

**Meeting Minutes**  
**Paw Paw - Lawton Small Urban Area Meeting**  
**April 21, 2021**

**Call to Order**

Meeting was called to order at 10:04 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:

Barry Anttila, Van Buren County Road Commission  
Dan Bishop, Van Buren County Road Commission  
Todd Hackenberg, Village of Lawton  
Sarah Moyer-Cale, Village of Paw Paw  
Mark Kloha, Michigan Department of Transportation, Small Urban Program Manager  
Fred Nagler, Kalamazoo Area Transportation Study  
Steve Stepek, Kalamazoo Area Transportation Study  
Ali Townshend, Kalamazoo Area Transportation Study

**Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items**

No Public Comments were offered.

**Review of Voting Members**

Voting members were identified as Moyer-Cale for the Village of Paw Paw, Hackenberg for the Village of Lawton and Bishop for the Van Buren County 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. Since Paw Paw - Lawton Small Urban area is on the even year cycle they can choose to apply HIP/COVID funding to a 2024 project. A Call for Projects is expected to be issued on or after May 2021. 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.

Stepek said that he was recently informed that MDOT was not authorized to flex the HIP/COVID funding to transit. (**UPDATE:** After the meeting was adjourned and prior to the completion of the minutes the Kalamazoo Area Transportation Study was informed that HIP/COVID funding **can** be flexed.)

**Discussion/Action on Projects for FY 2021 - 2023**

After some discussion of the status of currently programmed projects, no changes or actions regarding the 2021 – 2023 program were proposed. Agencies will consider eligible projects and activities and will request another meeting of the Paw Paw – Lawton Small Urban group to propose projects for approval at a later date.

**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 10:21 a.m.

Minutes prepared:

April 23, 2021