

Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Call for Projects for 2021 - 2023

The Southwest Michigan Planning Commission is pleased to announce the Call for Projects for the Congestion Management and Air Quality (CMAQ) program. These funds are available to Berrien, Cass, and Van Buren Counties. Below you will find information on the CMAQ program, details about the call for projects, and application instructions.

What is Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality?

Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) is a federal funding source created to assist areas in attaining or maintaining air quality standards under the Clean Air Act, by reducing mobile transportation emissions. In Michigan, the CMAQ program is administered by the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT).

All CMAQ projects must meet three eligibility requirements:

- Have a transportation focus
- Reduce air emissions
- Be located in or benefits a nonattainment or maintenance area

Who can apply for CMAQ?

Under MDOT rules, only the following agencies can be directly granted funding: county road agencies, cities, villages, public transit providers, and regional planning agencies.

Other public agencies can propose projects, but the city, village, or county road agency must be the project applicant for any project within their jurisdiction.

How much funding is available?

Between 2021-2023 the following CMAQ funds are estimated to be available each year:

Berrien County	\$741,858 (Non-Attainment)
Cass County	\$98,723 (Maintenance)
Van Buren County	\$144,783 (Maintenance)

What can the funding be used for?

CMAQ is a flexible funding source and can be used for a variety of projects as long as the three main criteria are met. A list of the most common activities can be found on the page 4. Each of these program classifications may have addition rules, regulation, and guidance. The ultimate determination whether a project is eligible will be made by MDOT.

Where can CMAQ funds be used?

CMAQ must be used within or benefit a non-attainment or maintenance area. Berrien County is designated as non-attainment for the 2015 ozone standard. Cass and Van Buren are in maintenance under the 1997 ozone standard. Each project type has its own rules covering where CMAQ projects can be used. Road projects such as traffic flow or signal must be on a federal aid eligible road. Non-motorized facilities can be built anywhere (so long as they function as transportation and not primarily recreation).

Is a local match required?

For most projects, federal funds will cover only 80% of the cost. Your agency will need to provide the other 20% of the cost in local match. Projects which provide a safety component can be 100% federally funded. The list of typically eligible projects indicated which ones don't require a local match.

How do I Apply?

Local road and transit agencies will need to submit a project application. Applicants will also need to verify the emissions reduction using the appropriate emissions form or toolkit. Instructions for the application process are on page 5, and a sample application is on page 7. The fillable word document can be found at this link: https://www.swmpc.org/downloads/cmaq_application.docx. **All applications are due on Monday December 12, 2018.**

How will projects be selected?

SWMPC staff will compile and post proposed project information for a County CMAQ meeting where a county committee will review, discuss, and then approve a fiscally constrained project list. Throughout the selection process, the public will have opportunities to be involved and comment on projects.

Tentative Key Dates

Date	Activity	Public Involvement
October 19, 2018	Call for CMAQ projects issued	X
December 12, 2018	Applications due to SWMPC staff	
December 19, 2018	Submitted projects available for public review and comment	X
January 4 – 16, 2019	County CMAQ Project Selection Committee Meetings held	X
	Berrien County meeting	X
	Cass County meeting	X
	Van Buren County meeting	X

Specific CMAQ county meeting dates will be determined on or before December 10th.

I still have questions. Who can I contact?

If you have any questions, you can contact Brandon Kovnat, SWMPC Planner at kovnatb@swmpc.org or 269-925-1137 x1524. You can also find additional information on the CMAQ program on MDOT's website at: https://www.michigan.gov/mdot/0,4616,7-151-9621_11041_60661---,00.html

Typically Eligible CMAQ Projects

(Disclaimer: Final eligibility determination will be made by FHWA-MI Division)

Reporting Category	Project Type
Public Education and Outreach Activities	Ozone Action outreach
	Ozone Action fare subsidies
Bicycle/Pedestrian Facilities	New non-motorized facilities - must demonstrate single occupancy vehicle reduction. Cannot be exclusively recreational
	New bike lanes on existing streets
Shared Ride and Travel Demand Management	Carpool/Vanpool (i.e. RideShare and Michivan)* <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marketing* • Capital (vanpooling only)* • Operating (see transit, limited to 3-years of funding)
	New/Expanding carpool parking lots (paving is allowed for new or expanded lot spaces, but NOT for the existing spaces or lighting)
Congestion Reduction & Traffic Flow	Traffic signal optimization, interconnect, or actuation*
	Traffic Operations Centers - Operations and Maintenance - subject to 3-year operation funding assistance limit
	Courtesy Patrol*
	Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) expansion/deployment*
	Dynamic Message Signs*
	Roundabouts*
	Dedicated center left turn lanes or dedicated right turn lanes (No added single occupancy vehicle capacity or through traffic allowed)*
	Passing flares to relieve congestion
	Intersection improvements to relieve congestion - cannot not add capacity
Alternative Fuel Vehicles and Diesel Engine Retrofit	Diesel engine retrofits and vehicle replacement (e.g. truck replacements)
	Non-transit alternative fuel vehicles
	Alternative fuel infrastructure
Transit Improvements	Bus Purchases - for new/expanding service
	Bus Replacements (must meet age and/or mileage requirements)
	Operating Assistance for new/expanding service, includes Vanpooling, (3-year funding limit)
	Transit facilities (new stations, terminals, transfer facilities) only if associated with a new/enhanced route

*Eligible for 100% CMAQ funding

Typically Ineligible CMAQ Projects

(Disclaimer: Final eligibility determination will be made by FHWA-MI Division)

- ANY project that does not show an air quality benefit
- ANY activity that is part of a larger project that adds SOV capacity (i.e. new roads)
- Projects that have a strong recreational purpose or are solely recreational
- Safe Routes to School Projects
- Projects that solely benefit school traffic, including school bus projects (Unless in a Winter Pollutant nonattainment area)
- Traffic signal replacement in-kind without interconnecting, optimizing, etc.
- Upgrading to LED traffic signals without interconnecting, optimizing, etc.
- Moving roadways or intersections
- Fuel subsidies
- Off-road mobile projects (e.g. lawnmower replacement programs)
- Road Rehabilitation & Reconstruction (R&R) projects
- Studies

Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Project Application Instructions

How to apply

Please fill out both the CMAQ application downloaded through this link: https://www.swmpc.org/downloads/cmaq_application.docx. Also fill out the appropriate emissions form and send it with the application. Additional Information may be required based on the project type (see below).

All applications are due on Monday December 12, 2018.

Please email the completed application, emissions form and any other required information to both Brandon Kovnat at kovnatb@swmpc.org and Kim Gallagher at gallagherk@swmpc.org. Please include "CMAQ Application" in the subject line

Additional Information is required for the following projects:

Carpool Lot Expansion

- Indicate the number of spaces
- Indicated how many users you expect

Dedicated Turn Lanes

- Indicate the length of the lanes
- Indicate traffic counts,

Intersection Improvements

- Include a diagram of the modification

Non-Motorized Paths

Eligible if they are not exclusively recreational and if they reduce vehicle trips

- Please include maps detailing the location of the proposed path
- Detail the land uses that surround the path
- Explain how the path provides access to jobs, services, and centers of trade
- List all connections to other non-motorized paths, if applicable

Signal Interconnection

- Include all locations in the Location Description
- Indicate the number of signals in the Work Description

Traffic Operations Center (TOC)

- Please list specific activities to be funded

Transit

- Vehicle lease/purchase : how many will be leased or purchased
- Operating Assistance: specify which years are being requested (year 1, 2, 3 and/or 3)
- Equipment: type to be funded

Carpooling/Vanpooling (RideShare)

- Specify if Marketing or Capital (or both)

Emissions forms to Use

For the following projects use the appropriate FHWA Emission Toolkit which can be found at: https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/air_quality/cmaq/toolkit/ or they can be downloaded through the links below (opens as an Excel file):

Project Category	FHWA Emissions Toolkit
Dedicated Turn Lanes	Congestion Reduction and traffic Flow Improvements
Signal Interconnects	
Signal Optimization or Actuation, not part of an interconnect project	
Roundabouts	
Rideshare/vanpooling:	Carpooling and Vanpooling
Operation of New Public Transit Services	Transit Bus and Fleet Expansion
Bus Purchase or Replacements	Transit Bus Retrofits and Replacement Transit Bus and Fleet Expansion*
Diesel Retrofits / Truck Replacements	Advanced Diesel Truck/Engine Technologies
Alternative Fuels and Vehicles Projects	Alternative Fuels and Vehicles

*use this toolkit for gasoline vehicles.

For the following projects use the appropriate MDOT Emissions Form which can be found on MDOT's CMAQ page at: https://www.michigan.gov/mdot/0,4616,7-151-9621_11041_60661---_00.html or you can open them directly through the links below (Fillable pdf forms)

Note that the forms only work with Internet Explorer

Project Category	Emissions Form
Other Project (may need additional details)	MDOT Form 2608
Intelligent Transportation System (ITS)	MDOT Form 2612
Park and Ride Lots	MDOT Form 2613
Traffic Operations Centers Operations	MDOT Form 2616
Travel Demand Management Program	MDOT Form 2619
Non-Motorized Pathways	MDOT Form 2621

Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Project Application

Click "Enable Editing" to begin filling out this form. You may save this form at any time.

Section 1. Applicant Information

Agency Name			
Contact Name		Title	
Phone Number		Email	

Section 2. Project Information

Project Name:		Fiscal Year of Project:		
City/Village/ Township:		County:		
Project Location <i>(short description of where the project is located)</i>				
Which Emissions form/toolkit is being used? (list the form name not the MDOT form number)				
Work Description <i>(Short description of work being performed. Please provide enough information for eligibility to be determined)</i>				
Sponsor <i>(If different from Applicant)</i>				
Project Cost <i>Only include CMAQ eligible expenses</i>	Federal - CMAQ \$	State \$	Local \$	Total \$

Section 3. Performance measures

<p>Besides emissions reductions what other performance measures will the project contribute to? <i>(select all that apply)</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Safety</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Pavement Condition</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> System Reliability</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Transit State of Good Repair</p>	<p>If you checked any of the Performance Measures please indicate how the project will improve them:</p>
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Section 4. Additional Questions

Question	Y/N	If Yes, Provide Brief Explanation of How the Application will meet these Criteria
Will the project be ready for obligation by July 1 of the year in which it's programmed?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Will this project use multiple funding sources/be combined with another Non-CMAQ project?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Is the project being carried out by a sponsored agency, or is a private entity providing funding, materials, or services in support of this project?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Does the project require Right of Way (ROW) acquisition or an easement?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	If yes, attach a signed letter from that agency granting permission to implement all or part of this project in their right-of-way.

Section 5. Estimated Project Schedule

Activity	Estimated Date
Resolution of Support for Local Match Submitted to SWMPC	
Project Application Submitted to MOT	
Grade Inspection Package Submitted to MDOT	
Grade Inspection Meeting Scheduled	
Final Plan and Estimate to MDOT	
Right of Way (ROW) certified	
Rail Road Permits	
Environmental Mitigation	
Project Obligated	
Project Letting	
Construction Start	
Project Completion	

Enter NA for any activity that doesn't apply to the project.

Please remember to attach the emissions form/toolkit and any supplemental information when you submit the application.