

***General Program Accounts***

GPA's are a method of aggregating activities by type. For example, all highway repaving, rehabilitation, and reconstruction (3R) activities within a federal-aid committee's (FAC) jurisdiction, up to \$10 million in total cost, will be programmed under that FAC's Preservation GPA. Similarly, all bus acquisition and other capital activities of a major transit agency<sup>1</sup>, up to \$10 million, will be programmed under that transit agency's Transit Capital GPA.

Activities for which funds are awarded by SEMCOG or MDOT (Local Bridge Program, Transportation Alternatives Program, Federal Local Safety Program), will be placed in regional GPA's for each program. Transit activities which are awarded by MDOT Office of Passenger Transportation to small transit agencies (i.e., transit agencies other than the major transit agencies) will also be programmed into regional small agency Transit Capital or Transit Operations GPA's, as appropriate.

Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) awards will be programmed as standalone projects by SEMCOG.

Federal-aid committees and transit agencies should not create GPA's except for activities they are planning to implement with *their own* funding and federal-aid targets. For example, if a FAC will be implementing a bridge project (under \$10 million) with local funds and their own federal-aid funding, that FAC can create its own Bridge GPA and program that bridge activity as a subproject under that GPA. If the funding is awarded Local Bridge Program funds from MDOT, the activity will be programmed as a subproject under the regional local Bridge GPA. MDOT will have its own GPA's, so no MDOT activities will be programmed under local GPA's.

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<sup>1</sup> Defined as Ann Arbor Area Transportation Authority (AATA), Blue Water Area Transit Commission (BWATC), Detroit Department of Transportation (DDOT), Detroit Transportation Corporation (DTC), Livingston Essential Transportation Service (LETS), and Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation (SMART). Also included under SMART is Lake Erie Transportation Commission (LETC), since SMART acts as financial fiduciary for LETC. The Regional Transit Authority for Southeast Michigan RTA), is also considered a major transit agency for TIP purposes, but RTA does not yet program GPA's (as of July 2015).

**While subprojects must be \$10 million or less, there is no limit to the cost amount of GPAs, other than general fiscal constraint limits on each FAC and major transit agency.**

### ***Subprojects***

Subprojects are those activities under a GPA that carry out the purpose of that GPA. For example, the purpose of the Preservation GPA is to preserve the existing locally-owned, federal-aid eligible road system. Examples of subprojects under a Preservation GPA would include activities such as “Reconstruct Oak Rd from Pine Rd to Elm Rd,” or “Repave Main St from First St to Fifth St.” In other words, GPAs represent the type of activity to be undertaken, and subprojects are the actual activities to be undertaken. Therefore, the Preservation GPA never contains the name of a specific road, whereas subprojects always have the name of specific road(s) and a description of specific location(s). Neither GPAs nor subprojects should be named or described as “Various Roads,” or “Various Activities,” because each activity is required to be mapped.