MEETING SUMMARY

Meeting: Macomb County – Federal Aid Committee (FAC) Winter Meeting

Date & Time: January 28, 2026, 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Location: Macomb County Verkuilen Building
Senior Auditorium
21885 Dunham Street, Clinton Township

Invitees: See attached Meeting Attendees list

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1. **Call to Order by the Chair –** Scott Wanagat, MCDR Highway Engineer
    a. Scott Wanagat, chair, called the meeting to order at 2:05 PM. He thanked everyone for coming and stated everyone should have received a copy of the agenda packet .

2. **Introductions –** Scott Wanagat
    a. Introductions were made around the room. See attendance roster.

3. **Old Business – Approval of September 24, 2025 Fall FAC Meeting Minutes**
    b. Motion: Brent Bashaw
    c. Second: Scott Lockwood
    d. There was no discussion and no opposition.
    e. The motion carries.

4. **New Business –** Scott Wanagat
    a. **FY 2026-2029 Macomb County FAC Program Update**
        i. The committee reviewed project inventories, development timelines, and the importance of submitting final bidding packages for FY26 projects by early June to ensure obligation of funds, while also identifying FY27 projects that could be advanced.
    b. **Macomb County FAC Program Delivery Strategy**
        i. Scott Wanagat and TIP Subcommittee members discussed the FAC program delivery strategy, focusing on proactive project planning, readiness for funding opportunities, and maximizing use of available federal aid.
        ii. Motion: Irvin Wyche
        iii. Second: Jim Getzinger
        iv. There was discussion about increasing transparency and the ability to provide additional input during TIP subcommittee meetings.
        v. There were no oppositions.
        vi. The motion carries.

5. **TIP Subcommittee Updates**
    a. **2050 Macomb County FAC RTP List**
        i. Scott Wanagat presented the newly approved 2050 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), outlining investments for FY27-30, ongoing engineering work, and the inclusion of preservation investment templates for significant corridors.

ii. The plan includes ongoing preliminary engineering for Mound Rd. and Metropolitan Parkway, a federal grant for Dequindre Rd., and the Schoenherr Rd. project, with all investments reviewed and approved at the summer workshop.
iii. The RTP now features templates for county and city/village corridors of significance, allowing for targeted investment without overloading the plan with individual projects.
iv. The TIP subcommittee will plan a summer RTP workshop focused on implementation principles and strategies, scheduled within the next two to three months.

b. **FAC Website**
i. Eric Dimoff provided an overview of the Macomb County FAC website, which contains agendas, minutes, TIP project lists, road jurisdiction maps, and links to guidance and scoring criteria for applications, as well as the TIP subcommittee member communities.
ii. The CORE Program, managed by MCDR, coordinates local planning, budgeting, and project prioritization with communities, and offers cost estimates and contact information for support.
iii. CORE meetings with communities will be scheduled in the coming weeks to discuss projects for 2027 and beyond and encouraged outreach for any questions or for assistance.

6. **SEMCOG Update** – Michele Fedorowicz and Steve Brudzinski
a. SEMCOG released a new regional access to services report, covering hospitals, childcare, and education centers, with an online tool available for community use. SEMCOG would like any feedback from communities that use the tool.
b. Pavement condition data for 2025 should be available soon; bridge condition data is already available.
c. The last round of TAP applications was awarded in December. A list of projects that were funded can be found here.
d. If projects can be advanced or if a project may not meet the schedule, contact Michele for coordination.
e. The TAP program transitioned from three times a year to just one time a year for applications. The next TAP application deadline is June 17, 2026.
f. Scott Wanagat highlighted Macomb County's open-ended non-motorized program, which is open year-round and can be used to help offset local match requirements for SEMCOG TAP projects.
g. If a project is not exempt from air quality, or it must go into SEMCOG's regional air quality model, the EPA needs to issue a letter. This is the first time it's been required for the TIP. Three projects in Macomb County are awaiting this letter before being fully approved. SEMCOG anticipates receiving these letters soon.

7. **MDOT Update** – Bruce Kadzban
a. Bruce Kadzban reported approximately 400 projects have received environmental approval this year, emphasizing the need for environmental clearance before right-of-way or property acquisition, and noted that 160 projects have gone through bid letting, with bids coming in below engineer estimates.
b. MDOT currently has $13.5 million in obligation authority for both RTF and non-RTF funding sources, expected to last through the May letting, after which further obligations will depend on federal budget resolutions.
c. A new call for bridge project applications will be announced in the coming days, with $100

million per year available for the next five fiscal years, in addition to the regular $50 million annual appropriation, and applications are due April 1st.

d. The buyout program application period closed last Friday, with 85 applications totaling nearly $50 million; MDOT Planning is reviewing applications and expects to notify successful agencies by March 1, with buyout projects requiring compliance with Davis Bacon rates and reporting on Act 51.
    i. Discussion clarified that buyout projects for FY27 should be on the TIP at the time of award, and only STBG funds are eligible for buyout; if a project is bought out, the federal funds and obligation authority are transferred to the state, and the local agency receives 90% of the value in state funds.

8. **Public Comment** – None.

9. **Upcoming Macomb County FAC Meetings***
    a. Summer RTP workshop – TBD
    b. Summer meeting – Wednesday, June 24, 2026
    c. Fall meeting (tentative) – Wednesday, September 30, 206

10. **Adjourn**
    f. Motion: Jim Van Tiflin
    g. Second: Ken Verkest
    h. The meeting was adjourned at 2:55 PM.

Attachments:	Meeting Attendees
Reviewed By:	Roger Safford
Submitted By:	Danielle Gerlach
CC:	File

Meeting Attendees/Agency or Firm Represented

- Andrew Champagne, SMART
- Aseel Putros, AEW
- Brent Bashaw, Sterling Heights
- Bruce Kadzban, MDOT
- Bryan Babcock, St. Clair Shores
- Clint Boyle, Project Control Engineering
- Crystal Kozak, Macomb Township
- Danielle Gerlach, HNTB
- Dustin Elliott, HNTB
- Elaine Leven, Fraser
- Eric Dimoff, MCDR
- Irvin Wyche, MCDR
- Jaboc JaBaay, Spalding DeDecker
- Jim Goetzinger, Richmond
- Jim Van Tiflin, Macomb Township
- Joseph Paquette, Washington Township
- Ken Verkest, Harrison Township
- Kristen Myers, HRC
- Laith Aziz, Michael Baker
- Louis Ursan, AEW
- Lynde Otto, Shelby Township
- Mary Bednar, Clinton Township
- Melissa Williams, MCDR
- Michael Vigneron, AEW
- Michele Fedorowicz, SEMCOG
- Mike Freckelton, St. Clair Shores
- Roger Safford, HNTB
- Ron Trombly, New Baltimore
- Ryan Kern, AEW
- Scott Duffin, Project Control Engineering
- Scott Wanagat, MCDR
- Soctt Lockwood, AEW
- Steve Brudzinski, SEMCOG
- Steve Pangori, AEW
- William Diamond, Utica