. Regional TDM Strategies Development and Implementation Action Plan (Sep 2022 – Apr 2023)
4. Final Report (Jun 2023 – Sep 2023)

The ITP Committees and Board will be updated throughout the process and engaged with any related policy and/or service related discussion necessary.

TDM STRATEGIES

As a reminder from our September 2021 meeting, below are a set of traditional tools in the TDM toolbox. The most appropriate tools for our region will be identified in the study process, but a broad range of approaches include:

- Transportation Management Associations (TMAs) – leverage private funding to increase alternative mode usage
- Improving pedestrian-oriented design for development patterns
- Remove parking subsidies – users pay direct costs
- Congestion pricing for parking

- Improve public transportation options
- Increase subsidies for transit costs for employees or residents
- Design bicycle friendly environments
- Intelligent transportation system (ITS) improvements
- Flex-time work schedules
- Active and responsive traffic management tools
- Road space allocation alternatives
- Roadway usage fees – charging drivers when, where, and how much they drive
- High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes

Date: January 6, 2022
To: Planning & Technology Committee
From: Nicholas Monoyios
Subject: DIVISION UNITED – IDENTIFYING ACTION ITEMS

BACKGROUND

The Division United study was completed in the Summer 2021, and each element of the plan has been categorized by stakeholders required and proposed timeline (short = 1-5 years, mid = 5-10 years, and long term = <10 years). While most of these elements required collaborative stakeholder engagements, ITP intends on leading the activities for:

- Coordinating the identified stakeholders and acting as a liaison for promoting implementation
- Monitor and report progress and outcomes of implementation
- Continuing the Community Connector program
- Improved multi-lingual outreach and travel training for communities along the corridor
- Continued integration of equity/diversity as an element of the CAC purview
- Increased cleaning and maintenance of Silver Line stations
- Mobility hub planning or investments at Silver Line stations
- Public art programming at Silver Line stations
- Bus lane design/traffic studies or anything else that could be part our upcoming TDM strategy

NEXT STEPS

The project team will continue to collaborate on refining the implementation timeline and determine the most effective sequencing to ensure the optimum outcomes.

In addition to coordinating the above activities, ITP staff will develop a capital plan to capture the sufficient funding and processes required to implement the capital improvements associated with the transit related goals.

ITP will also participate in the exploration of joint development opportunities required to satisfy Division United goals, of which will also be included in the upcoming Transit Master Plan (TMP) as well.

The ITP Committees and Board will be updated throughout the process and engaged with any related policy and/or service-related discussion necessary.