

**MICHIANA AREA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
POLICY BOARD MEETING MINUTES
March 8, 2023**

The March meeting of the Michiana Area Council of Governments' (MACOG) Policy Board was held in person and virtually (Google Meet), on the second floor of the Mishawaka City Hall, on March 8, 2023. Members of the public were invited to attend in person or watch a live stream of the meeting on YouTube. Public comments and questions were accepted in advance of the meeting by email sent to macogdir@macog.com, in person, as well as by utilizing YouTube's live chat feature. Mark Senter, Chair of the Policy Board, called the meeting to order. It was noted there was a quorum present.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mark Senter, Mayor, City of Plymouth
Jesse Bohannon, Marshall County Council
Mike Burroughs, Marshall County Commissioner
Dwight Fish, Elkhart Common Council
Deborah Fleming, St. Joseph County Commissioner
Cary Groninger, Kosciusko County Commissioner
Kathy Groninger, Kosciusko County Council
Gregg Hixenbaugh, Mishawaka Common Council
Mark Root, St. Joseph County Council
Suzanne Weirick, Elkhart County Commissioner

MEMBERS ATTENDING: Todd Johnson, Deputy Commissioner, INDOT Fort Wayne
(Virtually)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Matt Deitchley, Deputy Commissioner, INDOT LaPorte
Douglas Graham, Elkhart County Council
Lori Hamann, South Bend Common Council
Phil Jenkins, Mayor, City of Nappanee
James Mueller, Mayor, City of South Bend
Rod Roberson, Mayor, City of Elkhart
Jeremy Stutsman, Mayor, City of Goshen
Joseph Thallemer, City of Warsaw
David Wood, Mayor, City of Mishawaka

MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 8, 2023 MEETING

The minutes of the February 8, 2023, meeting were distributed for review prior to the meeting. Mark Senter asked the Policy Board members if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes. There being none, he called for the Policy Board's approval.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY CARY GRONINGER AND SECONDED BY
MIKE BURROUGHS TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 2023.
ALL IN FAVOR. THE MOTION CARRIED.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chair had no report.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Debbie Gardner presented the MACOG Financial Reports for the month of January 2023. She reviewed the fiscal year-to-date total expenses and the cash balance at the end of the month; she also noted the total disbursements. Gardner asked for any questions.

Suzanne Weirick stated she had no questions regarding the financial report but asked about any short term investments MACOG may be making or considering. Gardner responded that it is something MACOG has recently discussed now that interest rates have started to rise. She added MACOG has invested in short term Certificates of Deposit (CD's) in past. Hearing no additional discussion, the following action was taken;

A MOTION WAS MADE BY SUZANNE WEIRICK AND SECONDED BY
MIKE BURROUGHS TO APPROVE THE JANUARY 2023 FINANCIAL
REPORTS. ALL IN FAVOR. THE MOTION CARRIED.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

On behalf of Phil Jenkins, James Turnwald reported that MACOG staff made Administrative Modifications to the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) during the month of February. A list of modifications was provided to the members and the information is available on the MACOG website.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS

Amendments to the Fiscal Year (SFY) 2022-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Transportation Resolution 08-23

Locally Initiated

A. City of Goshen	<u>Amendment</u>	Exempt Project in Elkhart County
Resolution 08-23	Shift Funding from FY 25 to FY 26	
Des#: 1900739	College Ave from US 33 to NS RR (East Entrance of Parking Lot)	
	Auxiliary Lanes, Two-Way Left Turn Lanes	
Phase: CN	Total: \$3,545,242	Federal: \$2,836,194 (STBG) Local: \$709,048 SFY 2026
Estimated Cost to Complete = \$5,107,000		

B. City of Goshen	<u>Amendment</u>	Exempt Project in Elkhart County
Resolution 08-23	Shift Funding from FY 25 to FY 26	
Des#: 2101631	Pedestrian Bridge over Horn Ditch	
	Bike/Pedestrian Facilities	
Phase: CN	Total: \$329,758	Federal: \$263,806 (STBG) Local: \$65,952 SFY 2026
Estimated Cost to Complete = \$5,107,000		

Allyson Ragan presented Resolution 08-23. Hearing no questions, Ragan asked for the Policy Board's endorsement of this Resolution.

SUZANNE WEIRICK MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 08-23.
KATHY GRONINGER SECONDED. ALL IN FAVOR. THE MOTION CARRIED.

Dwight Fish wanted to understand why funding for projects was being moved to later fiscal years. Ragan explained it was largely due to funding availability and project development timelines. Turnwald added the funding changes are made in consultation with local governments and in consideration of local government priorities.

Deborah Fleming asked if the Estimated Cost to Complete (\$5,107,000) was inclusive of the entire project. Ragan confirmed it included the cost for the entire project.

Transit Resolution 09-23

A. MACOG Transit Resolution 09-23 Des#: MAC-23-035	<u>Amendment</u> Add Project to TIP Purchase Expansion Bus 30 FT Transit Purchase Vehicles	Exempt Project in Elkhart County
Total: \$980,000	Federal: \$980,000 (CARES)	Local: \$0 SFY 2023
B. Transpo Resolution 09-23 Des#: MAC-23-001	<u>Amendment</u> Increase Federal Funding by \$72,154 Rehab/Renovate Facilities Transit Operating	Exempt Project in St. Joseph County
Total: \$290,193	Federal: \$232,154 (FTA 5339)	Local: \$58,039 SFY 2023

Ragan then presented Resolution 09-23 and asked if there were any questions. Hearing none, she requested the Policy Board's endorsement of the Transit Resolution.

DWIGHT FISH MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 09-23. GREGG
HIXENBAUGH SECONDED. ALL IN FAVOR. THE MOTION CARRIED.

Cary Groninger asked if the \$980,000 in Item A was for two buses. Turnwald confirmed it is the estimated cost for two 30 foot transit buses as opposed to the cost for cut-away vehicles.

Other Actions

Resolution 10-23

A Resolution Endorsing a 3-Year Partnership Planning Grant Application to the Economic Development Administration (EDA) – For the period of performance beginning April 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2026.

Donald Ritsema presented Resolution 10-23. Ritsema explained a revised EDA grant application is being submitted through the Partnership Planning program. He noted the EDA has been able to move MACOG, as the region's Economic Development District (EDD) from a one year grant cycle to a three year grant cycle, as well as align the funding with MACOG's fiscal year. To achieve this new cycle, Ritsema told the Board the first three year application includes an extra quarter year of funding (April 1, 2023 – June 30, 2023).

Ritsema stated a requirement of the \$227,500 Partnership Planning grant is to provide a signed Resolution from the EDD's governing board delegating authority to the Authorized Organizational Representative (AOR); MACOG. Resolution 10-23 authorizes:

- a) MACOG to apply for and administer this Economic Development Administration grant award,
- b) The MACOG Executive Director to sign related documents on behalf of the organization,
- c) MACOG to commit up to \$227,500 (Two Hundred Twenty Seven Thousand Five Hundred dollars) in cash and that is readily available in local matching funds,
- d) The local match share is committed to the project for the period of performance,
- e) The local match share will be available as needed; and,
- f) The local match share is not or will not be conditioned or encumbered in any way that may preclude its use consistent with the requirements of EDA investment assistance.

James Turnwald added the revised grant cycle will mean less staff time will be spent putting in an annual grant application, better reliability, and it eliminates issues for the accounting staff because the funding will now align with the fiscal year instead of being on a cycle independent of the state (budget) or federal fiscal years.

With no concerns expressed by the members of the Policy Board, the following action was taken regarding this resolution.

SUZANNE WEIRICK MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 10-23.
CARY GRONINGER SECONDED. ALL IN FAVOR. THE MOTION CARRIED.

Presentation

James Turnwald, Executive Director, and MACOG Program Directors, presented the Calendar Year 2022 MACOG Annual Review and reported on the highlights and accomplishments of the organization throughout the year. The Annual Review report can be found on the MACOG website at https://macog.com/docs/about/ar/annualreview_2022.pdf

Staff Updates

Purdue Road School

James Turnwald let the Board know that the annual Purdue Road School Transportation Conference and Expo will take place March 14 and 15 in West Lafayette. Several members of the MACOG staff will be attending.

April Quarterly Tracking and Review Meeting

Allyson Ragan reported the next Quarterly Tracking and Review meeting will be held virtually on Tuesday, April 11.

Michiana on the Move: 2050 Transportation Plan

Ragan gave an update on the 2050 Transportation Plan. She noted staff has been working to understand the current transportation network and future growth scenarios, as well as deficiencies throughout the region. Ragan noted stakeholder meetings, pop-up events, an on-line survey and comment map have been made available to inform the public and solicit feedback.

Data Dashboard Feedback (<http://macog.com/maps.html>)

David Harker discussed updates to the Maps and Data section of the MACOG website. He informed the

members about the addition of a Regional Crash Database and a Regional Bridge Condition Database and Story Map. Harker explained the various ways data can be filtered to extract desired information.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

There were no comments.

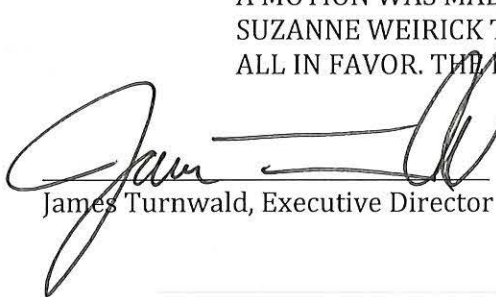
PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further comments or items of business, the Chair called for a motion to adjourn the Policy Board meeting.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY DWIGHT FISH AND SECONDED BY
SUZANNE WEIRICK TO ADJOURN THE POLICY BOARD MEETING.
ALL IN FAVOR. THE MOTION CARRIED.



James Turnwald, Executive Director



Mark Senter, Policy Board Chair

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