

**Meeting Minutes**  
**Sturgis Small Urban Area Meeting**  
**November 19, 2021**

**Call to Order**

Meeting was called to order at 9:02 a.m. The meeting was hosted by the Kalamazoo Area Transportation Study 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:

Allen Balog, St. Joseph County Transportation Authority

Barry Cox, City of Sturgis

Gail Huff, St. Joseph County Transportation Authority

Michael Hughes, City of Sturgis

Mark Kloha, Michigan Department of Transportation Small Urban Program Manager

Garrett Myland, St. Joseph County Road Commission

Ali Townshend, Kalamazoo Area Transportation Study for Southcentral Michigan Planning Council

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

**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.

**Discussion of Projects for FY 2023**

The Sturgis Small Urban program is currently in the odd-year approval cycle but will switch to even years starting in 2024. For 2023, the currently approved and programmed project is currently the Road Commission's Fawn River, Balk to M66 and White School Road, US 12 to Fawn River. Myland reminded participants that there has been discussion of switching the top priority to a City of Sturgis project to extend N. Franks Avenue. He said that the Road Commission would support whatever prioritization works best for Sturgis. After further discussion, MOTION by Hughes, SUPPORT by Myland, ***"to approve changing the top priority project in fiscal year 2023 to the North Franks Extension from Lafayette Road to East Hatch Road using \$375,000 in federal funding."*** Motion approved unanimously on a roll call vote. During discussion on the motion, it was noted that the City will need to obtain approval for NFC classification of the new extension as Major Collector in order for the programming of federal funding. Additionally, it was noted that HIP/COVID funding had been approved and programmed for the 2021 project but that Sturgis had subsequently declined its use. Kloha was able to get confirmation from MDOT Local Agency Programs that there is a letter on file from Sturgis declining the use of the funding

for the 2021 project. He will investigate what steps can be taken to allow the use of the declined HIP/COVID funding for a future project. The group agreed to reconvene as necessary to approve reallocation of the funding once it is determined that it is available.

Discussion of second and third priority projects for 2023 was undertaken. After MOTION by Hughes, SUPPORT by Balog and unanimous approval on a roll call vote, the second and third priority projects were approved as shown below along with the previously approved number one priority:

**Fiscal Year 2023**

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

**Call for Projects 2024 -2026**

Discussion was held on proposed project prioritization for fiscal years 2024 through 2026. It was noted that allocation of federal funding for those years has been increased to \$385,000. After discussion, MOTION by Hughes, SUPPORT by Balog and unanimous approval on a roll call vote, prioritization was approved as follow:

**Fiscal Year 2024**

Rank	Road Name	Limits	Agency	STP Cost
1	Fawn River Road White School Road	Balk to M66 US 12 to Fawn River	SJCRC	\$385,000
2	S. Lakeview	US 12 to Mechanic St.	Sturgis	\$385,000
3.	Bus Purchase		Transit	\$100,000

**Fiscal Years 2025 and 2026**

Rank	Road Name	Limits	Agency	STP Cost
1	S. Lakeview	US 12 to Mechanic St.	Sturgis	\$385,000
2	Franks Avenue	Fawn River to US 12	SJCRC	\$220,000
3.	Bus Purchase		Transit	\$100,000
4.	Wenzel Avenue	M66 to S. Nottawa	Sturgis	\$385,000

**Public Comments**

Kloha said he will follow up on the status of the HIP/COVID funding and will report back so that a meeting can be scheduled to approve their reprogramming.

**Other Business**

No other business was brought forth for consideration.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:51 a.m.

Minutes prepared: November 19, 2021