

**Meeting Minutes**  
**Sturgis Small Urban Area Meeting**  
**February 23, 2022**

**Call to Order**

Meeting was called to order at 10:07 a.m. at the offices of the St. Joseph County Road Commission

**Introductions**

The following individuals were in attendance:

Alan Balog, St. Joseph County Transportation Authority

Barry Cox, City of Sturgis

Gail Huff, St. Joseph County Transportation Authority

Michael Hughes, City of Sturgis

John Lindsey, St. Joseph County Road Commission

Garrett Myland, St. Joseph County Road Commission

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

Mark Kloha, Michigan Department of Transportation Small Urban Program Manager participated via Microsoft Teams

**Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items**

No Comments were offered.

**Review of Voting Members**

Voting members, entitled to a single vote each, were identified as Myland for the County Road Commission, Balog for the Transit Authority and Hughes for the City of Sturgis.

**Review of 2023 Projects**

Cox said that Sturgis had originally requested and received approval for the programming of the available \$81,204 in HIP/COVID funding for use on their 2021 Small Urban project. A temporary hold put on the use of the funds statewide by MDOT caused enough uncertainty that the City declined its use that year. Cox said that Sturgis would now like to apply the full amount of the HIP/COVID funding to their approved North Franks Extension project in 2023. The project has grown in scope, including the addition of a non-motorized path to be built alongside the roadway. Kloha verified that the funding is still available to be programmed.

MOTION by Hughes, SUPPORT by Myland, ***“to approve the addition of \$81,204 in HIP/COVID funding to the City of Sturgis’ 2023 North Franks Extension project.”*** During discussion on the motion, Myland asked whether the non-motorized path would be eligible for federal funding. Kloha replied that as long as it is constructed alongside the roadway in the approved project extents and the project is bid by MDOT, the pathway work is eligible. Myland said that he feels it is appropriate that the funding be

approved, as Sturgis had originally been approved for its use. The motion was approved unanimously upon completion of the discussion.

After the vote, the approved project prioritization for 2023 is now as follows:

**Fiscal Year 2023**

Rank	Road/Project Name	Limits	Agency	STP Cost	HIP/COVID Cost
1	N. Franks Extension	Lafayette to Hatch	Sturgis	\$375,000	\$81,204
2	Bus Purchase		Transit	\$100,000	
3	S. Lakeview	US 12 to Mechanic St	Sturgis	\$375,000	

**Review of 2024 -2026 Projects**

Myland said that in response to the recently announced supplemental call for project for Fiscal Year 2022, the Road Commission and the City proposed a project on Franks Avenue and Nottawa Road. The proposal was one of the first 15 applied for and was selected for inclusion in the supplemental program. The Franks Road portion of the project was previously approved as the second priority for fiscal years 2025 and 2026. The Nottawa project will encompass sections in both County and City jurisdictions. If the project is approved Myland said he would recommend moving the two projects prioritized third and fourth behind Franks Road for 2025 and 2026 up to second and third. Balog said that Transit has no objection to the proposal.

MOTION by Myland, SUPPORT by Balog ***“to approve programming Franks Avenue from Fawn River to US 12 and Nottawa Road from Fawn River to Bogen Road for fiscal year 2022 as part of the supplemental call for projects, and to re-prioritize the bus purchase and Wenzel Avenue from M66 to Nottawa as 2 and 3 respectively for fiscal years 2025 and 2026.”*** During discussion on the motion Transit asked about the likelihood that they would receive any funds under the proposed prioritization. The other participants and a Kloha indicated that there is no way of knowing whether additional funding will be made available for lower priority projects in the future. The motion approved unanimously upon completion of the discussion.

As a result of the approval the prioritization for 2025 and 2026 is as follows:

**Fiscal Years 2025 and 2026**

Rank	Road Name	Limits	Agency	STP Cost
1	S. Lakeview	US 12 to Mechanic St.	Sturgis	\$385,000
2	Bus Purchase		Transit	\$100,000
3.	Wenzel Avenue	M66 to S. Nottawa	Sturgis	\$385,000

**Other Business**

No other business was brought forth for consideration.

**Public Comments**

No public comments were offered

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:42 a.m.

Minutes prepared: February 23, 2022