



Southcentral Michigan Planning Council

300 South Westnedge Avenue · Kalamazoo, Michigan 49007

Phone: (269) 216-4720 · Email: info@smpcregion3.org

Board Meeting Agenda

MEETING DATE: Wednesday, April 23rd, 2025
MEETING TIME: 11:30 am
MEETING LOCATION: Road Commission of Kalamazoo County
4400 S 26th St
Kalamazoo, MI 49048

Call to Order

1. Representative Attendance [Action]
2. Approval of the Agenda [Action]
3. Approval of the Minutes [Action]
4. Public Comment
5. Transportation
 - a. KATS report
6. Recognition of Vince Carahaly [Action]
7. SMPC Transition
 - a. Contract with the Upjohn Institute
 - b. Board vacancies
 - c. GIS Contractor [Action]
8. Economic Development Administration
 - a. CEDS Application
9. Other Contracted Work Options
 - a. Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)
 - b. Michigan's Inclusive Training, Technology, and Equity Network (MITTEN)
10. Staff Report/Other
 - a. Update on Planning Work
 - i. Village of Homer
 - ii. St. Joseph County
 - b. Update on the Materials Management Work
11. Other Contracted Work Options [Action]
 - a. Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)
 - b. Michigan's Inclusive Training, Technology, and Equity Network (MITTEN)
12. Correspondence
 - a. Alamo Township master plan adoption
 - b. Village of Colon parks and recreation plan
 - c. Cooper Township master plan update
 - d. Kalamazoo city DNR grant application
 - e. Southwest Michigan DNR grant application
13. Representative Comments
14. Adjournment

Next Meeting: May 28th, 2025, Virtual Working Session



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: Wednesday, December 11, 2024
MEETING TIME: 11:30 am
MEETING LOCATION: Road Commission of Kalamazoo County
4400 S 26th St
Kalamazoo, MI 49048

1. Call to Order
The meeting was called to order at 11:49pm
2. Representative Attendance
 - a. Present:
 - i. Gisler
 - ii. Hazelbaker
 - iii. Carahaly
 - iv. Bomba
 - b. Absent:
 - i. Coney
 - ii. Frisbie
3. Approval of the Agenda
 - a. Hazelbaker made a motion to approve the agenda. The agenda was approved without objection.
4. Approval of the Minutes
 - a. Bomba made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. The agenda was approved without objection.
5. Public Comment
 - a. None made.
6. Transportation
 - a. KATS staff gave a verbal and written report of activities.
7. SMPC Transition
 - a. Updates from the Transition Committee
 - i. Staff and transition committee members gave verbal updates on their work between meetings. The team worked with an attorney at Clark Hill to develop an employment agreement and with Nulty Insurance to develop an employee handbook.
 - b. Contract with the Upjohn Institute
 - i. Hazelbaker made a motion to authorize the transition committee to make the necessary changes and to authorize the chair to sign the agreement with the Upjohn Institute and the employment agreement with Brian Pittelko following legal review.
 - 1) Gisler seconded the motion.
 - 2) **The motion carried.**
8. Economic Development Administration
 - a. CEDS Application
 - i. Staff gave a verbal update on the application to the EDA for funding to update the Comprehensive Economic Development strategy for the region. Staff is actively working to complete and submit the application as soon as possible.
9. EPA Regional Brownfield Grant
 - a. Update on the Work

- i. Staff gave a brief verbal update on the work. Board members asked about the remaining funding and staff noted that little funding remained, enough for maybe one project after another project fell through.

10. Staff Report/Other

- a. Update on Planning Work
- b. Update on the Materials Management Work
- c. Monthly Correspondence

11. Representative Comments

- a. Bomba: 5-year parks and recreation plan is out for review. Calhoun County is also applying for DNR Trust Fund money.
- b. Hazelbaker: Branch County has an approved balanced budget. The County hired a new Administrator who starts on January 1st.
- c. Gisler: Tim Raymond will speak to a group that Mr. Gisler is assembling. The focus of the meeting is an update on the event center in downtown Kalamazoo.
- d. Carahaly: Thanked Lee Adams for his service to the SMPC Board for 12 years.

12. Adjournment

- a. The meeting was adjourned at 1:13pm.

Next Meeting: January 22, 2025



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: April 22, 2025
SUBJECT: Southcentral Michigan Planning Council Report

During the month of March 2024, 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:

- Continued to work with Rural Task Force (RTF) and Small Urban eligible agencies to resolve programming issues and answer questions on procedures
- Continued entering projects approved at the December 16 RTF #3 meeting into JobNet for approval by MDOT
- Updated tracking spreadsheets for the 2023 – 2026 and 2026 – 2029 Rural Task Force Transportation Improvement Programs to reflect most recent changes
- Submitted the March monthly RTF report to MDOT Planning
- Scheduled a meeting of the Paw Paw Small Urban task force to select a project for FY 2026 to replace the current one which is no longer eligible due changes to the Approved Census Urban Boundary area
- Scheduled a meeting for the Marshall Small Urban task force to consider requested project change for 2026
- Prepared materials for, advertised, facilitated and drafted minutes for the March 18 Paw Paw and March 24 Marshall Small Urban task force meetings
- Continued work on 2024 Federal Aid Road Condition Reports for Barry, Branch, Calhoun and St. Joseph Counties

Anticipated future activities include:

- Continuing updating and entering project data in JobNet for the 2023 - 2026 and 2026 - 2029 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 and 2026 - 2029 Transportation Improvement Programs as needed
- Submitting updated HPMS data to MDOT once completed by local agencies
- Programming approved Rural Task Force projects in JobNet once approval is granted by the full RTF #3 voting members
- Beginning scheduling and execution of PASER data collection with Region 3 local road agencies



Southcentral Michigan Planning Council

300 South Westnedge Avenue · Kalamazoo, Michigan 49007

Phone: (269) 216-4720 · Email: info@smpcregion3.org

Proclamation Honoring Vince Carahaly for Distinguished Service to the Southcentral Michigan Planning Council

WHEREAS, Vince Carahaly faithfully and diligently served on the Board of Southcentral Michigan Planning Council for ten years, serving as Vice-Chair and Chair from 2017 to 2025, while demonstrating outstanding leadership, vision, and unwavering dedication to the mission and values of the organization; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure, Mr. Carahaly oversaw significant growth in the organization; updating the regional economic development strategy, attracted millions dollars in grants, and helped shepherd SMPC into independence.

WHEREAS, his integrity, wisdom, and thoughtful stewardship have left a lasting impact on the organization's growth, sustainability, and success; and

WHEREAS, the entire Southcentral Michigan community has benefited from his strategic guidance, his tireless efforts, and his steadfast commitment to excellence in governance;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that we, the members of the Southcentral Michigan Planning Council do hereby express our deepest gratitude and heartfelt appreciation to Vince Carahaly for his exemplary service to SMPC;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this proclamation be entered into the official records of SMPC as a permanent testament to his legacy of leadership, dedication, and enduring contribution.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we hereby set our hands and cause this proclamation to be issued on this April of 23, 2025.

Signed,

The Board of the Southcentral Michigan Planning Council

Alamo Township



Kalamazoo

December 16, 2024

To All Interested Parties:

On behalf of the Alamo Township Planning Commission and Township Board, and in accordance with Michigan Public Act 33 of 2008 and related amendments, this letter is to inform you that the Alamo Township Master Plan has been adopted. At a regularly scheduled Township Board meeting on December 9, 2024, the Township Board unanimously approved the resolution of adoption.

The Alamo Township Master Plan can be found on the Township's website at <https://alamotownshipmi.gov/>.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Julie Johnston". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Julie Johnston, AICP

On behalf of Alamo Township Planning Commission

STURGEON LAKE



Village of Colon, Michigan

"Magic Capital of the World"

111 S. St. Joseph St, P.O. BOX 50
COLON, MICHIGAN 49040



PALMER LAKE

Phone: 269-432-2532
Fax: 269-432-4116

www.colonmi.net

22 January 2025

Village of Colon
111 S. Saint Joseph St.
PO Box 50
Colon, MI 49040

South Central Michigan Planning Council
300 S. Westnedge Ave.
Kalamazoo, MI 49007

To whom it may concern,

The Village of Colon and the Colon Community Parks and Recreation Board have approved and adopted the 5 year Parks and Recreation plan 2025-2030 to be submitted to the MI DNR for approval for future grant opportunities. In the DNR submission form we are required to submit our 5 year plan to your agency.

Enclosed is the Colon Community Parks and Recreation 2025-2030 plan.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jodi Gross". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jodi Gross
Village President



Cooper Charter Township

1590 West D Avenue
Kalamazoo, MI 49009-6321
(269) 382-0223

November 25, 2024

To All Interested Parties:

On behalf of the Cooper Charter Township Planning Commission and in accordance with Michigan Public Act 33 of 2008 and related amendments, this letter is to notify you that Cooper Charter Township is initiating the process to complete an update of their Master Plan.

When a Township is intending to prepare a master plan update, it must notify by first class mail or personal delivery the following parties: the planning commission or elected body of any city, village, or township located within or contiguous to the township; the county planning commission; regional planning commission; public utilities, railroad company, and/or public transportation agency; and any government entity that registers its name to be notified.

The Township requests any comments or suggestions that you believe should be addressed as part of this planning effort. Later in the process, the Township will send an additional notice related to the draft master plan update for public review and comment, as required by the Act. At that time, the Township would welcome any comments on the content in the plan.

PLEASE BE NOTIFIED that you are invited to send your opinions, comments, suggestions, or questions to Cooper Charter Township (Attn: Julie Johnston, Planning Consultant), 1590 West D Avenue, Kalamazoo, MI 49009 or by email to jjohnstonzoning@gmail.com.

The Township Planning Commission looks forward to your participation in this process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Julie Johnston". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Julie Johnston, AICP

On behalf of Cooper Charter Township Planning Commission



NOTICE OF INTENT FOR RECREATION GRANT PROJECTS

This information is requested by authority of Part 703, Act 451 of 1994, as amended, to be considered for a LWCF grant.

Name of Project		Date	County
Identity of the applicant agency, organization, or individual:			
Indicate below the representative of the applicant to contact for additional information regarding this Notice:			
Name		Telephone Number (including area code)	E-mail Address
Address (Street/PO Box), City, State, ZIP Code			
Agency from which will be sought:		Name of Program	
<input type="checkbox"/> Michigan Department of Natural Resources		<input type="checkbox"/> Land and Water Conservation Fund <input type="checkbox"/> Natural Resources Trust Fund	
Estimated Federal Cost	Estimated State Cost	Estimated Other Cost	Total Cost
\$	\$	\$	\$
Estimated date by which time the applicant expects to formally file an application			
Geographic location of the project to be assisted (indicate specific location as well as city or county. Attach map if necessary)			
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:			
Type of project		General size of scale project	
Purpose of project			
Beneficiaries (persons or institutions benefited)			
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, & LENAWEЕ 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, OGE MAW, 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>



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This information is requested by authority of Part 703, Act 451 of 1994, as amended, to be considered for a LWCF grant.

Name of Project	Date	County
Identity of the applicant agency, organization, or individual:		
Indicate below the representative of the applicant to contact for additional information regarding this Notice:		
Name	Telephone Number (including area code)	E-mail Address
Address (Street/PO Box), City, State, ZIP Code		
Agency from which will be sought:		Name of Program
<input type="checkbox"/> Michigan Department of Natural Resources		<input type="checkbox"/> Land and Water Conservation Fund <input type="checkbox"/> Natural Resources Trust Fund
Estimated Federal Cost \$	Estimated State Cost \$	Estimated Other Cost \$
Total Cost \$		
Estimated date by which time the applicant expects to formally file an application		
Geographic location of the project to be assisted (indicate specific location as well as city or county. Attach map if necessary)		
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:		
Type of project	General size of scale project	
Purpose of project		
Beneficiaries (persons or institutions benefited)		
Indicate the relationship of this project to plans, programs, and other activities of your agency and other agencies (attach separate sheet if necessary):		



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GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
LANSING



M. SCOTT BOWEN
DIRECTOR

March 31, 2025

VIA E-mail

Brian Pittelko, Executive Director
Planning Region 3
Southcentral Michigan Planning Council
300 S Westnedge Ave.
Kalamazoo, MI 49007
info@smpcregion3.org

Marcy Hamilton, Deputy Director/Senior Planner
Planning Region 4
Southwest Michigan Planning Commission
376 West Main Street, Suite 130
Benton Harbor, MI 49022-3651
hamiltonm@swmpc.org

James Snell, Executive Director
Planning Region 6
Tri-County Regional Planning Commission
3135 Pine Tree Road, Suite 2C
Lansing, MI 48911-4234
info@mitcrpc.org

Dave Bee, Director
Planning Region 8
West Michigan Regional Planning Commission
1345 Monroe Avenue, NW, Suite 255
Grand Rapids, MI 49505-4670
dbee@wmrpc.org

Erin Kuhn, Executive Director
Planning Region 14
West Michigan Shoreline Regional
Development Commission
PO Box 387; 316 Morris Ave, Suite 340
Muskegon, MI 49443-0387
ekuhn@wmsrdc.org

Dear Planning Commission Directors:

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is applying for funding consideration under the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF) program for 2025. As part of the MNRTF application process, we are submitting this Notice of Intent.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or comments related to this project. I can be reached via email, phone, or in writing at DNR Wildlife Division, 4166 Legacy Parkway, Lansing, MI 48911.

Thank you for your consideration. Please contact me if you need additional information.

Sincerely,

Valerie Frawley
Public Land Matters Biologist
Wildlife Division
517-420-3916
frawleyv@michigan.gov

enclosures

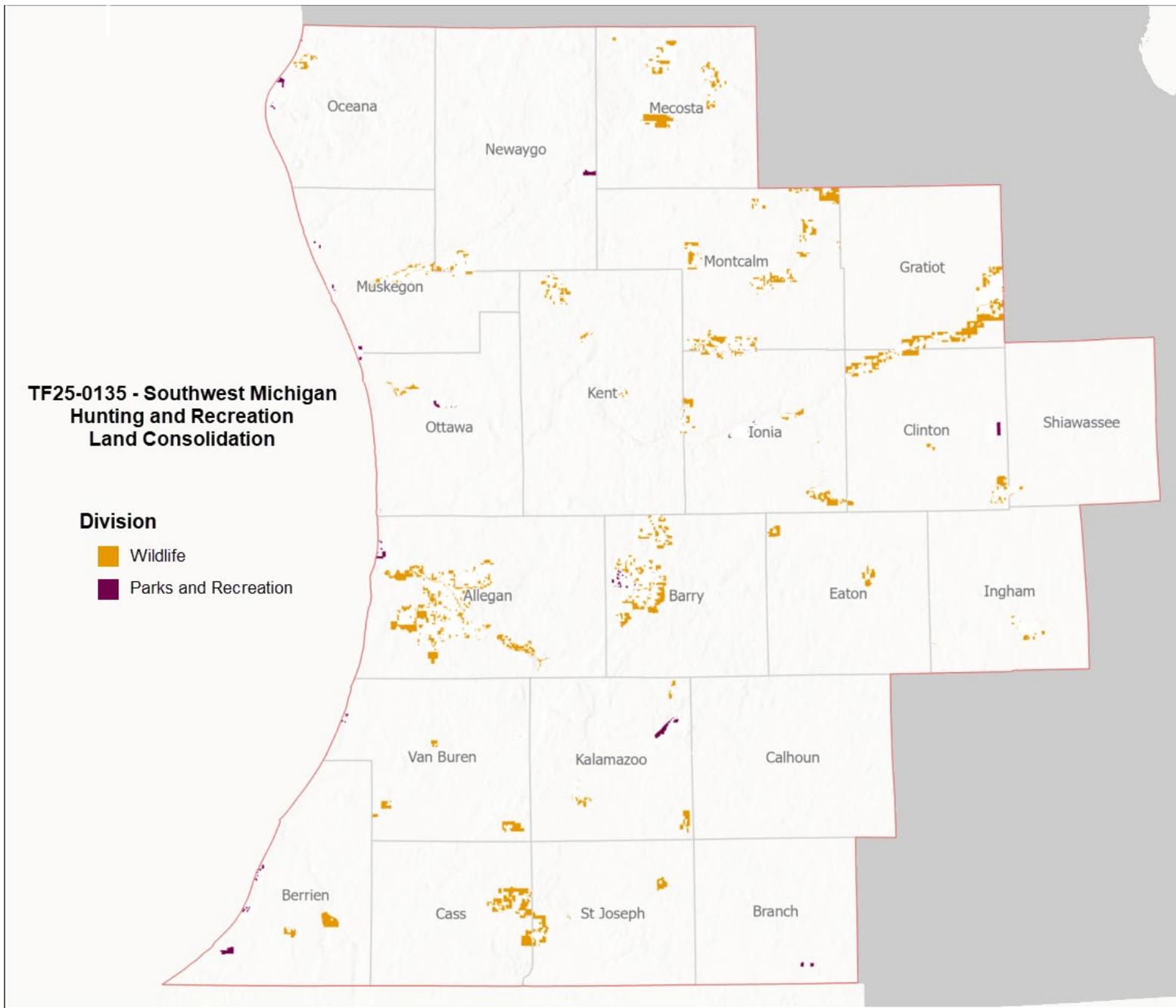


Figure 1. Location of potential land acquisitions within DNR Project Boundaries in Southwest Michigan. The DNR will consider acquisitions within these areas pending available funding, resource and recreational values of the parcel, and interested sellers. For an interactive GIS map, please click on the project boundary link from this page: www.michigan.gov/dnr/publiclands.