



## CITY COUNCIL REPORT

October 14, 2009

TO: The Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

FROM: John Szerlag, City Manager  
Mark F. Miller, Acting Assistant City Manager/Economic Development Services

SUBJECT: Update on Troy/Birmingham Transit Center

Council Member Mary Kerwin requested an update of the Troy/Birmingham Transit Center. Below is a summary of the most current activities on the project.

Wendel/Duchscherer Architects & Engineers submitted the 30% completion documents of the Transit Center in July of 2009.

Hubbel, Roth & Clark, Inc. (HRC) has taken over engineering and architecture design of the project. This process will bring the project from 30% design to site plan approval and eventually to bidding and construction. The Cities of Troy and Birmingham have interred into an interlocal government agreement to share in the costs of the HRC.

Carlisle/Wortman Associates, Inc. (CWA) are assisting HRC in the arena of landscape architecture and urban design.

HRC and CWA met with the Birmingham Planning Board and Troy Planning Commission at a joint meeting on September 26, 2009 to continue in the design of the project.

The City of Birmingham continues to work on negotiating purchase agreements from to land owners. The land is located on the Birmingham side and is needed for access to the proposed access drives and the tunnel.

City of Troy staff spearheaded a TIGER Discretionary Grant Application submittal for \$7 million.

The City of Birmingham is spearheading a state based EECBG Grant Application for LED lighting and other energy related components of the project.

HRC is getting near completion of the preliminary site plan application package. City Council will have the approval authority after a Planning Commission recommendation.

A funding update from Clark Hill, PLC is attached for your information.

Attachment

MFM/mr\AGENDA\2009\10.19.09 – Update on the Troy/Birmingham Transit Center

TO: Birmingham City Commission and the Troy City Council

FROM: Dan Beattie, Alan Canady, Chris Wagner

DATE: October 14, 2009

SUBJECT: Funding for Troy/Birmingham Transit Center

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This document serves to update the Cities on our efforts to secure federal funding for the Transit Center.

Based on our discussions with the Cities' Congressional Delegation and our ongoing analysis of the available federal funding opportunities for this project, we feel that the Transit Center is well-positioned to compete and obtain significant federal funding via 1) the federal FY 2010 appropriations process which is underway in both chambers of Congress; 2) the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG); 3) the Michigan Department of Transportation's application to the Federal Railroad Administration's High-Speed Intercity Passenger Rail Program; 4) the Secretary of Transportation's \$1.5 billion discretionary grant program; and 5) the five-year federal transportation reauthorization bill (commonly referred to as SAFETEA-LU).

### **Federal Fiscal Year 2010 Appropriations**

- Senators Levin and Stabenow requested \$5 million for the Transit Center and Rep. Peters requested \$2 million.
- Rep. Peters was successful in obtaining \$1.3 million in the House bill.
- Clark Hill has been in constant contact with all three offices, urging them to increase or at least maintain the \$1.3 million appropriation in the eventual FY 2010 Transportation Conference Report.
- Rep. Peters' office has reached out to each of the Senators' offices to express the importance of this project to him personally.
- *Timeline for decision:* **This bill could move as soon as the end of this week. On the other hand, there has been talk of Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid holding this bill back to use as a potential vehicle for an omnibus appropriations act that would fund the entire federal government in FY10. Congress has already extended FY09 funding through October 31 with the passage of a continuing resolution which prevented the federal government from shutting down. However, Congress will need to pass the remaining bills, omnibus funding measure, or another continuing resolution to fund the government beyond October 31.**

**Energy Efficiency and Conservation Grant Program (EECBG)**

- \$2.744 billion in formula grants to large cities, counties and state governments to increase energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions – City of Troy awarded \$921,100; Oakland County awarded \$4,879,700; State of Michigan awarded \$19.6 million / Local governments have to prioritize projects / Oakland County is using all of its allocation on county projects
- Michigan is currently soliciting applications for \$17.44 million in competitive multi-purpose and LED EECBG grants; the Cities intend on applying for these grants prior to the October 22 deadline.
- *Timeline for decision: **October 22 deadline; Awards expected between Dec. 2009 – Dec. 2010***

**MDOT's Application to FRA High-Speed Intercity Passenger Rail Program**

- MDOT has applied for \$8,485,212 for the Transit Center, which would require a 10 percent local match based on the final award.
- The federal stimulus bill made available \$8 billion in funding for this program.
- *Timeline for decision: **Due to the overwhelming response to the solicitation, awards are not expected until the December – February timeframe.***

**Secretary LaHood's TIGER Discretionary Grant Program**

- \$1.5 billion to be awarded by Secretary of Transportation to states, local governments and transit agencies for capital investments in surface transportation infrastructure with a primary focus on long-term transportation solutions, as well as job creation and economic stimulus.
- Troy/Birmingham applied for \$7 million in TIGER funds
- The Cities' Congressional Delegation are supporting this request; Rep. Peters hand delivered a support note for our application to Secretary LaHood earlier this week.
- *Timeline for decision: **Awards must be announced on or before February 17, 2010.***

**Federal Transportation Reauthorization**

- Rep. Peters has requested \$7 million for the Transit Center; the Senate Committee responsible for writing its version of the bill has not yet asked Senators Levin or Stabenow for a list of projects to be considered.
- Projects included in the final bill are guaranteed funding through the Department of Transportation.
- This bill has fallen victim to a packed congressional calendar with major issues such as health care reform, the economy, and global warming taking precedence. House Transportation & Infrastructure Chairman Oberstar is pushing for action this year, while the Senate and White House continue to support an 18-month extension instead of a costly 6-year \$500 billion bill.
- *Timeline for decision: **To be determined***

We are continuing to work with state and federal government to steer funding to the Transit Center, both from any available stimulus dollars or annual appropriated funds. Outreach to elected leaders, as well as legislative and executive branch staff, have focused on educating them about the purpose and status of the project and identifying funding solutions that would include

timely state support to meet the Transit Center's tight construction time frame. Meetings held in Washington D.C. and back in the State earlier this year have solidified congressional support for the Transit Center. Clark Hill is also working with city officials and the chambers to come up with innovative solutions to gap financing, including a recently initiated effort to identify third party support and potential matching funds from foundations across the State. Clark Hill will continue to engage your Members of Congress and the Administration on this project as critical decisions are made with regard to the Cities' pending applications.