



Call for Projects

KATS has issued a Call for Projects to member agencies for the Surface Transportation Program (STP), National Highway Performance Program (NHPP), and Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) for the development of the FY 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). **The deadline for submission is November 25, 2015.** Funding projections per year for FY 2018, 2019, and 2020 are:

Surface Transportation Program: \$2,768,000
National Highway Performance Program: \$338,000
Transportation Alternatives Program: \$243,000

Due to the lack of a long term federal transportation bill, these amounts are only an estimate. Funding levels may change when a bill is passed. Questions about the Call for Projects should be directed to: sstepek@katsmpo.org.

2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan

Non-Motorized Element

KATS is seeking public comments on the Non-Motorized Element of the 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan. The Non-Motorized Element is available on KATS website on the 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan webpage at <http://katsmpo.org/2045-plan>. Please submit comments by **December 1, 2015**, via email to info@katsmpo.org or mail to the Kalamazoo Area Transportation Study, 5220 Lovers Lane, Suite 110, Portage, MI 49002.

Proposed Project Lists

Proposed projects are available on KATS website on the 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan webpage at <http://katsmpo.org/2045-plan>. Projects include:

- Operations
- Capacity
- Non-motorized
- Preservation
- Transit

KATS is seeking comments on the Proposed Project Lists. Please submit comments by **November 25, 2015**, via email to info@katsmpo.org or mail to the Kalamazoo Area Transportation Study, 5220 Lovers Lane, Suite 110, Portage, MI 49002.



View of I 94 from the Sprinkle Road Bridge.

November 2015

Next Issue:
February 2016

CONTACT US:

The Kalamazoo Area
Transportation Study
5220 Lovers Lane
Portage, MI 19002
269-343-0766
info@KATSMpo.org
www.KATSMPO.org

SPRINKLE ROAD

I-94



Walkabout in the Roundabout

The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) and the Road Commission of Kalamazoo County (RCKC) hosted a public event at the new Sprinkle Road roundabouts and bridge over I-94 in Kalamazoo on Sunday, October 25. Residents, business owners and media were able to walk the roundabouts and bridge to get familiar with the new construction.

It took 300 employees and 25 contractors 220 days to build non-motorized facilities and a dual-roundabout interchange bridge. Ramps are targeted to open on November 18.



FAST FACTS

FROM THE WALKABOUT IN THE ROUNDABOUT

\$15.5
MILLION

Cost of Construction

Average Daily Number of Vehicles on I-94

60,000

30,000

Average Daily Number of Vehicles on Sprinkle Road

700 Pages in the project proposal

\$240,000 Savings by using electronic tracking and paperless project management

45,000 Tons of asphalt

28,000 Square yards of concrete pavement

Rural Task Force Meeting Schedule

Local rural task force meetings will be held in November to reaffirm 2016 and 2017 project plans and to begin planning for 2018-2020.

Barry County:

Thursday, **November 12, 2015** at 10:00 am
Barry County Road Commission
1725 W M-43 Highway, Hastings, MI 49058

Branch County:

Monday, **November 23, 2015** at 10:00 am
Branch County Road Commission
23 East Garfield Avenue, Coldwater, MI 49036

Calhoun County:

Monday, **November 16, 2015** at 10:00 am
Calhoun County Road Department lower level boardroom
13300 15 Mile Road, Marshall, MI 49068

Kalamazoo County:

Thursday, **November 12, 2015** at 2:00 pm
Kalamazoo Metro Transit
530 N Rose Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49007

St. Joseph County:

Monday, **November 23, 2015** at 2:00 pm
St. Joseph County Road Commission
20914 M-86, Centreville, MI 49032

The Rural Task Force (RTF) Program provides federal dollars to rural counties with a population under 400,000 (78 out of 83 counties). These dollars must be spent in their geographic areas and both road and transit capital projects are eligible. The money is provided within two funding sources: Surface Transportation Program (STP) Rural for improving the federal aid system; and Transportation Economic Development Fund (TEDF) Category D for building an all-season network.

KATS administers the RTF process as part of its contract with the Southcentral Michigan Planning Council.

Citizen Advisory Committee Accepting Applications (New Deadline)

The KATS Citizen Advisory Committee is accepting applications for members! **Applications are due November 9.** To apply, visit: <http://goo.gl/forms/XrdR1dpLOR>. The Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) of the Kalamazoo Area Transportation Study (KATS) provides citizens and organizations within the Metropolitan Planning Area the opportunity to explore and discuss transportation issues and to provide input to KATS related to the development of the Metropolitan Transportation Plan, Transportation Improvement Program, and other transportation projects and services. For more information and meeting dates, please visit <http://katsmpo.org/committees/citizen-advisory-committee>.

COMPREHENSIVE TRANSITION AGREEMENT APPROVED!

A Comprehensive Transition Agreement (CTA) between the City of Kalamazoo, the Central County Transportation Authority (CCTA), the Kalamazoo Transit Authority Board (TAB), and the Kalamazoo County Transportation Authority Board (KCTA) was approved on Monday, October 19, 2015.

The Comprehensive Transition Agreement outlines the process for transferring the public transit system (Metro Transit) from the City of Kalamazoo to the CCTA. The transfer of the system will occur on October 1, 2016, and allows for nearly one year to address and implement a variety of stages that will ensure a smooth transition for the customers and employees of Metro Transit.

This is a major accomplishment in the nearly ten years of working toward achieving an integrated, county-wide transit system.

The boundaries of the CCTA include:

- City of Kalamazoo
- City of Parchment
- City of Portage
- Comstock Township
- Kalamazoo Township
- Oshtemo Township: Precincts #04, #05, #06, #07 and #08

As part of the Transition, KATS, MDOT, Kalamazoo Metro Transit and Van Buren Public Transit will be holding a meeting to review FTA Urban Designated Recipient Status on November 5., 2015. The City of Kalamazoo is the current FTA Urban Designated Recipient.

What is KATS?

The Kalamazoo Area Transportation Study or KATS, as it is commonly referred to, is the Kalamazoo Urbanized Area's Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO).

A MPO is a transportation policy making organization made up of representatives from local government and transportation authorities. In 1962, the United States Congress passed legislation that required the formation of an MPO for any Urbanized Area (UZA) with a population greater than 50,000.

Congress created MPOs in order to ensure that existing and future expenditures for transportation projects and programs are based on a continuing, cooperative and comprehensive ("3 C") planning process. Federal funding for transportation projects and programs are channeled through this planning process.

State Long Range Transportation Plan



The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) wants to engage the public in a discussion of how Michigan will meet its transportation challenges over the next 25 years. MDOT is hosting a webinar on Thursday, November 12, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. EDT to discuss the information, forecasts and strategies contained in the current 2005-2035 plan, known as MI Transportation Plan: Moving Michigan Forward, and revisions to extend the planning horizon to 2040.

The webinar will provide a brief overview of the plan and revisions, information about the comment solicitation process, and an extended question and answer session. You can register online at www.michigan.gov/slrp or by calling 517-373-2227. Once you are registered, you will be sent information on how to connect to the webinar, including a phone number to call and an access code.

Important Dates:

- Comments on draft 2040 white papers may be submitted from Jan. 4 - Feb. 14, 2016.
- 2040 MI Transportation Plan and final drafts will be available for a 30-day comment period starting the first week of March 2016.

Read the plan and all supporting documents:
www.michigan.gov/slrp.

Upcoming Meetings and Events—2016 meeting schedules to be approved in December.

Date	Time	Event	Location
November 5	9:00 a.m.	Technical Committee	Kalamazoo Metro Transit
November 9		Applications due for Citizen Advisory Committee	
November 18	9:00 a.m.	Policy Committee	Kalamazoo Metro Transit
November 19	4:00 p.m.	Citizen Advisory Committee	Kalamazoo metro Transit
November 25		Transportation Improvement Program applications, Transportation Alternatives Program applications, and public comments on proposed project lists due	
November 26-27		KATS Offices Closed-Thanksgiving	
December 1		Comments on Non-Motorized Element due	
December 3	9:00 a.m.	Technical Committee	Kalamazoo Metro Transit
December 16	9:00 a.m.	Policy Committee	Kalamazoo Metro Transit
December 24-25		KATS Offices Closed-Christmas	
January 1		KATS Offices Closed-New Years Day	