

# TWIN CITIES AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY

## TECHNICAL ADVISORY and POLICY COMMITTEES MEETING

Monday, December 19, 2022

9:30 am

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**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

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### AGENDA

1. Call to Order and Roll Call
2. Changes to the Agenda
3. Public Comment
4. Approve Minutes from the November 21, 2022 Meeting pg. 2. Action
5. SWMPC Staff Report - Long Range Plan Approval Update
6. TwinCATS Subcommittee Summary & FY 2023 Funding Recommendation pg. 6 Action
7. Approval of 2023 Meeting Dates pg. 8 Action
8. Privilege of the Floor or Public Comment
9. Adjournment

Comments can be sent prior to the meeting to Brandon Kovnat at [kovnatb@swmpc.org](mailto: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](mailto:gallagherk@swmpc.org)

**TWIN CITIES AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY**  
**TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND POLICY COMMITTEE**  
November 21 2022 Meeting Attendance

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

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: Steve Carlisle, Wightman & Associates; Alex Austin, on behalf of Lincoln Township; Alan Smaka, Wightman & Associates; Oliver Lindsey, TCATA; Emily Kuntz, TCATA; Sarah Fedders, MDOT; Don Mayle, MDOT

**Minutes**  
**TWIN CITIES AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY**  
**JOINT TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**Monday, November 21, 2022**

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

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

2. **Changes to the Agenda**

Gallagher asked to add a short Staff Report after the minutes were approved.

3. **Public Comment**

None

4. **Approve Minutes from the October 17, 2022 Meeting**

**Motion** to approve the minutes from the October 17, 2022 TwinCATS combined Policy and Technical Advisory Committee meeting. Made by Roger Seeley and seconded by Jim Sturdevant. **Motion approved.**

5. **Staff Report**

Gallagher gave an update on the TwinCATS Long Rang Plan timeline. She said the plan would be released on December 5, 2022. TwinCATS will vote on December 19, 2022 and the SWMPC board will vote on December 20, 2022.

6. **Local Agency Updates**

**Bridgman:** Smaka said that the Lake Street project was submitted for the January letting.

**Berrien County Road Department:** Stack said that the Napier Ave. project was in design and will cost far more than the original estimate. The John Beers project's latest estimate is very close to the original estimate.

**St. Joseph Township:** Carlisle said that they accepted the low bid from Kaitlin Construction for the Napier Ave. Sidewalk and construction will begin in April.

7. **Transit Updates**

No additional updates beyond what is in the Packet

8. **MDOT Updates**

No additional updates on the projects that were included in the Packet

Fedders gave an update on the I-94 Reconstruction. Four of the Five recommended noise walls were approved by residents. The wall by the Cleveland Ave. assisted living facility was not approved. Residents said they were accustomed to the noise, and would prefer the current view instead of looking at a wall.

9. **MDOT Project Amendment Requests**

Fedders explained that the I-94 reconstruction was pushed back to be funded in 2023 with the construction occurring in 2024, 2025, and 2026. Some shoulder work will be done in 2023. Among the issues causing the

year to be moved was a delay in getting votes for the Noise walls. Due to the large amount of work, MDOT found it would be much cheaper for construction to occur over three years instead of two. This required updating plans and MDOT wanted to ensure adequate time for review. In 2024 construction will occur on both westbound and eastbound I-94 from Puetz Rd to Hickory Creek. The remaining section from Hickory Creek to Britain Avenue will be split between WB & EB in 2025 and 2026 respectively. I-94 will be open during the Construction and buses will not need to have a detour.

There were no questions or additional explanations for the other two MDOT project amendments.

**Motion** for the Technical Advisory Committee to recommend that the Policy Committee approve the MDOT project amendments for the TwinCATS 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program, as included in the meeting packet. Made by Jim Sturdevant 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 Kacey Dominguez. **Motion approved.**

#### 10. FY 2023 Funding Discussion

Gallagher announced the new TwinCATS FY 2023 funding target. The STBG target for TwinCATS in FY 2023 is \$2,833,602. Currently, TwinCATS has \$920,000 programmed, leaving a balance of \$1,913,602.

Kovnat explained a scenario that had been presented at the Berrien CMAQ meeting. Projects in the TwinCATS area using CMAQ funding will have the funding swapped to Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) and STBG. This frees up the CMAQ funds to be used outside of the TwinCATS area on a non-motorized path along Red Arrow Highway. SWMPC staff is also proposing to maximize STBG funding on all projects based on the latest cost estimates. If these changes are approved, it would leave a \$1,445,299 STBG balance.

Gallagher explained that the FY 2023 funding must be obligated in 2023. Typically funding (obligation Authority) can run out by June, and MDOT has instructed agencies to get projects submitted early.

Mayle said that MDOT had not yet made any decision about allowing funding to be carried over to FY 2024. He said that MDOT does not expect Obligation Authority will run out in FY 2023 and that there is expected to be another large August redistribution. Projects can be obligated later in FY 2023 and constructed in FY 2024. Mayle clarified that MDOT cannot provide a 100% guarantee about Obligation Authority, but said that he was very confident and agencies should not be concerned about Obligation Authority running out.

Gallagher suggested holding a subcommittee to discuss the options for using the remaining FY 2023 funding. The subcommittee meeting was scheduled for Friday, December 2 at 9:30 AM.

**Motion** for the Technical Advisory Committee to recommend that the Policy Committee approve the changes to local road agency projects and transit projects, as included in the meeting packet. Made by Kevin Stack and seconded by Jim Sturdevant. **Motion approved.**

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

**11. Privilege of the Floor & Adjournment**

TwinCATS members thanked Don Mayle for attending the meeting and providing clarity on the funding.

The Meeting was adjourned at 10:35 AM. The next meeting is scheduled for December 19, 2022 at 9:30 am

*Minutes compiled by Brandon Kovnat, SWMPC Transportation Planner*

DRAFT

# TwinCATS Subcommittee Recommendation for FY 2023 Funding

For the TwinCATS Technical Advisory & Policy Committee  
to approve on December 19, 2022

**Table 1. TwinCATS FY 2023 Project List as Approved in TIP – November 21, 2022**

| Agency                | Project          | Total Estimate | STBG               | CRP              | Match     |
|-----------------------|------------------|----------------|--------------------|------------------|-----------|
| <b>FY 2023 Target</b> |                  |                | <b>\$2,833,602</b> | <b>\$135,856</b> |           |
| Benton Harbor         | Pipestone Signal | \$360,917      | \$156,413          | \$135,856        | \$68,648  |
| TCATA                 | Transit Capital  | \$300,000      | \$240,000          |                  | \$60,000  |
| Bridgman              | Lake Street      | \$625,400      | \$511,890          |                  | \$156,553 |
| Berrien CRD           | W Napier Ave     | \$320,000      | \$256,000          |                  | \$64,000  |
| Berrien CRD           | E John Beers Rd  | \$280,000      | \$224,000          |                  | \$56,000  |
| <b>Balance</b>        |                  |                | <b>\$1,445,299</b> | <b>\$0</b>       |           |

**Table 2. Agency Requests with the Revised Cost Estimates – 11-30-22**

| Agency        | Project             | Year currently programmed | Revised Estimate | Maximum STBG (81.85%) | Increase in STBG above programmed | 18.15% Match |
|---------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| Berrien CRD   | Napier Ave.         | 2023                      | \$930,070        | \$761,262             | <b>\$505,262</b>                  | \$168,808    |
| Berrien CRD   | John Beers Rd.      | 2023                      | \$318,625        | \$260,795             | <b>\$36,795</b>                   | \$57,830     |
| St. Joseph    | Lake Blvd.          | 2024                      | \$931,000        | \$762,024             | <b>\$126,024</b>                  | \$168,977    |
| Benton Harbor | Pipestone Resurface | 2024                      | \$259,000        | \$211,992             | <b>\$41,492</b>                   | \$47,009     |
| *Stevensville | John Beers Rd.      | 2026                      | \$825,000        | \$675,263             | <b>\$227,263</b>                  | \$149,738    |

**Table 3. FY 2023 TwinCATS STBG Funding Subcommittee Recommendation/Amendment Request**

| Project                | Action  | Additional STBG |
|------------------------|---|-----------------|
| John Beers Road (BCRD) | Award maximum STBG Funding                                  | \$36,795        |
| Napier Avenue          | Award additional STBG - less than the maximum amount.       | \$434,488       |
| Lake Boulevard         | Move from FY 2024 to FY 2023 and award maximum STBG funding | \$126,024       |
| Pipestone Road         | Move from FY 2024 to FY 2023 and award maximum STBG Funding | \$41,492        |

## Subcommittee Notes:

\*If approved, this will leave a STBG balance of \$927,237 in FY 2024. Stevensville has requested to move the John Beers reconstruction from FY 2026 to FY 2024 and utilize the maximum STBG funding amount of \$675,263.

The TwinCATS STBG Funding Subcommittee agreed that if the City of St. Joseph and the City of Benton Harbor put in a good-faith effort but fail to get their project obligated in FY 2023, the Lake Blvd and Pipestone projects will revert to FY 2024. Moving the Stevensville John Beers project from FY 2026 to 2024 will be contingent on whether St. Joseph and/or Benton Harbor get their projects obligated in FY 2023.

The full FY 2023 and FY 2024 Project list that is recommended by the TwinCATS Subcommittee is shown on the following page.

## FY 2023 Proposed Projects and Funding

| Agency                        | Project               | Total Estimate   | STBG               | CRP              | Match            |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------|------------------|
| <b>FY 2023 Funding Target</b> |                       |                  | <b>\$2,833,602</b> | <b>\$135,856</b> |                  |
| Benton Harbor                 | Pipestone Signal      | \$360,917        | \$156,413          | \$135,856        | \$68,648         |
| TCATA                         | Transit Capital       | \$300,000        | \$240,000          |                  | \$60,000         |
| Bridgman                      | Lake Street           | \$625,400        | \$511,890          |                  | \$156,553        |
| <b>Berrien CRD</b>            | <b>Napier Ave.</b>    | <b>\$930,070</b> | <b>\$690,488</b>   |                  | <b>\$239,582</b> |
| <b>Berrien CRD</b>            | <b>John Beers Rd.</b> | <b>\$318,625</b> | <b>\$260,796</b>   |                  | <b>\$57,830</b>  |
| <b>St. Joseph</b>             | <b>Lake Blvd.</b>     | <b>\$931,000</b> | <b>\$762,024</b>   |                  | <b>\$168,976</b> |
| Benton Harbor                 | Pipestone Resurface   | \$259,000        | \$211,992          |                  | \$47,009         |
| <b>FY 2023 Total</b>          |                       |                  | <b>\$2,833,602</b> | <b>\$135,856</b> |                  |
| <b>FY 2023 Balance</b>        |                       |                  | \$0                | \$0              |                  |

Note: **Projects requesting amendments on December 19<sup>th</sup> 2022 are noted in bold above.** The other projects have previously been approved.

## FY 2024 Tentative Project Scenario

| Agency                        | Project        | Total Estimate | STBG               | CRP              | Match     |
|-------------------------------|----------------|----------------|--------------------|------------------|-----------|
| <b>FY 2024 Funding Target</b> |                |                | <b>\$1,169,000</b> | <b>\$137,000</b> |           |
| Berrien CRD                   | Lincoln Avenue | \$300,000      | \$241,500          |                  | \$58,500  |
| Stevensville                  | John Beers     | \$825,000      | \$675,263          |                  | \$149,738 |
| <b>FY 2024 Total</b>          |                |                | <b>\$916,763</b>   | <b>\$0</b>       |           |
| <b>FY 2024 Balance</b>        |                |                | <b>\$252,237</b>   | <b>\$137,000</b> |           |

**NOTE:** A request for a formal amendment to move the Village of Stevensville project from 2026 to 2024 and add additional federal STBG funding of \$227,263 federal funding will take place once the City of St. Joseph Lake Blvd. and the City of Benton Harbor pipestone projects are obligated in 2023.



# Southwest Michigan Planning Commission

## **Twin Cities Area Transportation Study (TwinCATS) 2023 Meeting Dates**

January 17th \*  
February 21st \*  
March 20th  
April 17th  
May 15th  
June 20th \*  
July 17th  
August 21st  
September 18th  
October 16th  
November 20th  
December 18th

Meetings will be held via Zoom and at Kinexus at 499 W. Main Street Benton Harbor.  
Meetings begin at 9:30 am

Please check <https://www.swmpc.org/twincatsmeetings.asp> for meeting information.  
Meeting location and date changes will be noticed.

\*Due to a Holiday, the January, February, and June meetings of TwinCATS are  
moved to the third Tuesday of the month.