

**Complete Streets Advisory Council  
Organizational Meeting  
Meeting Minutes- FINAL**

*November 17, 2011  
2:00 – 5:00 p.m.  
Capitol Commons Building*

**Present:**

Andrea Brown, Steve DeBrabander, Ken Fletcher, Carolyn Grawi (listening by phone), Gary Heidel, Rochelle Hurst, Karen Kafantaris, Linda Miller-Atkinson (represented by Frank Raha), Rory Neuner (represented by Sarah Panken), John Niemela, Megan Olds, Gary Piotrowicz, Barbara Schmid, Suzanne Schulz, and Kirk Steudle

**Not Present:**

Kelli Kavanaugh, Jim Magyar, Lt. Gary Megge, and Christopher White

**Welcome – Suzanne Schulz**

Chairwoman Suzanne Schulz welcomed everyone to the fourth Complete Streets Advisory Council (CSAC) meeting. She informed the group that there would be a public comment period at the beginning as well as at the end of the meeting. Those wishing to speak were asked to fill out a public comment card and return it to a staff member. Suzanne also stated that there was a conference line available for those who would like to listen to the proceedings. Public comments can be received by email at [MDOT-CompletestreetsAC@michigan.gov](mailto:MDOT-CompletestreetsAC@michigan.gov). She explained that there were some technical difficulties with the email address. Those issues have been addressed and the email is now up and running again.

Ms. Schulz introduced Carolyn L. Grawi, who was listening in on the conference line. She is now the representative for the Michigan Disability Network, replacing former representative, Jim Magyar. She then asked the council members and/or their representatives to introduce themselves. She reminded everyone that, although representatives are welcome, it was agreed that only actual council members are allowed to vote.

**Approval of Minutes**

The September 29, 2011, draft meeting minutes were approved unanimously.

**Correspondence**

Ms. Schulz introduced Andrea Brown who presented two pieces of correspondence that had been submitted to the CSAC. One was from Mr. John Lindenmayer of the Michigan Complete Streets Coalition. He shared his observations about available information regarding Michigan's number of complete street policies being more in comparison to California.

The second correspondence received was a four page document submitted by Rory Neuner, representing Transportation for America, that contained policy recommendations for the CSAC to consider. The group suggested the possibility of discussing this document at a future meeting. It was reiterated that the CSAC is only presenting recommendations and not policies to the State Transportation Committee (STC).

## **Public Comment**

None at this time.

## **Presentations**

Director Kirk Steudle - Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) - Director Steudle made a presentation on Governor Snyder's Special Message on Infrastructure: Better Roads Drive Better Jobs.

### Summary:

He began with some brief information on Michigan's current transportation funding crisis. Proposals in the Governor's message are intended to help address the need for an additional \$1.4 billion in transportation investment that will help boost the Michigan economy. The proposals in the message included:

- Reforms to maximize the impact of current transportation investment – such as consolidating local transportation agencies, and encouraging best practices, accountability, and competitive bidding.
- Ideas intended to begin a dialog with the Legislature on how to raise \$1.4 billion in additional revenue for investment in transportation, for example by updating and increasing transportation user fees such as the registration fee
- Recommendations to focus new state investment where it will have the most impact for the economy, to provide a regional registration fee that will enable local governments to raise for local and regional priorities like transit and complete streets, to create a regional transit authority in Southeast Michigan that can improve regional transit in Michigan's most populated urban area, and to encourage global and international trade by constructing a new bridge at the border crossing in Detroit.
- Other recommendations on improving rural infrastructure, marine transportation, water and sewer systems, small dams, and broadband internet infrastructure.

## **Work Session**

The CSAC was divided into three groups to work on a vision statement for the council. The CSAC members reconvened to discuss the various vision statements from the groups. After much discussion, the following was voted on and approved as the vision statement for Complete Streets in Michigan:

### Complete Streets Advisory Council Vision

- A transportation network that is accessible, interconnected, and multi-modal and that safely and efficiently moves goods and people of all ages and abilities
- A process that empowers partnerships to plan, fund, design, construct, maintain and operate complete streets that respect context and community values
- Outcomes that will improve economic prosperity, equity, and environmental quality

## **Approve Final Report**

Ms. Kent discussed the progress of the final report and its proposed contents. After some discussion, a vote was taken and the preliminary report was approved.

### **Approve 2012 Meeting Schedule**

The schedule was voted on and approved.

### **Public Comment**

By way of a public comment card, Mr. Chapman shared his desire for a more collaborative approach to lane usage. He prefers a "green line" approach to establish priority lanes for cyclists. Stating he would rather be welcomed than tolerated where road rights are concerned.

### **Wrap up – Suzanne Schulz**

Ms. Schulz asked each member to review all materials and be ready for discussion at next meeting. There were no more items to discuss and the meeting was adjourned.

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled for January 25, 2012, from 2:00 – 5:00 p.m. at the Capitol Commons Building.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.