

Macomb County FAC



MEETING SUMMARY

Meeting: Macomb County – Federal Aid Committee (FAC) Summer 2023 Meeting

Date & Time: June 28, 2023, 2:00-4:00 PM

Location: Senior Auditorium of the Macomb County Verkuilen Building

Invitees: See attached Meeting Attendees list

1. **Call to Order by the Chair** – Scott Wanagat, MCDR Highway Engineer, interim FAC Chair
 - a. Scott Wanagat is serving as interim chair, replacing John Crumm. He called the meeting to order at 2:11 PM. He thanked everyone for coming and said everyone should have received a copy of the agenda packet earlier in the week.

2. **Introductions** – Scott Wanagat
 - a. Scott Wanagat introduced the new MCDR Planning Director, Irvin Wyche, who will become the chair in the future.
 - b. Introductions were made around the room. See attendance roster.

3. **Old Business** – Scott Wanagat
 - a. **Minutes from Winter FAC meeting January 25, 2023**
 - i. Motion to approve the minutes with an amendment to include comments and questions provided by Clinton Township was made by Rick Stathekis and seconded by Jim Van Tiflin; Scott called for the vote and the motion carried unanimously.

2. **New Business** – Scott Wanagat, MCDR Highway Engineer, interim FAC Chair
 - b. **Macomb FAC TIP Changes**
 - i. The City of Eastpointe received \$3.3M in federal earmark funds for a project along 9 Mile Rd, which allows those funds to be reallocated by the FAC in the TIP.
 - c. **Recission of Unobligated CRRSAA Funds**
 - i. Two projects have lost funding due to the federal government rescinding unobligated CRRSAA funding. This was in response to debt ceiling negotiations at the federal level. 33 Mile Road (JN 218497) from FY 2023 is losing \$82K in federal funding and Romeo Plank (JN 211921) is losing \$3M in federal funding.
 - d. **TIP Subcommittee Recommendations**
 - i. Brent Bashaw made a motion to approve the TIP Committee recommendations and Jim Van Tiflin seconded the motion.
 - ii. The TIP subcommittee recommends moving 33 Mile Road (JN 218497) to FY 2024 to allow time for local coordination and for SEMCOG to process a TIP amendment to add \$67K in federal STP-TMA funds with \$15K local match; and to provide \$2.46M in federal STP-TMA funds and required \$540K in local match for Romeo Plank (JN



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- b. For the Fall TIP amendment, which is Q1 of FY 2024, projects will be due September 8, 2023, and approval is anticipated in December.
- c. Each decennial census is used to update the urbanized area (UAZ) boundaries, which are used to determine where certain types of funding can be used. The updated census urban boundary is currently being updated based on the 2020 census. SEMCOG works with the state during the process to determine the boundaries.
 - i. There is a transportation coordination meeting on July 20, 2023. FACs will then meet with SEMCOG. SEMCOG will be hosting meetings with FACs for MDOT mark-up workshops for their input on the UAZ.
 - ii. The new boundaries will alter funding allocations.
 - iii. SEMCOG will not alter funding that has been obligated through 2026. The new funding targets will not be implemented until 2027.
- d. The State of Michigan will incur a 2.5% safety penalty in federal transportation funds, which will be required to be used for safety programs in the state targeting drunk driving. This is based on repeated drunk driving incidents. Programs can include education and outreach efforts, signage, and other design-oriented safety improvements.
 - i. There will be a new funding code for projects aimed to protect people in the vulnerable road user category, VRU.

5. Q&A for FAC Members - None

6. Public Comment

- a. Submitted by Paul Gielegem, Clinton Township Treasurer

We all have home budgets. We all in some way, work for or are affiliated with Government and contend with tight or shrinking budgets. When we learn that we are not taking in enough money to maintain our footprint, we either have to shrink our footprint or invest in a way that brings in more money.

If we don't bring in enough money to maintain our existing road network, how are we ever going to find enough money to maintain an expanded road network?

9 Mile received an earmark freeing up \$3.3 million dollars. That's great. But we then see the bulk of federal dollars focused on road expansion.

The 2050 Regional Transportation Plan contains the development of long-term Principles first prioritizing Asset Management, Preservation, and Modernization of older roads, over Strategic Corridor Capacity Improvements or, in other words, Expansion.

We then see a project list focused on widening 26 Mile Rd., North Ave., 21 Mile, and intersection improvements for 26 and 27 Mile.

How are these projects prioritized over the host of improvements needed on corridors with dramatically higher rates of population density, aging infrastructure, and traffic congestion? If we lay out principles in the 2050 RTP prioritizing preservation, maintenance and modernization of our existing road network we should be seeing a project list that is aligned with those principles.

- b. Scott Wanagat reiterated the Corridors of Significance Study was used to determine the list, which was meant to be used as a framework to identify which corridors will likely need the most in federal and state funding. He acknowledged there are different needs throughout the



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county, particularly depending on geography. The committee is taking his comments under advisement.

- c. Director Santo explained the monies rescinded were from preapproved projects and the new funding recommendations are still being used for another pre-approved project, not a new project. Capacity projects have not been totally eliminated, and there is a focus to preserve the condition of existing roads.

7. Next FAC Meeting

- a. Fall meeting: Thursday, September 28, 2023, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM – Location TBD

8. Adjourn

- a. Motion to adjourn was made by Ken Verkest and seconded by Mary Bednar; motion carried.
- b. The meeting was adjourned at 2:57 pm.

Attachments: Meeting Attendees, Amended Meeting Minutes for January 25, 2023, FAC Committee meeting
Reviewed By: Roger Safford, Dustin Elliott, HNTB; Scott Wanagat, Chair, MCDR
Submitted By: Danielle Gerlach
CC: File

