

## In This Issue

January 2020

### Happy New Year!

The new year is here!  
Calendar year 2020  
meeting dates are now  
finalized.

### Let it Snow

Snowplows are working  
hard to keep roads clear.  
Find out more to stay safe  
this winter.

### Upcoming Meetings, Conferences, and Trainings

Mark your calendar for  
these upcoming  
opportunities to learn  
more about  
transportation.

### Citizen Advisory Committee

Staff is looking for  
interested citizens to  
serve on KATS advisory  
board.



# KATS Quarterly

## January Edition

A newsletter for the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Greater Kalamazoo Area.



*Road Commission of Kalamazoo County Snowplow*



*Friendly neighbor clearing the  
Sidewalk for the bus stop*



*Winter bike riders*

The Kalamazoo Area Transportation Study (KATS) is the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Kalamazoo Urbanized Area and is required by federal legislation to provide coordinated transportation planning for urban populations greater than 50,000.

KATS considers the entire area of Kalamazoo County, the four townships of Almena, Antwerp, Waverly, and Paw Paw within Van Buren County as the Metropolitan Planning Boundary, including all local governmental jurisdictions in transportation planning.

## Contact Us

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## Stay Informed

For the most up to date information on KATS meetings, construction updates, and more; follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

[Facebook](#)

[Twitter](#)

## Let it Snow

**Winter is here and snowplows are working hard to make driving conditions safer.**

The Road Commission of Kalamazoo County (RCKC) provides winter maintenance to remove snow from the roads as well as salting and sanding to melt ice. It is important not to park or abandon a vehicle or object in the right-of-way, as this interferes with snowplowing.

Avoid passing a snowplow while they are plowing. Plow drivers have limited visibility and they cannot see directly behind their trucks. Motorists are advised not to travel next to a plow as the truck could suddenly move sideways from hitting drifts or cutting through packed snow.

More information on winter maintenance provided by the RCKC can be found on their website along with a brochure with helpful reminders.

Sign up for RCKC CONNECT to receive message alerts for road construction, road closures/detours, and general public news from the Road Commission of Kalamazoo County website.

[Road Commission of Kalamazoo County](#)

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*Reminder: always allow extra time for travel!!*

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## Upcoming Meetings, Conferences & Trainings

**KATS Technical Committee Meetings for this quarter:**

Thursday, January 9  
Thursday, February 13  
Thursday, March 12

**KATS Policy Committee Meetings for this quarter:**

Wednesday, January 29  
Wednesday, February 26  
Wednesday, March 25

**KATS Citizen Advisory Committee Meetings for this quarter:**

Wednesday, March 11 (4:00 p.m.)

KATS committee meetings are at 9:00 a.m. at the Metro Transit office located at 530 N. Rose Street. Any changes to meeting location or cancellations will be posted on the website.

## KATS Meeting Schedule

### Technical

January 9  
February 13  
March 12

### Policy

January 29  
February 26  
March 25

### CAC

March 11

## Transportation Improvement Program

The new FY 2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is here! Visit [KATS website](#) to view the full document.

## Citizen Advisory Committee

KATS staff is looking for interested citizens to join the Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) this year. The CAC 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.

The committee meets quarterly and meetings are open to the public.

Interested? Head to [KATS website](#) to fill out an application.

## Metro Transit Update

Over the past year, Metro has been operating the Route 20 East Comstock Route as a pilot route to determine if the community would use a bus route serving the eastern portion of Comstock Township and the City of Galesburg area.

We have reviewed the past year's ridership and determined that we will not continue to have the bus route starting January 6, 2020. Metro staff is in the process of posting signs as bus stops along the route that notify passengers of this change as well as reaching out to businesses and the community about the elimination of the route.

For those needing transportation, we have Metro Connect who provides curb to curb service in the community (269) 337-8477. Metro also provides carpool and vanpool assistance through our Ridesharing Program at [www.kmetroride.com](http://www.kmetroride.com). Free carpool/vanpool matching is available. We are also available to assist in getting vanpools established by reaching out to companies and informing employees about the ridesharing program. For more information, call (269) 337-8222.