



AGENDA

FULL COMMISSION MEETING

Tuesday, June 17, 2025, 9:30 a.m.

Van Buren Conference Center
490 Paw Paw Street
Lawrence, MI 49064

- 1. CALL TO ORDER** **Chair Kurt Doroh**
 - Pledge Allegiance
 - Roll Call
- 2. ACCEPTANCE AND/OR REVISION OF CONSENT AGENDA**
 - a. Meeting Agenda *
 - b. Minutes of Commission Meeting, April 15, 2025 *
 - c. Chairman's Report
 - d. Treasurer's Report*
- 3. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT** **Accept* **John Egelhaaf – Ex. Director**
- 4. WEST MICHIGAN MASTER TRAILS PLAN** **John Morrison-West MI Trails**
 - Plan Discussion*
- 5. RESOLUTION 2025-3 WEST MICHIGAN MASTER TRAILS PLAN** **Chair Doroh**
 - *Approve*
- 6. NATS & TwinCATS UNIFIED WORK PROGRAM** **Brandon Kovnat – Transportation Planner**
 - NATS-
https://www.swmpc.org/downloads/nats_uwp_2026_draft_for_public_comment.pdf
 - TCATS-
https://www.swmpc.org/downloads/twincats_2026_uwp_draft_for_public_comment.pdf
- 7. NATS & TwinCATS TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP)** **B. Kovnat**
 - NATS-
https://www.swmpc.org/downloads/nats_20262029_tip_draft_for_public_comment_1.pdf
 - TCATS-
[https://www.swmpc.org/downloads/twincats_20262029_tip_draft_for_public_comme nt.pdf](https://www.swmpc.org/downloads/twincats_20262029_tip_draft_for_public_comment.pdf)

8. **RESOLUTION 2025-4** *Approve
NATS/CASS OZONE STANDARD STATUS
https://www.swmpc.org/downloads/cass_county_1997_ozone_oma_conformity_report_new_20262029_tip_public_draft.pdf
9. **RESOLUTION 2025-5** *Approve
NATS 2026-2029 TIP
https://www.swmpc.org/downloads/nats_20262029_tip_draft_for_public_comment_1.pdf
10. **RESOLUTION 2025-6** *Approve
TCATS 2026-2029 TIP
https://www.swmpc.org/downloads/twincats_20262029_tip_draft_for_public_comment.pdf
11. **RESOLUTION 2025-7** *Approve
TCATS 2026 UWP
https://www.swmpc.org/downloads/twincats_2026_uwp_draft_for_public_comment.pdf
12. **RESOLUTION 2025-8** *Approve
NATS 2026 UWP
https://www.swmpc.org/downloads/nats_uwp_2026_draft_for_public_comment.pdf
13. **RESOLUTION 2025-9** *Approve
BERRIEN COUNTY OZONE STATUS
https://www.swmpc.org/downloads/berrien_co_conformity_analysis_new_2050_lrtf_and_2045_lrtf_2023_01_03_final.pdf
14. **RESOLUTION 2025-10** *Approve
SELF CERTIFICATION TCATS TIP
https://www.swmpc.org/downloads/twincats_20262029_tip_draft_for_public_comment.pdf
15. **RESOLUTION 2025-11** *Approve
SELF CERTIFICATION NATS TIP
https://www.swmpc.org/downloads/nats_20262029_tip_draft_for_public_comment_1.pdf
16. **PLANNER PRESENTATION** **Kim Gallagher – Senior Planner**
A Common Goal: Expanding Access Through Mobility Partnerships
17. **PUBLIC COMMENT**
18. **PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR**

19. ADJOURNMENT

**enclosures*

Next meeting will be held **August 26, 2025** at **Van Buren Conference Center, Lawrence**

SWMPC Mission: Our team uses its passion and expertise to connect people, assist communities, and advance cooperative solutions to regional challenges experienced by the communities that created us.

The Mission of the Southwest Michigan Planning Commission is to promote a sustainable high quality of life through facilitation of sound planning and decision making.



Minutes

Southwest Michigan Planning Commission
FULL COMMISSION MEETING
Tuesday, April 15, 2025, at 9:30 a.m.

Meeting held in person at Van Buren ISD Conference Center

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Doroh, Kurt, Chair, Van Buren County Commissioner
Curran, Jim, Vice Chair, Berrien County Commissioner
Sinclair, Kim, Treasurer, Van Buren County Representative
Catherman, Rick, Van Buren County Representative
Cichon, Peg, Berrien County Representative
DeLong, Don, Cass County Representative
Dodd, James, Cass County Representative
Durm-Hiatt, Marge, Berrien County Representative
Ellspermann, Tom, Berrien County Representative
Fette, Dan, Berrien County Representative
Engle, Roger, Van Buren County Representative
Freehling, Teri Sue, Berrien County Commissioner
Gundersen, Kristen, Alternate Secretary, Berrien County Representative
Hanson, Sandra, Alternate Treasurer, Van Buren County Representative
Leary, Tina, Van Buren County Commissioner
Northrop, Alan, Cass County Commissioner
Pantaleo, Paul, Berrien County Representative
Patterson-Gladney, Gail, Van Buren County Commissioner
Stauffer, Dick, Berrien County Representative
Torzynski, Robert, Pokagon Band Representative
Tyler, Doug, Cass County Representative
Wuerfel, Julie, Berrien County Commissioner

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Klemesrud, Kathryn, Berrien County Representative
Multhauf, Katie, Van Buren County Economic Development Ex-Officio
Preston, Linda, Secretary, Cass County Representative
Wood, Gary, Berrien County Representative

OTHERS PRESENT:

Vettraino, Maria, SWMPC Office Manager

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Kurt Doroh called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance. Office Manager, Maria Vettraino, took roll call, and a quorum was present.

2. ACCEPTANCE AND/OR REVISION OF CONSENT AGENDA

Chair Doroh presented the Consent Agenda with revisions to add 3A Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting. Peg Cichon moved to **“ACCEPT THE CONSENT AGENDA WITH REVISIONS.”** Rick Catherman seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

3. A - MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING, MARCH 28, 2025

Jim Curran moved to **“ACCEPT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES.”** Kim Sinclair seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

B - EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Director Egelhaaf presented the report. Paul Pantaleo raised the issues relating to the designation of Berrien County air quality changing to “serious.” Egelhaaf responded that along with the downside, there has historically been funding that helps the county mitigate its status.

Issues have arisen with the SWMPC’s ability to engage the US EPA through its grant portal “ASAP.” Dan Fette noted that this has become an issue nationwide. Until it is resolved, the SWMPC will struggle to execute its Community Change grant award.

Kim Sinclair moved to **“ACCEPT THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT.”** Paul Pantaleo seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

4. A - 2024 ANNUAL AUDIT DRAFT

Joseph Laudont with Lauterbach & Amen presented the SWMPC 2024 Annual Audit draft and explained the changes to be made before the final report.

The changes to be made to the draft include the following: the old SWMPC logo will be replaced by the current version; the 2024 fringe benefit rate will be inserted into page 10; on page 13, the reference to the Regional Prosperity Initiative will be removed; the reference to an interest rate on the SWMPC lease will be removed from page 16; also on page 16 the SWMPC’s Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement indirect rate of 59.02% will be inserted.

Director Egelhaaf and Chair Doroh suggested to the Board to approve the audit with the changes presented and that in anticipation of those changes as the only remaining alterations to the draft, that the approval constitute final approval if no

other changes are forthcoming.

Sandra Hanson moved to **“APPROVE THE 2024 AUDIT WITH AN UNDERSTANDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT CHANGES BEYOND THOSE DISCUSSED TO DRAFT.”** Gail Patterson-Gladney seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

5. 2024 SWMPC ANNUAL REPORT

The SWMPC 2024 Annual Report was discussed. The Report will be distributed in a new way this year. Rather than sending the complete hardcopy version, a one-page flier will be sent that introduces the report and includes a QR code to find the digital version. Board members agreed that this made sense.

Marge Durm-Hiatt moved to **“APPROVE 2024 SWMPC ANNUAL REPORT.”** Doug Tyler seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

6. 2025 OVERAL WORK PROGRAM

Egelhaaf explained that the Work Program was an excellent companion to complement the annual budget approved in February. It provides more detail on project themes across the entire portfolio.

Gail Patterson-Gladney moved to **“APPROVE 2025 OVERALL WORK PROGRAM.”** Dick Stauffer seconded the motion, which carried unanimously by roll call vote.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

Dick Stauffer noted that CMAQ funding from Berrien’s air quality designation helped them build a non-motorized trail. Also, he reported that he has received happy reports from residents who now have access to broadband that they did not previously have. He thanked the folks involved in Berrien County’s efforts to connect residents to broadband.

8. PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

No further comments from the floor.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Gail Patterson-Gladney moved to adjourn the meeting. Tina Leary supported the motion. The Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 10:28 am.

Respectfully submitted by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. John Egelhaaf', written in a cursive style.

K. John Egelhaaf, AICP

Date: April 15, 2025

Southwest Michigan Planning Commission

Balance Sheet

As of May 31, 2025

	Total
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
1010 Petty Cash	65.00
1020 Checking	327,262.52
1040 ICS	165,205.80
1060 CD	88,808.29
Total Bank Accounts	\$ 581,341.61
Accounts Receivable	
1100 Accounts Receivable	129,969.98
1110 A/R Grants	0.00
Total Accounts Receivable	\$ 129,969.98
Other Current Assets	
1200 Other Receivable	290,859.00
1240 Undeposited Funds	-27,027.38
1300 Prepaid Expenses	11,331.10
1499 Security Deposit - 376 W. Main	-11,220.00
Met Life Stock	0.00
Repayment	
MISC DEDUCTION	0.00
Total Repayment	\$ 0.00
Total Other Current Assets	\$ 263,942.72
Total Current Assets	\$ 975,254.31
Fixed Assets	
1350 Furniture and Equipment	32,056.00
1360 Accumulated Depreciation	-32,056.00
1400 Right of Use Asset	589,023.84
1410 Right of Use Asset - Amortization	1.40
Total Fixed Assets	\$ 589,025.24
Other Assets	
1250 Grants Receivable - Old	0.00
Total Other Assets	\$ 0.00
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 1,564,279.55
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
2000 Accounts Payable	-3,834.90
Total Accounts Payable	-\$ 3,834.90

Other Current Liabilities		
2010 Accounts Payable - Old		0.00
2250 Accrued Payroll		9,720.45
2400 Payroll Liabilities		4,443.03
2420 457b Payable		883.32
2430 Health Insurance		446.98
2438 HSA		-640.38
2440 Federal Withholding		0.00
2450 Medicare Payable		0.00
2460 FICA Payable		0.00
2480 State Withholding		714.42
2490 Michigan UIA Payable		195.77
2495 Benton Harbor withholding		172.55
457b Catch-Up		-5,183.00
IN Income / Local Taxes		0.00
MISC		3.84
MISC DEDUCTION		31.46
Total 2400 Payroll Liabilities	\$	1,067.99
2500 RPI		0.00
Michigan Department of Treasury Payable		0.00
Total Other Current Liabilities	\$	10,788.44
Total Current Liabilities	\$	6,953.54
Long-Term Liabilities		
2260 Accrue Annual Leave		43,982.95
2290 SJ Watershed Escrow		1,207.99
2300 NATS-FHWA-Escrow		2,591.54
2310 NATS-FTA-Escrow		13,901.33
2320 TCATS-Escrow		19,397.05
2340 EDA Escrow		409.09
2550 Unearned Revenue		114,062.00
2600 Lease Liability		589,023.66
Total Long-Term Liabilities	\$	784,575.61
Total Liabilities	\$	791,529.15
Equity		
32000 Unrestricted Net Assets		655,169.99
Net Income		117,580.41
Total Equity	\$	772,750.40
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$	1,564,279.55

Southwest Michigan Planning Commission
Budget vs. Actuals: Budget_FY25_P&L - FY25 P&L
January - May 2025

	Actual	Budget	Total over Budget	% of Budget
Income				
4000 Federal Grant	271,332.86	972,730.00	-701,397.14	27.89%
4005 Pass Thru	384,513.54	9,615,612.00	-9,231,098.46	4.00%
4010 State Grant	19,274.49	666,526.00	-647,251.51	2.89%
4020 County Contribution	59,112.00	59,112.00	0.00	100.00%
4030 Local Match	88,016.00	92,629.00	-4,613.00	95.02%
4040 Local Contract	144,000.98	177,003.73	-33,002.75	81.35%
4050 Other Fee Income	654.40	0.00	654.40	
4080 In-Kind		0.00	0.00	
4090 Donations		0.00	0.00	
4100 Interest Income	4,059.64	4,300.00	-240.36	94.41%
Total Income	\$ 970,963.91	\$ 11,587,912.73	-\$ 10,616,948.82	8.38%
Gross Profit	\$ 970,963.91	\$ 11,587,912.73	-\$ 10,616,948.82	8.38%
Expenses				
6000 Direct Expenses			0.00	
6200 Salaries	177,544.13	562,548.00	-385,003.87	31.56%
6220 Payroll Taxes	13,578.37	43,031.49	-29,453.12	31.55%
6230 Pension Expenses	12,425.28	41,477.54	-29,052.26	29.96%
6240 Employee Insurance	44,697.66	158,832.22	-114,134.56	28.14%
6300 Mileage & Travel	3,100.90	12,846.00	-9,745.10	24.14%
6310 Meals	261.89	2,255.00	-1,993.11	11.61%
6315 Lodging	770.76	8,110.00	-7,339.24	9.50%
6320 Telephone		0.00	0.00	
6330 Printing		0.00	0.00	
6340 Postage		0.00	0.00	
6410 Dues & Subscriptions	1,060.34	5,380.00	-4,319.66	19.71%
6420 Supplies & Materials	2,035.87	13,005.00	-10,969.13	15.65%
6430 Computer Services		9,659.00	-9,659.00	0.00%
6440 Advertising		0.00	0.00	
6500 Conferences & Training	2,113.85	9,550.00	-7,436.15	22.13%
6520 Rent & Janitorial		0.00	0.00	
6525 Lease Payments - Principal		0.00	0.00	
6530 Local Cash in-kind		0.00	0.00	
6540 Contractural Svcs-OnSite		0.00	0.00	
6550 Contractural Svcs-OffSite	65,788.50	31,675.00	34,113.50	207.70%
6610 Equipment		10,208,873.00	-10,208,873.00	0.00%
6620 Equipment Rental		0.00	0.00	
6630 Equipment Maintenance		0.00	0.00	
6710 Legal Services		0.00	0.00	
6715 Audit Services		0.00	0.00	
6720 Accounting Services		550.00	-550.00	0.00%
6730 Insurance Corporate		3,200.00	-3,200.00	0.00%
6740 Depreciation		0.00	0.00	

6750 Amortization Exp		0.00		0.00	
6950 General Commission Expenses	639.30	0.00		639.30	
6960 Commissioner Mileage	1,187.91	650.00		537.91	182.76%
6970 Commissioner Per Diem	1,000.00	2,550.00		-1,550.00	39.22%
6980 Bank Fees	287.75	2,560.00		-2,272.25	11.24%
6985 Contingency		1,800.00		-1,800.00	0.00%
6990 Pass Thru	380,702.93	500.00		380,202.93	76140.59%
Total 6000 Direct Expenses	\$ 707,195.44	\$ 11,119,052.25	-\$	10,411,856.81	6.36%
7000 Indirect Expenses		468,195.18		-468,195.18	
7200 Salaries-Indirect	58,152.65			58,152.65	
7220 Payroll Taxes-Indirect	5,323.72			5,323.72	
7230 Pension Expenses-Indirect	5,646.95			5,646.95	
7240 Employee Insurance-Indirect	14,265.72			14,265.72	
7315 Lodging-Indirect	134.48			134.48	
7320 Telephone-Indirect	706.40			706.40	
7340 Postage-Indirect	784.18			784.18	
7410 Dues & Subscriptions-Indirect	14.47			14.47	
7420 Supplies & Materials-Indirect	7,115.30			7,115.30	
7430 Computer Services-Indirect	13,801.90			13,801.90	
7520 Rent & Janitorial-Indirect	29,724.80			29,724.80	
7640 Gas-Indirect	1,448.29			1,448.29	
7650 Power-Indirect	2,005.79			2,005.79	
7660 Water-Indirect	504.44			504.44	
7715 Audit Services-Indirect	4,500.00			4,500.00	
7720 Accounting Services-Indirect	1,802.47			1,802.47	
7730 Insurance Corporate-Indirect	256.50			256.50	
Total 7000 Indirect Expenses	\$ 146,188.06	\$ 468,195.18	-\$	322,007.12	31.22%
9000 Payroll Expenses				0.00	
9020 Salaries & Wages	0.00			0.00	
9040 FICA Taxes	0.00			0.00	
9060 Medicare Taxes	0.00			0.00	
9080 Michigan UIA Taxes	0.00			0.00	
9200 Mileage, meals, and lodging	0.00			0.00	
9220 Supplies	0.00			0.00	
Total 9000 Payroll Expenses	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$	0.00	
Total Expenses	\$ 853,383.50	\$ 11,587,247.43	-\$	10,733,863.93	7.36%
Net Operating Income	\$ 117,580.41	\$ 665.30	\$	116,915.11	17673.29%
Net Income	\$ 117,580.41	\$ 665.30	\$	116,915.11	17673.29%

Code	PROJECT NAME	CONTRACT START DATE	CONTRACT END DATE	CONTRACT AMOUNT	INCOME TYPE
NATS Unified Work Program - 2024/5					
110	NATS - PROGRAM	10/1/2024	9/30/2025	\$60,021	80% Federal/20% Local
120	NATS - DATA	10/1/2024	9/30/2025	\$28,568	
130	NATS - PLANNING	10/1/2024	9/30/2025	\$57,104	
140	NATS - TIP	10/1/2024	9/30/2025	\$35,001	
145	NATS - MULTIMODAL PLANNING	10/1/2024	9/30/2025	\$17,421	
			TOTAL	\$198,115	
155	NATS - TDM MACOG	10/1/2024	9/30/2025	\$50,000 *100% contract	80% Federal/20% State
TWINCATS Unified Work Program - 2025					
160	TCATS - PROGRAM	10/1/2024	9/30/2025	\$107,725	80% Federal/20% Local
170	TCATS - DATA	10/1/2024	9/30/2025	\$44,521	
180	TCATS - PLANNING	10/1/2024	9/30/2025	\$90,865	
190	TCATS - TIP	10/1/2024	9/30/2025	\$48,836	
195	TCATS - MULTIMODAL PLANNING	10/1/2024	9/30/2025	\$20,296	
			TOTAL	\$312,243	
215	TCATS - EV READINESS PLAN	12/18/2024	9/30/2025	\$10,000 *100% contract	80% Federal/20% Local
MDOT REGION Work Program - 2025					
210	MDOT - PROGRAM MGT.	10/1/2024	9/30/2025	\$7,303	100% State
230	MDOT - TA TO MEMBER	10/1/2024	9/30/2025	\$15,073	
235	MDOT - PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT MTF	10/1/2024	9/30/2025	\$1,200	
260	MDOT - TA TO MDOT	10/1/2024	9/30/2025	\$11,124	
280	MDOT - HERITAGE ROUTE	10/1/2024	9/30/2025	\$4,000	
			TOTAL	\$38,700	
240	MDOT - PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT SPR	10/1/2024	9/30/2025	\$4,000	100% Federal
250	MDOT - RURAL TASK FORCE	10/1/2024	9/30/2025	\$19,373	
			TOTAL	\$23,373	
ASSET MANAGEMENT - Program 2025					
311	ASSET MGMNT - DATA FED AID	10/1/2024	9/30/2025	\$14,346	100% State
315	ASSET MGMNT - DATA NON-FED	10/1/2024	9/30/2025	\$13,565	
316	ASSET MGMNT - TRAINING	10/1/2024	9/30/2025	\$7,177	
317	ASSET MGMNT - DATA SUBMISSION	10/1/2024	9/30/2025	\$940	
319	ASSET MGMNT - TECH ASSISTANCE	10/1/2024	9/30/2025	\$2,822	
321	ASSET MGMNT - PLANNING	10/1/2024	9/30/2025	\$7,400	
				\$46,250	
331	ASSET MGMNT - SPECIAL - CULVERT DATA	5/20/2025	9/30/2026	\$12,100	100% State
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT					
340/350/360	EDA - PLANNING; ADMIN; INFO	1/1/2025	12/31/2027	\$21,0000 (+\$17,210 annual county contributions)	50% Federal/50% Local
RIDESHARE					
380	RIDESHARE BERRIEN/VAN BUREN	8/27/2024	6/30/2025	\$26,000 (Berrien \$16,000, VB \$10,000)	100% Federal
OTHER PROJECTS					
500	EPA CCG	1/1/2025	12/31/2027	\$20,000,000	100% Local
520	PEP PHASE II	no contract, calculated annual amounts based on formula *see MH budget ws			
555	EGLE CMP	6/1/2025	9/30/2026	\$75,000	100% Federal
560	GLRI - OX CREEK	3/11/2024	12/31/2025	\$1,044,149 *MH \$9,500 SWMPC, remaining contract	100% Federal
NOAA - OX CREEK					
565	NOAA - OX CREEK - SWMPC			\$159,629	Federal
	NOAA - OX CREEK - GEI/CONTRACTUAL	7/1/2023	4/30/2027	\$397,000	
	NOAA - OX CREEK - OTHER/ CONTRACTUAL			\$443,371	
			TOTAL	\$1,000,000	
OTHER PROJECTS					
590	KZOO RIVER - PARCHMENT	11/1/2021	until completed	\$52,280	100% Local
600	GOBLES REC/MASTER PLAN	6/1/2025	until completed	\$19,954	100% Local
610	VAN BUREN REC PLAN	5/8/2025	until completed	\$11,500	100% Local

633	BANGOR MASTER PLAN	6/1/2025	until completed	\$17,452	100% Local
635	DECATUR HAMILTON REC PLAN	6/13/2024	until completed	\$6,057	100% Local
645	DOWAGIAC REC PLAN	7/1/2024	until completed	\$14,985	100% Local
650	SODUS TWP MASTER PLAN	3/9/2024	until completed	\$20,218	100% Local
661	VAN BUREN HAZ MIT	7/1/2023	2/1/2026	\$50,515	State/Local
681	MATERIALS MANAGEMENT	7/3/2024	7/3/2027	\$240,000	
686	MICHIANA MASTER PLAN	11/19/2024	until completed	\$16,592.82	100% Local
690	ARLINGTON TWP MASTER PLAN	3/1/2024	until completed	\$14,195.75 paid up front	100% Local
700	SPARK GRANT	11/6/2023		\$67,640	100% Federal
721	SOUTH HAVEN MASTER PLAN	2/5/2024		\$49,740	100% Local
865	IN-MI RIVER VALLEY TRAIL EXTENSION	3/1/2021	until completed	\$24,000 paid up front	100% State
871	BLACK RIVER WATER TRAIL MAINTENANCE	3/16/2021	3/16/2031	up to \$5,500 - \$7,000/year *all contract except for about \$200-\$400	100% Local
881	PAW PAW RIVER WATER TRAIL COMMUNITIES	no contract, calculated annual amounts based on formula			100% Local
1010	Broadband Equity Compass	4/12/2024	Until completed	Hourly (not to exceed \$7,500 per quarter)	100% Local
1025	BB MITTEN	3/1/2025	12/00/27	\$321,078	100% State
1100	MIOTA	1/1/2023	12/31/2025	\$10,000/year	100% State

MEMORANDUM

TO: Southwest Michigan Planning Commission

FROM: K. John Egelhaaf

DATE: May 10, 2025

RE: Staff Report for the Southwest Michigan Planning Commission June 17, 2025

Office/Administrative Updates

- A. Conference/Worshop Attendance
 - a. M-63/I-94 BL Reconstruction Open House #3,4 (April 8, June 2)
 - 1. John Egelhaaf Attended
 - b. 2 CFR 200 Compliance Training – MITTEN Project (April 9)
 - 1. Jerrid Burdue Attended
 - c. Climate Conference Detroit (April 22-23)
 - 1. Marcy Hamilton Attended
 - d. Michigan 2020 Statewide NFC Review Seminar (April 25)
 - 1. Brandon Kovnat Attended
 - e. Merit Member Conference (May 12-14)
 - 1. John Egelhaaf Presenter (x2)
 - f. Michigan Recycling Coalition Conference (May 13-15)
 - 1. Bekah Schrag Attended
 - g. MI CAMP GIS Conference (June 2)
 - 1. Jill Plescher Attended
- B. New SWMPC Phone System
 - a. Zoom Phones
 - b. High Functionality, Low Cost
 - a. Half the monthly cost of existing system
 - c. No Need for Desk Phones
 - a. Make use of existing cell phones
- C. Jerrid Burdue (Senior Development Planner) Graduated w/Master of Public Policy
 - a. April Graduation!

Project Developments

- A. Marquette Greenway Ribbon Cutting
 - a. April 25 Event in New Buffalo
 - i. SWMPC recognized at event for its persistent effort, coordination, and problem-solving
- B. New Projects
 - a. Mobility Management
 - i. Notice of award given – awaiting grant agreement

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- b. City of Bangor Master Plan
 - a. Contract not fully executed yet – but soon!
- c. Michigan's Inclusive Training, Technology & Equity Network (MITTEN)
 - a. Contract signed April 10
 - b. \$857,909 – Three Year Grant
 - c. STOP WORK order May 12, 2025
- d. Van Buren County 5-Year Recreation Plan Update
 - a. \$11,500 Agreement

Potential Projects

- A. Michigan Infrastructure Council (MIC) Rich Hubs
 - a. SWMPC as archivist for infrastructure location & condition data
 - b. Incorporation of state & local data into a consistently updated, reliable resource
 - c. Potential to evolve into a resource for infrastructure asset management
- B. Michigan Health Endowment Fund (MHEF) Nutrition & Healthy Lifestyles Grant
 - a. SWMPC as fiduciary to assist planning regions across the state to fund 5-year community recreation plans & trail planning.
 - b. Two-year grant

Project Updates

- A. Village of Michiana Master Plan
 - a. Second meeting with planning committee held
 - b. Reviewing existing conditions data
- B. Sodus Township Master Plan
 - a. Nearing Completion



RESOLUTION 2025-3 WEST MICHIGAN REGIONAL MASTER TRAILS PLAN

WHEREAS, trails are vital infrastructure that provide recreational opportunities, transportation alternatives, economic development, environmental benefits, and enhanced quality of life for residents and visitors of West Michigan;

WHEREAS, the West Michigan Trails Regional Master Trails Plan aims to develop a comprehensive, interconnected trail network that enhances connectivity between communities, promotes safe multi-modal transportation, and expands access to outdoor recreation;

WHEREAS, the Regional Master Trails Plan aligns with the goals of local, regional, and state plans, including sustainable development, health and wellness, and equitable access to public spaces;

WHEREAS, the development and implementation of the Regional Master Trails Plan requires collaboration among municipalities, counties, MPOs, regional planning agencies, community organizations, and stakeholders;

WHEREAS, the Regional Master Trails Plan supports regional economic growth by improving access to key destinations, fostering tourism, and creating opportunities for business development;

WHEREAS, public input and engagement have demonstrated broad support for an expanded and connected regional trail system;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Southwest Michigan Planning Commission recognizes and supports the West Michigan Trails Regional Master Trails Plan as a framework for advancing trail connectivity and multi-modal transportation in the region;

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that Southwest Michigan Planning Commission encourages all regional and local partners to join in supporting and implementing the West Michigan Trails Regional Master Trails Plan, recognizing its importance in building a vibrant, connected, and resilient future for the region.

RESOLVED ON THIS SEVENTEENTH DAY OF JUNE 2025

Kurt Doroh, Chair

Date

Linda Preston, Secretary

Date



**RESOLUTION 2025-4
TO SUPPORT THE FINDINGS OF
TRANSPORTATION CONFORMITY
DETERMINATION REPORT FOR 1997
OZONE NAAQS CASS COUNTY
MAINTENANCE AREA**

WHEREAS, per the decision in South Coast II, beginning February 16, 2019, transportation conformity determinations for the 1997 ozone national ambient air quality standard (NAAQS) will be needed for those areas that were maintenance areas when the 1997 ozone NAAQS was revoked and then attainment for the 2008 and 2015 NAAQSs, referred to as “orphan” areas; and

WHEREAS, in November 2018, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) promulgated guidance to assist in implementing the court decision in South Coast II, providing the requirements to demonstrate transportation conformity for areas that were “orphan” areas; and

WHEREAS, the EPA designated the Cass County nonattainment area as a maintenance area for the 1997 ozone NAAQS in May 2007 and attainment in July 2012 for the stricter 2008 ozone NAAQS and in August 2018 for the 2015 ozone NAAQS; and

WHEREAS, the Cass County maintenance area is deemed an “orphan” area, and the Niles-Buchanan-Cass Area Transportation Study (NATS) is partially contained within the Cass County orphan maintenance area; and

WHEREAS, The Southwest Michigan Planning Commission Board is the designated regional planning agency for Cass County; and

WHEREAS, the conformity of the NATS 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) will be pending approval by the Federal Highway Administration after action by the Southwest Michigan Planning Commission on the Transportation Conformity Determination Report for the 1997 Ozone NAAQS for the Cass County orphan maintenance Area, published by MDOT on May 5, 2025.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Southwest Michigan Planning Commission supports the conclusions of the Transportation Conformity Determination Report for the 1997 Ozone NAAQS for the Cass County orphan maintenance area for the NATS 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Transportation Conformity Determination Report for the 1997 Ozone NAAQS for the Cass County orphan maintenance area demonstrates that these planning documents meet the Clean Air Act and Transportation Conformity rule requirements for the 1997 ozone NAAQS to conform to the State Implementation Plan as required by provisions of Title 40 CFR 51.390 and 93 Subpart A, and the South Coast II decision.

THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION AND THE MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION BY A VOTE OF THE SOUTHWEST MICHIGAN PLANNING COMMISSION ON JUNE 17, 2025

RESOLVED ON THIS SEVENTEENTH DAY OF JUNE 2025

Kurt Doroh, Chair

Date

Linda Preston, Secretary

Date



**RESOLUTION 2025-5
TO APPROVE THE NILES-BUCHANAN-
CASS AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY
(NATS)
FISCAL YEARS 2026-2029
TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT
PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, the Southwest Michigan Planning Commission is the state-designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Niles – Buchanan – Cass Urbanized Area; and

WHEREAS, the Niles-Buchanan-Cass Area Transportation Study (NATS) is responsible for the development of a Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for the Metropolitan Planning Organization; and

WHEREAS, the TIP is required by both the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration; and

WHEREAS, the NATS Fiscal Years 2026-2029 TIP has been developed and certified in accordance with the requirements of 23 CFR 450 in cooperation with state and local officials, with opportunities for public involvement, review and input; and

WHEREAS, the Federal and non-federal programmed expenditures in the NATS FY 2026-2029 TIP are constrained with the amount of revenues expected to be available during the four-year period;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, this the 17th day of June, 2025, that the Southwest Michigan Planning Commission finds the NATS FY 2026-2029 TIP consistent with the goals of the NATS 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan, fiscally constrained, conforms with Air Quality Standards and hereby approves the FY 2026-2029 NATS Transportation Improvement Program.

Kurt Doroh, Chair

Date

Linda Preston, Secretary

Date



**RESOLUTION 2025-6
TO APPROVE THE TWIN CITIES AREA
TRANSPORTATION STUDY (TwinCATS)
FISCAL YEARS 2026-2029
TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT
PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, the Southwest Michigan Planning Commission is the state-designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Benton Harbor –St. Joseph Urbanized Area; and

WHEREAS, the Twin Cities Area Transportation Study (TwinCATS) is responsible for the development of a Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for the Metropolitan Planning Organization; and

WHEREAS, the TIP is required by both the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration; and

WHEREAS, the TwinCATS Fiscal Years 2026-2029 TIP has been developed and certified in accordance with the requirements of 23 CFR 450 in cooperation with state and local officials, with opportunities for public involvement, review and input; and

WHEREAS, the Federal and non-federal programmed expenditures in the TwinCATS FY 2026-2029 TIP are constrained with the amount of revenues expected to be available during the four-year period;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, this the 17th day of June, 2025, that the Southwest Michigan Planning Commission finds the TwinCATS FY 2026-2029 TIP consistent with the goals of the TwinCATS 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan, fiscally constrained, conforms with Air Quality Standards and hereby approves the FY 2026-2029 TwinCATS Transportation Improvement Program.

Kurt Doroh, Chair

Date

Linda Preston, Secretary

Date



**RESOLUTION 2025-7
TO APPROVE THE
TWIN CITIES AREA TRANSPORTATION
STUDY
UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2026**

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, the Committee responsible for the development of a Unified Planning Work Program (UWP) for the designated MPO planning area; and

WHEREAS, the TwinCATS Policy Committee has approved the Unified Planning Work Program (UWP) for the designated MPO planning area; and

WHEREAS, the Fiscal Year 2026 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 on this, the seventeenth day of June, 2025, the Southwest Michigan Planning Commission approves the Twin Cities Area Transportation Study Unified Planning Work Program for Fiscal Year 2026.

Kurt Doroh, Chair

Date

Linda Preston, Secretary

Date



**RESOLUTION 2025-8
TO APPROVE THE
NILES BUCHANAN CASS AREA
TRANSPORTATION STUDY
UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2026**

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

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

WHEREAS, the NATS Policy Committee has approved the Unified Planning Work Program (UWP) for the designated MPO planning area; and

WHEREAS, the Fiscal Year 2026 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 on this, the seventeenth day of June, 2025, the Southwest Michigan Planning Commission approves the Niles Buchanan Cass Area Transportation Study Unified Planning Work Program for Fiscal Year 2026.

Kurt Doroh, Chair

Date

Linda Preston, Secretary

Date



**RESOLUTION 2025-9
TO SUPPORT THE FINDINGS OF AIR
QUALITY CONFORMITY ANALYSIS
FOR THE BERRIEN COUNTY,
MICHIGAN 2015 OZONE NAAQS
NONATTAINMENT AREA**

WHEREAS, on August 3, 2018, United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) designated Berrien County as a Nonattainment Area for the 2015 8-hour ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS); and

WHEREAS, The Southwest Michigan Planning Commission Board is the designated regional planning agency for Berrien County; and

WHEREAS, United States Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) transportation conformity rules establish the criteria and procedures for determining whether Metropolitan Long Range Transportation Plans (LRTP), Transportation Improvement programs (TIPS), and federally supported highway and transit projects conform to the State Implementation Plan (SIP) (40 CFR Parts 51.390 and 93 subpart A); and

WHEREAS, transportation projects proposed for 2026-2029 in Berrien County, as contained within the Twin Cities Area Transportation Study (TwinCATS) 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program, and Niles-Buchanan-Cass Area Transportation Study (NATS) 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program and the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), were analyzed in accordance with 40 CFR 51 for air quality conformity; and

WHEREAS; the results of the Air Quality Conformity Analysis for the Berrien County, Michigan 2015 Ozone NAAQS Nonattainment Area, published by MDOT on May 5, 2025, show that VOC and NO_x emissions for Berrien County are currently below the maximum levels allowed by the County's emissions budget and are forecasted to remain below the allowed levels through 2050, thereby demonstrating conformity;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Southwest Michigan Planning Commission accepts the results of the Air Quality Conformity Analysis for the Berrien County, Michigan 2015 Ozone NAAQS Nonattainment Area.

THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION AND THE MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION BY A VOTE OF THE SOUTHWEST MICHIGAN PLANNING COMMISSION ON JUNE 17, 2025.

RESOLVED ON THIS SEVENTEENTH DAY OF JUNE 2025.

Kurt Doroh, Chair

Date

Linda Preston, Secretary

Date



RESOLUTION 2025-10

METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLANNING PROCESS CERTIFICATION (for Nonattainment and Maintenance Areas)

In accordance with 23 CFR 450.334, the Michigan Department of Transportation, the Twin Cities Area Transportation Study (TwinCATS), and the Southwest Michigan Planning Commission, the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Benton Harbor-St. Joseph, Michigan urbanized area, hereby certify, as part of the STIP submittal, that the transportation planning process is addressing the major issues in the metropolitan planning area and is being conducted in accordance with all applicable requirements of:

- I. 23 U.S.C. 134 and 135, 49 U.S.C. 5303 and 5304, and this part;
- II. Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended (42 U.S.C. 2000d-1) and 49 CFR part 21;
- III. 49 U.S.C. 5332, prohibiting discrimination on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, sex, or age in employment or business opportunity;
- IV. Section 1101(b) of the FAST Act (Pub. L. 114-357) and 49 CFR part 26 regarding the involvement of disadvantaged business enterprises in USDOT funded projects;
- V. 23 CFR part 230, regarding the implementation of an equal employment opportunity program on Federal and Federal-aid highway construction contracts;
- VI. The provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.) and 49 CFR parts 27, 37, and 38;
- VII. The Older Americans Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. 6101), prohibiting discrimination on the basis of age in programs or activities receiving Federal financial assistance;
- VII. 23 U.S.C. 324, regarding the prohibition of discrimination based on gender; and
- IX. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794) and 49 CFR part 27 regarding discrimination against individuals with disabilities.

Kurt Doroh, Chair

Date

Linda Preston, Secretary

Date



RESOLUTION 2025-11

METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLANNING PROCESS CERTIFICATION (for Nonattainment and Maintenance Areas)

In accordance with 23 CFR 450.334, the Michigan Department of Transportation, the Niles-Buchanan-Cass Area Transportation Study (NATS), and the Southwest Michigan Planning Commission, the Metropolitan Planning Organization for South Bend, IN - MI urbanized area, Michigan urbanized area, hereby certify, as part of the STIP submittal, that the transportation planning process is addressing the major issues in the metropolitan planning area and is being conducted in accordance with all applicable requirements of:

- I. 23 U.S.C. 134 and 135, 49 U.S.C. 5303 and 5304, and this part;
- II. Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended (42 U.S.C. 2000d-1) and 49 CFR part 21;
- III. 49 U.S.C. 5332, prohibiting discrimination on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, sex, or age in employment or business opportunity;
- IV. Section 1101(b) of the FAST Act (Pub. L. 114-357) and 49 CFR part 26 regarding the involvement of disadvantaged business enterprises in USDOT funded projects;
- V. 23 CFR part 230, regarding the implementation of an equal employment opportunity program on Federal and Federal-aid highway construction contracts;
- VI. The provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.) and 49 CFR parts 27, 37, and 38;
- VII. The Older Americans Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. 6101), prohibiting discrimination on the basis of age in programs or activities receiving Federal financial assistance;
- VII. 23 U.S.C. 324, regarding the prohibition of discrimination based on gender; and
- IX. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794) and 49 CFR part 27 regarding discrimination against individuals with disabilities.

Kurt Doroh, Chair

Date

Linda Preston, Secretary

Date