

**Twin Cities Area Transportation Study Policy & Technical Advisory Committee Meeting  
Via Zoom**

**Monday, May 17, 2021  
9:30 am**

**Join online via Zoom**

<https://zoom.us/j/93365671720?pwd=QTBxTVlpWjhTVHNnckRvMUR2V2dkQT09>

**Or join by phone (audio only)**

Call in Number: 1 (312) 626-6799

Meeting ID: 933 6567 1720

Passcode: 194561

The following meeting packet includes:

1. Agenda
2. March 15, 2021 TwinCATS Meeting Minutes
3. Project status and amendment requests
4. Draft project scoring methodology
5. Meeting Power Point
6. [FY 2022 Draft Unified Work Program \(UWP\)](#) – (available as a separate link due to size)

**The meeting will be called to order at 9:30 am**

- Roll call will be taken for all TwinCATS members in alphabetical order. Please respond with “Present”
- Members of public will be asked to announce themselves by first and last name.

You might asked to take your phone off speaker if other members in the meeting are having a hard time hearing you or put the phone closer to your face.

**TIPS for having a better experience on a conference call:**

- Everyone on the call should **use the mute feature on phone** if they are not speaking.
- **SPEAK LOUD & SPEAK INTO THE PHONE** when talking so that everyone can hear.
- If your phone is not muted, it will disrupt the meeting with background noise.
- If you do not think people can hear you after you have said, something be sure to check if your mute button is turned off.
- **If you have a question please announce yourself by name and announce the person, you are directing your question to.** *“This is Karen Simpson, I would like to direct my question to Bart Jones and ask about...”* Bart Jones unmutes his phone and responds to question.
- **If you make a motion please state your name before you make the motion.** *“This is Ted King, I will make the motion to approve the ....”*
- **Members of the public are welcome to speak during Public Comment period** at the beginning and the end of the meeting. Please announce yourself by first and last name before you comment.

**Note:** This meeting will be recorded for meeting minute purposes. Recording will be archived for no longer than 60 days from date of meeting.



Southwest Michigan Planning Commission

376 West Main Street, Suite 130 • Benton Harbor, MI 49022-3651

**TWIN CITIES AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY  
TECHNICAL ADVISORY and POLICY COMMITTEES COMBINED MEETING**

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**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

**Kim Gallagher**, *Transportation Planner*

(269) 925-1137 x 1518

**Brandon Kovnat**, *Transportation Planner*

(269) 925-1137 x 1524

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**DATE:** Monday, May 17, 2021

**TIME:** 9:30 AM

**PLACE:** Zoom Meeting

AGENDA

1. Call to Order and Roll Call
2. Changes to the Agenda
3. Public Comment
4. Approve Minutes from March 15, 2021 Meeting
5. SWMPC Staff Report
  - Timeline for the 2023-2026 Call for Projects
  - Update about Traffic County Program for 2021
  - Update about PASER Ratings
  - Land use/new development updates
6. Agency Updates
  - Public Transit
  - Local Road Agencies
  - MDOT
7. New Business
  - Approval of projects to utilize Highway Infrastructure Program (HIP) funds
  - MDOT Amendments
  - Fiscal Year 2022 Unified Work Plan
  - 2023-2026 Project Scoring Methodology
8. Privilege of the Floor or Public Comment
9. Adjournment

# TWIN CITIES AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY

## TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND POLICY COMMITTEE COMBINED MINUTES

March 15, 2021 via Zoom

TWINCATS MEMBER	MEMBERS (2019)	TAC	POL	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Benton Charter Township	Richard Royal	x	x	P		P									
Berrien Co. Board of	Ray Bell		x	A		P									
Berrien Co. Community Dev. Dept.	Evan Smith	x		A											
Berrien Co. Planning Commission	Eric Lester, M.D.		x	P		P									
Berrien Co. Road Dept.	(vacant)		x												
Berrien Co. Road Dept.	Kevin Stack	x		P		P									
City of Benton Harbor	Ellis Mitchel		x	A		A									
City of Benton Harbor	Chris Cook (Pol. V. Ch.)	x	Alt	P		P									
City of Bridgman	Juan Ganum	Alt	x	A		A									
City of Bridgman	Tim Kading	x	Alt	P		P									
City of St. Joseph	John Hodgson		x	P		P									
City of St. Joseph	Tim Zebell (TAC V. Ch.)	x		P		P									
	Tom McDonald	Alt		A		A									
Cornerstone Alliance	Sue Wyman	x	x	A		A									
Disability Network of SW Mich.	Cindy gray	x		P		A									
Hagar Township	(vacant)	x	x	A											
Kinexus	(vacant)	x		A											
Lake Charter Township	Gloria Payne	x	x	A		A									
Lincoln Charter Township	Dick Stauffer (Pol. Ch.)		x	P		P									
Lincoln Charter Township	Terrie Smith	x		P		P									
MDOT – Bureau of Trans. Planning	Jim Sturdevant	x	x	P		P									
MDOT – Southwest Region	Amy Lipset	x	x	P		P									
MDOT – Southwest Region	Brian Sanada	Alt	Alt	A		A									
MDOT – Trans. Service Center	Jonathon Smith	x	x	P		P									
Royalton Township	Steve Tilly	x	x	A		A									
Sodus Township	David Chandler	x	x	A		A									
Southwest Mich. Regional Airport	Vince Desjardins	x	x	A		A									
St. Joseph Charter Township	Denise Cook		x	P		P									
St. Joseph Charter Township	Roger Seeley	x		A		A									
	Ron Griffin	Alt		A		A									
	Jonathan Fisk	Alt		P		P									
Twin Cities Area Trans. Authority	Paul Gillespie	x	x	P		P									
Village of Grand Beach	(vacant)	x	x	A											
Village of Shoreham	John Schnable	x	x	A		P									
Village of Stevensville	(vacant)		x	A											
Village of Stevensville	Chris Cook (Pol. V. Ch.)	x	Alt	P		A									
Federal Highway Administration	Andy Pickard	x	x	A		A									
Federal Transit Administration	Angelica Salgado	x	x	A		A									
MDOT - Modeling	Katie Beck	x		A		A									
MDOT - Passenger Division	Fred Featherly	x		A		A									
Northwestern Ind. Reg. Plan.	Scott Weber	x	x	A		A									
Southwest Michigan Planning	Kim Gallagher	x	x	P		P									
Southwest Michigan Planning	Brandon Kovnat			P		P									

Pol. Ch.- Policy Chair; TAC Ch. - TAC Chair; Alt – Alternate; P - Present; A- Absent; A blank spot means the position is

Others Present: Tim Drews – Abonmarche, substitute for Chris Cook.

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. Gallagher welcomed two new members. Ray Bell is replacing Bill Chikering as the representative for the Berrien County Board of Commissioners. John Schnable is replacing Stephane Clarke as the representative for the Village of Stevensville.

2. **Changes to the Agenda**

Kovnat said that the MDOT amendment was added in error and does not require a Committee vote.

3. **Public Comment**

None.

4. **Approval of January 11, 2020 TwinCATS Meeting Minutes**

**Motion** to approve the minutes from the January 11, 2020 combined Technical Advisory and Policy Committee meeting. Made by Tim Kading Fisk and seconded by Jonathon Fisk. **Motion approved.**

5. **SWMPC Staff Report**

**FY 2022 Unified Work Program:** Gallagher mentioned that SWMPC had met with a wide range of MDOT, FHWA, and FTA staff to discuss TwinCATS FY 2022 work program. She said that the main focus for the next year would be developing the 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement program (TIP). The FY 2022 Unified Work Program (UWP) will be presented for approval at the May TwinCATS meeting.

**Alternate Energy Corridor:** Kovnat discussed an application from MDOT to FHWA to designate I-196 from Benton Harbor to Muskegon as an Alternate Energy Corridor for electric vehicles. The designation is a tool to help raise awareness that there are sufficient charging stations along the corridor for drivers to take long distance trips. There was a discussion about upcoming charging stations in the works for New Buffalo and South Haven, which will further improve electric vehicle reliability for the region.

**2021 PASER Ratings:** Gallagher discussed the PASER ratings for the upcoming summer. No ratings were conducted in 2020. In previous years the Transportation Asset Management Council (TAMC) required 50% of the federal aid eligible roads to be rated each year by a team of at least three trained raters (SWMPC, County Road Agency, and MDOT). In 2021, TAMC wants 100% of the federal aid roads to be rated. In addition, due to COVID, MDOT will not be participating in the PASER ratings, and the rating team can consist of two raters. Gallagher also let members know that SWMPC can do local (non-federal aid) PASER ratings on request. She said because of the 100% requirement for federal aid roads she cannot guarantee how many local roads can be rated this year.

**Safety Grant:** Kovnat reminded the committee members about the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) grant. He also gave a demonstration of the crash map on SWMPC's website.

**TEDF Category B:** Kovnat mentioned that MDOT had released a call for project for the transportation Economic Development Fund Category B grant. This grant is for cities or villages with a population less than 10,000 and it can be used on any public road; not limited to federal aid eligible roads. Kovnat highlighted that the TEDF category B was targeted towards funding projects that do not typically qualify for federal grants.

**Highway Infrastructure Program (HIP):** Gallagher announced that congress had authorized \$12 Billion in HIP funds in the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, of which \$311 was

apportioned to Michigan. This funding is split between the normal HIP fund which requires a 81.85/18.15 federal-local split and a special authorization for COVID Relief [because it was authorized in the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, FHWA is referring to this as HIP-CRRSA] that does not require any local match. TwinCATS will receive \$472,593 from both HIP funds, which can be used like the Surface Transportation (STP) funds on federal aid eligible roads, and must be obligated in FY 2022.

Gallagher presented the illustrative list, which contains the projects that were submitted for the 2020-2023 TwinCATS Transportation Program but were not selected. She said that all 14 projects on the list were eligible for HIP funding. The illustrative list is a way to demonstrate unmet needs to FHWA/Congress, showing that there are projects waiting to be funded. There was a brief discussion of several potential projects on the illustrative list. Gallagher said SWMPC would schedule a project review subcommittee meeting to discuss the next steps on selecting a project.

## 6. Agency & Project Updates

a) **Twin Cities Area Transportation Authority:** They had their triennial review with FTA and are working to address the findings. Gallagher said that she and TCATA were using a new rout planning tool which was coordinated with University of Michigan SMART project. She said that outcomes of the study would be presented in mid-summer.

### b) **Local Agencies**

**Berrien County Road Department:** Stack said the Napier Bridge Work was just obligated and construction begin in mid-summer. Stack said he would maintain two-way traffic during construction. Zebell added that this work might line up with where Langley was being constructed and there would have to be coordination.

**City of St. Joseph:** Zebell said the Langley Avenue work began today. Construction began at Pearl Street and is working south toward Napier Ave. Zebell said they were working in small sections due to the number of people living along the road but he advised others to avoid Langley.

c) **MDOT:** Smith did not have anything to add beyond what was included with the packet.

Lipset gave an update on the current progress of US-31. The beams for the Britain Avenue Bridge were sent last week. Excavation and culvert work will begin soon. The I-94 BL will be closed beginning March 20 until the end of the construction season to begin rerouting it toward the new intersection location. More closures would begin in April as full construction of US-31 and the I-94 Interchange begin.

## 7. New Business

a) **TCATA Amendments:** Kovnat presented the five amendments for TCATA as included in the meeting packet. Kovnat clarified that the saving in the transit projects can be carried over to future years unlike federal road funding; therefore, there is no need to reprogram the funds.

b) **MDOT Signal Amendment:** Kovnat explained that this was added to the agenda in error. The Cost change is less than 25% of the total cost therefore it was approved administratively. The location change will only be to signals in Kalamazoo and not change the project for the TwinCATS Area.

**Motion** for the Technical Advisory Committee to recommend that the Policy Committee approve the amendments to the 2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program as presented. Made by Tim Zebell and seconded by Tim Kading. **Motion approved.**

**Motion** for the Policy Committee to approve the recommendation from the Technical Advisory Committee. Made by Eric Lester and seconded by John Hodgson. **Motion Approved.**

8. **Privilege of the Floor or public Comment**

There was a discussion about the end of the statewide state of emergency which would require meetings to held in person. Bell said that the Berrien County Commission voted to support a senate bill that would amend the Open Meetings Act to allow virtual meetings until June without needing to declare a state of emergency. Hodgson said that the City of St. Joseph would vote to declare a state of emergency solely to allow virtual meetings. He noted that they could not find a space that would work while following current occupancy/gathering guidelines. Bell said he would bring a request to the County Commission to declare a countywide state of emergency.

9. **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 AM. The next meeting is scheduled for April 19, 2021 at 9:30 AM.

*Minutes compiled by Brandon Kovnat, SWMPC Associate Transportation planner*

# TwinCATS 2021 Project Status Reports – May 10, 2021

## MDOT Updates

### MDOT 2021 Projects

Contact: Jon Smith, MDOT Engineer [SmithJ29@michigan.gov](mailto:SmithJ29@michigan.gov)

Project Name	Limits	Project Description	Update
I-94	I-94 BL (Exit 23) to the St. Joseph River	Reconstruction	Design in Progress.
M-139	Over Buckhorn Creek, north of Rocky Weed Rd.	Culvert Replacement and Road Reconstruction	Tree clearing will occur early March and culvert work will start after the 4th of July and complete end-August (full detour).
I-94	I-94 west of Van Buren County	Variable Advisory Speed Limit System along I-94 in Van Buren Co.	Project letting delayed one month to March Letting due to adding additional work sites
M-43 / Regionwide	I94 WB OFF RAMP @ M139	Modernizing signalized intersection to current standards	Design will begin soon.
Regionwide	M-139 from Royalton/Oronoko Twp Line to pavement change north of St. Joseph River	Crack seal, chip/fog seal, micro-surfacing and HMA milling and overlay	Design in progress.

### I-94 & US 31

Contact: Amy Lipset, MDOT Regional Planner [LipsetA@michigan.gov](mailto:LipsetA@michigan.gov)

- Three bridges (Britain, Territorial, I-94BL ramp) were torn down over a period of three weekends that required full closure and detour of I-94; this was successful with few delays were few and no crashes.
- Work is ongoing on WB I-94 with two lanes open in each direction utilizing crossovers.
- The new Britain Ave. bridge over US-31 is under construction; once complete and open to traffic, Empire will be shut down and cul-de-sacs constructed on either side of new 31 freeway.
- Work has started on new Territorial Rd bridge over 94.
- I-196 SB to WB 94 ramp is being worked on currently.

## MDOT Amendment Requests

### Add the following project phases:

FY	Project Name	Project Limits	Primary Work Type	Phase	Federal Cost & Source	State Cost
2022	Regionwide	M-139 & I-94 Interchange	Traffic Safety: Modernizing signalized intersection to current standards	ROW	\$2,000 STG	\$0
2023	52 <sup>nd</sup> / I -94 E Ramp	I-94 @ Exit 16, 23, 27, 28, Van Buren Co.	Traffic Safety: Wrong Way movement prevention at freeway par-clo ramps	CON	\$147,134 HSIP	\$16,348
2023	M-139	M-139 & M-63, Berrien Co.	Traffic Safety: Durable all-weather markings with centerline and shoulder corrugations	PE	\$75,567 STG	\$8,396
2023	Regionwide	M-139 @ Britain, M-139 @ Pipestone, I-94BL @ M-139, M-63 @ Klock, M-63 @ St Joseph River	Traffic Safety: Modernize signals to current standards	PE	\$266,050 STG	\$0

### Abandon the Following Project Phase

2021	Regionwide - Southwest Region	All routes in TWINCATS MPO boundary	Traffic Safety: Durable pavement Markings	PE	\$500 HSIP	\$56
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MDOT determined that the project does not require a separate PE phase



# Local Road Agency Updates

## City of St. Joseph

**Contact:** Tim Zebel, City of St. Joseph Engineer [tzebell@sjcity.com](mailto:tzebell@sjcity.com)

Langley Avenue is currently in Phase 1b (Michigan Ave & Wolcott Ave). Phase 1a - Pearl Ave to Newberry Hills Lane is mostly complete in order to allow LOCAL traffic access. Weekly updates are emailed to those who sign up for them and posted the the City Engineer webpage (<https://www.sjcity.com/government/departments/city-engineer>).

## City of Benton Harbor

**Contact:** Chris Cook, City of Benton Harbor Engineer of Record [cjcook@abonmarche.com](mailto:cjcook@abonmarche.com)

The City applied for a MDOT TEDF category F grant for Paw Paw Avenue from I-94BL to the Paw Paw River bridge. It will consist of 2" HMA milling and resurfacing, curb repairs, sidewalk and ramp repairs. The preliminary cost estimate is \$433,044 of which \$346,435 will be funded by the grant and \$86,609 is local match.

## Berrien County Road Department

**Contact:** Kevin Stack, County Engineer [kstack@bcroad.org](mailto:kstack@bcroad.org)

Washington Avenue was Let in May with construction expected to begin in June and be completed by October.

Napier Bridge will be let in June with construction expected to begin in July and completed by the end of October.

## Highway Infrastructure Program Project Recommendation

TwinCATS was allocated \$482,756 in Highway Infrastructure Program (HIP) funds to program for a 2022 project. A proposal has been put forward by a project review subcommittee to split funding between two illustrative list projects as follows:

Project	Agency	Location	Work Description	Federal HIP	Local Match	Total Cost	Match Percent
Broad Street	St. Joseph	Main St. to Pearl St.	Resurface	\$184,321	\$165,679	\$350,000	47.34%
Red Arrow	Stevensville	John Beers Rd to 750 ft. north of Puetz Rd	Resurface	\$298,435	\$205,914	\$504,349	40.80%

Both proposed projects extend an existing project already programed in the TIP. Broad Street is an extension of the Langley Avenue Project resulting in repairs on Langley for its entire length from Napier to Main Street. Red Arrow From the southern Village of Stevensville limits to John Beers is already programed for 2022; the addition will result in a project covering the entire section within the village Limits in 2022.

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

**DRAFT**

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 (21 points possible total)**

### **a. PASER Rating (10 points possible)**

- 11 points if the most recent PASER rating is 2-3
- 8 point is the most recent PASER is 4
- 5 point if the most recent PASER is 5-6
- 0 Point if the most recent PASER is 7-10

### **b. Extension of Remaining Service Life (RSL) per MDOT's "Guidelines for Geometrics on Local Agency Project" (10 points possible)**

- 10 points if the project follows the MDOT 4R guidelines
- 8 points if the project Follows the MDOT 3R guidelines
- 4 points if the project follows the MDOT Preventative Maintenance guidelines

## **Safety (7 points total possible)**

### **a. Expected Crash Reduction - Based on MDOT approved Crash Reduction Factors (5 points possible)**

- 5 points for reduction of 50% or more
- 4 points for a reduction between 40% and 49.9%
- 3 points for a reduction between 30% and 39.9%
- 2 points for a reduction between 20% and 29.9%
- 1 point for a reduction between 10% and 19.9%
- 0 points for a reduction between of less than 10%

**b. Addressing High Crash Location (3 points possible)**

- Based on the 5 yr. (2016-2020) total crashes per federal aid eligible road segment
- 2 points if the number of crashes is 20% higher than MPO median (4 crashes or more)
  - 1 point if the number of crashes are within 20% of MPO median (2-3 crashes)
  - 0 points if the number of crashes is lower than 20% of the MPO median (0-1 crashes)

**Complete Streets (6 points possible total)**

**a. 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.

**b. Improving Non-motorized Connectivity (3 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 (10 Points total possible)**

**a. 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

**b. 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

**c. Fixed Route Transit**

- 2 points if fixed route transit used the road.

## **Strategic Planning & Investment (6 points possible)**

### **a. Asset Management (3 points possible)**

3 points if the project is identified in an approved asset management plan.

### **b. Local Planning Document (1 point possible)**

1 point if project is identified in another local planning document such as a master plan or a parks and recreation plan.

### **c. Project Continuity (2 points possible)**

2 points if project continues resurfacing, reconstruction or Preventative Maintenance on segment of roadway adjacent to a resurfacing, reconstruction or Preventative project done during the 2020-2023 TIP cycle or through Rural Task Force funding.

Example: If Colfax Avenue from May to Britain was resurfaced in 2022, a resurfacing project on Colfax from Britain to BL-94 would count as an adjacent segment.

### **d. 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.

### **e. Project Readiness (No Points)**

The project requires relocation of utilities, purchase of ROW, or railroad crossing permits, these items must be addressed in the project schedule.

### **f. Coordination with sewer and water projects (No Points)**

Prioritization of fiscal year if the project is coordinated with a planned sewer and/or water improvement in your community

# Twin Cities Area Transportation Study Combined TAC & Policy Meeting March 15, 2021

**Session will begin at 9:30**

1. Please mute your microphone

*If you dialed in on a phone you can use \*6 to  
mute and unmute yourself*

2. Recording will start when the meeting begins

3. Roll call will be taken after the meeting starts

# Roll Call

To adhere to the new requirements of the Michigan Open Meetings Act please state the city and state you are calling in from when your name is called.

Example:

Jane Cook

*“Here, participating remotely from the Village of Stevensville Michigan.”*

From January 1, 2021, to December 31, 2021, members must announce at the outset of the meeting that he or she is participating remotely and if remote participation is for any reason other than military duty, the member must announce the physical location by county, city, township or village, and state which shall be recorded in the meeting minutes.

# WELCOME

- **Changes to the Agenda**
- **Public Comment**

# MEETING MINUTES

## **Approval of Minutes March 15, 2021 Combined Meeting**

Policy Chair will call for a motion to approve minutes. Any member may support followed by any member adding second.

TAC & Policy  
Combined





# 2023-2026 Draft TIP Project Timeline

SWMPC TIP/STIP Timeline - Draft

	2021												2022											
Funding Source	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
<b>STBG -Urban</b>																								
NATS																								
TwinCATS																								
<b>STBG- Small Urban</b>																								
Berrien Springs																								
Dowagiac																								
South Haven																								
Coloma-Hartford-Watervliet																								
<b>STBG Rural</b>																								
Berrien County																								
Cass County																								
Van Buren county																								
Region Four RTF																								
<b>CMAQ</b>																								
Berrien County																								
Cass County																								
Van Buren county																								

Refine Selection criteria & update applications.	
Send call for Projects - use a single call tailored to each agency.	
Have MPOs & RTFS approve selection criteria at a Spring Meeting	
Staff Reviews applications: Score projects, creates summaries, maps etc. public/media outreach.	
Project selection meetings.	
Program projects in JobNet	
MPO approves the full TIP list (Urban funds, MDOT projects, CMAQ, etc.)	
Work on TIP Document - further public outreach & approval	

May 2021

**TwinCATS Project Selection Criteria Approved**

June 2021

**2023-2026 TwinCATS Project Application Released**

# 2023-2026 Draft TIP Project Timeline

Action	Date
Call for Projects Sent	June 2021
Applications Due	September 2021
Staff Score projects, create maps, conduct outreach	September-November 2021
Project Review/Selection Meeting	November 2021
Program Jobs, MDOT Review etc	January 2022
Final reviewed TIP list	March 2022
Document Finalized	May-June 2022

# DATA for 2023-2026 Project Application

## **PASER DATA - 2021**

- 2021 PASER Rating will be completed for 100 percent of the federal aid network by mid to late August 2021
- Project applicants will need to reach out to SWMPC staff for 2021 PASER data prior to September 2021

## **TRAFFIC COUNTS - 2021**

- Agencies can find or request a new traffic count by going to SWMPC traffic count website.

# Land Use Updates

# Proposed Developments – 3151 Niles Road

- Nyes Apple Barn Property
  - Retail
  - Gas Station/Convenient Mart
  - Apartments (53 Units)
  - Drive Thru - Restaurants





# Proposed Developments – 170 Riverview Drive

- 80-unit multi-family housing development to be constructed across the street from the Whirlpool Benton Harbor Tech Center near the former ship canal.
- For the project Whirlpool will also invest \$800,000 for road improvements and water/sewer connections.



# Proposed Developments – Colfax and Wall Streets

- 54,000 square foot, 55-unit supportive housing complex for a full city block in downtown Benton Harbor.
- 5,000 square foot grocery



# Orchards Mall

- Construct 117 short-term Lease apartments aimed at business travelers
- Indoor sports complex
- Storage facility
- Add greenspace & retention ponds to address stormwater runoff in the Ox Creek Watershed.

Any zoning change would require a public hearing and township board approval, Fuchs said. In the meantime, the mall is able now to address its concrete movement and cracks.



Castaneda shows off a rendering of potential future development at The Orchards Mall that includes residential apartments, walking paths and a sports complex.

Photos by Don Campbell / HP staff

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# Agency Updates

Transit

Local Road Agencies

MDOT

Handout summarizing  
updates is included in  
your meeting packet



# Public Transit

Twin Cities Area Transportation Authority

Paul Gillespie, Director

TCATA Public Transit Safety Plan is being reviewed by FTA Office of Transit Safety and Oversight and will be brought forward to TwinCATS for support in June 2021

FTA Electric Vehicle Grant Application

# Washington Avenue - 2021

Berrien County Road Department

Limits	Hilltop to Maiden Lane
Length	2.18 Miles
Work Description	Mill and asphalt overlay (mill & fill)
Federal Cost	\$324,298
Local Match	\$225,702
Total Cost	\$550,000

Letting in May. Construction to begin in June



# Langley Avenue - 2021

City of St. Joseph

Limits	Napier to Pearl
Length	0.8 miles
Work Description	Road Reconstruction Build a 10' non-motorized trail Water and sewer reconstruction
CMAQ	\$189,604
CMAQ Local Match	129,283
STP/TwinCATS	\$722,719
STP Local Match	\$2,144,307
Water/Sewer	\$1,696,832.00
Total	<b>\$4,893,141</b>

Construction in progress



# PROGRESS!

Langley Avenue at  
Kiwanis Park





# MDOT Project Updates

Project Name	Limits	Project Description	Update
<b>I-94</b>	I-94 BL (Exit 23) to the St. Joseph River	Reconstruction	Design in Progress.
<b>M-139</b>	Over Buckhorn Creek, north of Rocky Weed Rd.	Culvert Replacement and Road Reconstruction	Tree clearing will occur early March and culvert work will start after the 4th of July and complete end-August (full detour).
<b>I-94</b>	I-94 west of Van Buren County	Variable Advisory Speed Limit System along I-94 in Van Buren Co.	Project letting delayed one month to March Letting due to adding additional work sites
<b>M-43</b>	I94 WB OFF RAMP @ M139	Modernizing signalized intersection to current standards	Design will begin soon.
<b>Regionwide</b>	M-139 from Royalton/Oronoko Twp. Line to pavement change north of St. Joseph River	Crack seal, chip/fog seal, micro-surfacing and HMA milling and overlay	Design in progress.

# I-94 & US-31 Update



# New Business

Highway Infrastructure Program Project Approval  
MDOT Amendments  
FY 2022 Unified Work Program  
2023-2026 Call for Projects Selection Methodology



# Highway Infrastructure Program (HIP)

\$12 Billion in Funding – HIP & Covid Relief

## **\$311.1 Million for Michigan in HIP & Covid Relief**

MDOT allocated 75% for state trunkline projects and  
25% for local agency projects.

## **TwinCATS Allocation: \$482,756**

**HIP Traditional** (Federal share is up to 81.85% with a 18.15% match requirement)  
**\$59,000**

**HIP Covid Relief** (Federal share is 100%)  
**\$423,726**

# Red Arrow Highway - 2022

## Village of Stevensville

Limits	John Beers Rd to 750 ft. north of Puetz Rd
Length	0.47 miles
Work Description	mill the existing surface down to a depth of 3", place a 1" scratch course of asphalt with a geosynthetic paving fabric, and pave the roadway with 2" of hot mix asphalt.
Federal Cost - HIP	\$298,435
Local Match	\$205,914
Total Cost	\$504,349



# Broad Street - 2022

City of St. Joseph

Limits	Main Street to Pearl Street
Length	0.56 Miles
Work Description	Mill and Resurface
Federal Cost	\$184,321
Local Match	\$165,679
Total Cost	\$350,000



# TIP Amendment Motion



Technical Advisory Committee votes to (recommend/deny) that:

**The TwinCATS Policy Committee approve  
the amendments to the TwinCATS  
2020-2023 Transportation Improvement  
Program**

Policy Committee votes to (approve/deny) the recommendation from TAC.

Split the TwinCATS HIP funding allocation of \$482,756 as follows:

- \$298,453 federal funds to the Village of Stevensville for Red Arrow with a \$205,914 local match
- \$184,321 federal funds to the city of St. Joseph for Broad Street with a \$165,679 local match

# Signal Modernization

MDOT –Add ROW Phase to FY 2022

Location	M-139 & I-94 Interchange
Work	Modernizing signalized intersection to current standards
Cost	
Federal -STBG	\$2,000
State	\$0
Phase Total	\$2,000
<b>Total Job Cost</b>	<b>\$3,960,771</b>



# I-94 Interchanges

MDOT –Add CON Phase to FY 2023

Location	Exit 16, 23, 27 & 28
Work	Installation of delineation, signing, and channelization to prevent wrong way movements onto the freeway.
Cost	
Federal- HSIP	\$147,134
State	\$16,348
Phase Total	\$163,482
<b>Total Job Cost</b>	<b>\$448,812</b>

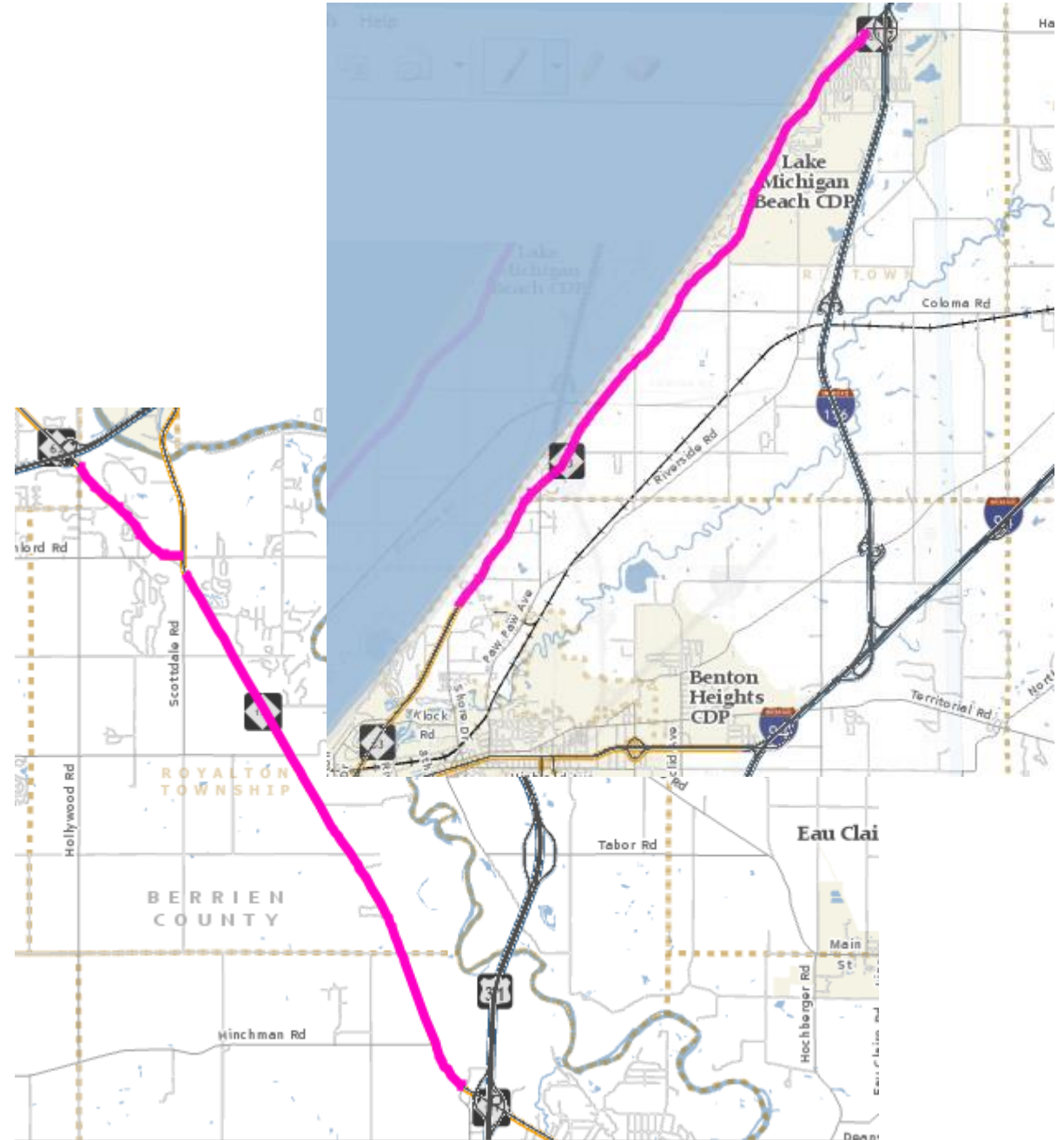


# M-139 & M-63

MDOT –Add PE Phase to 2023

Location	M-139 from US-31 to I-94 M-63 from the end of the divided section to I-196
Work	Durable all-weather markings with centerline and shoulder corrugations. Construction in 2025
Cost	
Federal - STBG	\$75,567
State	\$8,396
Phase Total	\$83,963
<b>Total Job Cost</b>	<b>\$661,324</b>

JN 211815

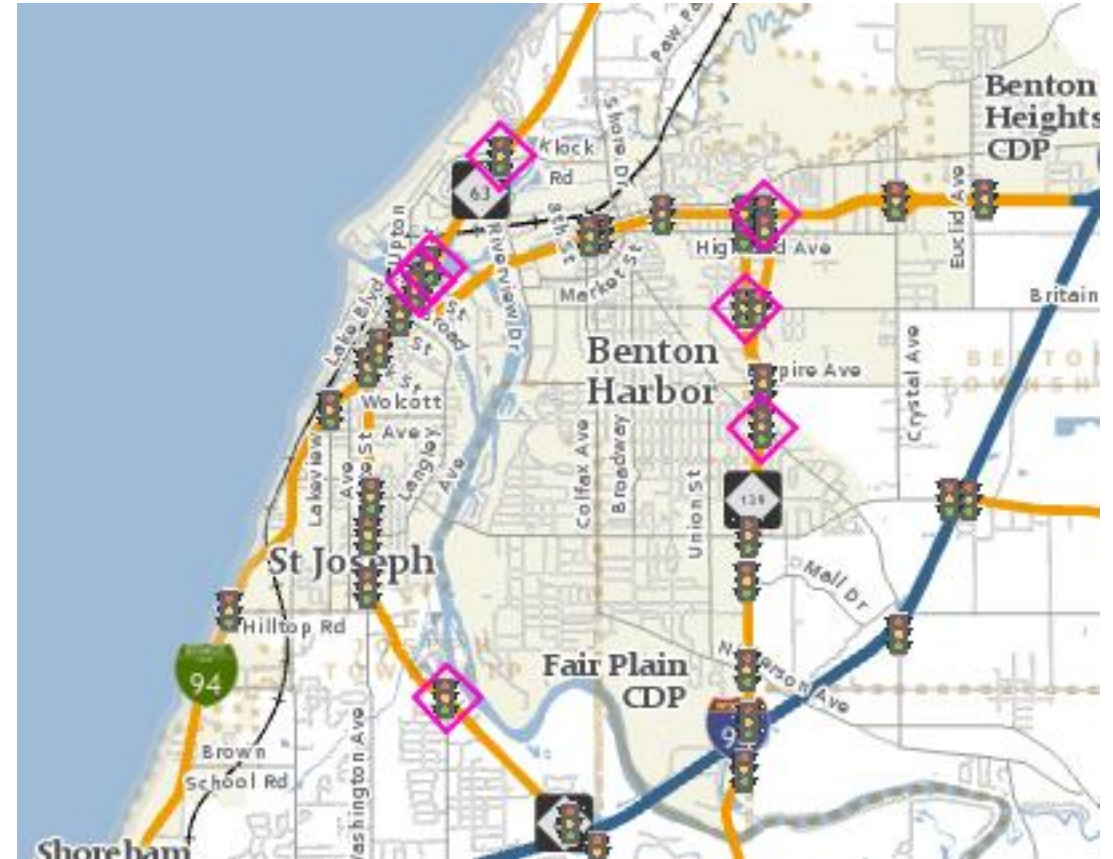




# Traffic Signal Modernization

MDOT –Add PE Phase to 2023

Location	M-139 @ Britain, M-139 @ Pipestone, I-94BL @ M-139, M-63 @ Klock, M-63 @ St Joseph River
Work	Traffic Safety: Modernize signals to current standards. Construction scheduled for FY 2026
Cost	
Federal - STBG	\$266,050
State	\$0
Phase Total	\$266,050
<b>Total Job Cost</b>	<b>\$3,898,248</b>





# Pavement Markings

## MDOT –Remove PE Phase in 2021

Location	All routes in TWINCATS MPO boundary
Work	Traffic Safety: Durable pavement Markings
Cost	
Federal HSIP	\$500
State	\$56
Phase Total	\$556
<b>Total Job Cost</b>	<b>\$400,000</b>

MDOT determined that this job does not require a separate PE phase. Construction still will occur in 2021



# TIP Amendment Motion



Technical Advisory Committee votes to (recommend/deny) that:

**The TwinCATS Policy Committee approve  
the amendments to the TwinCATS  
2020-2023 Transportation Improvement  
Program**

Policy Committee votes to (approve/deny) the recommendation from TAC.

## MDOT project phases to add

1. 2022 ROW Phase for Traffic Signal project
2. 2023 PE phase for interchange safety improvements
3. 2023 PE phase for pavement makings
4. 2023 PE Phase for Traffic Signal project

## MDOT project phases to remove

5. 2021 PE Phase for Pavement Markings

# Unified Work Plan

## Twin Cities Area Transportation Study

Prepared By:

Southwest Michigan Planning  
Commission

In Cooperation With:

Twin Cities Area Transportation Study  
Technical Advisory & Policy Committees

FISCAL YEAR 2022

# FY 2022 Unified Work Program

October 1, 2021 – September 30, 2022

- The Unified Work Program is a annually approved document describing the work tasks for the TwinCATS staff in FY 2022
- Budget for planning activities
- Reflects the required work activities the MPO must undertake under federal regulations as well as local priorities for the TwinCATS Area.

# FY 2022 Unified Work Program

## Work Elements

**Program Administration:** Covers all of the administration and other supporting tasks that are required to ensure efficient operation of the TwinCATS MPO.

**Data Collection, Analysis, and Reporting:** The gathering of transportation related data including the traffic count program. It also includes most mapping and GIS related tasks as well as any work related to the analysis, display, or reporting of data.

**Transportation Planning:** Includes technical assistance to members, public outreach, the administration of special plans, and updating the Long Range Plan.

**Transportation Improvement Program (TIP):** The TIP is a listing of all federal or state funded transportation projects in the TwinCATS planning area. The TIP work category covers project selection, TIP development, monitoring project status, and processing amendments.

# FY 2022 Unified Work Program

Work Element	Amount
1.0 Program Administration	\$58,928
2.0 Data Collection, Analysis and Reporting	\$49,928
3.0 Transportation Planning	\$54,396
4.0 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)	\$63,460
Total	\$226,646

\*The totals shown here are actual totals, rounded to the nearest dollar. Thus, they may appear inconsistent throughout the document, by an amount no more than \$1.00.



# FY 2022 Unified Work Program

Technical Advisory Committee votes to (recommend/deny) that:

The TwinCATS Policy Committee approve  
The TwinCATS FY 2022 Unified Work Program  
and submit the UWP to the SWMPC board  
with any minor changes requested by MDOT

Policy Committee votes to (approve/deny) the recommendation from TAC.

# FY 2022 Unified Work Program Resolution

WHEREAS, the Southwest Michigan Planning Commission (SWMPC) is the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Twin Cities Area Transportation Study (TwinCATS) according to the provisions of 23 U.S.C. 134, as amended; and

WHEREAS, the SWMPC has designated the Twin Cities Area Transportation Study (TwinCATS) Policy Committee responsible for the development of a Unified Planning Work Program (UWP) for the designated MPO planning area; and

WHEREAS, the Fiscal Year 2022 Unified Planning Work Program has been developed pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 134, as amended, and Section 8(f) of the Federal Transit Act;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Twin Cities Area Transportation Study Policy Committee approves the Twin Cities Area Transportation Study Unified Planning Work Program for Fiscal Year 2022

**TAC Votes to (Recommend/Deny)**  
**POL Votes to (Approve/Deny)**



# Proposed Project Scoring Methodology for the 2023-2026 Call for Projects

See handout in  
meeting packet.




- Update to System Preservation section so that the road in the worst condition receive the most points
- Clarified and improved Complete Street Section so that project which add pedestrian or bicycle facilities receive the most points
- Removed points for additional local match.
- Scoring is used as a guide for decision making; ultimate decision is made by the Policy Committee



# System Preservation

Section 4. System Preservation	
2020 PASER rating	<input type="checkbox"/>
Current state of drainage	<input type="checkbox"/> Adequate <input type="checkbox"/> Minor and tolerable drainage problems <input type="checkbox"/> Occasional drainage problems with some maintenance required <input type="checkbox"/> Inadequate, frequent flooding, excessive maintenance required
Expected increase in Remaining Service life (RSL)	<input type="checkbox"/> 0-3 years <input type="checkbox"/> 4-6 <input type="checkbox"/> 7-9 <input type="checkbox"/> 10-14 <input type="checkbox"/> 15-20 Use MDOT's <a href="#">Guidelines for Geometrics on Local Projects</a>
What MDOT guidelines does the project conform to?	<input type="checkbox"/> Reconstruction (4R) <input type="checkbox"/> Resurfacing, restoration, and Rehabilitation (3R) <input type="checkbox"/> Preventative Maintenance (PM)

# Call for projects

		 yd <span>Export</span>		Life Extension	Lane-Miles* Treated	Lane-Mile-Years	Unit Cost	Total Cost
Treatment Type		Category		?	?	?	?	
Preventative Maintenance	▼ Crack Seal	Preservation		3.0		0	0.48	\$0
	▼ Chip Seal	Preservation		6.0		0	2.06	\$0
	▼ Micro Surfacing- Si	Preservation		6.0		0	2.77	\$0
	▼ Ultra Thin Lift HM/	Preservation		8.0		0	5.77	\$0
Resurfacing, Restoration and Rehabilitation (3R)	▼ Minor Mill & Fill	Rehabilitation		11.0		0	9.80	\$0
	▼ Major Mill & Fill	Rehabilitation		15.0		0	16.64	\$0
New Construction /Reconstruction (4R)	▼ Full Depth Remove	Reconstruction		25.0		0	39.01	\$0

Roadresource.org – Pavement Preservation & Recycling Alliance  
 Costs may not be current or reflect local conditions

# Complete Streets

Previous scoring did not clarify the difference between adding pedestrian or bicycle facilities and selecting a road with facilities already presents .

Update gives additional points to projects that transform roads without pedestrian or bicycle facilities



# Proposed Project Scoring Examples

## Washington Avenue

### Project Scores Using 2020-2023 Scoring Methodology

System Preservation: 16

Safety: 4

Complete Streets: 4

Regional Connectivity: 6

Strategic Planning: 7

**Total: 36**

### Project Scores Using Proposed 2023-2026 Scoring Methodology

System Preservation: 16

Safety: 4

Complete Streets: 1

Regional Connectivity: 6

Strategic Planning: 5

**Total: 32**

# Proposed Project Scoring Examples

## Empire Avenue – Benton Harbor

Project Scores Using  
2020-2023 Scoring Methodology

System Preservation: 13

Safety: 1

Complete Streets: 6

Regional Connectivity: 7

Strategic Planning: 5

**Total: 32**

Project Scores Using Proposed  
2023-2026 Scoring Methodology

System Preservation: 21

Safety: 1

Complete Streets: 1

Regional Connectivity: 7

Strategic Planning: 3

**Total: 33**



# 2023-2026 Project Selection Methodology

Technical Advisory Committee votes to (recommend/deny) that:

The TwinCATS Policy Committee approve  
The 2023-2026 Project Selection Methodology

Policy Committee votes to (approve/deny) the recommendation from TAC.

# Privilege of the Floor / Public Comment

If anyone joined the meeting after rollcall of members please  
announce yourself now.

**Next meeting is:  
June 21, 2021, 9:30 AM  
(Virtual Meeting)**