

Southcentral Michigan Planning Council

300 South Westnedge Avenue · Kalamazoo, Michigan 49007

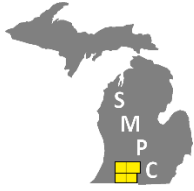
Phone: (269) 385-0409 · Fax: (269) 343-3308 · Email: info@smpcregion3.org

Board Meeting Agenda

MEETING DATE: Tuesday, March 7, 2023
MEETING TIME: 11:30 am
MEETING LOCATION: Road Commission of Kalamazoo County
3801 E Kilgore Rd
Kalamazoo, MI 49001

1. Call to Order
2. Representative Attendance
3. Approval of the Agenda **[Action]**
4. Approval of the Minutes **[Action]**
5. Public Comment
6. Transportation
 - a. KATS report
 - b. Review of SMPC-KATS Contract **[Action?]**
 - i. Potentially take action on contract extension
7. Update on EDA Relationship and work
 - a. Staff update
8. EPA Regional Brownfield Grant
 - a. Update on the work
9. Staff Report/Other
 - a. Review Annual Report **[Action]**
 - b. Update on Planning Work
 - c. Monthly Correspondence
 - d. Board vacancies
10. Representative Comments
11. Adjournment **[Action]**

Next Meeting: June 6, 2023



Southcentral Michigan Planning Council

300 South Westnedge Avenue · Kalamazoo, Michigan 49007

Phone: (269) 385-0409 · Fax: (269) 343-3308 · Email: info@smpcregion3.org

Board Meeting Minutes

MEETING DATE: Tuesday, December 6, 2022
MEETING TIME: 11:30 am
MEETING LOCATION: Road Commission of Kalamazoo County
3801 E Kilgore Rd
Kalamazoo, MI 49001

1. Call to Order
 - a. The meeting was called to order at 11:55
2. Representative Attendance
 - a. Carahaly
 - b. Hazelbaker
 - c. Kale
 - d. Grieve
 - e. Pangle

Other Present

 - f. Adams, Staff
 - g. Petz, Staff
 - h. Nagler, KATS Staff
3. Approval of the Agenda **[Action]**
 - a. The agenda was approved by unanimous consent.
4. Approval of the Minutes **[Action]**
 - a. The minutes were approved by unanimous consent.
5. Public Comment
 - a. None made
6. Transportation
 - a. KATS staff gave a verbal report on their activities. KATS Staff also outlined the work noted in the written report.
7. Update on EDA Relationship and work
 - a. Staff gave an update on the reorganization process and recent contact with EDA. The process of starting to become a District Organization is still unclear.
 - b. Broadband
 - i. Staff gave an update on recent broadband work; it mostly centered on creating a broadband plan for Kalamazoo County.
 - c. Technical Assistance
 - i. Staff noted that it is providing a good amount of technical assistance to the Village of Vicksburg. That technical assistance includes creating an economic development vision and plan for the Village.
8. EPA Regional Brownfield Grant
 - a. Staff gave an update on the work and noted that two new applications will be presented to the Brownfield committee at their next meeting (immediately following the SMPC Board meeting. The amount of applications and work associated with this project has increased significantly in the past few months.

9. Staff Report/Other

a. Update on Planning Work

- i. Carahaly asked staff to send a planning services proposal to the board so that they have an example. Staff will follow up with an email.

b. Monthly Correspondence

10. Representative Comments

- a. Carahaly discussed the Kalamazoo County Planning Commission and the current structure of county planning commissions. Given their limited role, Kalamazoo County is considering dissolving the planning commission.

11. Adjournment **[Action]**

- a. The meeting was adjourned at 12:50.

Next Meeting: *March 7, 2023*



The Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Greater Kalamazoo Area

5220 Lovers Lane, Suite 110

Portage, MI 49002

269-343-0766

info@KATSmpo.org

TO: Southcentral Michigan Planning Council Board
FROM: Steven Stepek, KATS Executive Director
DATE: February 27, 2023
SUBJECT: Southcentral Michigan Planning Council Report

During the month of February 2023, KATS staff worked on the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) Planning Activities for the Southcentral Michigan Planning Council (SMPC). Work was concentrated in the following activities:

- Participated in the MDOT February Rural Task Force (RTF) monthly meeting
- Coordinated scheduling and facilitated meeting of the Coldwater-Quincy Small Urban task force to discuss possible changes in the 2023 and 2025 approved projects. Meeting had to be rescheduled and noticed due to the February 23 ice storm
- Attended online PASER training in preparation for 2023 data collection
- Continued to work with Rural Task Force and Small Urban eligible agencies to resolve programming issues and answer questions on procedures. Recent action included the Coldwater-Quincy small urban meeting and reprogramming of 2024 funding for Calhoun and Branch counties
- Continued work on 2022 Federal Aid Road Condition Reports for Region 3 counties
- Worked with consultant KFH and Southwest Michigan Planning Council to schedule and generate contact list for a meeting to discuss development of regional coordinated transportation plan. The plan will identify mobility needs for users such as older adults, people with disabilities and people with lower incomes. It is scheduled for March 14 from 10:00 to 11:30

Anticipated future activities include:

- Continued work on the regional coordinated transportation plan as needed
- Updating and entering project data in JobNet for the 2023 - 2026 Transportation Improvement Programs as project data sheets are submitted or as otherwise needed
- Scheduling and facilitating public meetings for consideration and approval of Rural Task Force and Small Urban changes to the 2023 – 2026 Transportation Improvement Program as needed.
- Completing Road Condition reports for Region 3 counties and uploading to the SMPC website's Transportation page
- Attend 2023 PASER Rating Training Sessions
- Scheduling and performing 2023 PASER ratings in the field

SOUTHCENTRAL MICHIGAN PLANNING COUNCIL

KALAMAZOO AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY

AGREEMENT

This Agreement is made and entered into this date of _____ by and between the SOUTHCENTRAL MICHIGAN PLANNING COUNCIL, hereinafter referred to as "SMPC," and the KALAMAZOO AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY, hereinafter referred to as "KATS," for the purpose of fixing the rights and obligations of the parties in agreeing to participate in a cooperative regional transportation planning process.

RECITALS:

- A. For the purposes of the Michigan Department of Transportation, hereinafter referred to as "MDOT," Regional Transportation Work Program hereinafter referred to as "WORK PROGRAM," Region 3 consists of the Counties of Barry, Branch, Calhoun, Kalamazoo, and St. Joseph and is represented by SMPC.
- B. SMPC, as a state-recognized regional planning organization, is tasked by the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) to conduct regional transportation planning activities in Region 3.
- C. KATS has extensive transportation planning experience serving as the Metropolitan Planning Organization associated with the Kalamazoo Urbanized Area. SMPC will utilize KATS' expertise in transportation planning to fulfill the MDOT-required transportation planning activities in Region 3 during MDOT fiscal years 2024, 2025, and 2026.
- D. KATS has administered the program during fiscal years 2014 through 2022, and continues to administer the program in fiscal year 2023.

Accordingly, the Southcentral Michigan Planning Council and the Kalamazoo Area Transportation Study agree to the following terms and conditions:

TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

1. Recitals: The recitals accurately reflect the intent and purpose of this Agreement and are made a part of it.
2. Description of Project:
 - a) KATS will administer and oversee the transportation planning activities required by MDOT in the WORK PROGRAM throughout the region.
 - b) SMPC will oversee and review work performed by KATS, and administer the program.
 - c) SMPC will reimburse KATS for their work using MDOT funding identified in the FY 2024, 2025, and 2026 WORK PROGRAM.

- d) This Agreement will expire at the end of the 2026 Fiscal Year (September 30, 2026).
- e) Payments for work completed in the 2026 Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2026 and invoiced after that date shall be paid to close out the fiscal year.
- f) For each fiscal year, work will not begin until such time as the Southcentral Michigan Planning Council receives written approval of the WORK PROGRAM from the Michigan Department of Transportation.

3. Duties and Responsibilities of SMPC: The duties and responsibilities of SMPC include the following:

- a) Receive and approve or deny the WORK PROGRAM presented by KATS in a timely manner.
- b) Receive and approve or deny invoices submitted by KATS in a timely manner.
- c) Submit required reporting documentation and invoices to MDOT for work outlined in this Agreement in a timely manner.
- d) Receive and distribute funds from MDOT to KATS in accordance with this Agreement.
- e) Conduct a quarterly review of KATS activities and provide feedback on progress.
- f) Conduct minor program administration related to the WORK PROGRAM.

4. Duties and Responsibilities of KATS: The duties and responsibilities of KATS include the following:

- a) Prepare and submit a draft annual transportation planning WORK PROGRAM and budget to SMPC for review and approval no later than July 1 for each upcoming fiscal year.
- b) Conduct all activities in response to requests by SMPC, MDOT, local units of government, and local partners as related to the WORK PROGRAM.
- c) Proactively market the services offered by SMPC in the WORK PROGRAM to local units of government in the region.
- d) Submit progress reports and invoices for payment no less than quarterly to SMPC.
- e) Present reports on activities as needed at SMPC Board meetings.
- f) Prepare the Final Acceptance Report within eighty (80) days of the end of the MDOT Fiscal Year and submit to SMPC for review and submittal to MDOT.

5. Reimbursement:

- a) KATS will submit invoices and progress reports for work performed related to the WORK PROGRAM to SMPC.
- b) Total costs submitted by KATS each fiscal year will not exceed the approved SMPC project authorizations.
- c) SMPC will submit invoices and progress reports for work performed by KATS to MDOT.
- d) MDOT will reimburse SMPC, who will, in turn, reimburse KATS.
- e) To expedite payment to KATS, two of the following SMPC agents will, under typical circumstances, approve invoices and payments within fifteen (15) days of receipt: The Chairperson, Secretary/Treasurer, SMPC Staff or Board Member of SMPC. A report of activities will be presented by SMPC Chairperson or Secretary/Treasurer as needed at SMPC board meetings.

- f) SMPC will, under typical circumstances, submit payment to KATS within ten (10) days of receipt of MDOT reimbursement.

6. Opt-Out: SMPC reserves the right to opt-out of the agreement for the reasons enumerated below. Termination of this contract requires a resolution with two-thirds support of the active members of the SMPC board. Termination may not occur sooner than 30 days after formal board action and must occur at the end of a fiscal quarter.

a) Performance

- i. If KATS fails to perform the duties described above, SMPC has the option to terminate this contract.

- 1. SMPC staff and board members will conduct quarterly performance reviews.
- 2. SMPC will inform KATS of their performance standing.
- 3. Termination of this contract requires a resolution with two-thirds support of the active members of the SMPC board.

b) Changes in organizational structure

- i. If either organization makes significant changes to its structure or management, SMPC may initiate an opt-out.

7. Binding Effect: The obligations of the parties under this Agreement shall bind and inure to the benefit of each party and their respective successors. The parties do not intend to confer any benefits on any person, firm, corporation, or other entity which is not party to this Agreement.

8. Notices: Any notices that may be required under this Agreement shall be in writing and delivered personally, or via first-class mailed, postage fully prepaid and properly addressed to:

KATS : Randy Thompson, Chairperson
5220 Lovers Lane
Suite 110
Portage, MI 49001

SMPC: Vince Carahaly, Chairperson
300 South Westnedge Ave
Kalamazoo, MI 49007

9. Indemnification: As both parties are quasi-governmental entities, each agrees to indemnify and hold each other harmless, including its elected officials, agents, employees, officers and representatives, from all fines, costs, lawsuits, claims, demands and actions of any kind or nature, including reasonable attorney fees, which occur by reason of any wrongful act, negligence or wrongful omission on the part of the other. For purposes of this paragraph, the Counties of Barry, Branch, Calhoun, Kalamazoo and St. Joseph, the Michigan Department of Transportation, Federal Transit Administration, and the Federal Highway Administration are considered included.

10. Compliance with Laws:

- a) KATS shall be governed by the laws of the State of Michigan and compliant with all applicable Federal laws and regulations, as set forth in the Prime Contract.
- b) KATS certifies that it agrees to use the E-Verify system to verify that all persons it hires during the subcontract term are legally present and authorized to work in the United States.

11. Prime Agreement:

- a) KATS shall be governed by all the terms and conditions of the Prime Contract, including any amendments to the original Prime Contract.
- b) In the event of a conflict between the terms and conditions of the subcontract and those of the Prime Contract, the terms and conditions of the Prime Contract shall prevail.

12. Records: Records, including executed subcontracts, are to be maintained for (3) years from the date of final payment to KATS and all other pending matters are closed. The Department or its representative may inspect, copy, scan, or audit the Records at any reasonable time after giving reasonable notice.

13. Certification: KATS agrees that the costs reported to the Southcentral Michigan Planning Council for this Contract will represent only those items that are properly chargeable in accordance with the Prime Contract. KATS also certifies that upon receipt, it will read the Prime Contract terms and will make itself aware of the applicable laws, regulations, and terms of the Prime Contract that apply to the reporting of costs incurred under the terms of the Prime Contract.

KALAMAZOO AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY

Dated: _____

By: _____

Its: Chairperson

SOUTHCENTRAL MICHIGAN PLANNING COUNCIL

Dated: _____

By: _____

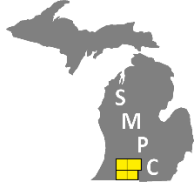
Its: Chairperson

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Dated: _____

By: _____

Its:



Southcentral Michigan Planning Council

300 South Westnedge Avenue · Kalamazoo, Michigan 49007

Phone: (269) 385-0409 · Fax: (269) 343-3308 · Email: info@smpcregion3.org

2022 SMPC Annual Report

2022 was a successful year for the Southcentral Michigan Planning Council (SMPC). The pandemic's impact on our work waned significantly, with the team attending many more in-person meetings; the SMPC Team was able to attend many meetings of local governments. As such, the SMPC Team was able to provide valuable services to the communities in Planning Region 3 (Branch, Calhoun, Kalamazoo, and St. Joseph counties). 2022 allowed the SMPC Team to finish, continue to work on, and finish several projects; those projects are outlined below. Although SMPC's fiscal year coincides with the State's, ending September 30, this annual report covers the calendar year of 2022.

Housing Planning

SMPC staff began offering housing planning services in 2020 but delivered its first housing plan in 2021. In 2020, SMPC staff built a housing toolkit (plan4housing.org); staff uses to the toolkit when creating housing plans. The SMPC Team wrapped up the Kalamazoo County Housing Plan and conducted the bulk of the work for the Oshtemo Township Housing Plan in 2022. The Kalamazoo County Plan received a large amount of positive feedback and media attention. The SMPC Team is very proud of the plan. A copy of the Kalamazoo County Housing Plan is found here:

<https://research.upjohn.org/reports/282/>.

SMPC staff will have capacity to help create housing plans in 2023; if your community is interested in SMPC assistance in creating a housing plan, please contact Lee Adams or Emily Petz (contact information below).



Broadband Assistance

SMPC received a grant through the EDA to assist local communities with broadband plans. SMPC staff assisted various community groups with the broadband planning process in 2022. In fact, SMPC staff is partnering with Kalamazoo County to write a broadband plan for the County. The County allocated a portion of its American Rescue Plan Act funding to support the creation of the plan. The work is scheduled to be completed at the end of 2023. Additionally, staff will continue to provide technical assistance as well as find and secure funding for broadband planning and installation.

Brownfield Assessments and Environmental Planning

The SMPC team successfully applied for and received funding to assess potential brownfield sites. SMPC received a \$600,000 grant from the Environmental Protection Agency to fund: phase I, phase II, baseline environmental planning, and other environmental planning costs. The grant does not allow SMPC to pay for work already conducted but could pay for work needed. For-profit businesses, nonprofits, and local governments are all eligible to utilize this funding. A significant portion of the funding was allocated in 2022, but the majority of the funds are still available. If you know of any projects that may benefit from environmental site assessments, contact Emily Petz (contact information below).

Planning Assistance

SMPC offers assistance to local groups who need to update or create land use or economic development plans. SMPC offers some services without cost to local governments, but large projects, such as master plans, zoning ordinance updates, or economic development plans, require SMPC to recoup its expenses through contracts. SMPC finished land use planning projects for Branch County, Sherman Township, Mendon Village and Township, Nottawa Township, and started projects in several other communities. If you need land use planning or economic development, contact Lee Adams for more information (contact information below).



Transportation Planning Assistance

SMPC provides transportation planning services to the region through the Kalamazoo Area Transportation Study (KATS). The Michigan Department of Transportation contracts with SMPC to provide transportation planning services (asset management, rural transportation planning, and the Small Urban Program) on its behalf. SMPC has funds in fiscal year 2023 to assist local communities or counties with transportation planning. Contact Lee Adams (contact information below) or Fred Nagler (269-343-0766) of KATS if you have transportation planning needs.

Workshops

Traditionally, SMPC will offer local governments and nonprofits the opportunity to learn and share best practices on relevant topics two times each year. SMPC aims to offer or partner on three workshops in 2023. These workshops will focus **on housing, transportation planning, and broadband internet**. In the past, SMPC has offered workshops on alternative energy and its impact on land use, economic development, the Open Meetings Act and parliamentary procedure, marijuana regulations, and land use policy.

SMPC Staff

Lee Adams, Director
adams@upjohn.org

Emily Petz, Community
Development Coordinator
petz@upjohn.org

Patrick Hudson, Planner
hudson@upjohn.org



NOTICE OF INTENT FOR RECREATION GRANT PROJECTS

This information is requested by authority of Part 19, Act 451 of 1994, to be considered for a MNRTF grant.

1. Name of Project		2. Date
3a. Identity of the applicant agency, organization, or individual:	3b. Indicate below the representative of the applicant to contact for additional information regarding this notice:	
	Name	
	Address (Street/PO Box)	
	City, State, ZIP Code	
	Telephone	
4a. Agency from which assistance will be sought: <input type="checkbox"/> Michigan Department of Natural Resources	Name of Program: _____ Public Law or USC#: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Part 19 of Act 451 of 1994	
5. Estimated Cost:	6. Estimated date by which time the applicant expects to formally file an application:	
FEDERAL: _____	7. Geographic location of the project to be assisted: (indicate specific location as well as city or county. Attach map if necessary).	
STATE: _____		
OTHER: _____		
TOTAL: _____		
8. Brief description of the proposed project. This will help the clearinghouse identify agencies of state or local government having plans, programs, or projects that might be affected by the proposed project:		
8a. Type of project:		
8b. Purpose:		
8c. General size or scale:		
8d. Beneficiaries (persons or institutions benefited):		
8e. Indicate the relationship of this project to plans, programs, and other activities of your agency and other agencies (attach separate sheet if necessary):		



AREA WIDE RECREATION AND PLANNING CLEARINGHOUSES

<p>PLANNING REGION 1. LIVINGSTON, MACOMB, MONROE, OAKLAND, ST. CLAIR, WASHTENAW, & WAYNE COUNTIES NOTE: Paper submissions will be denied. Submit by email: infocenter@semcog.org (include email receipt with application)</p>	<p>SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS (SEMCOG) 1001 WOODWARD AVE., SUITE 1400 DETROIT, MI 48226-1904 PHONE: (313) 961-4266 FAX: (313) 961-4869</p>
<p>PLANNING REGION 2. HILLSDALE, JACKSON, & LENAWEE COUNTIES</p>	<p>REGION 2 PLANNING COMMISSION JACKSON COUNTY TOWER BLDG., 9TH FLOOR 120 W MICHIGAN AVE. JACKSON, MI 49201 PHONE: (517) 788-4426 FAX: (517) 788-4635</p>
<p>PLANNING REGION 3. BARRY, BRANCH, CALHOUN, KALAMAZOO, & ST. JOSEPH COUNTIES</p>	<p>SOUTH CENTRAL MICHIGAN PLANNING COUNCIL 300 S WESTNEDGE AVE KALAMAZOO, MI 49007 PHONE: (269) 385-0409 FAX:</p>
<p>PLANNING REGION 4. BERRIEN, CASS, & VAN BUREN COUNTIES</p>	<p>SOUTHWEST MICHIGAN PLANNING COMMISSION 376 WEST MAIN STREET, SUITE 130 BENTON HARBOR, MI 49022-3651 PHONE (269) 925-1137 FAX: (269) 925-0288</p>
<p>PLANNING REGION 5. GENESEE, LAPEER, & SHIAWASSEE COUNTIES</p>	<p>GLS REGION V PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION 1101 BEACH ST., ROOM 223 FLINT, MI 48502-1470 PHONE: (810) 257-3010 FAX: (810) 257-3185</p>
<p>PLANNING REGION 6. EATON, INGHAM, & CLINTON COUNTIES</p>	<p>TRI-COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION 3135 PINE TREE ROAD, SUITE 2C LANSING, MI 48911-4234 PHONE: (517) 393-0342 FAX: (517) 393-4424</p>
<p>PLANNING REGION 7. ARENAC, BAY, CLARE, GLADWIN, GRATIOT, HURON, IOSCO, ISABELLA, MIDLAND, OGEMAW, ROSCOMMON, SAGINAW, SANILAC & TUSCOLA COUNTIES</p>	<p>EAST MICHIGAN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS 3144 DAVENPORT AVE., SUITE 200 SAGINAW, MI 48602-3494 PHONE: (989) 797-0800 FAX: (989) 797-0896</p>
<p>PLANNING REGION 8. ALLEGAN, IONIA, KENT, MECOSTA, MONTCALM, OSCEOLA, & OTTAWA COUNTIES</p>	<p>WEST MICHIGAN REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION 1345 MONROE AVENUE, NW, SUITE 255 GRAND RAPIDS, MI 49505-4670 PHONE: (616) 774-8400 FAX: (616) 774-0808</p>
<p>PLANNING REGION 9. ALCONA, ALPENA, CHEBOYGAN, CRAWFORD, MONTMORENCY, OSCODA, OTSEGO, & PRESQUE ISLE COUNTIES</p>	<p>NORTHEAST MICHIGAN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS 80 LIVINGSTON BLVD., SUITE U-108 GAYLORD, MI 49734 PHONE: (989) 705-3730 FAX: (989) 732-5578</p>
<p>PLANNING REGION 10. ANTRIM, BENZIE, CHARLEVOIX, EMMET, GRAND TRAVERSE, KALKASKA, LEELANAU, MANISTEE, MISSAUKEE, & WEXFORD COUNTIES</p>	<p>NORTHWEST MICHIGAN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS PO BOX 506 TRAVERSE CITY, MI 49685-0506 PHONE (231) 929-5000 FAX: (231) 929-5012</p>
<p>PLANNING REGION 11. CHIPPEWA, LUCE, & MACKINAC COUNTIES</p>	<p>EASTERN UPPER PENINSULA REGIONAL PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION 1118 E. EASTERDAY AVE. SAULT STE. MARIE, MI 49783 PHONE: (906) 635-1581 FAX: (996) 635-9582</p>
<p>PLANNING REGION 12. ALGER, DELTA, DICKINSON, MARQUETTE, MENOMINEE, & SCHOOLCRAFT COUNTIES</p>	<p>CENTRAL UPPER PENINSULA PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT REGIONAL COMMISSION 2950 COLLEGE AVE. ESCANABA, MI 49829 PHONE: (906) 786-9234 FAX: (906) 786-4442</p>
<p>PLANNING REGION 13. BARAGA, GOGEBIC, HOUGHTON, IRON, KEWEENAW, & ONTONAGON COUNTIES</p>	<p>WESTERN UPPER PENINSULA REGIONAL PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION 326 SHELDON AVE. PO BOX 365 HOUGHTON, MI 49931 PHONE: (906) 482-7205 FAX: (906) 482-9032</p>
<p>PLANNING REGION 14. LAKE, MASON, MUSKEGON, NEWAYGO, & OCEANA COUNTIES</p>	<p>WEST MICHIGAN SHORELINE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION PO BOX 387 / 316 MORRIS AVE., SUITE 340 MUSKEGON, MI 49443-0387 PHONE: (231) 722-7878 FAX: (231) 722-9362</p>



March 21, 2022

Southcentral Michigan Planning Council
Mr. Lee Adams, Director
300 S. Westnedge Ave.
Kalamazoo, MI 49007

By Email: adams@upjohn.org

Dear Mr. Adams,

The Village of White Pigeon in St. Joseph County is early in the process of applying to the Water & Waste Disposal Program (CFDA 10.760) at USDA Rural Development. The application is still being developed. It has not been submitted to USDA.

The Village recently completed the installation of a 10-inch water main along US 12. This water main will act as the backbone for future improvements to the water system and expanded delivery to users.

The Village recently discovered Manganese sediment building up in the pipes. This mineral is causing operational issues such as impeding flow through the network and preventing accurate water usage measurements by obstructing the meters.

Most of the service lines to each resident and businesses include materials that are non-compliant with today's standards. The US 12 project demonstrated that most of the Village's current service connections include galvanized or lead service pipe instead of the acceptable copper or HDPE material. The State of Michigan recognizes this issue and therefore awarded the Village a Booker Grant for 2022 to replace non-compliant service lines from the water main to the meter.

The oldest cast iron pipes in the network are more than 70 years old. Pipe size is not adequate to meet today's standards and restricts adequate fire protection for the Village. Replacement of the non-compliant materials of the service connections will bring the Village up to current Ten State Standards for water systems.

The engineer, Jones Petrie & Rafinski (JPR) recommends upgrading the distribution network as their highest priority. JPR also recommends replacing the 60-year-old existing wells at the same wellfield location and completing preventative maintenance, cleaning, and OSHA safety repairs to the existing tower. These will ensure that that Village will be able to continue to provide quality drinking water. Abandoning the well with the elevated Manganese will reduce buildup in the network, however it will not completely resolve the concern for the long term. Filtration will be needed in the future to preserve the lifespan of piping, provide quality water to the residents, as well as meet regulatory compliance.

The proposed project includes:

Rural Development • Grand Rapids Area Office
3260 Eagle Park Dr., Suite 107 • Grand Rapids, MI 49525
Office (616) 942-4111 ext. 6 • Fax (855) 729-8874 • TTY (517) 324-5200

- WATER NETWORK UPGRADES. REPLACING AGING AND UNDER SIZED PIPING, VALVES, HYDRANTS, AND NON-COMPLIANT SERVICE LATERALS. COST INCLUDES BOOKER GRANT FUNDING FROM THE STATE OF MICHIGAN.
- WELL REPLACEMENT AND WATER TOWER REPAIRS. THREE 500 GPM PRODUCTION WELLS AND SUPPORTING SYSTEMS, PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE AND SAFETY REPAIRS TO THE WATER TOWER

We welcome your comments on the proposed project and its compliance with the area comprehensive development plan. Any additional comments are welcome.

Comments can be emailed to me at paul.bristol@usda.gov or sent to my office at:

USDA Rural Development
3260 Eagle Park Dr., Suite 107
Grand Rapids, MI 49525

Please call me at 616 222-5817 if you have questions.

Sincerely,

Paul Bristol
Area Specialist