

TWIN CITIES AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY
TECHNICAL ADVISORY and POLICY COMMITTEES MEETING
Monday, March 18, 2024
9:30 am

In Person: Kinexus (Michigan Works!) **Anchor Room A**
499 W Main St, Benton Harbor, MI 49022

Web: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/9489277047?pwd=RzkydlFacGFHNkVWeURpak1kSEcxUT09>

Audio: Call in Number: 1 (312) 626-6799
Meeting ID: 948 927 7047
Passcode: 000619

AGENDA

1. Call to Order and Roll Call
2. Changes to the Agenda
3. Public Comment
4. Approval of January 26, 2024 Meeting Minutes (*Action*) Page 2
5. SWMPC Staff Report Page 6
6. Local Road Agency Updates
7. Transit Updates
8. Transit Amendments
9. MDOT Project Updates Page 16
10. MDOT Project Amendments (*Action*) Page 21
11. Privilege of the Floor or Public Comment
12. Adjournment

Comments can be sent prior to the meeting to Brandon Kovnat at kovnatb@swmpc.org or calling (269) 925-1137 x 1524. For questions about accessibility or to request accommodations, please contact Kim Gallagher at (269) 925-1137 x 1518 or by email at gallagherk@swmpc.org

TWIN CITIES AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND POLICY COMMITTEE
 Tueaday, January 16, 2024 Meeting Attendance

TWINCATS MEMBER	MEMBERS	TAC	POL	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Benton Charter Township	Richard Royal	x	x	V											
Berrien Co. Board of Commissioners	Ray Bell		x	V											
Berrien Co. Community Dev. Dept.	(Vacant / Dan Fette)	x		A											
Berrien Co. Planning Commission	(Vacant		x	A											
Berrien Co. Road Dept.	(Vacant)		x	A											
Berrien Co. Road Dept.	Kevin Stack	x		P											
City of Benton Harbor	Ellis Mitchel		x	A											
City of Benton Harbor	Tim Drews	x	Alt	P											
City of Bridgman	Juan Ganum	Alt	x	V											
City of Bridgman	(Vacant)	x	Alt												
City of St. Joseph	John Hodgson		x	A											
City of St. Joseph	Tim Zebell (TAC V. Ch.)	x		V											
Cornerstone Alliance	Vacant	x	x												
Disability Network of SW Mich.	Cindy Gray	x		A											
Hagar Township	(Vacant)	x	x												
Lake Charter Township	(Vacant)	x	x												
Lincoln Charter Township	Dick Stauffer (Pol. Ch.)		x	P											
Lincoln Charter Township	Terrie Smith	x		V											
MDOT – Bureau of Trans. Planning	Jim Sturdevant	x	x	V											
MDOT – Bureau of Trans. Planning	Richard Bayus	Alt	Alt	A											
MDOT – Southwest Region	Josh Grab	x	x	V											
MDOT – Southwest Region	(Vacant)	Alt	Alt												
MDOT – Trans. Service Center	Jonathon Smith	x	x	V											
Royalton Township	Steve Tilly	x	x	V											
Sodus Township	David Chandler	x	x	A											
Southwest Mich. Regional Airport	Vince Desjardins	x	x	A											
St. Joseph Charter Township	Denise Cook		x	P											
St. Joseph Charter Township	Roger Seeley	x		P											
	Jonathan Fisk	Alt		P											
Twin Cities Area Trans. Authority	Rufas Adams	x	x	P											
Village of Grand Beach	(Vacant)	x	x												
Village of Shoreham	Mike Allard	x	x	V											
Village of Stevensville	Kacey Dominguez		x	V											
Village of Stevensville	Tim Drews	x	Alt	P											
Federal Highway Administration	Andrew Sibold	x	x	A											
Federal Transit Administration	Kathleen Russel	x	x	V											
MDOT - Modeling	Katie Beck	x		A											
MDOT - Passenger Division	Fred Featherly	x		V											
Northwestern Ind. Reg. Plan. Comm.	Scott Weber	x	x	P											
Southwest Michigan Planning Comm.	Kim Gallagher	x	x	P											
Southwest Michigan Planning Comm.	Brandon Kovnat			P											

Pol. Ch. - Policy Chair; TAC Ch. - TAC Chair; Alt – Alternate; IP – Present in person; V – Participating remotely; A – Absent; A blank spot means the position is vacant.

Others Present : Alan Smaka WHightma & Associates; Oliver Linsey , TCATA ;

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call**

Policy Committee Chair, Dick Stauffer, called the meeting to order at 9:30 am and Kim Gallagher conducted roll call.

2. **Changes to the Agenda**

None.

3. **Public Comment**

None.

4. **Approval of The November 20, 2023 Meeting Minutes**

(Draft meeting minutes can be found in the meeting packet page 2)

Motion to approve the minutes from the November 20, 2023, TwinCATS combined Policy and Technical Advisory Committee meeting. Made by Denise Cook and seconded by Roger Seeley. **Motion approved.**

5. **SWMPC Staff Report**

Kim Gallagher gave an overview of the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) development timeline, focusing on the project selection criteria and application process. The goal is to have the project selection criteria approved by the Technical Advisory Committee and Policy Committee in April 2024, release the application packet in June, review applications in Late fall, and approve the fiscally constrained project list in January 2025.

6. **Local Road Agency Updates**

Kevin Stack gave update on the Berrien County Road Department projects

- The Lincoln Ave project has been submitted for a March letting.
- The Empire Ave project is scheduled for letting in February or March.
- The Countywide Signal Project is in the approval process, currently undergoing SHPO review. The Signal Project will upgrade the computer systems for 13 signals in the county, primarily along the Napier and Pipestone Corridors.

Tim Drews gave updates on the City of Benton Harbor projects:

- The Pipestone road project has been bid, a pre-construction meeting was held, and its scheduled for construction in spring.
- The Pipestone and market signal is complete, but two weeks ago a car hit the new signal cabinet. It was fixed using the drivers' insurance.
- The Colfax project from Market to Main Street, has been submitted for a grade inspection, with a GI meeting scheduled for Friday (1/19/2024).
- The Empire and Colfax signal project was submitted for grade inspection but doesn't require a GI meeting; minor revisions are underway, and final estimates are being prepared.
- The Jefferson Street project using a State B grant is in preliminary design with the survey done.

Drews added details about the two state funded projects. The Paw Paw Ave. project is funded with Category F state funding, a very competitive grant aiming to enhance freight connections between local and state-owned corridors. Linking Paw Paw Ave. with the I-94 Business Loop contributed to the projects receiving the grant. The Jefferson Ave. project is using Category B funding, another competitive grant designated for cities or villages with a population under 10,000.

7. **Transit Updates and Amendments**

(The TCATA amemdnet request can be found in the meeting paket on page 7)

Oliver explained that TCATA had remaining FTA funds from FY 2022 which need to be added to a grant before it lapses. TCATA is requesting to use these funds for facility maintenance.

8. **CMAQ & CRP Funding Amendments**

(Proposed CMAQ & RTF proejct amendments can be found in in the meeting paket on page 8)

Kovnat explained that proposed amendments were suggested during the Berrien County CMAQ meeting and Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) subcommittee meeting, both held on December 14th.

Stauffer gave an update about the John beers non motorized path, which is a half mile path from. S Roosevelt to the Stevensville village limits, connecting into the village’s sidewalks. The project currently has \$400,000 in CMAQ funding and has been awarded another \$400,000 by State Rep. Joey Andrews from a State Special Grant. Which leave a local match of the \$23,000.

Drews gave an overview of the Lakeview Trail Project, which is sponsored by Whirlpool and the County. It will be a non motorized path along the west side of M-63 from Higman, Park Road to Monty Rd. On that road near the Whirlpool headquarters and will connect to the new tunnel in that vicinity. The path, passes by a manufactured home community and can be used for commuting purposes . While fundraising is ongoing, most funding has been secured, with the additional CRP funding being a significant.

Adams explained that the EV infrastructure in FY 2026 will be used to support TCATA’s new EV busses, and that TCATA will be using FY 2025 CMAQ funding to purchase two more EVs

Motion for the Technical Advisory Committee to recommend that the policy Committee approve the Local Road Agecny and Transit project amendments to the TwinCATS 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program. Made by Kevin Stack and seconded by Roger Seeley. **Motion approved.**

Motion for the Policy Committee to approve the recommendation from the Technical Advisory Committee. Made by Denise Cook and seconded by Tim Drews. **Motion approved.**

9. **MDOT Project Updates**

(see meeting packet page 9 for more details)

Gallagher explained that they included a new format for the MDOT updates, which will include current and future proejcts. The list is organized construction dates and includes information about proejcts which have already been obluigated, including proejcts currently under construction.

Kovnat added that the list excludes pavement markings and most other “areawide” projects. These proejcts are routine work, which are typically managed from the Lansing office, not by Jon Smith at the Coloma TSC.

Gallagher gave a presentation about the MI Drive website (<https://mdotjboss.state.mi.us/MiDrive/map>). She showed how you can find construction projects, as well current driving conditions. She added that only construction that lead to detours or traffic issues are included.

10. **MDOT Project Amendments**

(Explanations for the MDOT proejct amendment can be found in the meeting packet page 11)

There were no questions or comments about proposed amendments.

Motion for the Technical Advisory Committee to recommend that the policy Committee approve the MDOT project amendments to the TwinCATS 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program as contained in the meeting packet . Made by Roger Seeley and seconded by Kevin Stack. **Motion approved.**

Motion for the Policy Committee to approve the recommendation from the Technical Advisory Committee. Made by Tim Drews and seconded by Denise Cook. **Motion approved.**

11. **2024 Traffic Safety Performance Targets**

(The proposed safety targets can be found in the meeting packet on page 12)

Kovant gave a brief overview of the 2024 traffic safety performance targets (which are for the calendar year), explaining that the targets are forecasts for each performance measure based on existing trends. They are not aspirational goals but should be considered the “baseline scenario” to compare efforts against.

Kovnat added that you can get additional data from the State’s annual traffic safety report, which has statistics for each county. Another source of data is Michigantrafficcrashfacts.org. He is also able to pull any data or reports by request. These are great for identifying high crash locations and obtaining data for Safety grants.

Motion for the Technical Advisory Committee to recommend that the Policy Committee support the Statewide Traffic Safety Targets for 2024. Made by Roger Seely and seconded by Kevin Stack. **Motion approved.**

Motion for the Policy Committee to approve the recommendation from the Technical Advisory Committee. Made by Tim Drews and seconded by Denise Cook. **Motion approved.**

12. **Privilege of the Floor or Public Comment**

Stauffer complimented MDOT on the work at Exit 23. He also said that there was new development along Red Arrow in this area including a new Holiday Inn.

Gallagher complimented St. Joseph Township on plowing the new sidewalk on Napier Avenue.

13. **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:35 AM. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 20th, 2024 at 9:30 AM.

Minutes Compiled by Brandon Kovnat, SWMPC Transportation Planner.

TwinCATS 2023-226 Illustrative Project List

Approve June, 21, 2022

City or Township	Project Name	Project Limits	Project Description
St. Joseph Township	Cleveland Avenue Resurfacing	Hilltop Ave. to Glenlord Rd.	HMA Mill & Fill, Drainage Reconstruct, Guardrail.
City of St. Joseph	Cleveland Avenue Resurfacing	Hilltop Rd. to Lakeshore Dr.	Cold mill and resurface.
City of Benton Harbor	Colfax Avenue Reconstruction	Market Street to Britain Avenue	Reconstruction. Replacement water main, sanitary sewer, and storm sewer, and ADA sidewalk upgrades.
Lincoln Township	Red Arrow Hwy	DC Cook to Village of Stevensville	HMA Mill & Fill, Road Diet, Drainage Reconstruct, Guardrail, non-motorized
Benton Township	Pipestone Avenue	Napier avenue to Benton Harbor Limits	HMA Mill & Fill with Drainage Structure adjustment, and sidewalk
City of Benton Harbor	Britain Avenue Resurfacing	Riverview Drive to Colfax Avenue	Resurfacing of the roadway and ADA sidewalk upgrades
City of Benton Harbor	Pipestone Reconstruction	Britain Avenue to Empire Avenue	Reconstruction. replacement of water main, sanitary sewer, and storm sewer, and ADA sidewalk upgrades.
Lincoln Township	Cleveland Avenue Resurfacing	Glenlord Rd. to John Beers Rd	HMA Mill & Fill, Drainage Reconstruct, Guardrail,
City of St. Joseph	Upton Drive reconstruction	Momany Drive to North City Limits	Reconstruction. Replace storm sewer, sanitary sewer and water main. Install non-motorized facilities and upgrade all ADA ramps
City of St. Joseph	Water & Vine Street Reconstruction	Broad Str. (CSX RR) to State St.	Full reconstruction. Replace water main and rehabilitate brick storm sewer. Non-motorized facilities will be added.
City of St. Joseph	S. State Street Reconstruction	Wallace Avenue to Main Street (I94 BL)	Reconstruction Replace storm sewer, sanitary sewer and water main. Install non-motorized facilities.
Sodus Township	Sodus Parkway	Pipestone Rd to Pipestone Creek Bridge	HMA Mill & Fill, Drainage Reconstruct
City of St. Joseph	Wolcott Reconstruction	Niles Ave. to Langley Ave.	Full reconstruction of Wolcott Avenue and all underground utilities Non-motorized facilities will be added.

Note: The first three illustrative projects were approved in the order shown as the top three choices. All other projects were not specifically ranked but added based on the project score.

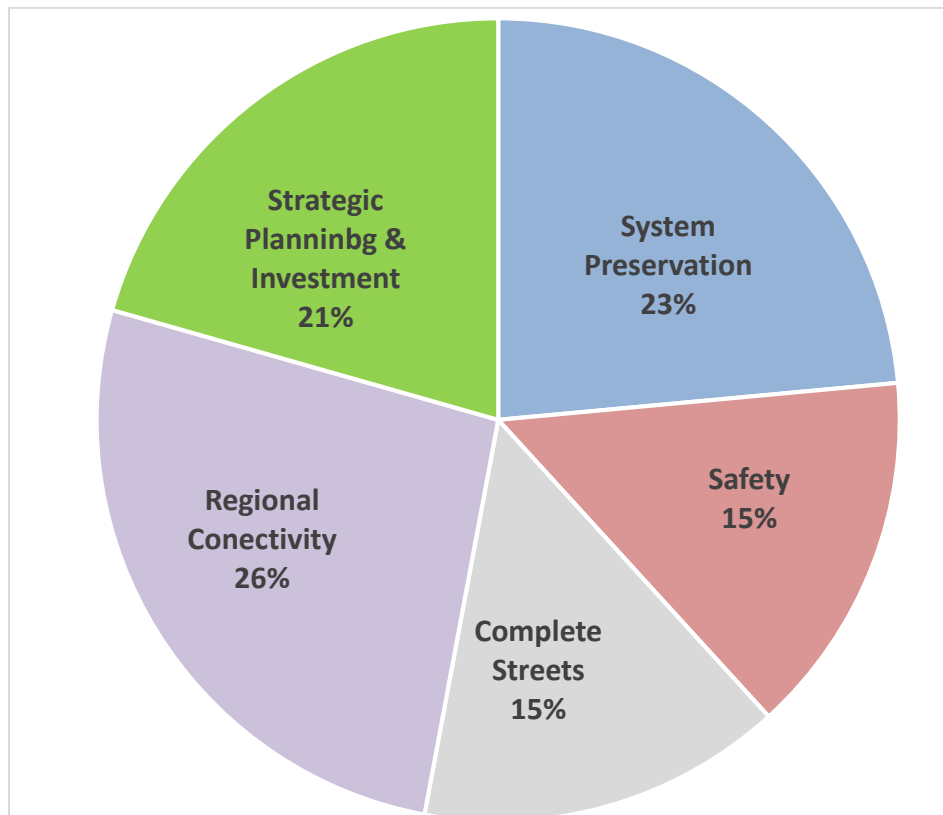
TwinCATS Road Project Prioritization System for the 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program.

Approved July 19, 2021

The following pages present a methodology to score projects submitted for consideration for TwinCATS' allocation of Surface Transportation Program (STP) dollars for the 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

This project prioritization system serves as a guiding document in project selection, but project selection will be made only after debate in an open and public process. A project selection subcommittee will recommend projects to the Technical Advisory Committee, who will then recommend projects to the TwinCATS Policy Committee. During the initial project selection process. The public will have an opportunity to inform project selection at each stage of the process. The ultimate authority for project selection still lies with the TwinCATS Policy Committee.

Each of these scoring categories corresponds to the relevant section on the TIP Application.



System Preservation (8 points possible total)

PASER Rating (5 points possible)

5 points if the most recent PASER rating is 2-3 and the project was applied for previously when the PASER was 4 or higher

3 points if the most recent PASER is 2-3 and this is the first application for this project.

3 point is the most recent PASER is 4

1 point if the most recent PASER is 5-6

0 Point if the most recent PASER is 7-10

Project Category per MDOT's "Guidelines for Geometrics on Local Agency Project" (3 points possible)

3 points if the project follows the MDOT 4R guidelines

2 points if the project follows the MDOT 3R guidelines

1 point if the project follows the MDOT Preventative Maintenance guidelines

Safety (5 points total possible)

Safety Countermeasures (3 points possible)

1 point per traffic safety countermeasure included in the project, up to 3 points maximum

Addressing High Crash Location (2 points possible)

2 point if the project address crashes on a road segment that is 20% higher than the MPO median

1 point if the project address crashes on a road segment that is within 20% of the MPO median

0 points if all road segments in the project are below 20% of the PO medium

Complete Streets (5 points possible total)

Pedestrian and Cycling Facilities (3 Points)

1 point if the road currently has facilities to accommodate pedestrians or cyclists and the project will not improve conditions further

2 points if the road currently has facilities to accommodate pedestrians or cyclists and the project will add additional facilities

3 points if the project add pedestrian or bicycle facilities where none existed previously

Improving Non-motorized Connectivity (2 points)

Any added pedestrian or bicycle facilities connect to existing bicycle and pedestrian facilities or those that can reasonably expect to be completed during 2023-2026, thus improving regional connectivity.

Regional Connectivity (9 Points total possible)

Traffic Volume (5 points possible)

5 points if ADT is more than 10,000 vehicles per day

4 points if ADT is between 5,000 and 9,999 vehicles per day

3 points if ADT is between 2,000 and 4,999 vehicles per day

Functional Classification (3 points possible)

3 points if project is located on a Principal Arterial

2 points if project is located on a Minor Arterial

1 point if project is located on a Major Collector

Fixed Route Transit (1 point possible)

1 point if a fixed route transit uses the road.

Strategic Planning & Investment (7 points possible)

Asset Management (3 points possible)

Using the Asset Management Readiness Scale:

1 point if the projects is listed in an asset management plan for roads/stormwater

1 point if there is an asset management plan covering other utilities along the limits of the project

1 point if staff at the agency have asset management training

Local Planning Document (1 point possible)

1 point if the project is identified in another local planning document other than an asset management plant such as a master plan or a parks and recreation plan.

Project Continuity (1 points possible)

1 point if the project continues resurfacing, reconstruction or Preventative Maintenance on a segment of roadway adjacent to a segment with a PASER of 7 or higher.

Additional local match (2 points possible)

1 point if the agency contributes 24-40% of the estimated construction costs

2 points if the agency contributes 40%+ of the estimated construction costs

Coordination with sewer and water projects (No Points)

If there are known water or sewer issues, the project **must** coordinate utility and road fixes.

Cross Jurisdictional Coordination (No Points)

The project crosses jurisdictional boundaries (i.e. city to township) and it is arranged in such a way to be bid as a single project.

Project Readiness (No Points)

If the project requires relocation of utilities, purchase of ROW, environmental sensitivity or railroad crossing permits, these items must be addressed in the application and indicated on the project schedule.

**TWIN CITIES AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY
POLICY COMMITTEE BYLAWS
ADOPTED JANUARY 23, 2017**

ARTICLE I: COMMITTEE NAME AND PURPOSE

SECTION 1.1: NAME

The name of this committee shall be the Twin Cities Area Transportation Study (TwinCATS) Policy Committee, hereinafter referred to as the Policy Committee.

SECTION 1.2: PURPOSE

The purpose of the Policy Committee shall be to provide policy level guidance, direction and necessary approvals to all aspects of the continuing, comprehensive and cooperative transportation planning process carried out by the lead planning organization responsible for coordinating the transportation planning process in the Benton Harbor-St. Joseph Urban Area as it relates to TwinCATS. Deliberations, findings and approvals of the Policy Committee shall be made after due consideration of the recommendations of the TwinCATS Technical Advisory Committee.

The Policy Committee shall constitute the forum for cooperative transportation decision making by elected or appointed officials of the general purpose governments and agencies organized to develop area wide transportation plans and programs. The Policy Committee shall:

- Approve policy for a continuing, cooperative and comprehensive transportation planning process.
- Review and adopt the Long Range Plan (LRP) and update as necessary.
- Act on recommendations of the Technical Advisory Committee.
- Review and adopt the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and review the allocation of federal eligible projects within each year of the TIP.
- Ensure the LRP and TIP conform to the to the Michigan Transportation Conformity Air Quality State Implementation Plan (SIP), as required by Regulation 23 CFR 450.312(d) and as determined in accordance with the U.S. EPA conformity regulation (40 CFR Part 51).
- Review and approve a Unified Planning Work Program each year that details work activities and proposed budget.
- Adopt and implement a Public Participation Process that outlines the promotion and utilization of public involvement and is described in the Participation Plan.
- Ensure the efficient and effective use of Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Metropolitan Planning (PL) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5303 funds.
- Annually certify that the Transportation Planning Process is meeting the requirements of 23 Code of Federal Regulations 450.334(a).

ARTICLE II: MEMBERSHIP AND OFFICERS

SECTION 2.1: MEMBERSHIP

Policy Committee voting membership shall consist of one duly appointed representative from each of the following jurisdictions:

- City of Benton Harbor
- City of Bridgman
- City of St. Joseph
- Village of Grand Beach
- Village of Shoreham
- Village of Stevensville
- Benton Charter Township
- Hagar Township
- Lake Township
- Lincoln Charter Township
- Royalton Township
- St. Joseph Charter Township
- Sodus Township
- Berrien County Board of Commissioners
- Berrien County Planning Commission
- Berrien County Road Commission
- Southwest Michigan Regional Airport Board
- Twin Cities Area Transportation Authority (TCATA)
- Michigan Department of Transportation, Bureau of Transportation Planning
- Michigan Department of Transportation, Southwest Region
- Michigan Department of Transportation, Transportation Service Center
- Cornerstone Alliance

Policy Committee non-voting members shall include a representative from the following:

- Berrien County Coordinated Transportation Coalition
- Federal Highway Administration, Michigan Division
- Federal Transit Administration
- Northern Indiana Regional Planning Commission
- Regional Interagency Consumers Committee
- Southwest Michigan Planning Commission
- TCATA Local Advisory Committee

SECTION 2.2: ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVES

The legislative or policy-level body of each governmental unit and agency identified in Section 2.1 may appoint an alternate representative for its respective Policy Committee member. The alternate representative may vote in the absence of the duly appointed Policy Committee member at the Policy Committee meeting. In no case shall more than one vote for each governmental unit or agency be cast on any given item of business.

SECTION 2.3: APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES

Policy Committee member jurisdictions can appoint a new representative to the Policy Committee at any time. To appoint new members, a manager, supervisor, or local governing board chair must send a formal letter or email to the MPO staff specifying the change.

SECTION 2.4: ATTENDANCE

SWMPC staff shall produce an annual attendance report showing attendance of representatives and alternates from each member jurisdiction. This report will be available via the SWMPC website, and it will be provided to the governing body of each member jurisdiction. If a representative or his/her alternate from a member jurisdiction fails to attend three (3) consecutive meetings, SWMPC staff shall notify the governing body of that member jurisdiction and request appropriate action to ensure its representation.

SECTION 2.5: OFFICERS

From among its voting membership, the Policy Committee shall elect a Chair and a Vice-Chair who shall be elected bi-annually at the first Policy Committee meeting of odd numbered calendar years. Said officers shall serve until the next election of officers. In the event that the Chair vacates the position before the two-year term has expired, the Vice Chair shall serve as Chair for the remainder of the term. In the event that the Vice Chair position is vacated prior to expiration of the term, the office shall be filled by a simple majority vote of the voting members at the next Policy Committee meeting following the office being vacated.

SECTION 2.6: DUTIES OF THE CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR

The Chair shall preside over all Policy Committee meetings and shall assure that the transaction of business is carried out in an orderly and efficient manner, in accordance with these bylaws. The Chair, with approval of the Policy Committee, may appoint special subcommittees as necessary and shall serve as an ex-officio member of any such subcommittee.

The Chair shall advise the full Policy Committee and SWMPC staff on any stated conflicts of interest by committee members, pursuant to Section 4.2 of the Bylaws.

In the event of absence or incapacity of the Chair, the Vice-Chair shall carry out the duties and responsibilities of presiding over the Policy Committee meeting. If both the Chair and Vice-Chair are incapacitated or absent, the Policy Committee shall appoint a temporary acting chair to carry out the responsibilities and activities of the Policy Committee.

SECTION 2.7: STAFF

The staff of the Southwest Michigan Planning Commission (SWMPC), the Metropolitan Planning Organization for TwinCATS, shall act as staff and Recording Secretary and shall publish and maintain the official record of the proceedings and actions of the Policy Committee.

ARTICLE III: RULES OF PROCEDURE

SECTION 3.1: REGULAR MEETINGS

Regular meetings of the Policy Committee shall be held at a place and on a date and time selected by the Policy Committee in conformance with Section 3.3 during their first meeting of the calendar year, for a twelve-month period. After such meeting schedule is set the SWMPC staff will distribute it to Policy Committee members and make it available to the public, including posting it on the SWMPC website.

SECTION 3.2: NOTICES OF MEETINGS

Notices of all regular meetings including the agenda and minutes of the previous meeting shall be emailed or mailed by SWMPC staff to the members of the Committee no later than the timeline specified in the currently adopted *TwinCATS Public Participation Plan*.

SECTION 3.3 OPEN MEETINGS ACT

All meetings shall be held at convenient and accessible locations and times in accordance with federal requirements. The meeting locations will also be at sites which comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and are accessible via public transit. All meetings will be held in accordance with the Act 267 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 1976 known as the "Open Meeting Act".

SECTION 3.4: SPECIAL MEETINGS

Special meetings may be called by either the SWMPC staff, the Chair, or by a majority vote of the Policy Committee during a meeting. Notices for such meeting shall conform to the requirements found in Section 3.2.

SECTION 3.5: QUORUM

For purposes of conducting official Policy Committee business, the voting members present for a duly called meeting shall constitute a quorum.

SECTION 3.6: VOTING

Business items brought before the Policy Committee for official action shall be voted on for approval and a simple majority of those present and qualified to vote shall constitute the official action of the Policy Committee regarding the matter, except as provided in Section 4.2.

SECTION 3.7: PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE

At the Chair's discretion, an informal, practical parliamentary procedure may be followed, provided however that in cases where it is so warranted, the most recent edition of Robert's Rules of Order is utilized.

SECTION 3.8: SUBCOMMITTEES

The Policy Committee may establish such subcommittees as it deems necessary and appropriate. Subcommittees shall be established by the approval of the voting membership. Minutes shall be created for such subcommittees in a manner prescribed by the Michigan Open Meetings Act and then drafts of such minutes, and then approved versions, shall be distributed to the Policy Committee.

SECTION 3.9: CANCELLATION AND RESCHEDULING

A meeting of the Policy Committee may be cancelled by either SWMPC staff, the Chair, or by a majority vote of the Policy Committee during a meeting. Cancelled meetings may be rescheduled following the requirements found in Section 3.4, and notice given following the requirements found in Section 3.2.

ARTICLE IV: GENERAL PROVISIONS

SECTION 4.1: ADMISSION OF ADDITIONAL OR NEW AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

The Policy Committee may, upon request, admit additional agencies, organizations or entities to membership on the Policy Committee. Said agencies, organizations or entities may be admitted as either voting or non-voting members, as deemed appropriate by the Policy Committee. Said admission shall require amendment to these bylaws.

SECTION 4.2: CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Members shall make any foreseeable conflicts of interest known to the Chair as soon as they are aware of such conflicts. Any voting committee member with a conflict of interest shall recuse his- or herself from voting on any matters where such a conflict exists. The Chair shall be responsible for notifying all committee members when a conflict of interest exists.

SECTION 4.2: AMENDMENT OF THE BYLAWS

Any voting member of the Policy Committee may submit a proposed amendment to these bylaws. Prior to any action by the Policy Committee, the proposed amendment and an explanatory written statement must be sent to each member, both voting and non-voting, at least 30 calendar days before the Policy Committee may consider action on the proposed amendment. An affirmative vote of two-thirds of those present and eligible to vote shall be required for approval of any bylaw amendment.

ARTICLE IV: EFFECTIVE DATE OF BYLAWS

These bylaws shall become effective upon approval by the TwinCATS Policy Committee. The approval date of these bylaws shall be the date of the approval action. Each Policy Committee member shall be given a copy of the approved bylaws.

Approved: January 23, 2017

TwinCATS Policy Committee Chair

Michigan Department of Transportation Projects

Within the TwinCATS Planning Area

Updated March 6, 2024 by Jon Smith, MDOT Coloma TSC Engineer – smithj29@michigan.gov

Projects Currently Under Construction

St. Joseph and Lincoln Township

Project: I-94BL/Lakeshore Dr. at Maiden Lane – Signal upgrade (JN 209414)

Status: Project came in 3.31% over Engineer's estimate.

Est Con: Dec. 17, 2024 – Oct. 31 2024

Chikaming Township

Project: I-94 at Sawyer Exit 16 – Wrong way movement prevention (JN 209467)

Status: Project came in 32.64% over Engineer's Estimate.

Est con: Jan. 18, 2024 – Dec. 13, 2024

Lincon, St. Joseph, and Benton Township

Project: I-94 from exit 23 to Britan Ave. – Reconstruction (JN 131843 & 132824)

Status: The mainline I-94 work resumes in spring near Exit 23.

Est. Con: Jul. 10, 2023 – Nov. 30, 2026

Projects Scheduled for Construction in 2024

Sodus Township

Project: US-31 in Sodus Township – Bridge structural maintenance (JN 212705)

Status: Project came in 14.52% under Engineer's estimate.

Est. Con: Apr. 1, 2024 – Oct. 31, 2024

Hagar Township

Project: I-196 from Coloma Rd. to Central Ave. –HMA Overlay (JN 216907)

Status: Project came in 9.58% under Engineer's Estimate.

Est. Con: Apr. 15, 2024 – May 25, 2024

Royalton Township

Project: M-139 North of Tanglewood Trl. – Culvert reconstruction (JN 208843)

Status: Construction begins in January 2024 with tree removals. Culvert work requiring a detour begins in May 2024 through August 2024.

Est. Con: Jan 22, 2024 – Sep. 13, 2024

City of St. Joseph

Project: M-63 - I-94BL/ Main St. and Port St. – Install pedestrian signals at intersection (JN 208843)

Status: This is a non-let force account project.

Est. Con: Unknown

Projects Scheduled for Construction in 2025

Benton Township

Project: I-94 from Pavement Change east of I- 196 to Bainbridge Township line – HMA Overlay (JN 128907)

Status: Design in progress

Projects Scheduled for Construction in 2026

Benton Township and City of Benton Harbor

Project: M-139 from 0.44 miles south of I-94 to I-94 BL/Main St – Reconstruction (JN 212705)

Status: Municipal utility discussions with the city/township have been held. Base plans (30%) are anticipated in March.

City of St. Joseph

Project: M-63 & I-94BL Bridges over St. Joseph River – Reconstruction (JN 211989)

Status: Public survey had 875 responses. Advisory group meetings still ongoing. Public meetings will be held in the spring.

Various Location in Berrien County

Project: I-94 & US-31 Bridges – Capital Structural or Preventive maintenance (JN 214931, 214992, 215028)

Status: Design in Progress

Projects Scheduled for Construction in 2027

Lincoln Township

Project: I-94 west of exit 22 – Construct crash investigation sites (JN 211804)

Status: Design will begin in 2024

Hagar Township

Project: I-196 over at Riverside Rd., Central Ave., and Red Arrow Hwy – Bridge Rehabilitation (JN 211253 & 211558)

Status: Design will begin in 2024.

I-94 rebuilding project in Berrien County starts March 11

March 04, 2024

Fast facts:

- **Work to rebuild 8.5 miles of I-94 and four bridges, as well as repair nine other bridges, between Puetz Road and Britain Avenue in Berrien County begins Monday, March 11.**
- **The three-year, \$204 million investment is funded in part by Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's Rebuilding Michigan program.**
- **This year's work will be from Puetz Road to Washington Avenue. Work in 2025 and 2026 will be from Washington Avenue to Britain Avenue.**

COLOMA, Mich. - The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) is set to begin on Monday, March 11, [rebuilding 8.5 miles of I-94 and four bridges, as well as repairing nine other bridges, between Puetz Road in Stevensville and Britain Avenue in Benton Township, Berrien County.](#)

This year's work will consist of rebuilding eastbound and westbound [I-94 from Puetz Road, west of Red Arrow Highway Exit 23, to Washington Avenue](#), including bridges over Red Arrow Highway at Exit 23. There will be two lanes of I-94 open in each direction throughout the season. Other 2024 work includes drainage, sound abatement barriers, and culverts between Washington Avenue and Puetz Road.

During work to rebuild westbound I-94 from March 11 to July 1, northbound Red Arrow Highway traffic heading to westbound I-94 will be detoured on Red Arrow Highway and John Beers Road to westbound I-94. Southbound Red Arrow Highway traffic heading to eastbound I-94 will be detoured on John Beers Road to eastbound I-94. The westbound I-94 ramp to Red Arrow Highway will be detoured on John Beers Road Exit 22 to Red Arrow Highway.

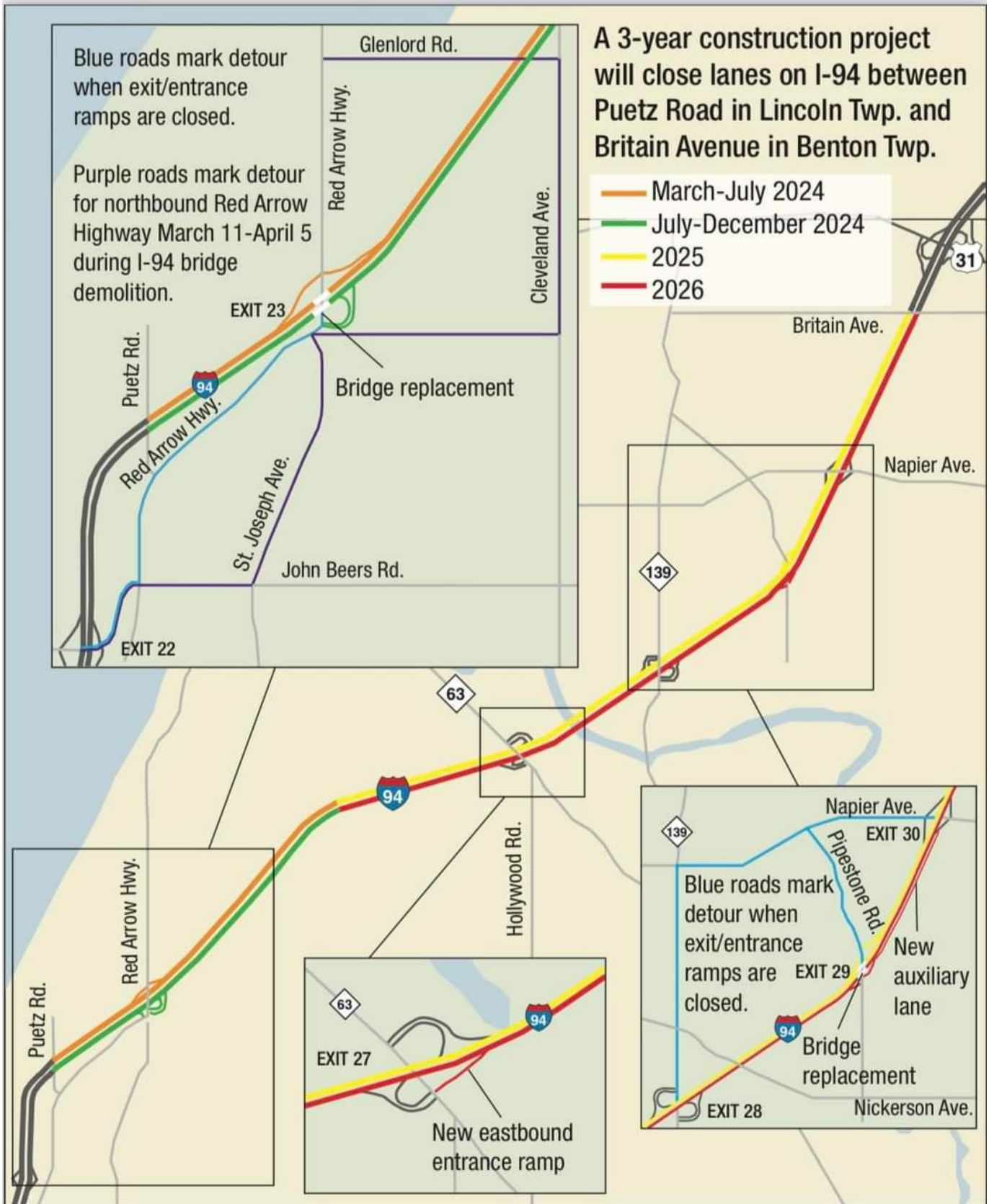
Red Arrow Highway Exit 23 will be closed at I-94 for bridge demolition March 11 – 27. Southbound Red Arrow Highway will be detoured on westbound I-94 and John Beers Road. Northbound traffic will be detoured on St. Joseph Avenue, Marquette Woods Road, Cleveland Avenue, and Glenlord Road.

Work in 2025 includes rebuilding westbound I-94 from Washington Avenue to Britain Avenue and the westbound I-94 bridge over Pipestone Road. There will be two lanes of I-94 open in each direction, and Pipestone Road traffic will be detoured on M-139 and Napier Avenue.

Traffic will move to the newly built westbound I-94 lanes in 2026, and the eastbound lanes and bridge over Pipestone Road will be rebuilt.

Based on economic modeling, this investment is expected to directly and indirectly support 2,911 jobs.

Funding for this three-year, \$204 million investment is made possible by Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's [Rebuilding Michigan program](#) to rebuild the state highways and bridges that are critical to the state's economy and carry the most traffic. The investment strategy is aimed at fixes that result in longer useful lives and improve the condition of the state's infrastructure.



Source: Michigan Department of Transportation

HP graphic

MDOT Amendment Requests

Fiscal year: 2024 **Phase:** CON **Job Number:** 211815

Project: Durable all-weather markings with centerline and shoulder corrugations

Location: Various Trunkline Routes (MDOT roads) in Southwest Michigan.

Amendment: Change to locations and total length

Current Length

67.4 miles

Proposed Length

68.4 miles

Fiscal year: 2024 **Phase:** CON **Job Number:** 215059

Project: I-94 Overpass Bridge Preventive Maintenance - Healer Sealer, Reseal Joints

Location: 5 bridges over I-94 at Roslyn Rd, Carmody Rd, Boyer Rd over I-94, Park Rd over I-94, and County Line Rd

Amendment: Cost decrease

	Current	Propose
Federal Bridge (BOI)	\$417,842	\$240,184
State Match	\$46,5427	\$26,688
Total Phase	\$464,269	\$266,970