

TWIN CITIES AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY
TECHNICAL ADVISORY and POLICY COMMITTEES MEETING
Monday, May 20, 2024
9:30 am

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

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

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

AGENDA

1. Call to Order and Roll Call
2. Changes to the Agenda
3. Public Comment
4. Approval of April 15, 2024 Meeting Minutes *Enclosed (Action)* Pg 2
5. SWMPC Staff Report
6. Local Road Agency Updates
7. Transit Updates and Amendments *Enclosed (Action)* Pg 5
8. MDOT Project Updates and Amendment Request *Enclosed (Action)* Pg 7
9. Update to the TwinCATS Policy Committee and Technical Advisory Committee Bylaws *(Action)*
10. Approval of the 2026-2029 Project Selection Criteria *(Action)*
11. Approval of the TwinCATS FY 2025 Unified Work Program *(Action)*
12. Privilege of the Floor or Public Comment
13. Adjournment

The Draft Policy Committee Bylaws, Draft Technical Advisory Committee Bylaws, Draft 2026-2029 Project Selection criteria, and the Draft FY 2025 Unified Work Program can be found online at:
<https://www.swmpc.org/twincatsmeetings.asp>

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

TWIN CITIES AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND POLICY COMMITTEE
Monday, April 15, 2024 Meeting Attendance

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

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

Others Present: Alan Smaka, St. Joseph Township

TWIN CITIES AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND POLICY COMMITTEE
Monday, April 15, 2024 Meeting Minutes

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

Policy Committee Vice Chair, Denise Cook, called the meeting to order at 9:30 am and Kim Gallagher conducted roll call. Alan Smaka asked that his affiliation in the minutes be changed from Wightman & Associates to St. Joseph Township.

2. **Changes to the Agenda**

None.

3. **Public Comment**

None.

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

Several corrections to the March 18th meeting minutes were proposed.

Motion to approve the minutes from the March 18th, 2024, TwinCATS combined Policy and Technical Advisory Committee meeting as corrected. Made by Roger Seeley and seconded by Jm Sturdevant. **Motion approved.**

5. **SWMPC Staff Report**

Bylaw Update: Gallagher presented draft changes to the membership in TwinCATS Policy Committee bylaws. There were no comments regarding these proposed changes. There were questions related to Quorum, noting that the wording in the bylaws was confusing.

Shared Street and Spaces Grant Program: Gallagher explained that this was a new state program that would award up to \$200,000 for quick-build projects that will make communities more walkable, bikeable, and transit- and micromobility-friendly. She is attending a webinar on this and will share what she learns about the program.

6. **Local Road Agency Updates**

Drews gave an update on Benton Harbor projects stating that the Colfax Ave. Reconstruction will be on the July Letting. The Empire Ave. Signal will be obligated by June. The Jefferson Street project, which is funded with a State B Grant, will be bid on in a few months.

7. **Local Road Agency Amendment**

See Meeting Packet page 14 for amendment details

There were no questions or comments about the proposed amendment.

8. **Transit Updates**

None.

9. **Transit Amendment**

See Meeting Packet page 14 for amendment details

There were no questions or comments about the proposed amendment.

Motion for the Technical Advisory Committee to recommend that the policy Committee approve the two amendments to the TwinCATS 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program as contained in the meeting packet. Made by Jim Sturdevant and seconded by Roger Seely. **Motion approved.**

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

10. **MDOT Project Updates**

Jon Smith presented an online Story map for the M-63/I-94BL/Main Street project in the City of St. Joseph. He highlighted that the results of the public survey were included.

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

Drews asked about the statewide federal aid buyout program. This is a program where MDOT will “buy” federal aid funding with non-federal funds, which allows agencies to complete projects without going through the federal approval process. Sturdevant responded that the program was canceled for FY 2025, with no decision on if it will occur again in FY 2026. The legislation allows MDOT to carry out the program only, if they have the budget available.

12. **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:24 AM. The next TwinCATS meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 20, 2024, at 9:30 AM.

Minutes Compiled by Brandon Kovnat, SWMPC Associate Planner

TRANSIT PROJECT DATA SHEET FOR TIP (TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM)

INSTRUCTIONS: Submit completed form to the MPO and a copy to your OPT Project Manager for each project.

FILL OUT A SEPARATE FORM FOR OPERATING OR CAPITAL PER PHASE FINANCIAL CODE.

ALL ITEMS MUST BE COMPLETED.

		JOB NUMBER	
		CHANGE TYPE	
NEW PROJECT	OR	PROJECT CHANGE	IF YES, INCLUDE JOB NUMBER
		FY	COST
		SUSPENDED	SCOPE ABANDONED
FISCAL YEAR	COUNTY	TRANSIT AGENCY - LEGAL NAME	
AGENCY ADDRESS		CITY	ZIP CODE
JOB TYPE: MULTI-MODAL		TEMPLATE: TRANSIT	BOUNDARIES: STATEWIDE
MODE: TRANSIT		JOB PHASE: NON-INFRASTRUCTURE (NI)	
MAJOR ROUTE:		LOCATION (Report): AREAWIDE	FUNDS FLEXED TO FTA:

TRANSIT PROJECT DESCRIPTION

PHASE FINANCIAL SYSTEM	DESCRIPTION OF OTHER FUNDING TYPE				
DESCRIPTION	FEDERAL	STATE	LOCAL	TOTAL	SCOPE CODE/SP CODE
WORK DESCRIPTION					
WORK DESCRIPTION					
WORK DESCRIPTION					
WORK DESCRIPTION					
WORK DESCRIPTION					
GRAND TOTAL					

IF ADDITIONAL LINES ARE NEEDED PLEASE ATTACH A SEPARATE SHEET.

Scheduled Obligation Date is **ALWAYS** the last day of September for the fiscal year of the job. Scheduled End Date is **ALWAYS** the last day of September for the fiscal year of the job plus three years for Capital (*Rural agencies*), plus four years for Capital (*Urban agencies*) jobs, or plus one year for Operating jobs.

TRANSIT FLEX CATEGORY (<i>Only need to complete if funds are flexed to FTA and selection is based on the type of Transit Agency</i>)	GPA TYPE
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MDOT OBLIGATION

Yes - (1) If the agency applies for funds (Except for Urban Operating) directly to FTA, and if there is a state match or if OPT applies for the funds directly to FTA (2) 100% state jobs.

No - (1) Urban Operating jobs (2) If the agency applies directly to FTA for funding, and there is no state match.

OPT PROJECT MANAGER NAME	ATTACHMENTS: Yes No <i>(Must attach MDOT Form 1481)</i>
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BUDGET

1) FEDERAL:	SUBTOTAL:
2) STATE:	4) Other Local Funding (<i>Not part of match</i>):
3) LOCAL (<i>Part of match</i>):	TOTAL JOB COST:

SUBMITTED BY (<i>Please print</i>) TwinCATs TAC & Pol Meeting Packet, May 20 , 2024	TITLE DATE
SIGNATURE	Page 5 of 9 PHONE NUMBER

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ALL ITEMS MUST BE COMPLETED.

		JOB NUMBER	
		CHANGE TYPE	
NEW PROJECT	OR	PROJECT CHANGE	IF YES, INCLUDE JOB NUMBER
		FY	COST
		SUSPENDED	SCOPE ABANDONED
FISCAL YEAR	COUNTY	TRANSIT AGENCY - LEGAL NAME	
AGENCY ADDRESS		CITY	ZIP CODE
JOB TYPE: MULTI-MODAL		TEMPLATE: TRANSIT	BOUNDARIES: STATEWIDE
MODE: TRANSIT		JOB PHASE: NON-INFRASTRUCTURE (NI)	
MAJOR ROUTE:		LOCATION (Report): AREAWIDE	FUNDS FLEXED TO FTA:

TRANSIT PROJECT DESCRIPTION

PHASE FINANCIAL SYSTEM	DESCRIPTION OF OTHER FUNDING TYPE				
DESCRIPTION	FEDERAL	STATE	LOCAL	TOTAL	SCOPE CODE/SP CODE
WORK DESCRIPTION					
WORK DESCRIPTION					
WORK DESCRIPTION					
WORK DESCRIPTION					
WORK DESCRIPTION					
GRAND TOTAL					

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BUDGET

1) FEDERAL:	SUBTOTAL:
2) STATE:	4) Other Local Funding (<i>Not part of match</i>):
3) LOCAL (<i>Part of match</i>):	TOTAL JOB COST:

SUBMITTED BY (<i>Please print</i>) TwinCATs TAC & Pol Meeting Packet, May 20 , 2024	TITLE	DATE Page 6 of 9
SIGNATURE		PHONE NUMBER

Michigan Department of Transportation Projects Within the TwinCATS Planning Area

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

Projects Currently Under Construction

St. Joseph and Lincoln Township

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

Status: Construction in progress.

Est Con: Dec. 17, 2023 – Oct. 31 2024

Chikaming Township

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

Status: Construction in progress.

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

Lincon, St. Joseph, and Benton Township

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

Status: Construction in progress. Currently working on WB I-94 from Exit 23 to Washington Ave.

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

Projects Scheduled for Construction in 2024

Sodus Township

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

Status: Construction will begin soon.

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

Hagar Township

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

Status: Construction in progress.

Est. Con: May 6, 2024 – May 25, 2024

Royalton Township

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

Status: Tree Work Completed. Detour implemented on May 1st for culvert work. Closure is expected to last through Friday, August 30th.

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

City of St. Joseph

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

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

Est. Con: Unknown

Projects Scheduled for Construction in 2025

Benton Township

Project: I-94 from Pavement Change east of I-196 to Hennessey Road – HMA Overlay (JN 128907)

Status: Design in progress.

Projects Scheduled for Construction in 2026

Benton Township and City of Benton Harbor

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

Status: Base plans (30%) are anticipated in May. Resubmitting for federal MPDG grant(Rural/INFRA).

City of St. Joseph

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

Status: 3rd Advisory group meeting scheduled for May 6, 2024. 2nd public meeting scheduled for May 16, 2024.

Various Location in Berrien County

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

Status: Design in Progress

Projects Scheduled for Construction in 2027

Lincoln Township

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

Status: Design will begin in 2024

Hagar Township

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

Status: Design will begin in 2024. Surveys scheduled.

MDOT Amendment Request

Fiscal year: 2024

Phase: CON

Job Number: 211815

Project: Pavement Markings

Location: Various Trunkline Routes (MDOT roads) in Southwest Michigan.
The project includes locations within and outside the TwinCATS planning area

Amendment: Removal of a location that is outside of the TwinCATS Area, which will lower the total project length.
Change to the scope of work

	Current	Proposed
Work Description	Longitudinal pavement markings with centerline and edgeline corrugations	Grind centerline and edgeline corrugations, place fog seal on new corrugations, and place longitudinal pavement markings along corridors with new corrugations
Length	68.4 miles	58.9 miles