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A program of

The mission of the Traverse Transportation Coordinating Initiative (TTCI) is to provide coordinated leadership and direction for the development and conduct of the continuing, cooperative & comprehensive transportation planning process for the Traverse City urban area.

TTCI Policy Board Meeting Agenda
Wednesday, March 26th, 2025 at 3:00 PM

In-Person at the MI Works! Conference Room
1209 S Garfield Ave # C, Traverse City, MI 49686

Or via zoom at:

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89883563184>

Meeting ID: 898 8356 3184

- 1) Introductions and Roll Call of Voting Members (See **attached, Page 2**)
- 2) January 29th, 2025 Policy Board Meeting Minutes (See **attached, Page 3-5**)
- 3) Public Comment
- 4) New Business
 - a) TIP, MTP and UPWP Document Creation and Review (See attached, Pages 6 - 7)
- 5) Public Comment
- 6) Roundtable Updates/Discussion of future agenda items
- 7) Next Meeting: April 23rd, 2025 at 3:00 PM
- 8) Adjourn

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TTCI POLICY BOARD VOTING MEMBERS						
Name	Title	Organization	Email	Phone	Officers	Voting Member
Don Mayle	MDOT SPS Supervisor	MDOT	MayleD@michigan.gov	517-243-8589		Yes
Haider Kazim	Road Commissioner	GTCRC	hkazim@gtcrc.org	231-922-1888		Yes
Brendan Mullane	Manager	LCRC	bmullane@leelanauroads.org	231-271-3993	Secretary	Yes
Lauren Flynn	County Commissioner	Grand Traverse County	lflynn@gtcountymi.gov	231-922-4550		Yes
Rick Robbins	County Commissioner	Leelanau County	rrobbins@leelanau.gov	231-409-1140		Yes
Doug White	Supervisor	Acme Township	dwhite@acmetownship.org	231-938-1350		Yes
Midge Werner	Supervisor	Bingham Township	jmw202@gmail.com			Yes
Nicole Blonshine	Supervisor	Blair Township	supervisor@blairtownshipmi.gov			Yes
Beth Friend	Supervisor	East Bay Township	bfriend@eastbaytwp.org	231-947-8719	Chair	Yes
Jeff Shaw	Supervisor	Elmwood Township	supervisor@elmwoodmi.gov	231-946-0921		Yes
Chuck Korn	Trustee	Garfield Township	cbarsheff@garfield-twp.com		Vice Chair	Yes
Andy Marek	Treasurer	Green Lake Township	treasurer@greenlaketownship.org			Yes
Ron Lemcool	Supervisor	Long Lake Township	Supervisor@LongLakeTownship	231-946-2249		Yes
Maura Sanders	Supervisor	Peninsula Township	supervisor@peninsulatownship	231-223-7323		Yes
Elizabeth Vogel	City Manager	Traverse City	evogel@traversecitymi.gov			Yes
Shaughn Handley	Procurement & Grant Specialist	BATA	handleys@bata.net	231-941-2324	Treasurer	Yes
TTCI POLICY BOARD ALTERNATE VOTING MEMBERS						
Alternatives	Title	Organization	Email	Phone	Officers	Alternate Voting Member
Dan Wagner	MDOT TC TSC Manager	MDOT	wagnerD2@michigan.gov	231-340-9295		Yes #1
Krista Phillips	MDOT TC TSC Operations Engineer	MDOT	phillipsK7@michigan.gov	989-245-2173		Yes #2
Richard Bayus	Transportation Planning Manager	MDOT	BayusR@michigan.gov			Yes
Craig Brown	Engineer	LCRC	cbrown@leelanauroads.org	231-271-3993		Yes
Chris Barscheff	Supervisor	Garfield Township	cbarsheff@garfield-twp.com			Yes
Nate Alger	County Administrator	Grand Traverse County	nalger@gtcountymi.gov			Yes
Deborah Allen	Assistant City Manager	Traverse City	dallen@traversecitymi.gov	231-922 4444		Yes #1
Mitchel Treadwell	City Commissioner	Traverse City	mtreadwell@traversecitymi.gov	231-492 6943		Yes #2
Steve Patmore	Zoning Administrator	Bingham Township	zoningadmin@suttonsbaytwp.com			Yes
Lynette Wolfgang	Clerk	Blair Township	clerk@blairtownship.org	(231) 276-9263		Yes
Tracey Bartlett	Treasurer	East Bay Township	tbartlett@eastbaytwp.org	231-947-8647 x 101		Yes
John Sych	Planning Director	Garfield Township	jsych@garfield-twp.com	231-225-3155		Yes
Jenn Cram	Director of Planning & Zoning	Peninsula Township	planner@peninsulatownship.com	231-223-7314		Yes
Justin Weston	Finance Director	BATA	westonj@bata.net	231-941-2324		Yes
TTCI POLICY BOARD COMMUNITY PARTNERS						
Alternatives	Title	Organization	Email	Phone	Officers	Voting Member
Dan Watkins	Road Commission Manager	GTCRC	dwatkins@gtcrc.org	231-922-4849 x 229		No
Bob Neleson	Airport Engineer	Cherry Capital Airport	bob.nelesen@tvairport.com			No
Mark Bishop	Chief Financial Officer	Cherry Capital Airport	mark.bishop@tvairport.com			No
Christina Nicolaides	Planning and Environmental Specialist	FHWA	c.nicolaides@dot.gov			No

Traverse Transportation Coordinating Initiative (TTCI)

The mission of the Traverse Transportation Coordinating Initiative (TTCI) is to provide coordinated leadership and direction for the development and conduct of the continuing, cooperative & comprehensive transportation planning process for the Traverse City urban area.

TTCI Policy Board Meeting

Wednesday, January 29th, 2025 at 3:00 pm

1209 S Garfield Avenue Suite C, Traverse City, MI or Via Zoom

DRAFT - MEETING MINUTES - DRAFT

Call to Order

Chair Friend called the meeting to order at 3:01 pm on Wednesday, January 29th, 2025.

Roll Call of Voting Members

Roll Call: Voice introduction of membership was accepted as roll call.

Present:

Chuck Korn (Garfield Twp.); Beth Friend (East Bay Twp); Brendan Mullane (LCRC); Doug White (Acme Twp); Richard Bayus (MDOT); Nicole Blonshine (Blair Twp.); Wayne Schoonover (Ohm Advisors); Midge Werner (Bingham Twp); Rick Robbins (Leelanau Co.); Ron Lemcool (Long Lake Twp.); Cody Stricker (Long Lake Twp.); Elizabeth Vogel (City of Traverse City); Andy Marek (Green Lake Twp.); Maura Sanders (Peninsula Twp.); Lauren Flynn (GTC); Larry LaCross (GTCRC); Liz Vogel (City of TC); Dan Wagner (MDOT)

Others present:

Barry Hicks (NN); Isha Pithwa (NN); Emma Kelly (NN); Shaughn Handley (BATA); Lori Lapp (Garfield Twp.); Abrielle Emory (FHWA); Wayne Schoonover (OHM Advisors); Derek Weichlein (GTCRC); Zach Cole (City of TC);

Online:

Alisha Busitill (OHM Advisors); Fern Spence (GTC)

Approval of Agenda and Minutes

The agenda was reviewed and approved, with the correction of the November date on the agenda.

Minutes from the November 12th policy board meeting were approved following a motion and discussion.

Motion: Motion by Shaw supported by Merek to approve the meeting minutes from November 12th.

The motion was approved by a voice vote.

Public comment was opened, but no comments were received, so the meeting moved forward.

New Business

a) FY 26-29 MPO TIP Project Review

Hicks provided an update on the MTPO TIP project selection process, noting that the call for projects aligned with the Transportation Improvement Plan initiated last summer. Act 51 agencies submitted applications, which staff reviewed and rated based on guidelines approved by the Technical Committee and the Board. The evaluation focused on budget estimates and proposed projects. Hicks also noted that public transit projects were not scored, as the criteria applied only to road projects.

Discussion:

The Technical Committee's recommended project list for TIP development was reviewed, with members discussing the rationale behind project selection and ranking, particularly within the same organization. Concerns were raised about allocating funds to public transit projects aimed at reducing congestion and emissions, such as park-and-ride initiatives. Members recognized the need for distinct scoring criteria for transit projects to ensure proper evaluation.

Additionally, members emphasized the importance of improving traffic flow and mobility rather than solely prioritizing road paving. It was suggested that the scoring criteria and overall planning process be revisited in future meetings to better align with evolving goals and priorities.

TTCI TIP Development Project List FY 2026-2029

	STBG	STBG Flex	CRP	Total
FY 2026				
Total funding available by program	\$1,047,000	\$46,000	\$129,000	\$1,222,000
LCRC - Cherry Bend (Breithaupt Rd to M-22)	\$1,047,000	\$46,000		\$1,093,000
BATA			\$129,000	\$129,000

FY 2027				
Total funding available by program	\$1,068,000	\$48,000	\$131,000	\$1,247,000
GTCRC - Cass Rd (Hartman Rd to S Airport Rd)	\$1,068,000	\$48,000		\$1,116,000
BATA			\$131,000	\$131,000

FY 2028				
Total funding available by program	\$1,089,000	\$49,000	\$134,000	\$1,272,000
TC - 14th Street (Division St to Railroad Crossing)	\$1,089,000	\$49,000		\$1,138,000
BATA			\$134,000	\$134,000

FY 2029				
Total funding available by program	\$1,111,000	\$50,000	\$137,000	\$1,298,000
LCRC - Cherry Bend (Center Hwy to Breithaupt)	\$1,111,000	\$50,000		\$1,161,000
BATA			\$137,000	\$137,000

FY 2029 Illustrative List				
TC - 7th Street (Division St to Union St)	\$1,111,000	\$50,000		\$1,161,000
GTCRC - S. Airport (Sam's to Silver Lake)	\$1,111,000	\$50,000		\$1,161,000

Request:

Motion: A motion was made by Jeff Shaw and supported by Andy Merrick to approve the fiscal year 2026-2029 TIP projects as recommended by the technical committee.

The motion was approved unanimously by a voice vote.

b) FY 26-29 RTF Project Review

The RTF project approval process and a summary of the projects were presented. The allocation of funds and the importance of including RTF projects in the TIP were discussed.

Motion: Motion by Vogel, supported by Blonshine to approve the 2026-2029 RTF project review. Discussion ensued.

c) Public Comment and Future Agenda Items

The floor was opened for public comment; no comments were made.

- The upcoming MDOT utilities project was mentioned, and the need for coordination was noted.

- An update on the timeline for key documents, including the TIP, MTP, and Unified Work Program (UWP), was provided.

- The next meeting was scheduled for February 26, with a potential backup meeting in March if needed.

Next Meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for February 26th, 2025.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:19pm with thanks to the participants.

Memorandum

DATE: March 19, 2025

TO: Traverse Transportation Coordinating Initiative Policy Board

FROM: Barry Hicks, AICP, MPO Program Manager

SUBJECT: TIP, MTP and UPWP Document Creation and Review

For the next four months, the TTCI Technical Committee and Policy Board will be engaged in a process to develop and adopt the MPOs first ever Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and long-range plan, or Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). Additionally, the group will be updating the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). All three of these documents work together to outline the current status of the transportation network in the MPO and provide information about specific projects and actions over the coming years:

- The **Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)**, which outlines planned transportation projects for the next four years.

The project selection process, or Call for Projects (CFP), which is used to identify specific projects for inclusion in the TIP has been completed at this time. The remaining activity will be to review and discuss the FY26-29 TIP document as it is drafted.

- The **Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)**, a long-term vision for the region's transportation system.

To maintain a valid TIP, an MTP is required. Given the limited timeframe for adoption, TTCI will focus on including the essential required elements in the initial MTP. Input from both the Technical Committee and Policy Board will be incorporated throughout the drafting process, with the primary objective of establishing goals for the next five years to support the development of a more comprehensive and robust MTP in 2030.

- The **Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)** outlines the transportation planning tasks and activities that TTCI will undertake over the next year to support regional mobility and infrastructure planning.

The project selection process, or Call for Projects (CFP), which is used to identify specific projects for inclusion in the TIP has been completed at this time. The remaining activity will be to review and discuss the FY26-29 TIP document as it is drafted.

To support the completion of all three documents, additional opportunities for engagement and review will be available between regular meetings. A dedicated website has been created to provide access to updated drafts as they are developed. Technical Committee and Policy Board members may submit input or suggested revisions at any time through the Engagement Form on the website or by contacting the MPO Program Manager directly via email.

The website is available to the public and may be shared with anyone that would like to comment. The comment form will remain active throughout the duration of the development of these documents:

<https://www.networksnorthwest.org/community/transportation/ttci/ttci-transportation-planning-public-input.html>

Goal Setting

The TTCI Policy Board has expressed a commitment to developing transportation planning policies to guide the future development of the region's transportation network more effectively and ensure funding is directed toward projects that align with the goals. This will be the primary focus of the upcoming TTCI meetings.

The 2025 MTP will not include specific goals (other than adopted MDOT statewide targets) regarding topics as they pertain to complete streets, safety, technology, and so on. This is due to the limited timeframe to approve the plan and meet state and federal requirements. Given the limited timeframe for approval of the 2025 MTP, the plan will instead identify key policy areas that TTCI will prioritize over the next five years for inclusion in the next MTP update. In the interim, TTCI may adopt individual policies and plans, which will eventually be incorporated into the revised MTP in 2030. These plans and policies will follow best practices for collection of data and public input as they are developed over the next five years.

TTCI Technical Committee and Policy Board members are encouraged to share their thoughts and priorities for inclusion in the current MTP. In order to compile those thoughts and priorities and keep everything as organized as possible, we are asking for members of both groups to complete a survey by March 28th, 2025. An email was sent on March 4th requesting input. Below is a link to that survey:

[TTCI Goal Setting Survey](#)

Action Requested:

- None