

Macatawa Area Coordinating Council

A Cooperative Effort Among Units of Government

MACC POLICY BOARD

Policy Board

- Thomas Bird
- Nathan Bocks
- Heather Bowden
- Larry Brown
- Amanda Cooper
- Gretchen Cosby
- Ken DeWeerd
- Jim Gerard
- Linda Howell
- Kevin Klynstra
- Al Nienhuis
- Terry Nienhuis
- Tom Oonk
- Pankaj Rajadhyaksha
- Mike Sabatino
- Jim Storey
- Russ Te Slaa
- Kurt Van Koevering

- Executive Committee

March 25, 2024, 12:00 pm
Olive Township Hall
6480 136th Avenue, Holland, MI 49424

MINUTES

BOARD PRESENT: Tom Bird, Nathan Bocks, Heather Bowden, Larry Brown, Steve Bulthuis, Amanda Cooper, Gretchen Cosby, Jim Gerard, Kevin Klynstra, Al Nienhuis, Tom Oonk, Mike Sabatino, Jim Storey, Kurt Van Koevering

OTHERS PRESENT: Jim Camenga (videographer), Eric Dykstra (MACC), Ryan Ferrier (Lakeshore Advantage), Tyler Kent (MDOT), Jason Latham (MACC), Alec Miller (MACC), Judy Visscher (MACC)

A moment of silence was taken in remembrance of John Kleinheksel, MACC board member since 2009, who recently passed away.

I. ROLL CALL (for quorum) Quorum was achieved

II. INTRODUCTIONS AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

*****It was moved by Mr. Klynstra and seconded by Ms. Cooper to approve the February 26, 2024 meeting minutes as written. Motion carried.**

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS There were no comments.

IV. TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM

A. Safe Streets for All (SS4A) – Steering Committee Formation - Mr. Dykstra shared that MACC was not selected for the “Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods” grant, but we did receive the signed and executed paperwork for the “Safe Streets for All” grant, which MACC was awarded. A draft RFP was prepared and distributed for comments (none were received), and a Steering Committee was formed to help the consultant develop the Safety Action Plan. The finalized RFP will be sent out this week; consultant should be in place shortly.

B. Traffic Counts – Contract Approval - Mr. Dykstra shared the results of bids for traffic counts this year: the TAC committee approved the quote from DLZ for \$17,500. DLZ has been used satisfactorily in the past. The “counts” will include speed, volume and classification in 55 locations in the MACC area.

*****It was moved by Mr. Brown and seconded by Mr. Oonk to approve The Traffic Count contract with DLZ as presented. Motion carried.**

- C. Non-Motorized Plan – Update - Mr. Dykstra shared that we are still developing our refresh to the 2014 plan. A 1-6 PASER rating scale has been chosen for side paths, which we will be rating this year. Path owners have been contacted to verify that paths chosen exist. MACC staff have been on a few test runs to pin down what works, etc. We hope to publish a map after ratings are completed, hopefully by the end of the year. Rating rides will be started soon, as the weather permits.

Discussion followed regarding various ordinances for electric bikes being developed by our member governments. Mr. Latham offered the thought that the MACC could help develop MACC-wide guidelines so all township/city “path rules” are consistent.

- D. I-196 Business Loop Construction Meeting – Mr. Miller shared information about the subject meeting being scheduled at Howard Miller Community Center on Tuesday, March 26, from 4-5:30. MACC staff will be there also to have information available on the pedestrian path progress for the same roadway.
- E. FY 2023-2026 TIP Amendments – Mr. Miller shared details on the current amendments to the subject TIP.

*****It was moved by Mr. Bocks and seconded by Ms. Cooper to approve the FY2023-2026 TIP Amendments as presented. Motion carried.**

- F. MDOT/FHWA Comments – Mr. Kent shared info on a couple of big projects near, but outside of our area: M-6 at 96th southeast of Grand Rapids, I-96 in Ionia County, and I-131 from Burton to 28th. City of Allegan is putting in a roundabout where M-40 and M-89 meet.

A discussion followed regarding funding for roadwork, specifically tolling, road usage, etc. Ms. Bowden and Mr. Van Koevering mentioned relevant presentations on the subject. See pdf and link here for these presentations:



Hendren County Rd
Assoc of MI_FINAL (1

[Michigan Statewide Tolling Study - Home Page \(mitollingstudy.com\)](https://www.mitollingstudy.com)

V. ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES

- A. Financial Report – Mr. Latham shared that we are at 46% through the year so far.
- B. MACC Executive Committee Report (memo attached) - Mr. Latham shared that we are in the process of hiring a student intern to be paid with Consolidated Planning Grant funds. Help with Green Commute would be the main focus. The position will be posted on relevant job sites.

Mr. Latham discussed changes to the Employee Handbook: (1) add a couple

of floating holidays, that can be used when federal and/or state holidays are observed and (2) offer gym memberships to staff, as way to keep them healthy, and retain employees.

Mr. Latham shared his satisfaction with the “Strategic Map” that was developed. He has been able to use it when giving area presentations about the MACC.

A small watershed clean up grant will be applied for, as ODC is not able to apply for it. Mr. Latham discussed what types of grants in general we want to apply for in the future.

Two grant opportunities that are relevant to the proposed pedestrian bridge crossing Bus loop I-196) are being pursued. Maybe a MACC dedicated or shared grant writer position in the future?

The MDOT Unified Work Program meeting was held recently; a draft UWP will show up soon at a future MACC Policy meeting.

VII. MEMBERS’ COMMENTS

- A. Member questions or comments - Members shared highlights of activities happening in their jurisdictions.

VIII. OTHER ISSUES AND ADJOURNMENT

*****It was moved by Mr. Sabatino and seconded by Mr. Van Koevering to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.**

Next Meeting: April 22, 2024, at Port Sheldon Township