

Meeting Minutes
Coldwater-Quincy Small Urban Area Meeting
April 20, 2021

Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. The meeting was held on Microsoft Teams in accordance with the Kalamazoo County State of Emergency allowing remote participation by parties subject to the Michigan Open Meetings Act.

Introductions

The following individuals were in attendance:

Keith Baker, City of Coldwater

Brittany Butler, Village of Quincy

Kara Derrickson, Branch Area Transit Authority

Jay Miller, Branch County Road Commission

Todd Mistor, City of Coldwater

Mark Kloha, Michigan Department of Transportation, Small Urban Program Manager

Fred Nagler, Kalamazoo Area Transportation Study for Southcentral Michigan Planning Commission

Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items

No Public Comments were offered

Review of Voting Members

Voting members were identified as Baker for the City of Coldwater, Butler for the Village of Quincy, Derrickson for the Transit Authority and Miller for the Road Commission.

HIP/COVID Funding

Kloha presented an overview of the recently approved Highway Infrastructure Program (HIP/COVID) funding. The Michigan Department of Transportation has allocated \$81,204 in federal HIP/COVID funding with no local match required to each Small Urban area in the state. Funds cannot be used to match other federal funding but may be applied to overmatch amounts on previously programmed and unobligated projects. Agencies have until fiscal year 2024 to obligate funding. Eligibility for funding is the same as for regular STP federal funding. In addition, there are specific special eligibilities outside of typical projects. If agencies are interested in programming one of the special eligibilities, they must be approved by the Federal Highway Administration.

Baker inquired about the special eligibilities. Kloha indicated that MDOT has been waiting for guidance from the Federal Highway Administration on uses and programming for the special eligibilities but has yet to received any additional information. He noted that as the obligation deadline is 2024, there is no hurry to propose or approve projects. Many areas are using early meetings such as this one for information gathering and will convene meetings in the future to request and approve project selection.

Mistor inquired about the use of the HIP/COVID funding for a non-motorized path. Kloha said that such as use is an eligible item and would need to go through the regular MDOT design and letting process.

Nagler inquired of Kloha whether any type of nonmotorized path, transportation centered or recreational is eligible as long as it is for public use. Kloha said that is the case.

Miller asked if reimbursement of design and inspection costs would be allowed under the special eligibilities. Kloha said that he does not believe so but will check to be sure.

Discussion/Action on Projects for FY 2021 - 2023

No changes or actions regarding the 2021 – 2023 program were proposed.

Public Comments

No public comments were offered.

Other Business

No other business was discussed.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:25 a.m.

Minutes prepared:

April 20, 2021