

# General Assembly

## General Assembly Agenda Thursday, March 19, 2026

- 12:30 p.m. SEMCOG Member Peer Group Meetings**  
All are welcome (lunch provided)
- 2:15 p.m. Business Meeting Registration Opens**
- 2:30 p.m. General Assembly Business Meeting**
- A. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance/Approval of Agenda**
  - B. Welcome: Mary Sheffield, Mayor, City of Detroit**
  - C. Public Comment**
  - D. Approval of Consent Resolution**
    - 1. Financial Statements – January 2026
    - 2. Approval of General Assembly Minutes – October 23, 2025
    - 3. Receipt of Executive Committee Minutes – December 5, 2025; January 23, 2026; and February 27, 2026
  - E. Report from Chairperson: Gwen Markham, Commissioner, Oakland County**
  - F. Report from Economic Development Committee: Brian Marl, Mayor, City of Salin**
    - 4. Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy  
**Action requested**  
The Executive Committee recommends General Assembly adoption of the [Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy](#).
  - G. Panel Discussion: Building Economic Resilience and Regional Prosperity**
    - Maureen Donohue Krauss, President and CEO, Detroit Regional Partnership
    - Glenn Stevens Jr., Executive Director, MichAuto
    - Ingrid Tighe, President, Michigan Manufacturing Technology Center

*Moderator: Naheed Huq, Economic and Community Vitality Manager,*

## SEMCOG

### H. Report from Finance and Budget Committee

**Chairperson: Robert Clark, Mayor, City of Monroe**

#### 5. FY 2026-2027 Annual Operating Budget and Work Program Summary

##### **Action requested**

The General Assembly is requested to adopt SEMCOG's [FY 2026-2027 Annual Operating Budget and Work Program Summary](#). This document presents financial information and work proposed in summary fashion for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026.

Background information and project descriptions to be carried out by SEMCOG and Pass-Through agencies are contained in the [2026-2027 Work Program](#).

### I. Report from Executive Director, Amy O'Leary

#### 6. Legislative Update

### J. Upcoming Meetings

- Executive Committee – Friday, April 24, 2026 – SEMCOG Offices (Detroit)
- General Assembly – Thursday, June 25, 2026 – Emerald Theatre (Mount Clemens)

## **4:00 p.m. Networking Reception**

SEMCOG offers interpretation services, including language translation and signage for the hearing impaired, at public meetings upon request with seven days advance notice.

SEMCOG ofrece servicios de interpretación, incluyendo servicios de traducción de idiomas y señalización para las personas con discapacidad auditiva, en reuniones públicas si se pide con siete días de anticipación.

خدمات ترجمة شفوية، وذلك يتضمن خدمات ترجمة لغوية ولغة الإشارة للمعوقين (SEMCOG) يوفر مجلس حكومات جنوب شرق ميشيغان



# Southeast Michigan Council of Governments

## Income Statement

For Fiscal: JUL 2025-JUN 2026

Period Ending: 01/31/2026

Class	Original Total Budget	Current Total Budget	MTD Activity	YTD Activity	Budget Remaining
<b>Revenue</b>					
401 - FEDERAL	3,453,311.00	3,453,311.00	40,797.97	496,940.79	2,956,370.21
402 - STATE ADMIN FEDERAL REVENUE	13,381,757.00	13,381,757.00	837,640.05	5,769,146.16	7,612,610.84
403 - STATE REVENUE	809,484.00	809,484.00	6,324.73	368,368.26	441,115.74
404 - OTHER REVENUE	783,069.00	783,069.00	-1,112.18	156,940.97	626,128.03
405 - LOCAL REVENUE	3,068,736.00	3,068,736.00	732,297.52	2,372,189.42	696,546.58
406 - PASS-THRU MATCH	386,236.00	386,236.00	6,230.55	20,719.82	365,516.18
<b>Revenue Total:</b>	<b>21,882,593.00</b>	<b>21,882,593.00</b>	<b>1,622,178.64</b>	<b>9,184,305.42</b>	<b>12,698,287.58</b>
<b>Expense</b>					
501 - SALARIES	6,012,356.00	6,012,356.00	375,608.58	3,153,962.32	2,858,393.68
502 - CONTRACTS	5,296,146.00	5,296,146.00	168,640.60	1,016,146.92	4,279,999.08
503 - TRAVEL	205,434.00	205,434.00	20,657.77	123,304.18	82,129.82
505 - SUPPLIES	1,165,972.00	1,165,972.00	88,209.33	565,966.24	600,005.76
506 - OTHER	1,765,400.00	1,765,400.00	62,349.98	589,718.28	1,175,681.72
507 - FRINGE BENEFITS	4,509,267.00	4,509,267.00	392,045.63	2,532,052.88	1,977,214.12
509 - OTHER	0.00	0.00	0.00	-29,130.42	29,130.42
705 - CLEARING	0.00	0.00	-21.94	0.36	-0.36
900 - PT-FEDERAL	300,000.00	300,000.00	0.00	44,942.63	255,057.37
910 - PT-STATE	0.00	0.00	0.00	9,248.45	-9,248.45
920 - PT-ST ADMIN FEDERAL	2,151,032.00	2,151,032.00	28,097.53	93,438.94	2,057,593.06
970 - PTM-ST ADMIN FEDERAL	476,986.00	476,986.00	6,230.55	20,719.82	456,266.18
<b>Expense Total:</b>	<b>21,882,593.00</b>	<b>21,882,593.00</b>	<b>1,141,818.03</b>	<b>8,120,370.60</b>	<b>13,762,222.40</b>
<b>Total Surplus (Deficit):</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>480,360.61</b>	<b>1,063,934.82</b>	

**Fund Summary**

<b>Fund</b>	<b>Original Total Budget</b>	<b>Current Total Budget</b>	<b>MTD Activity</b>	<b>YTD Activity</b>	<b>Budget Remaining</b>
101 - Southeast Michigan Co	0.00	0.00	480,360.61	1,063,934.82	-1,063,934.82
<b>Total Surplus (Deficit):</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>480,360.61</b>	<b>1,063,934.82</b>	

# **SEMCOG** Information

## **General Assembly Meeting Minutes October 23, 2025 MSU Management Education Center, Troy**

### **A. Welcome**

SEMCOG Chairperson Gwen Markham, Commissioner, Oakland County, led the pledge of allegiance and introduced David Coulter, Oakland County Executive, who provided welcoming remarks to General Assembly attendees.

Ms. Markham welcomed SEMCOG's newest member, the City of Yale (St. Clair County). Ms. Markham then welcomed special guests from Farmington's Sister City, Vacri, Italy, who were attending the event with Joe LaRussa, Mayor, City of Farmington.

Ms. Markham offered members of the public three minutes each to provide input. No public comments were received.

### **B. Report from Chairperson: Gwen Markham, Commissioner, Oakland County**

Ms. Markham presented a number of informational items, including:

- Thanking SEMCOG's officers for their work and commitment to the organization; as well as recognition of Roslyn Grafstein, Mayor, Madison Heights, for her leadership on SEMCOG's Economic Development Council;
- Encouraging SEMCOG officials to apply for the 2026 Taubman Fellowship;
- An overview of SEMCOG's Peer Groups that will begin meeting in 2026, and an ongoing survey of SEMCOG members to help identify key issues to be addressed at these Peer Group meetings;
- Recapping SEMCOG's new Member Services Brochure; and
- Announcing SEMCOG's Civic Advisory Committee.

### **C. Morning Plenary Session: Charting the Course Together**

Ms. Markham introduced Kevin Vettraino, Director of Planning, SEMCOG, who facilitated a series of presentations from communities across the region on the ways in which they were able to utilize SEMCOG assistance to develop or implement successful projects. Presenters included:

- Michael Bosanac, Administrator, Monroe County
- Lynne Seymour, Water Resources Chief Engineer, Oakland County
- Brian Turnbull, Mayor, Northville
- Joe Gruber, DDA Director, Wyandotte
- Al Prieur, Supervisor, Bedford Twp
- Ken Voigt, Mayor, Belleville
- Lisa DeLong, DDA Director, Port Huron

After these presentations, Amy O’Leary, SEMCOG Executive Director, reviewed the event schedule and closed the morning plenary session.

**D. Concurrent Sessions**

Three concurrent sessions were held on the following topics:

- Locating and Utilizing SEMCOG's Data: Navigating the new website and success stories from using our data
- Growing our Economy through Place, Prosperity, and Resilience
- Embracing a Culture of Asset Management with SEMCOG's New Regional Infrastructure Coordination Hub

**E. Lunchtime Plenary Session: Legislative Update from Lansing and Washington**

Ms. O’Leary opened the lunchtime plenary session by celebrating a FY2025 State appropriation to SEMCOG for drinking water monitoring equipment along the Huron-Erie Corridor. Ms. O’Leary shared a SEMCOG-produced video about the appropriation and a recent celebration hosted with the City of Marysville and other federal, State, and regional partners.

Ms. O’Leary then introduced SEMCOG’s federal and State lobbyists, who provided legislative and regulatory updates from Washington and Lansing. The presenters included:

- Andy Buczek, Policy Advisor, Dykema
- Dusty Fancher, Partner, Midwest Strategy Group
- Adam Wright, Government Relations, Midwest Strategy Group

After these presentations, Ms. O’Leary facilitated a question-and-answer session with the presenters and event attendees. Ms. O’Leary then introduced Michael Spence, Government Affairs Manager, SEMCOG, who provided an overview of how SEMCOG members can stay engaged with SEMCOG’s advocacy efforts. Mr. Spence then concluded the lunch plenary session by reviewing the afternoon event schedule.

**F. Concurrent Sessions**

Three concurrent sessions were held on the following topics:

- Flood Ready Futures: Developing a Plan for Community Resilience
- TAP On-Track: Streamlining Your Project
- Transportation Accessibility in Southeast Michigan

The event ended at 3 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael Spence  
Committee Clerk

**Below is a list of General Assembly Members. Members present at this meeting are indicated by bold typeface:**

**SEMCOG Officers**

**Gwen Markham, Commissioner, District 15, Oakland County**  
**Anne Marie Graham-Hudak, Supervisor, Charter Township of Canton**  
**Joe LaRussa, Mayor, City of Farmington**  
Diana McKnight-Morton, Trustee, Washtenaw Community College  
**Frank Viviano, Supervisor, Macomb Township**  
**Laura Kropp, Mayor, City of Mount Clemens**

**Delegates**

Mark Abbo, Supervisor, Northville Charter Township  
**Rock Abboud, Councilmember, Village of Beverly Hills**  
Ashley Aldea, City Clerk, City of Yale  
Michael Appel, Supervisor, Burtchville Township  
**Anita Ashford, Mayor, City of Port Huron**  
**Chris Barnett, Supervisor, Charter Township of Orion**  
**Bryan Barnett, Mayor, City of Rochester Hills**  
Gerald Barr, Councilmember, City of Allen Park  
Patrick Beagle, Mayor, City of Wixom  
Lisa Beedon, Commissioner, District 3, St. Clair County  
Don Belcher, Councilmember, City of Woodhaven  
Sherry Berecz, Supervisor, Brownstown Charter Township  
Robert Binson, Mayor, City Of Center Line  
Mary Blackmon, Vice President, Wayne County RESA  
Ross Boelke, Trustee, Village of Armada  
Jackie Boleware, Councilmember, City of Farmington Hills  
Tracy Bonkowski, Trustee, Village of New Haven  
Michael Bowdler, Treasurer, City of River Rouge  
Cindy Bower, Clerk, City of Taylor  
Tim Bowman, Supervisor, Sumpter Township  
Donald Boynton, Jr., Trustee, Charter Township Of Van Buren  
April Brandon, President, Village of Holly  
Dillon Breen, Board Secretary, Schoolcraft College  
**Erica Briggs, Councilmember, Ward 5, City of Ann Arbor**  
Carrie Budzinski, Councilmember, City of Livonia

Robert Buechler, Clerk, Charter Township Of Fort Gratiot  
Jeffrey Buerman, President, Village of Pinckney  
Gus Calandrino, Mayor, City of Utica  
James Carabelli, Treasurer, Shelby Charter Township  
Dawn Cartrette, Councilmember, City of Melvindale  
Lily Cavanagh, Treasurer, Charter Township Of Redford  
Larry Ciofu, Clerk, Hartland Township  
**Robert Clark, Mayor, City of Monroe**  
Ben Clarke, Councilmember, City of Sylvan Lake  
Cara Clemente, Commissioner, District 4, Wayne County  
Kevin Coleman, Mayor, City of Westland  
Kelsey Cooke, Village President, Village of Oxford  
**David Coulter, County Executive, Oakland County**  
Kim Cousino, Clerk, Erie Township  
Kaylyn Crayne, Councilmember, City of Wyandotte  
Harvey Curley, Councilmember, City of Eastpointe  
Charles Curmi, Supervisor, Charter Township Of Plymouth  
Emily Dabish Yahkind, Supervisor, Superior Charter Township  
Richard Davis, Supervisor, Springfield Charter Township  
Suzanne Deal, Mayor, City of Plymouth  
Dale DeSloover, Board President, Monroe County ISD  
Larry Dishaw, Mayor Pro Tem, City of Flat Rock  
Kimberly Dold, Councilmember, City of Garden City  
David Domas, Commissioner, District 2, Livingston County  
Sharlan Douglas, Commissioner, City of Royal Oak  
**Donald Dudas, Trustee, Port Huron Charter Township**  
Michael Duggan, Mayor, City of Detroit  
Sean Dunleavy, Supervisor, Oceola Township  
James Endres, Jr., Supervisor, Ira Township  
**Kristofer Enlow, Trustee, Charter Township Of Lyon**  
Warren Evans, County Executive, Wayne County  
Joseph Ferrari, Treasurer, Charter Township Of Oxford  
Norman Finkelstein, Mayor, City of Orchard Lake Village  
Tami Flowers, Clerk, Charter Township Of Highland  
Joan Flynn, Trustee, Macomb Community College

**Below is a list of General Assembly Members. Members present at this meeting are indicated by bold typeface:**

Mary Frost, Trustee, Addison Township

**Jim Gardner, Mayor, City of Luna Pier**

Cathy Garrett, Clerk, Wayne County

Mary Jo Gedelian, Supervisor, Berlin Charter Township

John Giannangeli, Treasurer, Charter Township Of Oakland

Paul Gielegem, Supervisor, Charter Township of Clinton

Mikal Goodman, Councilmember, District 3, City of Pontiac

**Steve Gottlieb, Board Treasurer, Oakland Schools ISD**

Larry Gray, Jr., Supervisor, Charter Township Of Commerce

Donald Green, Supervisor, Charter Township of Milford

Jay Gross, Commissioner, District 9, Livingston County

**Sylvia Grot, Commissioner, District 3, Macomb County**

Mark Hackel, County Executive, Macomb County

David Hamilton, Mayor Pro Tem, City of Troy

Abdullah Hammoud, Mayor, City of Dearborn

**Sam Harris, Trustee, Charter Township Of Waterford**

**Larry Hayden, Trustee, Village of Ortonville**

Kathy Hayman, Mayor, City of Marysville

**Dennis Hennen, Councilmember, City of Berkley**

Debra Hlubic, President, Village of Capac

Patrick Hohl, Supervisor, Hamburg Township

Charles Horn, Councilmember, Village Of South Rockwood

Coretta Houge, Councilmember, City of Southfield

Donald Hubler, Secretary, Board of Education, Macomb ISD

Pamela Jackson, Secretary, Board of Trustees, Oakland Community College

Jalen Jennings, Councilmember, City of Lathrup Village

Donnie Johnson, Councilmember, City of Ferndale

Robert Kalman, Councilmember, City of Keego Harbor

**Eric Keaton, Councilmember, City of Chelsea**

Ted Kedzierski, Mayor, City of the Village of Grosse Pointe Shores

**Steve Kennedy, Mayor, City of South Lyon**

Brad Kersten, Supervisor, Charter Township of Chesterfield

Valerie Kindle, Mayor, City of Harper Woods

Jonathan Kinloch, Commissioner, District 2, Wayne County

Henry Knight, Councilmember, City of Auburn Hills

Kathleen Knol, Trustee, Scio Township

**Josh Kofflin, Councilmember, City of Milan**

Rik Kowall, Supervisor, Charter Township of White Lake

Chris Krotche, Supervisor, Armada Township

Joseph Kuspa, Mayor, City of Southgate

Mike LaPorte, Councilmember, Ward 2, City of St. Clair

**Michael Lesich, Mayor, City of Fraser**

Anthony Lieto, Councilmember, Village Of Maybee

Henry Lievens, Commissioner, District 9, Monroe County

**Bob Lloyd, Trustee, Whiteford Township**

Jan Lobur, Councilmember, City of Howell

Anthony Long, Commissioner, City of Birmingham

Jason Maciejewski, Commissioner, District 1, Washtenaw County

Muhith Mahmood, Councilmember, City Of Hamtramck

John Manor, Supervisor, Monroe Charter Township

**Brian Marl, Mayor, City of Saline**

David Massaron, Chair, Regional Transit Authority of Southeast Michigan (RTA)

Harley Maxwell, Councilmember, Village of Milford

Susan McCarthy, Commissioner, City of Bloomfield Hills

Marian McClellan, Mayor, City Of Oak Park

Robert McCraight, Mayor, City of Romulus

Glenda McDonald, Mayor, City of Highland Park

Martin McMillan, Councilmember, City of Grosse Pointe Park

Michael McNutt, Councilmember, Village of Wolverine Lake

Paula Millan, Mayor, City of Clawson

**William Miller, III, Commissioner, District 16, Oakland County**

Michael Misteravich, Mayor Pro Tem, City of Richmond

Jim Motschall, Councilmember, City of Grosse Pointe Woods

Theresa Nallamothe, Trustee, Charter Township Of Independence

Edward Neiman, Trustee, Charter Township Of China

Byron Nolen, Mayor, City of Inkster

**Diane O'Connell, Supervisor, Charter Township Of Ann Arbor**

Robert Paul, III, Mayor, City of Huntington Woods

**Below is a list of General Assembly Members. Members present at this meeting are indicated by bold typeface:**

Nelson Perugi, Councilmember, City of Trenton  
Pavlo Popov, Councilmember, City of Dexter  
Meagan Poznanski, President, Village of Romeo  
Sebastian Previti, Supervisor, Charter Township Of Washington  
**Alfred Prieur, Supervisor, Bedford Township**  
Yousef Rabhi, Commissioner, District 8, Washtenaw County  
**Anthony Reeder, Supervisor, Lenox Township**  
**Trish Reilly, Supervisor, Pittsfield Charter Township**  
John Rhaesa, Mayor, City of Wayne  
Larry Roman, Supervisor, Northfield Township  
Hassan Saab, Councilmember, City of Dearborn Heights  
Eric Sabree, Treasurer, Wayne County  
Nancy Salvia, Mayor, City of Rochester  
Josh Schieweck, Trustee, Kenockee Township  
**Michael Schostak, Treasurer, Charter Township Of Bloomfield**  
Bret Scott, Mayor, City of Pleasant Ridge  
Lonnie Scott, Supervisor, Dexter Township  
Michael Sedlak, Clerk, Green Oak Charter Township  
Thomas Semaan, Mayor, City of New Baltimore  
Mary Sheffield, Council President, Dist. 5, City of Detroit  
Garrett Shumate, Mayor, City of Gibraltar  
Donna Squalls, Supervisor, Charter Township Of Royal Oak  
Brad Stilwell, Supervisor, Rose Township  
**Alissa Sullivan, Councilmember, City of Hazel Park**  
Andrew Swift, Mayor, City of Riverview  
Linnie Taylor, Commissioner, District 18, Oakland County  
Michael Taylor, Mayor, City of Sterling Heights  
Chuck Tellas, Supervisor, Charter Township Of York  
Mary Kay Thayer, Vice Chairperson, Board Of Trustees, Monroe  
County Community College  
Sam Theis, Trustee, Charter Township Of Brighton  
Ericka Thomas, Councilmember, City of Novi  
David Thompson, Drain Commissioner, Monroe County  
LaResha Thornton, Trustee, Charter Township Of Ypsilanti  
Lamar Tidwell, Mayor, City of Ecorse

Kristoffer Tobbe, Mayor, City of Brighton  
Maureen Tobin, Mayor, City of Lincoln Park  
**Sheila Tomkowiak, Mayor, City of Grosse Pointe**  
Joi Torello, Commissioner, District 4, St. Clair County  
Kelly Trombly, Supervisor, Huron Charter Township  
**Brian Turnbull, Mayor, City of Northville**  
Penny Turner, Supervisor, London Township  
Robert Usakowski, Supervisor, Kimball Township  
Ken Van Portfliet, Councilmember, Village Of Lake Orion  
Jennifer Vandenbossche, Mayor, City of Marine City  
Bill VanRiper, Supervisor, Lima Township  
**Donald VanSyckel, Commissioner, District 5, Macomb County**  
Alan VanWashenova, Supervisor, Frenchtown Charter Township  
Kenneth Verkest, Supervisor, Charter Township Of Harrison  
**Kenneth Voigt, Mayor, City of Belleville**  
James Wagner, Trustee, District 7, Wayne County Community  
College District  
Kip Walby, Mayor, City of St. Clair Shores  
**Todd Walker, Trustee, Genoa Charter Township**  
Jonathan Warshay, Supervisor, Charter Township Of West  
Bloomfield  
Irene Watts, Trustee, Henry Ford College  
**Philip Weipert, Commissioner, District 13, Oakland County**  
Verne Westrick, Supervisor, East China Charter Township  
Anthony Wickersham, Sheriff, Macomb County  
Brad Wieferich, Director, MDOT  
**Steven Wietecha, Councilmember, City of Roseville**  
Steven Wilcoxon, Mayor Pro Tem, City of Ypsilanti  
Lev Wood, Councilmember, City of Grosse Pointe Farms  
Dave Woodward, Chairperson, Board of Commissioners, District 1,  
Oakland County  
**Quinn Wright, Councilor, City of Madison Heights**  
Sue Wylie, Mayor, City of The Village of Clarkston  
Coleman Young, II, Council Member At Large, City Of Detroit  
Bernard Youngblood, Register of Deeds, Wayne County,

**Below is a list of General Assembly Members. Members present at this meeting are indicated by bold typeface:**

**Alternates**

Dharma Akmon, Councilmember, Ward 4, City of Ann Arbor  
Bill Albert, Councilmember, City of Brighton  
Michelle Aniol, Community Development Manager, City of Dexter  
Scott Barb, Planning Director, Livingston County  
Terri Beaumont, CDBG Manager/Deputy Assessor, City of Ecorse  
Rose Bellanca, President, Washtenaw Community College  
Scott Benson, Councilmember, District 3, City of Detroit  
James Beri, Treasurer, Wayne County RESA  
Jason Berry, Community Planning & Engagement, Monroe County  
Andrea Bibby, Director, Planning, Building & Ordinance, Charter Township Of Bloomfield

**Quentin Bishop, City Manager, City of Marysville**

**Michael Bosanac, County Administrator/Chief Financial Officer, Monroe County**

James Breuckman, City Manager, City Of Pleasant Ridge  
Nicole Brown, Mayor, City of Ypsilanti  
Steven Brown, City Manager, City of Wixom  
Randy Bruce, Councilmember, City of Farmington Hills  
Kyle Bryant, Clerk, Frenchtown Charter Township  
Sean Carlson, Deputy County Executive, Oakland County  
Stephanie Carroll, Economic Development Manager, City of Auburn Hills

Lisa Casali, Trustee, Shelby Charter Township

Charlie Cavell, Commissioner, District 19, Oakland County

**Jack Ceo, Jr., Councilmember, City of Saline**

Dennis Champine, City Manager/Clerk, City Of Center Line  
Hirak Chanda, Councilmember, City of Troy

**Rod Charles, Trustee, Charter Township Of Oxford**

Alex Clos, Councilmember, City of Howell  
Carlton Clyburn, Director, Community & Economic Development, City of Highland Park  
Robert Constan, Councilmember, City of Dearborn Heights  
Shawn Crenshaw, Director, Human Resources, City of Inkster

Cynthia Dagenhardt, Treasurer, Charter Township of Milford

John Danci, Director, Public Works, Sumpter Township

Melissa Daub, Commissioner, District 10, Wayne County

Dennis Delor, Parks & Recreation Director, St. Clair County

Jeff Dold, Mayor Pro Tem, City of Garden City

Rob Donovic, Councilmember, City of Livonia

**Steve Duchane, City Superintendent, City of St. Clair**

**Christopher Ekpiken, Treasurer, Pittsfield Charter Township**

Edward Farley, Treasurer, Macomb ISD

**Frank Fogarty, Board of Review, City of South Lyon**

Joseph Gacioch, City Manager, City of Royal Oak

Kelly Garrett, Mayor, City of Lathrup Village

Karen Geibel, Trustee, Addison Township

Marcia Gershenson, Commissioner, District 11, Oakland County

Karen Gharbie, Assistant Supervisor, Charter Township of Chesterfield

Jeff Gilbert, Trustee, Charter Township Of Waterford

James Godbout, Deputy Mayor, City of Westland

Trudy Goodin, Treasurer, Summerfield Township

Vicki Granger, Councilmember, City of Grosse Pointe Woods

Lisa Griggs, Finance Director, City of Lincoln Park

Sandra Groth, Trustee, Charter Township Of Plymouth

**Joe Gruber, DDA Director, City of Wyandotte**

Corinna Guerrero, Trustee, Village of New Haven

Rita Gunaga, Councilmember, City of Riverview

Ethan Haan, Finance Director/Treasurer, City of Huntington Woods

Jennifer Hansen, Treasurer, Village of Wolverine Lake

Joseph Hawver, Deputy Supervisor, Charter Township of Canton

**Florence Hayman, Councilmember, City of New Baltimore**

**Yolanda Haynes, Councilmember, City of Southfield**

Duane Heck, Planning Commission Chair, Monroe Charter Township

David Hendrickson, City Manager, City of Bloomfield Hills

Amanda Herzog, Commissioner, City of Royal Oak

John Hines, Municipal Services Director, Charter Township Of Ypsilanti

**Below is a list of General Assembly Members. Members present at this meeting are indicated by bold typeface:**

Justin Hodge Commissioner, District 5, Washtenaw County  
Brian Howe, Trustee, Charter Township Of Highland  
Zaineb Hussein, Chief of Staff, City of Dearborn  
Billie Iott, Councilmember, Village of Maybee  
**Linda Jackson, Trustee, Charter Township Of Redford**  
**Cathy Jaskiewicz, Member, Environmental Sustainability Task Force Scio Township**  
Brendan Johnson, Commissioner, District 4, Oakland County  
Milanna Jones, City Council Member - District 2, City of Pontiac  
Andrew Kandreas, Assistant County Executive, Wayne County  
Michael Klinefelt, Mayor, City of Eastpointe  
Edward Klobucher, City Manager, City of Hazel Park  
Peter Klomparens, Planning Director, Metropolitan Planning Commission, St. Clair County  
Ed Kolar, Mayor, City of Milan  
Liz Koto, City Planner, City of St. Clair Shores  
Tom Krolczyk, Assistant City Manager, City of The Village of Grosse Pointe Shores  
Marilyn Lane, Executive Office - Strategic Policy And Government Relations, Macomb County  
Karl Laub, Community Development Director, City of River Rouge  
Tom Lauer, Treasurer, Ira Township  
Rob Leadley, Dean of Occupational Programs and Economic Development, Schoolcraft College  
Robert Lewandowski, Jr., Supervisor, Port Huron Charter Township  
Lisa Lewis, Treasurer, Superior Charter Township  
Patrick Lewis, Director of Engineering and Public Services, City of Monroe  
Chase Lindecker, Deputy Supervisor, Bedford Township  
Dwayne Loper, Director of Public Services, East China Charter Township  
Michael Luce, Township Manager, Hartland Township  
Jamie Lucero, Clerk, Village of Romeo  
Dan Marsh, City Administrator, City of Southgate  
**Ken Marten, Township Manager, Sumpter Township**

John Martin, City Manager, City of Sylvan Lake  
Andrea McCall, Clerk, Village of Pinckney  
Gerry McCallum, City Manager, City of Orchard Lake Village  
**R. Douglas McDonough, Township Manager, Northfield Township**  
Steven McGee, Building and Zoning Official, Rose Township  
Nicole McKee, Director, Government & Institutional Relations, Macomb Community College  
Gregory McKenzie, Trustee, Lima Township  
Stephen McNew, Superintendent, Monroe County ISD  
Dan McWhorter, Senior Accountant, City of Melvindale  
Sean Miller, Clerk, Springfield Charter Township  
J.C. Moczydlowsky, Councilmember, City of Woodhaven  
Ryan Monroe, City Manager/Police Commissioner, City of Roseville  
Jon Moore, City Manager, City of Richmond  
Steven Morgan, Trustee, Whiteford Township  
Jerry Narsh, Chief of Police, Village Of Lake Orion  
**Lorrei Natke, City Manager, City of Yale**  
**Amy Neary, Development Services Director, Charter Township Of West Bloomfield**  
Marvie Neubauer, Councilmember At-Large, City of Rochester Hills  
Craig Newell, Administrator, Statewide Trans. Planning Division, MDOT  
Mike Nicley, Treasurer, Charter Township Of Washington  
Jacob Nicosia, Councilmember, Village Of Oxford  
Patrick O'Dell, Councilmember, City of Fraser  
Dan O'Leary, Deputy Supervisor, Charter Township of Clinton  
Kristine Olsson, Trustee, Charter Township Of Ann Arbor  
Colleen O'Toole, City Manager, City of Ferndale  
Jane Pacheco, Mayor, City of Chelsea  
Philip Paternoster, Treasurer, City of Utica  
Jeff Pemberton, Councilmember, City of Port Huron  
Brian Peters, Township Manager, Brownstown Charter Township  
**Joseph Petrosky, Vice Chancellor Economic & Workforce Development, Oakland Community College**

**Below is a list of General Assembly Members. Members present at this meeting are indicated by bold typeface:**

**Matt Pfeiffer, Treasurer, Charter Township of Orion**

Jennifer Pflueger-Sutherland, Treasurer, Lenox Township  
Chris Porman, City Manager, City Of Plymouth  
Michelle Poulos, Clerk, Village of Armada  
Angela Powell, Commissioner, District 9, Oakland County  
Kristi Pozzi, Clerk, Macomb Township  
Timothy Price, Village Manager, Village of Holly  
Kojo Quartey, President, Monroe County Community College  
John Paul Rea, Deputy County Executive, Macomb County  
Michael Reaves, City Manager, City of Marine City  
Joseph, Rheker, III, City Manager, City of Clawson  
Joe, Ricci, Councilmember, City of Grosse Pointe Farms  
Erik Rick, Commissioner, City Of Mount Clemens  
Joe Riker, Clerk, Charter Township Of Brighton  
Dora Rodriguez, Councilmember, City of Trenton  
Emily Rohrbach, Councilor, City of Madison Heights  
Mike Roman, Treasurer, Charter Township of White Lake  
Christopher Roosen, Trustee, Northville Charter Township  
Matthew Ryan, Village Manager, Village of Ortonville  
Roberto Scappaticci, DPW Director, City of Romulus  
Katie Schafer, Commissioner, City of Birmingham  
Steven Schneemann, Councilmember, City of Farmington  
Katie Scott, Chairperson, Board of Commissioners, District 9, Washtenaw County  
Dan Selman, Deputy Supervisor, Charter Township Of Van Buren  
Theresa Shimansky, Councilmember, City of Keego Harbor  
Nick Sizeland, City Manager, City of Grosse Pointe Park  
Robert, Smiley Commissioner, District 14, Oakland County  
Jonathan Smith, City Manager/ Interim Clerk, City of The Village of Clarkston

**Brian,Smith, Councilmember, City of Novi**

Candice Smith-Parker, Scheduler For Warren Evans, Wayne County

**Richard Soucy, Trustee, Genoa Charter Township**

Rick Sovel, Trustee, Charter Township Of Commerce  
Robert Stanford, Principal Planner, Livingston County

Susan Steeby, Trustee, Wayne County Community College District  
Trisha Stein, Chief Strategy Officer, Mayor's Office, City of Detroit  
Benjamin Stupka, Executive Director, Regional Transit Authority of Southeast Michigan (RTA)

Robert Swain, Trustee, Charter Township Of Lyon

Mary Swiacki, Clerk, Armada Township

Gina Swiercz, Clerk, Berlin Charter Township

James Tate, Council President Pro Tem, District 1, City of Detroit

Ivery Toussant, Jr., Councilmember, City of Harper Woods

Erik Tungate, City Manager, City Of Oak Park

Assad Turfe, Deputy County Executive, Wayne County

Gwendolyn Turner, Clerk, Charter Township Of Royal Oak

Patrick Valentine, Councilmember, City of Gibraltar

**Joseph Valentine, City Manager, City of Grosse Pointe**

**Mark Vanderpool, City Manager, City of Sterling Heights**

Crystal VanVleck, City Manager, City of Berkley

Neil Wakeman, Mayor Pro Tem, City of Luna Pier

Peter Walters, Planning Commissioner, Kenockee Township

Jason Warner, Director of Project Management, City of Rochester

Diane Webb, City Manager, City of Wayne

Tricia Wiggle-Bazzy, Treasurer, Green Oak Charter Township

Cynthia Wisbon, Treasurer, Erie Township

**Adam Wit, Clerk, Charter Township Of Harrison**

Mark Wollenweber, Planning Commissioner, Burtchville Township

Kenneth Wrobel, Councilmember, City of Flat Rock

Ronald Wuerth, Planning Director, City of Warren

Ed Wurtzbacher, Councilmember, City of Allen Park

Michael Yenshaw, Trustee, Oceola Township

Travis Youatt, Village Manager, Village of Capac

Ronald Youngblood, Deputy Supervisor, London Township

Kevin Ziegler, Councilmember, Village of Milford

Kayleigh Zupi, Clerk, Charter Township Of York,

**Delegates At-Large**

Colin Bird, Consul General, Consulate General Of Canada

**Below is a list of General Assembly Members. Members present at this meeting are indicated by bold typeface:**

Gina Cavaliere, Chief Community Impact Officer, BIZ Director,  
Downtown Detroit Partnership  
Maureen Donohue Krauss, President And CEO, Detroit Regional  
Partnership  
Michele Economou Ureste, Executive Director, Workforce  
Intelligence Network  
Daniel Mahoney, Director, Corp. & Gov't Affairs, Policy & Regional  
Affairs DTE Energy  
Claude Molinari, President and CEO, Visit Detroit  
Hayley Murphy, Executive Director And Chief Executive Officer,  
Detroit Zoological Society  
Gregory Pitoniak, Chief Executive Officer, Southeast Michigan  
Community Alliance  
Robert Taubman, Chairman And CEO, Taubman Centers, Inc.  
Ronald Taylor, President And CEO, Area Agency On Aging 1-A

**Non-Voting Delegates**

Ryan Buck, Director, Washtenaw Area Transportation Study  
Matt Carpenter, CEO, Ann Arbor Area Transportation Authority  
Steve Currie, Executive Director, Michigan Association Of Counties  
Deborah Dingell, Congresswoman, Dist. 6, U.S. House of  
Representatives  
Rodrick Green, Commissioner, Washtenaw County Road  
Commission  
Tiffany Gunter, General Manager, Suburban Mobility Authority For  
Regional Transportation (SMART)  
Russell Jorgenson, Division Administrator, Federal Highway  
Administration  
Carissa Markel, Transportation Planning Manager, Road  
Commission For Oakland County  
Amy McMillan, Executive Director, Huron-Clinton Metroparks  
Anthony Minghine, Deputy Executive Director/COO, Michigan  
Municipal League  
Andy Pickard, Transportation Planning Group Leader, Federal  
Highway Administration

Bryan Santo, Director, Macomb County Department of Roads,  
Macomb County  
Neil Sheridan, Executive Director, Michigan Townships Association  
Sandy Spang, President, Toledo Metropolitan Area Council of  
Governments (TMACOG)  
William Wolfson, Chief Administrative and Compliance Officer, GLWA  
- Great Lakes Water Authority

**Guests**

**Furquan Ahmed, Senior Vice Chancellor, WCCCD**  
**Corey Almas, Director of Engineering and Environmental  
Services, Bloomfield Township**  
**Mary Ammerman, University of Michigan Economic Growth  
Institute**  
**Emira Barrette, City of Rochester Hills Department of Public  
Services**  
**Gavin Beckford, Economic Development and DDA Manager,  
Canton Township**  
**Cesira Benvenuto**  
**Shannon Bergt, Energy Manager, Detroit Arsenal**  
**Brian Bilan, City of Rochester Hills**  
**Cassie Blascyk, Assistant To the Supervisor, Highland  
Township**  
**Don Brown, Chair, BoC, District 1, Macomb County**  
**Trisha Bruzek, Marketing And Communications Supervisor,  
Water Resources Commissioner's Office, Oakland County**  
**Florence Buchanan, President, Customer Experience360**  
**Seth Bucholz, Engineering Technician, City of Rochester Hills**  
**Liz Buckley, Farmers Market Manager, City of Port Huron**  
**Andy Buczek, Policy Advisor, Dykema**  
**Dave Campbell, Planning Director, Commerce Township**  
**Donald Carpenter, Drummond Carpenter**  
**Dan Christian, Engineer, Tetra Tech**  
**Dylan Clark, City of Troy**  
**Jodie Claycomb, Deputy Supervisor, Macomb Township**

**Below is a list of General Assembly Members. Members present at this meeting are indicated by bold typeface:**

Mike Compagnoni, Midwest Strategy Group  
T.J. Connolly, Planner, RCOC  
Brittany Cook, City of Dearborn  
Terry Croad, Planning Director, City of Southfield  
Jazmine Danci, Economic Dev. Admin, Downriver Community Conf  
Lisa DeLong, DDA Director, City of Port Huron  
Amy DeWys  
Lucia Di Felice  
Sally Duffy, Hubbell, Roth & Clark  
Ann Erickson Gault, Commissioner, District 3, Oakland County  
Jill Estrada  
Dusty Fancher, Partner, Midwest Strategy Group  
Shannon Filarecki, Senior Project Manager, DLZ  
Scott Finlay, City Engineer, City of Troy  
Ashley Flintoff, Executive Director, Friends of the Rouge  
Lucie Fortin, Mannik and Smith  
Guglielmo Frani  
Bruce Gaines, Business Development Manager, JMG Connects  
Sherri Gee, Great Lakes Water Auth.  
Roslyn Grafstein, Mayor, City of Madison Heights  
Ed Haapala, DLZ, Inc.  
Nathan Hamilton, Michigan Infrastructure Council  
Mariana Hernandez, Chief of Staff, Dearborn Heights  
Leslie Herrick, Council President Pro Tem, Dearborn  
Julie Jozwiak, DTE Energy  
Tim Keys, Downriver Community Conference  
Akaash Kolluri, Regional Manager, US Senate  
Sam Krassenstein, City of Detroit  
George Lahanas, City Manager, City of Northville  
Ryan, Laruwe, State Of Michigan  
Elaine Leven, City Manager, City of Fraser  
John Lyman, Waterford Township  
Craig Lyon, Pittsfield Township  
Piergiuseppe Mammarella

Hunter Manikas, City of Warren  
Amanda Minaudo, Senior Planner, Macomb County  
Jamie Moore, Manager, Village of Bingham Farms  
Kristen Myers, Grants Analyst, Hubbell, Roth & Clark  
Jim Nash, Water Rsrcs. Commissioner, OCWRC  
Henry Newnan, Councilmember, City of Warren  
Megan Owens, Executive Director, Trans. Riders United  
Melanie Piana, Program Director, RTA  
Sarah Plumer, Planning Manager, HRC  
Dennis Randt, Commissioner, City of Allen Park  
Julia Roberts, Planning and Innovation Director, RTA  
Jamal Robertson, Associate Regional Manager, DTE Energy  
Phil Rode, District Director for Congressman John James, U.S. Congress  
Sara Rubino, OCWRC Attorney, Oakland County  
Deveron Sanders, Michigan Regional Manager, Ciorba Group  
Cody Schaub, Rep. Haley Stevens Office, U.S. House of Rep.  
Lynne Seymour, Oakland County  
Muhammed Smidi, District Director, Lake Orion  
Edward Smith, IWRA  
Mshadoni Smith-Jackson, RTA of S.E. Michigan  
Erin Sudrovech, City of Rochester Hills  
Tim Tate, Sesame Solar  
Susan Tebbe, Municipal Transportation Services Leader, Michigan The Mannik & Smith Group  
Faith Terenzi, Councilmember, City of Utica  
Jenna Troppman, Tetra TechDetroit  
Gregory Turner, Bloomfield Township  
Andria Vaughan, Liason, Sen. Santana, Michigan State Senate  
Liz Vogel, Regional Manager, DTE Energy  
Adrian Walker, Regional Manager, DTE Energy  
Regina Washington, Finance Manager, City of Inkster  
Carmen Wells Quigg, University Of Michigan Economic Growth Institute  
Mary Wietecha, Beautification Commission, City of Roseville

**Below is a list of General Assembly Members. Members present at this meeting are indicated by bold typeface:**

**Maria Willett, Director of Phil.&Grants, City of Dearborn**

**Wendy Wilmers Longpre, Dir, Strategic Planning, City of Northville**

**Chris Wilson, City of Troy**

**Adam Wright, Government Relations, Midwest Strategy Group**

**Meeting Minutes  
Executive Committee  
SEMCOG Office, 1001 Woodward Ave., Ste. 1400, Detroit, MI 48226  
December 5, 2025**

**A. Call to Order**

Gwen Markham, Commissioner, Oakland County, Executive Committee Chairperson, called the Executive Committee meeting to order at 1:01 p.m.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Ms. Markham led the Committee in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Approval of Agenda**

Ms. Markham presented the agenda for consideration and approval by the Executive Committee, noting that the agenda is now available electronically.

**Motion** by Michael Sedlak, Clerk, Green Oak Charter Township, to approve the agenda. The **motion** carried by voice vote.

**B. Public Comment**

Ms. Markham offered members of the public three minutes to comment on any agenda item. Two public comments were received on the following topics:

- State-of-the-art transit solutions to support the region's future transportation needs; and
- General comments on public transit and committee updates.

**C. Approval of Consent Resolution**

Ms. Markham presented the Consent Resolution for approval: Executive Committee minutes – September 26, 2025; and Receipt of Financial Statements – October 2025.

**Motion** by Chris Barnett, Supervisor, Orion Township, to approve the Consent Resolution items, as presented. The **motion** carried by voice vote.

**D. Report from Chairperson: Gwen Markham, Commissioner, Oakland County**

Ms. Markham provided informational updates on the following topics:

- A reminder for interested elected officials that the application window is open for the 2026 Taubman Fellows program; and
- Notification that SEMCOG's 2026 Member Outreach Meetings will be held in each of the region's seven counties, along with an overview of the topics to be discussed.

Ms. Markham then introduced SEMCOG Executive Director Amy O'Leary, who presented an action item for consideration by the Executive Committee: SEMCOG staff involvement in the 2026 MAC Work Program. After presentation, **Motion** by Diana McKnight-Morton, Trustee, Washtenaw Community College, to approve SEMCOG staff involvement in the Metropolitan Affairs Coalition's 2026 Work Program. The **motion** carried by electronic vote.

*RESOLVED this fifth day of December 2025, THAT the Executive Committee of SEMCOG, the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments, approves SEMCOG staff involvement in the Metropolitan Affairs Coalition 2026 Work Program.*

**E. Report from Finance and Budget Committee: Robert Clark, Mayor, City of Monroe**

Ms. Markham introduced Robert Clark, Mayor, City of Monroe, who presented an overview of SEMCOG's recent financial audit for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025.

Mr. Clark then presented a request for the Executive Committee to authorize the Executive Director, or her designee, to establish a Health Care Savings Plan (HCSP) for employees, administered through the Michigan Municipal Employees' Retirement System (MERS).

**Motion** by Robert Clark, Mayor, City of Monroe, to approve a resolution to establish a Health Care Savings Plan (HCSP) for employees, administered through the Michigan Municipal Employees' Retirement System (MERS). The **motion** carried by electronic vote.

*NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED this 5th day of December 2025, THAT the Executive Committee approves a resolution to establish a Health Care Savings Plan (HCSP) for employees, administered through the Michigan Municipal Employees' Retirement System (MERS).*

**F. Update from Healthy Climate Task Force: Sheila Tomkowiak, Mayor, City of Grosse Pointe**

Ms. Markham introduced Sheila Tomkowiak, Mayor, City of Grosse Pointe, who provided an update on the work of the Healthy Climate Task Force, and notified Executive Committee members that they will be presented with the Healthy Climate Plan for approval at their January 2026 meeting.

**G. Report from Transportation Coordinating Council: William Miller, Commissioner, Oakland County**

Ms. Markham introduced William Miller, Commissioner, Oakland County, who presented 2050 RTP Amendment 25:5 and FY 26-29 TIP Amendment 25:5 (Full). After presentation, **Motion** by William Miller, Commissioner, Oakland County, to approve the 2050 RTP Amendment 25:5 and FY 26-29 TIP Amendment 25:5 (Full). The **motion** carried by electronic vote.

*WHEREAS, the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) supports this vision:*

*All the people of Southeast Michigan benefit from a connected, thriving region of small towns, dynamic urban centers, active waterfronts, diverse neighborhoods, premiere educational institutions, and abundant agricultural, recreational, and natural areas.*

*WHEREAS, SEMCOG is responsible for developing a long-range regional transportation plan and a Transportation Improvement Program that funds projects to implement the plan;*

*WHEREAS, the 2050 RTP was developed pursuant to the transportation planning provisions of Title 23 of United States Code (USC) Section 134 and Title 49 USC Section 5303;*

## Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

December 5, 2025

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*WHEREAS, the 2050 RTP requires periodic updates to include projects not fully developed at the time the 2050 RTP was originally adopted, to take advantage of new funding and reflect changing priorities;*

*WHEREAS, SEMCOG is required to develop amendments to the FY 2026-2029 TIP pursuant to Title 23 of the United States Code (USC) Section 134;*

*WHEREAS, the 2050 RTP and FY 2026-2029 TIP were analyzed in accordance with 40 CFR 51 for air quality conformity and found not to exceed present and future emission budgets in all analysis years;*

*WHEREAS, the amendments to the FY 2026-2029 TIP are consistent with the 2050 RTP policies, were financially constrained to identified funding resources, and the amendment process actively encouraged public and agency review and comment;*

*WHEREAS, SEMCOG certifies that all projects funded in total or in part with State Transportation Economic Development Fund (TEDF) Category C funds are eligible for funding under PA 231 of 1987, as amended, and meet the goals and objectives of the program;*

*WHEREAS, General Program Accounts (GPA) are used to group smaller, routine transportation projects together in the TIP;*

*WHEREAS, when the total cost of projects programmed in a GPA equals or exceeds 115% of the GPA's currently authorized amount, that GPA needs to be amended;*

*WHEREAS, SEMCOG has determined that the amendment to the 2050 RTP and the FY 2026-2029 TIP conform to the State Implementation Plan for Air Quality as required by provisions of Title 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 51 and Title 23 CFR 450;*

*NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, this 5<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2025 THAT the Executive Committee of SEMCOG, the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments, approves the amendment of projects to the 2050 RTP and FY 2026-2029 TIP;*

*AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Executive Committee of SEMCOG approves the amendment of the GPAs in the FY2026-2029 TIP;*

*AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Executive Committee of SEMCOG submits this amendment to the 2050 RTP and the FY 2026-2029 TIP to the Michigan Department of Transportation, as designee for the Governor's Office of the State of Michigan, for review and transmittal to the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy; Michigan Department of Natural Resources; Federal Highway Administration; Federal Transit Administration; and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.*

Mr. Miller then introduced Beheshteh Makari, SEMCOG Planner, who presented an update to SEMCOG's Access to Core Services report and online tool.

### **H. Update from Economic Development Council: Brian Marl, Mayor, City of Saline**

Ms. Markham introduced Brian Marl, Mayor, City of Saline, who provided an update on the work of the Economic Development Council. Mr. Marl introduced Karolynn Faulkner, SEMCOG Planner, who provided an overview of new SEMCOG placemaking resources. Ms. Faulkner then introduced David Struck, SEMCOG Planner, who presented an overview of the key strategies and goals included in the region's new Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy. Mr. Struck facilitated an input discussion on these strategies and goals.

**I. Report from SEMCOG Executive Director, Amy O’Leary**

Ms. Markham introduced Amy O’Leary, Executive Director, SEMCOG, who provided an update on the following items:

- Recent activity of the Regional Review Committee and SEMCOG’s TAP Check Presentations throughout the region;
- SEMCOG’s engagement on federal and State legislative issues;
- Promoting SEMCOG’s upcoming Peer Groups meetings at the March 2026 General Assembly event;
- SEMCOG’s holiday safety messages and encouraging local governments to share on their social media;
- Transit updates, including the RTA’s new transit app and an upcoming panel discussion with the region’s largest transit providers at the January 2026 Executive Committee meeting; and
- Upcoming SEMCOG events and training opportunities.

**J. Upcoming Meetings**

Ms. Markham reviewed the following upcoming SEMCOG meetings:

**Executive Committee** – Friday, January 23, 2026 – SEMCOG Offices (Detroit)

**Executive Committee** – Friday, February 27, 2026 – SEMCOG Offices (Detroit)

**General Assembly** – Thursday, March 19, 2026 – The Icon (Detroit)

**K. Adjourn**

There being no further business, the Executive Committee was adjourned at 2:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael Spence  
Committee Clerk

Executive Committee Meeting Attendance – December 5, 2025  
 Below is a list of Executive Committee Members. Members present at this meeting are indicated by bold typeface:

SEMOG Officers			
<b>Chairperson:</b>	<b>Gwen</b>	<b>Markham</b>	<b>Commissioner, District 15</b>
First Vice-Chairperson:	Laura	Kropp	Mayor
<b>Vice-Chairperson:</b>	<b>Anne Marie</b>	<b>Graham-Hudak</b>	<b>Supervisor</b>
Vice-Chairperson:	Joe	LaRussa	Mayor
<b>Vice-Chairperson:</b>	<b>Diana</b>	<b>McKnight-Morton</b>	<b>Trustee</b>
Vice-Chairperson:	Frank	Viviano	Supervisor
<b>Executive Committee Delegates</b>			
<b>Chris</b>	<b>Barnett</b>	<b>Supervisor</b>	<b>Charter Township of Orion</b>
Lisa	Beedon	Commissioner, District 3	St. Clair County
<b>Mary</b>	<b>Blackmon</b>	<b>Vice President</b>	<b>Wayne County RESA</b>
<b>Jackie</b>	<b>Boleware</b>	<b>Councilmember</b>	<b>City of Farmington Hills</b>
<b>Robert</b>	<b>Clark</b>	<b>Mayor</b>	<b>City of Monroe</b>
<b>Cara</b>	<b>Clemente</b>	<b>Commissioner, District 4</b>	<b>Wayne County</b>
David	Coulter	County Executive	Oakland County
David	Domas	Commissioner, District 2	Livingston County
<b>Donald</b>	<b>Dudas</b>	<b>Trustee</b>	<b>Port Huron Charter Township</b>
Michael	Duggan	Mayor	City of Detroit
Warren	Evans	County Executive	Wayne County
Cathy	Garrett	Clerk	Wayne County
Jay	Gross	Commissioner, District 9	Livingston County
Sylvia	Grot	Commissioner, District 3	Macomb County
Mark	Hackel	County Executive	Macomb County
<b>Kathy</b>	<b>Hayman</b>	<b>Mayor</b>	<b>City of Marysville</b>
<b>Jonathan</b>	<b>Kinloch</b>	<b>Commissioner, District 2</b>	<b>Wayne County</b>
Michael	Lesich	Mayor	City of Fraser
Henry	Lievens	Commissioner, District 9	Monroe County
<b>Jan</b>	<b>Lobur</b>	<b>Councilmember</b>	<b>City of Howell</b>
<b>Jason</b>	<b>Maciejewski</b>	<b>Commissioner, District 1</b>	<b>Washtenaw County</b>
<b>Brian</b>	<b>Marl</b>	<b>Mayor</b>	<b>City of Saline</b>
David	Massaron	Chair	Regional Transit Authority of Southeast Michigan (RTA)
<b>William</b>	<b>Miller, III</b>	<b>Commissioner, District 16</b>	<b>Oakland County</b>
<b>Alfred</b>	<b>Prieur</b>	<b>Supervisor</b>	<b>Bedford Township</b>
Yousef	Rabhl	Commissioner, District 8	Washtenaw County
Trish	Reilly	Supervisor	Pittsfield Charter Township
Eric	Sabree	Treasurer	Wayne County
<b>Michael</b>	<b>Sedlak</b>	<b>Clerk</b>	<b>Green Oak Charter Township</b>
Mary	Sheffield	Council President, Dist. 5	City of Detroit
<b>Linnie</b>	<b>Taylor</b>	<b>Commissioner, District 18</b>	<b>Oakland County</b>
David	Thompson	Drain Commissioner	Monroe County
<b>Sheila</b>	<b>Tomkowiak</b>	<b>Mayor</b>	<b>City of Grosse Pointe</b>
Joi	Torello	Commissioner, District 4	St. Clair County
Brian	Turnbull	Mayor	City of Northville
<b>Donald</b>	<b>VanSyckel</b>	<b>Commissioner, District 5</b>	<b>Macomb County</b>
<b>Philip</b>	<b>Weipert</b>	<b>Commissioner, District 13</b>	<b>Oakland County</b>
Anthony	Wickersham	Sheriff	Macomb County
Brad	Wieferich	Director	MDOT
Dave	Woodward	Chairperson, Board of Commissioners, District 1	Oakland County
Coleman	Young, II	Council Member At Large	City Of Detroit
Bernard	Youngblood	Register of Deeds	Wayne County
<b>Executive Committee Alternates</b>			
Rock	Abboud	Councilmember	Village of Beverly Hills
Scott	Barb	Planning Director	Livingston County
Bryan	Barnett	Mayor	City of Rochester Hills
Scott	Benson	Councilmember, District 3	City of Detroit
Jason	Berry	Community Planning & Engagement	Monroe County
Quentin	Bishop	City Manager	City of Marysville
<b>Michael</b>	<b>Bosnac</b>	<b>County Administrator/Chief Financial Officer</b>	<b>Monroe County</b>
Donald	Boynnton, Jr.	Trustee	Charter Township Of Van Buren
<b>Dillon</b>	<b>Breen</b>	<b>Board Secretary</b>	<b>Schoolcraft College</b>
Sean	Carlson	Deputy County Executive	Oakland County
Charlie	Cavell	Commissioner, District 19	Oakland County
Melissa	Daub	Commissioner, District 10	Wayne County
Dennis	Delor	Parks & Recreation Director	St. Clair County
Dale	DeSloover	Board President	Monroe County ISD
Jim	Gardner	Mayor	City of Luna Pier
Marcia	Gershenson	Commissioner, District 11	Oakland County
Larry	Gray, Jr.	Supervisor	Charter Township Of Commerce
Justin	Hodge	Commissioner, District 5	Washtenaw County
Brendan	Johnson	Commissioner, District 4	Oakland County
Andrew	Kandrevas	Assistant County Executive	Wayne County
Brad	Kersten	Supervisor	Charter Township of Chesterfield
<b>Josh</b>	<b>Kofflin</b>	<b>Councilmember</b>	<b>City of Milan</b>
Marilyn	Lane	Executive Office - Strategic Policy And Government Relations	Macomb County
<b>Robert</b>	<b>McCraight</b>	<b>Mayor</b>	<b>City of Romulus</b>
<b>Craig</b>	<b>Newell</b>	<b>Administrator, Statewide Trans. Planning Division</b>	<b>MDOT</b>
Diane	O'Connell	Supervisor	Charter Township Of Ann Arbor

Angela	Powell	Commissioner, District 9	Oakland County
John Paul	Rea	Deputy County Executive	Macomb County
Katie	Scott	Chairperson, Board of Commissioners, District 9	Washtenaw County
Thomas	Semaan	Mayor	City of New Baltimore
Hassan	Sheikh	Director, Economic Development	Wayne County
Robert	Smiley	Commissioner, District 14	Oakland County
Candice	Smith-Parker	Scheduler For Warren Evans	Wayne County
Robert	Stanford	Principal Planner	Livingston County
Trisha	Stein	Chief Strategy Officer, Mayor's Office	City of Detroit
Benjamin	Stupka	Executive Director	Regional Transit Authority of Southeast Michigan (RTA)
James	Tate	Council President Pro Tem, District 1	City of Detroit
Kristoffer	Tobbe	Mayor	City of Brighton
Assad	Turfe	Deputy County Executive	Wayne County
Mark	Vanderpool	City Manager	City of Sterling Heights
Alan	VanWashenova	Supervisor	Frenchtown Charter Township
Todd	Walker	Trustee	Genoa Charter Township
Lev	Wood	Councilmember	City of Grosse Pointe Farms
<b>Executive Committee Delegates At-Large</b>			
Colin	Bird	Consul General	Consulate General Of Canada
Gina	Cavaliere	Chief Community Impact Officer, BIZ Director	Downtown Detroit Partnership
Maureen	Donohue Krauss	President And CEO	Detroit Regional Partnership
Michele	Economou Ureste	Executive Director	Workforce Intelligence Network
Daniel	Mahoney	Director, Corp. & Gov't Affairs, Policy & Regional Affairs	DTE Energy
Claude	Molinari	President and CEO	Visit Detroit
Hayley	Murphy	Executive Director And Chief Executive Officer	Detroit Zoological Society
Gregory	Pitoniak	Chief Executive Officer	Southeast Michigan Community Alliance
Robert	Taubman	Chairman And CEO	Taubman Centers, Inc.
Ronald	Taylor	President And CEO	Area Agency On Aging 1-A
<b>Executive Committee Non-Voting Delegates</b>			
Ryan	Buck	Director	Washtenaw Area Transportation Study
Matt	Carpenter	CEO	Ann Arbor Area Transportation Authority
Steve	Currie	Executive Director	Michigan Association Of Counties
Deborah	Dingell	Congresswoman, Dist. 6	U.S. House of Representatives
Roslyn	Grafstein	Mayor	City of Madison Heights
Rodrick	Green	Commissioner	Washtenaw County Road Commission
Tiffany	Gunter	General Manager	Suburban Mobility Authority For Regional Transportation (SMART)
Russell	Jorgenson	Division Administrator	Federal Highway Administration
Carissa	Markel	Transportation Planning Manager	Road Commission For Oakland County
Amy	McMillan	Executive Director	Huron-Clinton Metroparks
Anthony	Minghine	Deputy Executive Director/COO	Michigan Municipal League
Andy	Pickard	Transportation Planning Group Leader	Federal Highway Administration
Bryan	Santo	Director, Macomb County Department of Roads	Macomb County
Neil	Sheridan	Executive Director	Michigan Townships Association
Sandy	Spang	President	Toledo Metropolitan Area Council of Governments (TMACOG)
William	Wolfson	Chief Administrative and Compliance Officer	GLWA - Great Lakes Water Authority
<b>Guest Attendees</b>			
Mike	Compagnoni		Midwest Strategy Group
Christine	Connell	Public Affairs Officer	Consulate General of Canada
T.J.	Connolly	Planner	Road Commission for Oakland County
Frank	Fogarty	Board of Review	City of South Lyon
Grantly	Franklin		Consulate General of Canada
Dom	Holmes		Oakland County
Steve	Kennedy	Mayor	City of South Lyon
Sarah	Plumer		HRC
Adam	Wright		Midwest Strategy Group
Philip	Peters		Michigan House Of Representatives
Robert	Pawlowski	Vice Chair	Citizens Advisory Committee (RTA of SE MI)
Michael	Poole	Executive Dean, Workforce & Economic Development	Wayne County Community College District
Michael D.	Bartow		Tripple L Transit 1 System
Keith	Bartow	CFO	Tripple L Transit 1 System
Jeremy	Blatt	Mid Michigan Regional Manager	Elissa Slotkin's Office
<b>SEMCOG Staff Attendees</b>			
Alex	Bourgeau	Manager, Modeling and Mobility	SEMCOG
Jon	Clark	Multimedia Specialist II	SEMCOG
Samantha	Collins	Administrative Assistant	SEMCOG
Michele	Fedorowicz	Manager, Transportation	SEMCOG
Nikki	Hartley	Government Affairs Specialist	SEMCOG
Sydney	Jackson	Communications Specialist II	SEMCOG
Misty	Jordan	Administration Director	SEMCOG
Naheed	Hug	Community and Economic Vitality Manager	SEMCOG
Hannah	King	Visual Media Lead	SEMCOG
Trevor	Layton	Communications Manager	SEMCOG
Amy	Malmer	Manager, Membership	SEMCOG
Kimberly	Nevils	Administrative Assistant	SEMCOG
Jeffery M.	Nutting	Forecast Coordinator	SEMCOG
Amy	O'Leary	Executive Director	SEMCOG
Rebecca	Osborne	Member Engagement Supervisor	SEMCOG
April	Scales	Web Specialist	SEMCOG

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Susan	Stefanski	Membership Specialist	SEMCOG	
Jacque'l	Smith	IT Administrator	SEMCOG	
David	Struck	Economic Development Coordinator	SEMCOG	
Yvonne	Taylor	Manager, Human Resources	SEMCOG	
Sheryl	Theriot	Director, External Affairs	SEMCOG	
Sirisha	Uppalapati	Supervisor, Regional Development Forecast	SEMCOG	
Ann C.	VanSlembrouck	Manager, Data Analysis	SEMCOG	
Cassandra	Verras	Analyst, GIS III	SEMCOG	
Kevin	Vettrano	Planning Director	SEMCOG	
Kirsten	Wolfe	Finance Manager	SEMCOG	



## Meeting Minutes

### Executive Committee

SEMCOG Office, 1001 Woodward Ave., Ste. 1400, Detroit, MI 48226

January 23, 2026

#### **A. Call to Order**

Gwen Markham, Commissioner, Oakland County, Executive Committee Chairperson, called the Executive Committee meeting to order at 1 p.m.

#### **Pledge of Allegiance**

Ms. Markham led the Committee in the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **Approval of Agenda**

Ms. Markham presented the agenda for consideration and approval by the Executive Committee, noting that the agenda is now available electronically.

**Motion** by Brian Turnbull, Mayor, City of Northville, to approve the agenda. The **motion** carried by voice vote.

#### **B. Public Comment**

Ms. Markham offered members of the public three minutes to comment on any agenda item. Two public comments were received on the following topics:

- The importance of collaboration between the region's transit agencies; and
- Appreciation for SEMCOG's recent Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) award to SMART.

#### **C. Approval of Consent Resolution**

Ms. Markham presented the Consent Resolution for approval: Executive Committee minutes – December 5, 2025; and Receipt of Financial Statements – November 2025.

**Motion** by Robert McCraight, Mayor, City of Romulus, to approve the Consent Resolution items, as presented. The **motion** carried by voice vote.

#### **D. Report from Chairperson: Gwen Markham, Commissioner, Oakland County**

Ms. Markham provided informational updates on the following topics:

- Notification that SEMCOG's 2026 Member Outreach Meetings will be held in each of the region's seven counties, along with an overview of the topics to be discussed;
- Information on three upcoming Flooding workshops in February and March;
- A final reminder for interested elected officials that the application window is open for the 2026 Taubman Fellows program;
- The kickoff of SEMCOG's 2055 demographic and socio-economic forecast; and
- Promoting the March 19, 2026 SEMCOG General Assembly, to be held at The Icon in Detroit.

**E. Panel Discussion: Successes and the Future of Transit in Southeast Michigan**

Ms. Markham introduced Amy O'Leary, Executive Director, SEMCOG, to facilitate a panel discussion with Southeast Michigan's transit leaders: Robert Cramer, Executive Director of Transit, City of Detroit; Tiffany Gunter, General Manager, SMART; and Ben Stupka, Executive Director, RTA of Southeast Michigan.

After discussion and questions from Ms. O'Leary, the panel answered questions from Executive Committee members.

**F. Update from Healthy Climate Task Force: Sheila Tomkowiak, Mayor, City of Grosse Pointe**

Ms. Markham introduced Sheila Tomkowiak, Mayor, City of Grosse Pointe, who presented the *Southeast Michigan Healthy Climate Plan* for approval. Ms. Tomkowiak introduced Tyler Klifman, Planner III, SEMCOG, who presented on the technical components of the *Southeast Michigan Healthy Climate Plan*.

After presentation, **Motion** by Sheila Tomkowiak, Mayor, City of Grosse Pointe, to adopt the *Southeast Michigan Healthy Climate Plan*. The **motion** carried by electronic vote.

*WHEREAS, the Southeast Michigan Healthy Climate Plan supports the vision:*

*The people of Southeast Michigan benefit from a connected, thriving region of small towns, dynamic urban centers, active waterfronts, diverse neighborhoods, premiere educational institutions and abundant agricultural, recreational and natural areas.*

*WHEREAS, the observed and forecasted changes to Southeast Michigan's climate present complex challenges for the health of the region's communities, environment, and economy;*

*WHEREAS, climate pollution is a result of greenhouse gas emissions from a variety of sources, and natural areas function to capture climate pollution from the atmosphere;*

*WHEREAS, an inventory of greenhouse gas emissions for Southeast Michigan quantified the level of emissions from electricity generation, industry, transportation, buildings, natural and working lands, and waste management;*

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*WHEREAS, working together as a region to reduce climate pollution and enhance natural areas will ensure that the region can provide a more resilient and thriving home for future generations;*

*WHEREAS, in July 2023, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Climate Pollution Reduction Grant program provided funding to states and regional planning agencies across the country to develop climate action plans;*

*WHEREAS, in October 2023, SEMCOG convened a Healthy Climate Task Force comprised of members from government, nonprofit, and community organizations with the goal to identify and prioritize measures to reduce climate pollution and enhance natural areas;*

*WHEREAS, the Healthy Climate Task Force led a collaborative process to collect and analyze measures to decarbonize buildings and industry, modernize mobility systems, manage waste materials sustainably, expand renewable electricity generation, and optimize natural and working lands;*

*WHEREAS, the Healthy Climate Task Force has developed the Priority Climate Action Plan with near-term, implementation-ready measures to reduce climate pollution by 2030, meeting the requirements of EPA's CPRG funding and enabling funding opportunities for future implementation;*

*WHEREAS, the Healthy Climate Task Force has developed the Southeast Michigan Healthy Climate Plan with comprehensive, long-term measures to reduce climate pollution by 2050, meeting the requirements of EPA's CPRG funding and supporting opportunities for coordinated future implementation;*

*THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of January 2026, THAT the Executive Committee of SEMCOG, the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments, adopts the Southeast Michigan Healthy Climate Plan.*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the priority measures and relevant analyses included in the Southeast Michigan Healthy Climate Plan be integrated and incorporated into other regional planning efforts; and*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Southeast Michigan Healthy Climate Plan be encouraged and advocated through SEMCOG plan implementation activities, educational training workshops, and in coordination with other local and regional planning efforts.*

### **G. Report from Transportation Coordinating Council: William Miller, Commissioner, Oakland County**

Ms. Markham introduced William Miller, Commissioner, Oakland County, who presented SEMCOG's proposed 2026 Safety Performance Measure Targets. After presentation, **Motion** by William Miller, Commissioner, Oakland County, to approve the federally-required transportation performance management (TPM) targets for safety. The **motion** carried by electronic vote.

*WHEREAS, establishing regional targets for safety performance measures is consistent with SEMCOG's vision for Southeast Michigan:*

*All people in Southeast Michigan benefit from a connected, thriving region of small towns, dynamic urban centers, active waterfronts, diverse neighborhoods, premiere educational institutions and abundant agricultural, recreational, and natural areas.*

*WHEREAS, SEMCOG, the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments, is the designated policy committee and Metropolitan Planning Organization for Southeast Michigan;*

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January 23, 2026

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*WHEREAS, SEMCOG coordinates eight Federal Aid Committees (FACs), one in each of the seven counties of Southeast Michigan and the City of Detroit. FACs are comprised of representatives of local governments, transit agencies, county road commissions, and the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT), and charged with evaluating data and recommending projects for inclusion in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) that meet regional transportation goals;*

*WHEREAS, the Vision 2050, the Regional Transportation Plan for Southeast Michigan (2050 RTP), was developed pursuant to the transportation planning provisions of Title 23 of United States Code (USC) Section 134 and Title 49 USC Section 5303, and performance targets are consistent with 2050 RTP policies;*

*WHEREAS, SEMCOG has an adopted regional safety plan, Southeast Michigan Transportation Safety Plan, that embraces the Safe System Approach through regional policies developed to direct implementation focused on safer people, roads, vehicles, speeds, and post-crash care, with the long-term goal of zero deaths and serious injuries by 2050;*

*WHEREAS, SEMCOG coordinates with local stakeholders and the Southeast Michigan Transportation Safety Action Committee to implement the Southeast Michigan Transportation Safety Plan;*

*WHEREAS, SEMCOG continues to conduct safety implementation efforts addressing regional safety issues, including a regional public educational campaign, conducting Road Safety Audits, providing local technical assistance to improve safety and performance of community corridors, and analyzing annual traffic crash data to identify key safety challenges and promote effective solutions;*

*WHEREAS, SEMCOG established new regional safety targets for the Southeast Michigan Transportation Safety Plan, as follows;*

## SEMCOG Safety Targets for Calendar Year 2026

<b>Safety Performance Measures (5 year rolling average)</b>	<b>Baseline (2020-2024)</b>	<b>Target (2022-2026)</b>
<i>Fatalities</i>	424.2	422.2
<i>Fatality Rate Per 100 Million VMT</i>	1.030	1.030
<i>Serious Injuries</i>	2,204.2	2,186.2
<i>Serious Injury Rate Per 100 Million VMT</i>	5.357	5.357
<i>Non-motorized Fatalities and Serious Injuries</i>	392.0	392.0

*WHEREAS, SEMCOG coordinated the establishment of regional safety targets with the Transportation Safety Action Committee, the Transportation Coordinating Council, and MDOT;*

*WHEREAS, SEMCOG's annual targets are a minimal reduction from the baseline but gradually increase to reach the regional goal of zero fatalities and serious injuries by 2050, and SEMCOG continues to work toward achieving greater annual reductions and reaching the zero goal as soon as possible; and*

*WHEREAS, SEMCOG will continue coordination with MDOT, FACs, and local safety stakeholders to address areas of concern, and prioritize planning and programming of projects that contribute to accomplishing the regional safety performance measure targets;*

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*NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of January 2026, THAT the Executive Committee of SEMCOG, the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments, supports establishing regional safety performance measure targets for calendar year 2026; and*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, THAT SEMCOG will continue coordination with local governments, traffic safety partners, and MDOT to implement the strategies from the Southeast Michigan Transportation Safety Plan to help achieve the shared vision of zero deaths and serious injuries by 2050, including continuing the regional education campaign, working with FACs to incorporate safety into the TIP project selection process, and encouraging transportation stakeholders to seek opportunities to implement transportation safety actions to accomplish the regional safety performance measure targets.*

Mr. Miller then presented a proposed update to the National Functional Classification (NFC) of roads in Southeast Michigan. After presentation, **Motion** by William Miller, Commissioner, Oakland County, to approve 29 revisions to the National Functional Classification (NFC) of roads in Southeast Michigan. The **motion** carried by electronic vote.

*WHEREAS, the National Functional Classification revision supports this vision:*

*All the people of Southeast Michigan benefit from a connected, thriving region of small towns, dynamic urban centers, active waterfronts, diverse neighborhoods, premiere educational institutions, and abundant agricultural, recreational, and natural areas.*

*WHEREAS, SEMCOG is responsible for developing a long-range regional transportation plan and a Transportation Improvement Program that funds projects to implement the plan;*

*WHEREAS, the 2050 RTP was developed pursuant to the transportation planning provisions of Title 23 of United States Code (USC) Section 134 and Title 49 USC Section 5303;*

*WHEREAS, Section 470.105 (b) (1) of Title 23 of the United States Code states that “the State Transportation agency shall have the primary responsibility for developing and updating a statewide highway functional classification in rural and urban areas to determine functional usage of the existing roads and streets...” and that “The State shall cooperate with responsible local officials...in developing and updating the functional classification:*

*WHEREAS, SEMCOG, the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments, the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization for Southeast Michigan, is responsible for coordinating and approving National Functional Classification updates within the seven-county region;*

*WHEREAS, National Functional Classification system designations determine which roads are eligible for federal aid and a criteria for important planning activities:*

*WHEREAS, MDOT has initiated a statewide functional classification review of the entire highway system subsequent to the recent federal approval of updates to the state’s Adjusted Census Urban Area Boundaries;*

*WHEREAS, SEMCOG, in cooperation with MDOT has worked with the region’s federal-aid and transportation study committees to identify and recommend revisions to the National Functional Classification for 29 routes based on criteria specified by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and MDOT;*

*NOW THEREFORE BE RESOLVED, this 20<sup>th</sup> day of January 2026, THAT the Executive Committee of SEMCOG, the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments, approves the proposed revisions to the National Functional Classification of roads in Southeast Michigan for the purpose of making the region's road classification more reflective of how the overall highway system functions.*

**H. Report from SEMCOG Executive Director, Amy O'Leary**

Ms. Markham introduced Amy O'Leary, Executive Director, SEMCOG, who provided a federal legislative and air quality attainment update. Ms. O'Leary then introduced Michael Spence, Government Affairs Manager, SEMCOG, who presented a State legislative update and shared the results of SEMCOG's recent Community Insights Survey. Mr. Spence discussed how the results of this survey will inform the initial meetings of SEMCOG's new Peer Group committees, which will convene immediately prior to the March 19, 2026 General Assembly business meeting. Ms. O'Leary then concluded her report with updates on the following:

- Upcoming Executive Committee consideration of the *Southeast Michigan Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy*;
- An update on the work of SEMCOG's Freight Task Force; and
- Upcoming SEMCOG events and training opportunities.

**I. Upcoming Meetings**

Ms. Markham reviewed the following upcoming SEMCOG meetings:

**Executive Committee** – Friday, February 27, 2026 – SEMCOG Office (Detroit)

**General Assembly** – Thursday, March 19, 2026 – The Icon (Detroit)

**J. Adjourn**

There being no further business, the Executive Committee was adjourned at 2:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael Spence  
Committee Clerk

## Executive Committee Meeting Attendance – January 23, 2026

Below is a list of Executive Committee Members. Members present at this meeting are indicated by bold typeface:

SEMCOG Officers				
<b>Chairperson:</b>	<b>Gwen</b>	<b>Markham</b>	<b>Commissioner, District 15</b>	<b>Oakland County</b>
<b>First Vice-Chairperson:</b>	<b>Laura</b>	<b>Kropp</b>	<b>Mayor</b>	<b>City of Mount Clemens</b>
<b>Vice-Chairperson:</b>	<b>Anne Marie</b>	<b>Graham-Hudak</b>	<b>Supervisor</b>	<b>Charter Township of Canton</b>
<b>Vice-Chairperson:</b>	<b>Joe</b>	<b>LaRussa</b>	<b>Mayor</b>	<b>City of Farmington</b>
<b>Vice-Chairperson:</b>	<b>Diana</b>	<b>McKnight-Morton</b>	<b>Trustee</b>	<b>Washtenaw Community College</b>
<b>Vice-Chairperson:</b>	<b>Frank</b>	<b>Viviano</b>	<b>Supervisor</b>	<b>Macomb Township</b>
Executive Committee Delegates				
Chris	Barnett	Supervisor	Charter Township of Orion	
Lisa	Beedon	Commissioner, District 3	St. Clair County	
<b>Mary</b>	<b>Blackmon</b>	<b>Vice President</b>	<b>Wayne County RESA</b>	
<b>Jackie</b>	<b>Boleware</b>	<b>Councilmember</b>	<b>City of Farmington Hills</b>	
Robert	Clark	Mayor	City of Monroe	
<b>Cara</b>	<b>Clemente</b>	<b>Commissioner, District 4</b>	<b>Wayne County</b>	
David	Coulter	County Executive	Oakland County	
David	Domas	Commissioner, District 2	Livingston County	
Donald	Dudas	Trustee	Port Huron Charter Township	
Michael	Duggan	Mayor	City of Detroit	
Warren	Evans	County Executive	Wayne County	
Cathy	Garrett	Clerk	Wayne County	
Jay	Gross	Commissioner, District 9	Livingston County	
<b>Sylvia</b>	<b>Grot</b>	<b>Commissioner, District 3</b>	<b>Macomb County</b>	
Mark	Hackel	County Executive	Macomb County	
<b>Kathy</b>	<b>Hayman</b>	<b>Mayor</b>	<b>City of Marysville</b>	
Jonathan	Kinloch	Commissioner, District 2	Wayne County	
Michael	Lesich	Mayor	City of Fraser	
Henry	Lievens	Commissioner, District 9	Monroe County	
Jan	Lobur	Councilmember	City of Howell	
Jason	Maciejewski	Commissioner, District 1	Washtenaw County	
Brian	Marl	Mayor	City of Saline	
David	Massaron	Chair	Regional Transit Authority of Southeast Michigan (RTA)	
<b>William</b>	<b>Miller, III</b>	<b>Commissioner, District 16</b>	<b>Oakland County</b>	
<b>Alfred</b>	<b>Prieur</b>	<b>Supervisor</b>	<b>Bedford Township</b>	
Yousef	Rabhi	Commissioner, District 8	Washtenaw County	
<b>Trish</b>	<b>Reilly</b>	<b>Supervisor</b>	<b>Pittsfield Charter Township</b>	
Eric	Sabree	Treasurer	Wayne County	
Michael	Sedlak	Clerk	Green Oak Charter Township	
Mary	Sheffield	Council President, Dist. 5	City of Detroit	
Linnie	Taylor	Commissioner, District 18	Oakland County	
David	Thompson	Drain Commissioner	Monroe County	
<b>Sheila</b>	<b>Tomkowiak</b>	<b>Mayor</b>	<b>City of Grosse Pointe</b>	
Joi	Torello	Commissioner, District 4	St. Clair County	
<b>Brian</b>	<b>Turnbull</b>	<b>Mayor</b>	<b>City of Northville</b>	
<b>Donald</b>	<b>VanSyckel</b>	<b>Commissioner, District 5</b>	<b>Macomb County</b>	
Philip	Weipert	Commissioner, District 13	Oakland County	
Anthony	Wickersham	Sheriff	Macomb County	
Brad	Wieferich	Director	MDOT	
Dave	Woodward	Chairperson, Board of Commissioners, District 1	Oakland County	
Coleman	Young, II	Council Member At Large	City Of Detroit	
Bernard	Youngblood	Register of Deeds	Wayne County	
Executive Committee Alternates				
<b>Rock</b>	<b>Aboud</b>	<b>Councilmember</b>	<b>Village of Beverly Hills</b>	
Scott	Barb	Planning Director	Livingston County	

Bryan	Barnett	Mayor	City of Rochester Hills	
Scott	Benson	Councilmember, District 3	City of Detroit	
Jason	Berry	Community Planning & Engagement	Monroe County	
Quentin	Bishop	City Manager	City of Marysville	
Michael	Bosanac	County Administrator/Chief Financial Officer	Monroe County	
<b>Donald</b>	<b>Boynton, Jr.</b>	<b>Trustee</b>	<b>Charter Township Of Van Buren</b>	
<b>Dillon</b>	<b>Breen</b>	<b>Board Secretary</b>	<b>Schoolcraft College</b>	
Sean	Carlson	Deputy County Executive	Oakland County	
Charlie	Cavell	Commissioner, District 19	Oakland County	
<b>Melissa</b>	<b>Daub</b>	<b>Commissioner, District 10</b>	<b>Wayne County</b>	
Dennis	Delor	Parks & Recreation Director	St. Clair County	
<b>Dale</b>	<b>DeSloover</b>	<b>Board President</b>	<b>Monroe County ISD</b>	
<b>Jim</b>	<b>Gardner</b>	<b>Mayor</b>	<b>City of Luna Pier</b>	
Marcia	Gershenson	Commissioner, District 11	Oakland County	
Larry	Gray, Jr.	Supervisor	Charter Township Of Commerce	
Justin	Hodge	Commissioner, District 5	Washtenaw County	
Brendan	Johnson	Commissioner, District 4	Oakland County	
Andrew	Kandrevas	Assistant County Executive	Wayne County	
Brad	Kersten	Supervisor	Charter Township of Chesterfield	
<b>Peter</b>	<b>Klomprens</b>	<b>Planning Director</b>	<b>St. Clair County</b>	
Josh	Kofflin	Councilmember	City of Milan	
Marilyn	Lane	Executive Office - Strategic Policy And Government Relations	Macomb County	
<b>Robert</b>	<b>McCraight</b>	<b>Mayor</b>	<b>City of Romulus</b>	
<b>Craig</b>	<b>Newell</b>	<b>Administrator, Statewide Trans. Planning Division</b>	<b>MDOT</b>	
Diane	O'Connell	Supervisor	Charter Township Of Ann Arbor	
Angela	Powell	Commissioner, District 9	Oakland County	
John Paul	Rea	Deputy County Executive	Macomb County	
Katie	Scott	Chairperson, Board of Commissioners, District 9	Washtenaw County	
<b>Thomas</b>	<b>Semaan</b>	<b>Mayor</b>	<b>City of New Baltimore</b>	
Hassan	Sheikh	Director, Economic Development	Wayne County	
Robert	Smiley	Commissioner, District 14	Oakland County	
Candice	Smith-Parker	Scheduler For Warren Evans	Wayne County	
Robert	Stanford	Principal Planner	Livingston County	
Trisha	Stein	Chief Strategy Officer, Mayor's Office	City of Detroit	
<b>Benjamin</b>	<b>Stupka</b>	<b>Executive Director</b>	<b>Regional Transit Authority of Southeast Michigan (RTA)</b>	
James	Tate	Council President Pro Tem, District 1	City of Detroit	
Kristoffer	Tobbe	Mayor	City of Brighton	
Assad	Turfe	Deputy County Executive	Wayne County	
Mark	Vanderpool	City Manager	City of Sterling Heights	
<b>Alan</b>	<b>VanWashenova</b>	<b>Supervisor</b>	<b>Frenchtown Charter Township</b>	
<b>Todd</b>	<b>Walker</b>	<b>Trustee</b>	<b>Genoa Charter Township</b>	
Lev	Wood	Councilmember	City of Grosse Pointe Farms	
Executive Committee Delegates At-Large				
Colin	Bird	Consul General	Consulate General Of Canada	
<b>Gina</b>	<b>Cavaliere</b>	<b>Chief Community Impact Officer, BIZ Director</b>	<b>Downtown Detroit Partnership</b>	
Maureen	Donohue Krauss	President And CEO	Detroit Regional Partnership	
Michele	Economou Ures	Executive Director	Workforce Intelligence Network	
Daniel	Mahoney	Director, Corp. & Gov't Affairs, Policy & Regional Affairs	DTE Energy	
Claude	Molinari	President and CEO	Visit Detroit	
Hayley	Murphy	Executive Director And Chief Executive Officer	Detroit Zoological Society	
<b>Gregory</b>	<b>Pitoniak</b>	<b>Chief Executive Officer</b>	<b>Southeast Michigan Community Alliance</b>	
Robert	Taubman	Chairman And CEO	Taubman Centers, Inc.	
<b>Ronald</b>	<b>Taylor</b>	<b>President And CEO</b>	<b>Area Agency On Aging 1-A</b>	
Executive Committee Non-Voting Delegates				
Ryan	Buck	Director	Washtenaw Area Transportation Study	
Matt	Carpenter	CEO	Ann Arbor Area Transportation Authority	
Steve	Currie	Executive Director	Michigan Association Of Counties	
Deborah	Dingell	Congresswoman, Dist. 6	U.S. House of Representatives	

Roslyn	Grafstein	Mayor	City of Madison Heights	
Rodrick	Green	Commissioner	Washtenaw County Road Commission	
<b>Tiffany</b>	<b>Gunter</b>	<b>General Manager</b>	<b>Suburban Mobility Authority For Regional Transportation (SMART)</b>	
Russell	Jorgenson	Division Administrator	Federal Highway Administration	
Carissa	Markel	Transportation Planning Manager	Road Commission For Oakland County	
Amy	McMillan	Executive Director	Huron-Clinton Metroparks	
Anthony	Minghine	Deputy Executive Director/COO	Michigan Municipal League	
Andy	Pickard	Transportation Planning Group Leader	Federal Highway Administration	
Bryan	Santo	Director, Macomb County Department of Roads	Macomb County	
Neil	Sheridan	Executive Director	Michigan Townships Association	
<b>Sandy</b>	<b>Spang</b>	<b>President</b>	<b>Toledo Metropolitan Area Council of Governments (TMACOG)</b>	
William	Wolfson	Chief Administrative and Compliance Officer	GLWA - Great Lakes Water Authority	
Guest Attendees				
<b>Frank</b>	<b>Fogarty</b>	<b>Board of Review</b>	<b>City of South Lyon</b>	
<b>Steve</b>	<b>Kennedy</b>	<b>Mayor</b>	<b>City of South Lyon</b>	
<b>Ammari</b>	<b>Ansari</b>	<b>Trustee</b>	<b>Canton Township</b>	
<b>Robert</b>	<b>Cramer</b>	<b>Director</b>	<b>DDOT</b>	
<b>Khalil</b>	<b>Davis</b>	<b>Senior Consultant</b>	<b>WSP</b>	
<b>Deborah</b>	<b>Freer</b>	<b>Assistant Director</b>	<b>Transportation Riders United</b>	
<b>Farai</b>	<b>Gundan</b>	<b>Founder &amp; CEO</b>	<b>Bhadala</b>	
<b>Milanna</b>	<b>Jones</b>	<b>Councilmember</b>	<b>City of Pontiac</b>	
<b>Valerie</b>	<b>Kindle</b>	<b>Mayor</b>	<b>Harper Woods</b>	
<b>Alexis</b>	<b>Mahoney</b>		<b>WSP</b>	
<b>Erin</b>	<b>SChlutow</b>	<b>Senior Planner</b>	<b>Canton Township</b>	
<b>Michelle</b>	<b>Striuck</b>			
<b>Lindsay</b>	<b>Wallace</b>	<b>Principal Planner</b>	<b>Oakland Transit</b>	
<b>Maria</b>	<b>Willett</b>	<b>Director of Phil. &amp; Grants</b>	<b>City of Dearborn</b>	
<b>Philip</b>	<b>Peters</b>		<b>Michigan House Of Representatives</b>	
<b>Robert</b>	<b>Pawlowski</b>	<b>Vice Chair</b>	<b>Citizens Advisory Committee (RTA of SE MI)</b>	
SEMCOG Staff Attendees				
<b>Alex</b>	<b>Bourgeau</b>	<b>Manager, Modeling and Mobility</b>	<b>SEMCOG</b>	
<b>Jon</b>	<b>Clark</b>	<b>Multimedia Specialist II</b>	<b>SEMCOG</b>	
<b>Samantha</b>	<b>Collins</b>	<b>Administrative Assistant</b>	<b>SEMCOG</b>	
<b>Nikki</b>	<b>Hartley</b>	<b>Government Affairs Specialist</b>	<b>SEMCOG</b>	
<b>Misty</b>	<b>Jordan</b>	<b>Administration Director</b>	<b>SEMCOG</b>	
<b>Trevor</b>	<b>Layton</b>	<b>Communications Manager</b>	<b>SEMCOG</b>	
<b>Beheshteh</b>	<b>Makari</b>	<b>Planner III</b>	<b>SEMCOG</b>	
<b>Amy</b>	<b>Malmer</b>	<b>Manager, Membership</b>	<b>SEMCOG</b>	
<b>Chad</b>	<b>Misiuk</b>	<b>GIS Coordinator</b>	<b>SEMCOG</b>	
<b>Kimberly</b>	<b>Nevils</b>	<b>Administrative Assistant</b>	<b>SEMCOG</b>	
<b>Amy</b>	<b>O'Leary</b>	<b>Executive Director</b>	<b>SEMCOG</b>	
<b>Rebecca</b>	<b>Osborne</b>	<b>Member Engagement Supervisor</b>	<b>SEMCOG</b>	
<b>Brian</b>	<b>Pawlik</b>	<b>Planner III</b>	<b>SEMCOG</b>	
<b>April</b>	<b>Scales</b>	<b>Web Specialist</b>	<b>SEMCOG</b>	
<b>Mike</b>	<b>Spence</b>	<b>Manager, Government Affairs</b>	<b>SEMCOG</b>	
<b>Vickie</b>	<b>Swanson</b>	<b>Planner III</b>	<b>SEMCOG</b>	
<b>Ann C.</b>	<b>VanSlembrouck</b>	<b>Manager, Data Analysis</b>	<b>SEMCOG</b>	
<b>Kevin</b>	<b>Vettraino</b>	<b>Planning Director</b>	<b>SEMCOG</b>	
<b>Kirsten</b>	<b>Wolfe</b>	<b>Finance Manager</b>	<b>SEMCOG</b>	



## Meeting Minutes

### Executive Committee

SEMCOG Office, 1001 Woodward Ave., Ste. 1400, Detroit, MI 48226

February 27, 2026

#### **A. Call to Order**

Gwen Markham, Commissioner, Oakland County, Executive Committee Chairperson, called the Executive Committee meeting to order at 1:01 p.m.

#### **Pledge of Allegiance**

Ms. Markham led the Committee in the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **Approval of Agenda**

Ms. Markham presented the agenda for consideration and approval by the Executive Committee, noting that the agenda is now available electronically.

**Motion** by Don VanSyckel, Commissioner, Macomb County, to approve the agenda. The **motion** carried by voice vote.

#### **B. Public Comment**

Ms. Markham offered members of the public three minutes to comment on any agenda item. No comments were received.

#### **C. Approval of Consent Resolution**

Ms. Markham presented the Consent Resolution for approval: Executive Committee minutes – January 23, 2026; Receipt of Financial Statements – December 2025; and Contract Approval with Sustainability Solutions Group (SSG) for SEMCOG's Greenhouse Gas Inventory for Southeast Michigan.

**Motion** by Brian Turnbull, Mayor, City of Northville, to approve the Consent Resolution items, as presented. The **motion** carried by voice vote.

#### **D. Report from Chairperson: Gwen Markham, Commissioner, Oakland County**

Ms. Markham provided informational updates on the following topics:

- A notice that SEMCOG is now accepting nominations for 2026 Regional Showcase and Regional Ambassador Awards; and

- A reminder that SEMCOG's ongoing 2026 Member Outreach Meetings are being held in each of the region's seven counties, along with an overview of the Executive Committee elections and topics to be discussed;

**E. Featured Presentation: SEMCOG 2026 Legislative Priorities**

Ms. Markham provided a recap of the National Association of Regional Councils 2026 Conference of Regions, and SEMCOG's February Congressional meetings.

Ms. Markham offered an opportunity for SEMCOG's officers to share their takeaways from these meetings, and then introduced Michael Spence, Government Affairs Manager, SEMCOG, who presented SEMCOG's 2026 Legislative Priorities.

Mr. Spence also provided an overview of the coordinated local government coalition response to recently introduced legislation in Lansing that would preempt local zoning as it relates to residential permitting and approvals. Mr. Spence then introduced Mike Compagnoni and Adam Wright, Midwest Strategy Group, who provided a legislative update and answered questions from Committee members.

**F. Report from Economic Development Committee: Brian Marl, Mayor, City of Saline**

Ms. Markham introduced Brian Marl, Mayor, City of Saline, who provided an overview and introduction to the work of the Economic Development Council. Mr. Marl then introduced Dave Struck, Economic Development Coordinator, SEMCOG, who provided an overview of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy.

After presentation, **Motion** by Brian Marl, Mayor, City of Saline, to recommend approval of the Comprehensive Development Strategy (CEDS) to the SEMCOG General Assembly. The **motion** carried by unanimous electronic vote.

*WHEREAS, the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for Southeast Michigan supports the vision:*

*All people of Southeast Michigan benefit from a connected, thriving region of small towns, dynamic urban centers, active waterfronts, diverse neighborhoods, premiere educational institutions and abundant agricultural, recreational, and natural areas.*

*WHEREAS, regions are the building blocks of the state and national economy;*

*WHEREAS, efforts must continue to position Southeast Michigan to be successful in a globally competitive environment;*

*WHEREAS, Southeast Michigan possesses an abundance of resources that contribute to economic opportunity. These include our workforce, built environment, as well as a variety of educational, industrial, natural and geographic assets. These resources coalesce to form the basis of our regional economy across three pillars: Great Places, Regional Prosperity, and Economic Resilience;*

*WHEREAS, a resilient economy promotes shared prosperity; provides access to essential services such as education, healthcare, recreation, broadband, and economic opportunities; and creates a region and population that can more rapidly rebound from major or unforeseen events in the future;*

*WHEREAS, a SWOT Analysis – Southeast Michigan's Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats – was developed that succinctly demonstrates where the region is now, where improvements*

*are needed, areas of concern with the global economy, and possible areas to advance regional prosperity;*

*WHEREAS, the Economic Development Council, which includes members representing government, business, economic development, education, workforce, labor, nonprofit, and other representatives guided development of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for Southeast Michigan and established the core strategies and actions;*

*THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, this 19<sup>th</sup> day of March 2026, THAT the General Assembly of SEMCOG, the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments, adopts the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for Southeast Michigan.*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the recommended strategies and actions included in the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for Southeast Michigan be integrated and incorporated into other regional planning efforts; and*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for Southeast Michigan be encouraged and advocated through SEMCOG plan implementation activities, educational training workshops, and in coordination with other local and regional planning efforts.*

### **G. Report from Finance and Budget Committee: Robert Clark, Mayor, City of Monroe**

Ms. Markham introduced Robert Clark, Mayor, City of Monroe, who presented SEMCOG's 2026-2027 Work Program for Southeast Michigan and SEMCOG's Annual Operating Budget and Work Program Summary.

After presentation, **Motion** by Robert Clark, Mayor, City of Monroe, to approve SEMCOG's 2026-2027 Work Program for Southeast Michigan and approve the Finance and Budget Committee recommendation for General Assembly adoption of SEMCOG's Annual Operating Budget and Work Program Summary. The **motion** carried by unanimous electronic vote.

*RESOLVED this 27<sup>th</sup> day of February 2026 THAT the Executive Committee of SEMCOG, the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments:*

- Approves the 2026-2027 Work Program for Southeast Michigan;*
- Authorizes the Executive Director, or her designee, to contract with the agencies interested in funding the tasks contained in the 2026-2027 Work Program of Southeast Michigan;*
- Authorizes the Executive Director, or her designee, to make changes in SEMCOG's Annual Operating Budget and Work Program for Southeast Michigan for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2027, as may be necessary during the final negotiation and discussion process which shall be reported back to the Executive Committee;*
- Authorizes the Executive Director, or her designee, to negotiate, finalize, and approve the employee health care package, ensuring it aligns with organizational priorities, budgetary considerations, and the best interests of employees;*
- Authorizes the Executive Director, or her designee, to file applications, requisitions, and necessary supporting documents with respective federal, state, and other agencies as required by these agencies;*

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- Authorizes the Executive Director, or her designee, to commit the matching funds as required by the contracts and grant agreements negotiated pursuant to the 2026-2027 Work Program for Southeast Michigan;
- Authorizes the Executive Director, or her designee, to enter into pass-through funding and in-kind match agreements with agencies to perform work identified in the 2026-2027 Work Program for Southeast Michigan;
- Authorizes the Executive Director, or her designee, to execute and file with grantor agencies assurances, or any other documents required, effectuating the purposes of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; and

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Executive Committee approves:*

- General Assembly adoption of SEMCOG's Annual Operating Budget and Work Program Summary for Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2027, specifically adopting revenues of \$21,218,415 and expenditures of \$21,218,415; and a membership dues schedule.

Mr. Clark then presented a summary of Executive Director Amy O'Leary's Performance Evaluation and Salary Adjustment. After presentation, **Motion** by Robert Clark, Mayor, City of Monroe, to approve an increase in the Executive Director's compensation to \$283,225. The **motion** carried by unanimous electronic vote.

*RESOLVED this 27<sup>th</sup> day of February 2026, THAT the Executive Committee of SEMCOG, the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments, reviewed Executive Director Amy O'Leary's performance and concurred that she is doing great work based on the positive feedback from her evaluation.*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Executive Committee approves an increase in the Executive Director's compensation to \$283,225.*

#### **H. Report from Transportation Coordinating Council: William Miller, Commissioner, Oakland County**

Ms. Markham introduced William Miller, Commissioner, Oakland County, who presented an amendment to the 2050 Vision Regional Transportation Plan and the FY 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

After presentation, **Motion** by William Miller, Commissioner, Oakland County, to approve an amendment to the 2050 Vision Regional Transportation Plan and the FY 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The **motion** carried by electronic vote.

*WHEREAS, the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) supports this vision:*

*All the people of Southeast Michigan benefit from a connected, thriving region of small towns, dynamic urban centers, active waterfronts, diverse neighborhoods, premiere educational institutions, and abundant agricultural, recreational, and natural areas.*

*WHEREAS, SEMCOG is responsible for developing a long-range regional transportation plan and a Transportation Improvement Program that funds projects to implement the plan;*

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*WHEREAS, the 2050 RTP was developed pursuant to the transportation planning provisions of Title 23 of United States Code (USC) Section 134 and Title 49 USC Section 5303;*

*WHEREAS, the 2050 RTP requires periodic updates to include projects not fully developed at the time the 2050 RTP was originally adopted, to take advantage of new funding and reflect changing priorities;*

*WHEREAS, SEMCOG is required to develop amendments to the FY 2026-2029 TIP pursuant to Title 23 of the United States Code (USC) Section 134;*

*WHEREAS, the 2050 RTP and FY 2026-2029 TIP were analyzed in accordance with 40 CFR 51 for air quality conformity and found not to exceed present and future emission budgets in all analysis years;*

*WHEREAS, the amendments to the FY 2026-2029 TIP are consistent with the 2050 RTP policies, were financially constrained to identified funding resources, and the amendment process actively encouraged public and agency review and comment;*

*WHEREAS, SEMCOG certifies that all projects funded in total or in part with State Transportation Economic Development Fund (TEDF) Category C funds are eligible for funding under PA 231 of 1987, as amended, and meet the goals and objectives of the program;*

*WHEREAS, General Program Accounts (GPA) are used to group smaller, routine transportation projects together in the TIP;*

*WHEREAS, when the total cost of projects programmed in a GPA equals or exceeds 115% of the GPA's currently authorized amount, that GPA needs to be amended;*

*WHEREAS, SEMCOG has determined that the amendment to the 2050 RTP and the FY 2026-2029 TIP conform to the State Implementation Plan for Air Quality as required by provisions of Title 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 51 and Title 23 CFR 450;*

*NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, this 27<sup>th</sup> day of February 2026 THAT the Executive Committee of SEMCOG, the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments, approves the amendment of projects to the 2050 RTP and FY 2026-2029 TIP;*

*AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Executive Committee of SEMCOG approves the amendment of the GPAs in the FY2026-2029 TIP;*

*AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Executive Committee of SEMCOG submits this amendment to the 2050 RTP and the FY 2026-2029 TIP to the Michigan Department of Transportation, as designee for the Governor's Office of the State of Michigan, for review and transmittal to the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy; Michigan Department of Natural Resources; Federal Highway Administration; Federal Transit Administration; and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.*

### **I. Report from SEMCOG Executive Director, Amy O'Leary**

Ms. Markham introduced Amy O'Leary, Executive Director, SEMCOG, who provided updates on the following:

- Information for local government interested in applying for funding to address stormwater, water quality and green infrastructure projects through the federal Great Lakes Community Grant Program;

- SEMCOG's Flood Resilience workshop series;
- A series of handouts summarizing funding SEMCOG has provided for Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ), Carbon Reduction Program (CRP), and Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) projects across the region;
- A preview of SEMCOG's upcoming Peer Groups meetings and General Assembly event to be held at The Icon (Detroit) on March 19, 2026; and
- A summary of upcoming SEMCOG events and training opportunities.

**J. Upcoming Meetings**

Ms. Markham reviewed the following upcoming SEMCOG meetings:

**General Assembly** – Thursday, March 19, 2026 – The Icon (Detroit)

**Executive Committee** – Friday, April 24, 2026 – SEMCOG Office (Detroit)

**K. Adjourn**

There being no further business, the Executive Committee was adjourned at 2:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael Spence  
Committee Clerk

## Executive Committee Meeting Attendance – February 27, 2026

Below is a list of Executive Committee Members. Members present at this meeting are indicated by bold typeface:

SEMCOG Officers				
<b>Chairperson:</b>	<b>Gwen</b>	<b>Markham</b>	<b>Commissioner, District 15</b>	<b>Oakland County</b>
First Vice-Chairpers	Laura	Kropp	Mayor	City of Mount Clemens
<b>Vice-Chairperson:</b>	<b>Anne Marie</b>	<b>Graham-Hudak</b>	<b>Supervisor</b>	<b>Charter Township of Canton</b>
<b>Vice-Chairperson:</b>	<b>Joe</b>	<b>LaRussa</b>	<b>Mayor</b>	<b>City of Farmington</b>
<b>Vice-Chairperson:</b>	<b>Diana</b>	<b>McKnight-Morton</b>	<b>Trustee</b>	<b>Washtenaw Community College</b>
<b>Vice-Chairperson:</b>	<b>Frank</b>	<b>Viviano</b>	<b>Supervisor</b>	<b>Macomb Township</b>
Executive Committee Delegates				
<b>Chris</b>	<b>Barnett</b>	<b>Supervisor</b>	<b>Charter Township of Orion</b>	
Lisa	Beedon	Commissioner, District 3	St. Clair County	
<b>Mary</b>	<b>Blackmon</b>	<b>Vice President</b>	<b>Wayne County RESA</b>	
Jackie	Boleware	Councilmember	City of Farmington Hills	
<b>Robert</b>	<b>Clark</b>	<b>Mayor</b>	<b>City of Monroe</b>	
<b>Cara</b>	<b>Clemente</b>	<b>Commissioner, District 4</b>	<b>Wayne County</b>	
David	Coulter	County Executive	Oakland County	
David	Domas	Commissioner, District 2	Livingston County	
<b>Donald</b>	<b>Dudas</b>	<b>Trustee</b>	<b>Port Huron Charter Township</b>	
Michael	Duggan	Mayor	City of Detroit	
Warren	Evans	County Executive	Wayne County	
Cathy	Garrett	Clerk	Wayne County	
Jay	Gross	Commissioner, District 9	Livingston County	
<b>Sylvia</b>	<b>Grot</b>	<b>Commissioner, District 3</b>	<b>Macomb County</b>	
Mark	Hackel	County Executive	Macomb County	
<b>Kathy</b>	<b>Hayman</b>	<b>Mayor</b>	<b>City of Marysville</b>	
<b>Jonathan</b>	<b>Kinloch</b>	<b>Commissioner, District 2</b>	<b>Wayne County</b>	
<b>Michael</b>	<b>Lesich</b>	<b>Mayor</b>	<b>City of Fraser</b>	
Henry	Lievens	Commissioner, District 9	Monroe County	
<b>Jan</b>	<b>Lobur</b>	<b>Councilmember</b>	<b>City of Howell</b>	
<b>Jason</b>	<b>Maciejewski</b>	<b>Commissioner, District 1</b>	<b>Washtenaw County</b>	
<b>Brian</b>	<b>Marl</b>	<b>Mayor</b>	<b>City of Saline</b>	
David	Massaron	Chair	Regional Transit Authority of Southeast Michigan (RTA)	
<b>William</b>	<b>Miller, III</b>	<b>Commissioner, District 16</b>	<b>Oakland County</b>	
<b>Alfred</b>	<b>Prieur</b>	<b>Supervisor</b>	<b>Bedford Township</b>	
Yousef	Rabhi	Commissioner, District 8	Washtenaw County	
<b>Trish</b>	<b>Reilly</b>	<b>Supervisor</b>	<b>Pittsfield Charter Township</b>	
Eric	Sabree	Treasurer	Wayne County	
Michael	Sedlak	Clerk	Green Oak Charter Township	
Mary	Sheffield	Council President, Dist. 5	City of Detroit	
Linnie	Taylor	Commissioner, District 18	Oakland County	
David	Thompson	Drain Commissioner	Monroe County	
<b>Sheila</b>	<b>Tomkowiak</b>	<b>Mayor</b>	<b>City of Grosse Pointe</b>	
Joi	Torello	Commissioner, District 4	St. Clair County	
<b>Brian</b>	<b>Turnbull</b>	<b>Mayor</b>	<b>City of Northville</b>	
<b>Donald</b>	<b>VanSyckel</b>	<b>Commissioner, District 5</b>	<b>Macomb County</b>	
<b>Philip</b>	<b>Weipert</b>	<b>Commissioner, District 13</b>	<b>Oakland County</b>	
Anthony	Wickersham	Sheriff	Macomb County	
Brad	Wieferich	Director	MDOT	
Dave	Woodward	Chairperson, Board of Commissioners, District 1	Oakland County	
Coleman	Young, II	Council Member At Large	City Of Detroit	
Bernard	Youngblood	Register of Deeds	Wayne County	
Executive Committee Alternates				

Rock	Abboud	Councilmember	Village of Beverly Hills	
Scott	Barb	Planning Director	Livingston County	
Bryan	Barnett	Mayor	City of Rochester Hills	
<b>Scott</b>	<b>Benson</b>	<b>Councilmember, District 3</b>	<b>City of Detroit</b>	
Jason	Berry	Community Planning & Engagement	Monroe County	
Quentin	Bishop	City Manager	City of Marysville	
Michael	Bosanac	County Administrator/Chief Financial Officer	Monroe County	
Donald	Boynton, Jr.	Trustee	Charter Township Of Van Buren	
Dillon	Breen	Board Secretary	Schoolcraft College	
Sean	Carlson	Deputy County Executive	Oakland County	
Charlie	Cavell	Commissioner, District 19	Oakland County	
Melissa	Daub	Commissioner, District 10	Wayne County	
Dennis	Delor	Parks & Recreation Director	St. Clair County	
<b>Dale</b>	<b>DeSloover</b>	<b>Board President</b>	<b>Monroe County ISD</b>	
<b>Jim</b>	<b>Gardner</b>	<b>Mayor</b>	<b>City of Luna Pier</b>	
Marcia	Gershenson	Commissioner, District 11	Oakland County	
Larry	Gray, Jr.	Supervisor	Charter Township Of Commerce	
Justin	Hodge	Commissioner, District 5	Washtenaw County	
Brendan	Johnson	Commissioner, District 4	Oakland County	
Andrew	Kandreas	Assistant County Executive	Wayne County	
Brad	Kersten	Supervisor	Charter Township of Chesterfield	
<b>Peter</b>	<b>Klomprens</b>	<b>Planning Director</b>	<b>St. Clair County</b>	
Josh	Kofflin	Councilmember	City of Milan	
Marilyn	Lane	Executive Office - Strategic Policy And Government Relations	Macomb County	
Robert	McCraight	Mayor	City of Romulus	
Craig	Newell	Administrator, Statewide Trans. Planning Division	MDOT	
Diane	O'Connell	Supervisor	Charter Township Of Ann Arbor	
Angela	Powell	Commissioner, District 9	Oakland County	
John Paul	Rea	Deputy County Executive	Macomb County	
Katie	Scott	Chairperson, Board of Commissioners, District 9	Washtenaw County	
<b>Thomas</b>	<b>Semaan</b>	<b>Mayor</b>	<b>City of New Baltimore</b>	
Hassan	Sheikh	Director, Economic Development	Wayne County	
Robert	Smiley	Commissioner, District 14	Oakland County	
Candice	Smith-Parker	Scheduler For Warren Evans	Wayne County	
Robert	Stanford	Principal Planner	Livingston County	
Trisha	Stein	Chief Strategy Officer, Mayor's Office	City of Detroit	
<b>Benjamin</b>	<b>Stupka</b>	<b>Executive Director</b>	<b>Regional Transit Authority of Southeast Michigan (RTA)</b>	
James	Tate	Council President Pro Tem, District 1	City of Detroit	
Kristoffer	Tobbe	Mayor	City of Brighton	
Assad	Turfe	Deputy County Executive	Wayne County	
<b>Mark</b>	<b>Vanderpool</b>	<b>City Manager</b>	<b>City of Sterling Heights</b>	
Alan	VanWashenova	Supervisor	Frenchtown Charter Township	
<b>Todd</b>	<b>Walker</b>	<b>Trustee</b>	<b>Genoa Charter Township</b>	
Lev	Wood	Councilmember	City of Grosse Pointe Farms	
Executive Committee Delegates At-Large				
<b>Colin</b>	<b>Bird</b>	<b>Consul General</b>	<b>Consulate General Of Canada</b>	
Gina	Cavaliere	Chief Community Impact Officer, BIZ Director	Downtown Detroit Partnership	
Maureen	Donohue Kraus	President And CEO	Detroit Regional Partnership	
Michele	Economou Ures	Executive Director	Workforce Intelligence Network	
<b>Daniel</b>	<b>Mahoney</b>	<b>Director, Corp. &amp; Gov't Affairs, Policy &amp; Regional Affairs</b>	<b>DTE Energy</b>	
Claude	Molinari	President and CEO	Visit Detroit	
Hayley	Murphy	Executive Director And Chief Executive Officer	Detroit Zoological Society	
Gregory	Pitoniak	Chief Executive Officer	Southeast Michigan Community Alliance	
Robert	Taubman	Chairman And CEO	Taubman Centers, Inc.	
Ronald	Taylor	President And CEO	Area Agency On Aging 1-A	
Executive Committee Non-Voting Delegates				

Ryan	Buck	Director	Washtenaw Area Transportation Study	
Matt	Carpenter	CEO	Ann Arbor Area Transportation Authority	
Steve	Currie	Executive Director	Michigan Association Of Counties	
Deborah	Dingell	Congresswoman, Dist. 6	U.S. House of Representatives	
Roslyn	Grafstein	Mayor	City of Madison Heights	
Rodrick	Green	Commissioner	Washtenaw County Road Commission	
Tiffany	Gunter	General Manager	Suburban Mobility Authority For Regional Transportation (SMART)	
<b>Tom</b>	<b>Hickson</b>	<b>Executive Director</b>	<b>Michigan Townships Association</b>	
Russell	Jorgenson	Division Administrator	Federal Highway Administration	
Carissa	Markel	Transportation Planning Manager	Road Commission For Oakland County	
Amy	McMillan	Executive Director	Huron-Clinton Metroparks	
Anthony	Minghine	Deputy Executive Director/COO	Michigan Municipal League	
Andy	Pickard	Transportation Planning Group Leader	Federal Highway Administration	
Bryan	Santo	Director, Macomb County Department of Roads	Macomb County	
Neil	Sheridan	Executive Director	Michigan Townships Association	
Sandy	Spang	President	Toledo Metropolitan Area Council of Governments (TMACOG)	
William	Wolfson	Chief Administrative and Compliance Officer	GLWA - Great Lakes Water Authority	
Guest Attendees				

<b>Farai</b>	<b>Gundan</b>	<b>Founder &amp; CEO</b>	<b>Bhadala</b>	
<b>Mike</b>	<b>Compagnoni</b>		<b>Midwest Strategy Group</b>	
<b>T.J.</b>	<b>Connolly</b>	<b>Planner</b>	<b>Road Commission for Oakland County</b>	
<b>Martha</b>	<b>Haglund</b>	<b>Principal Planner</b>	<b>Livingston County</b>	
<b>Matthew</b>	<b>Galbraith</b>	<b>Metro Region Planning Manager</b>	<b>MDOT - Metro Region</b>	
<b>Steve</b>	<b>Kennedy</b>	<b>Mayor</b>	<b>City of South Lyon</b>	
<b>Adam</b>	<b>Wright</b>		<b>Midwest Strategy Group</b>	

SEMCOG Staff Attendees				
<b>Jon</b>	<b>Clark</b>	<b>Multimedia Specialist II</b>	<b>SEMCOG</b>	
<b>Samantha</b>	<b>Collins</b>	<b>Administrative Assistant</b>	<b>SEMCOG</b>	
<b>Nikki</b>	<b>Hartley</b>	<b>Government Affairs Specialist</b>	<b>SEMCOG</b>	
<b>Misty</b>	<b>Jordan</b>	<b>Administration Director</b>	<b>SEMCOG</b>	
<b>Kimberly</b>	<b>Nevils</b>	<b>Administrative Assistant</b>	<b>SEMCOG</b>	
<b>Amy</b>	<b>O'Leary</b>	<b>Executive Director</b>	<b>SEMCOG</b>	
<b>Rebecca</b>	<b>Osborne</b>	<b>Member Engagement Supervisor</b>	<b>SEMCOG</b>	
<b>April</b>	<b>Scales</b>	<b>Web Specialist</b>	<b>SEMCOG</b>	
<b>Mike</b>	<b>Spence</b>	<b>Manager, Government Affairs</b>	<b>SEMCOG</b>	
<b>Susan</b>	<b>Stefanski</b>	<b>Membership Specialist</b>	<b>SEMCOG</b>	
<b>Kevin</b>	<b>Vettrano</b>	<b>Planning Director</b>	<b>SEMCOG</b>	

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Brian Marl, Chairperson, Economic Development Council  
Mayor, City of Saline

DATE: March 19, 2026  
TO: General Assembly  
FROM: Economic Development Council  
SUBJECT: Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy

### **Summary of action requested**

The General Assembly is requested to adopt the [Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy \(CEDS\) for Southeast Michigan](#).

### **Policy implications**

SEMCOG was designated as an Economic Development District (EDD) by the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) in 2023. As the EDD for the region, SEMCOG is responsible for developing and implementing a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS).

The *Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for Southeast Michigan* is a strategy-driven framework that provides the region with a roadmap for economic opportunities. The CEDS employs a comprehensive approach to economic development for the seven-county region. It is comprehensive both in the scope of its interrelated strategies and in its focus on regional collaboration to advance them. The CEDS is required to be updated every five years and serves as the vehicle through which the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) evaluates grant and resource requests for organizations in the seven-county region to pursue EDA grants and other resources.

SEMCOG's Economic Development Council (EDC) serves as the strategy committee that guides the development and implementation of the CEDS. The Council is made up of SEMCOG and Metropolitan Affairs Coalition (MAC) members, as well as many regional stakeholders and partners. In addition, there was a comprehensive engagement process that included:

- Issue-based public input forums focused on place, talent, and business.
- County-specific economic development input meetings.
- Facilitated input sessions with workforce development groups.
- Interviews with communities and regional economic development groups.
- A *Pulse of the Region Survey* that garnered over 1,000 responses.

Development of the CEDS and its strategies and action steps was informed by research and extensive public input and stakeholder engagement across a 24-month planning process.

## **Background**

Southeast Michigan possesses an abundance of resources that contribute to economic opportunity. These include our workforce, built environment, as well as a variety of educational, industrial, natural and geographic assets. These resources coalesce to form the basis of our regional economy across three pillars:

- Great Places
- Regional Prosperity
- Economic Resilience

The pillars and their associated strategies align with federal EDA investment priorities, as well as state and local plans and strategies. It will take the efforts of many public, private, educational, and nonprofit organizations to carry out the breadth of strategies and actions identified for each pillar.

## **Great Places**

Southeast Michigan's portfolio of Place assets features quality-of-life amenities, such as the Great Lakes and natural areas that support recreational and cultural assets; historic downtowns, dynamic urban centers and unique neighborhoods; accessible mobility options for people and goods; high quality universities, colleges, and local school systems; first-class medical facilities and healthcare services; and much more. These are the things that make Southeast Michigan a desirable location to live, work, visit, and conduct business.

Key issues addressed in the Great Places pillar include land use planning, downtowns and main streets, housing, regional transit, access to core services, parks, recreation and trails, and tourism and events.

### Core Strategies:

- *Developing and Promoting High Quality Places*
- *Leveraging Environmental, Recreational, and Cultural Assets*
- *Investing in Downtowns and Neighborhoods*
- *Enhancing Local and Regional Land Use Planning*

## **Regional Prosperity**

Southeast Michigan's economic prosperity relies on ensuring residents and businesses have access to essential resources - including education, technology, and capital - that support financial growth and upward mobility. A thriving regional economy drives population growth and business expansion, strengthens community vitality, creates quality jobs, retains key industries, and attracts new enterprises and entrepreneurs.

Central to this success is the ability to develop, attract, and retain talent, which fuels innovation and competitiveness. To sustain growth, the region must provide affordable, high-quality opportunities for individuals to build long-term careers, enhance their skills, improve health outcomes, and build personal wealth.

Key issues addressed within the Regional Prosperity pillar include wealth creation, developing a comprehensive talent pipeline, increasing labor force participation, growing the innovation ecosystem, supporting small business and entrepreneurship, and supporting economic development in small towns and rural areas.

Core Strategies:

- *Cultivating a Globally Competitive Business Environment*
- *Supporting Entrepreneurship and Small Business Growth*
- *Aligning Talent Development with Workforce Needs*
- *Promoting Upward Economic Mobility*

**Economic Resilience**

Economic resilience is a core investment priority of the U.S. Economic Development Administration, emphasizing strategies that strengthen a region's ability to withstand and recover from disruptions - whether caused by industry shifts, market volatility, or natural disasters. Effective planning and implementation efforts build adaptive capacity, ensuring long-term stability and growth. As outlined in FEMA's 2024 National Resilience Guidance, resilience is defined as the ability to prepare for threats, adapt to changing conditions, and recover quickly from adverse events. For Southeast Michigan, embedding resilience into economic development initiatives is essential to safeguarding prosperity and ensuring long-term progress.

Key issues highlighted in the Economic Resilience pillar include economic diversification, critical infrastructure, local planning for data centers, freight and international supply chains, and hazard mitigation and preparedness.

Core Strategies:

- *Broadening and Strengthening the Regional Economic Base*
- *Investing in and Safeguarding Critical Infrastructure*
- *Enhancing Preparedness for Disruptions*
- *Positioning Southeast Michigan as a Leading Freight and Logistics Hub*

While SEMCOG coordinates the CEDS, implementation requires the leadership and engagement of a range of stakeholders including communities, economic development organizations, and partners that have the expertise and resources to make the most impact on the issues. The CEDS includes an action plan and evaluation framework that identifies implementation partners and potential metrics to track progress over time.

[View the complete Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy document.](#)

## **Public Comment**

The public review and comment period for the *Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for Southeast Michigan* began on February 17, 2026, and will run until the General Assembly acts on March 19, 2026.

Thus far, SEMCOG has received seven comments related to communities working on creating new downtowns, ensuring that any zoning updates for housing benefits the community, reiterating the importance of skilled trades to the region, updating wording related to the RTA, and the need for more guidance on data centers for local governments. These items will be addressed as appropriate in the final document.

## **Action by Other Committees**

The Economic Development Council recommended the plan for adoption on January 20, 2026. The Metropolitan Affairs Coalition Board recommended the plan for adoption on February 10, 2026, and the SEMCOG Executive Committee recommended the plan for adoption on February 27, 2026.

## **Action requested**

The General Assembly is requested to adopt the *Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for Southeast Michigan* via the attached resolution.

**General Assembly Resolution**  
**to Adopt the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for Southeast Michigan**

WHEREAS, the *Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for Southeast Michigan* supports the vision:

*All people of Southeast Michigan benefit from a connected, thriving region of small towns, dynamic urban centers, active waterfronts, diverse neighborhoods, premiere educational institutions and abundant agricultural, recreational, and natural areas.*

WHEREAS, regions are the building blocks of the state and national economy;

WHEREAS, efforts must continue to position Southeast Michigan to be successful in a globally competitive environment;

WHEREAS, Southeast Michigan possesses an abundance of resources that contribute to economic opportunity. These include our workforce, built environment, as well as a variety of educational, industrial, natural and geographic assets. These resources coalesce to form the basis of our regional economy across three pillars: Great Places, Regional Prosperity, and Economic Resilience;

WHEREAS, a resilient economy promotes shared prosperity; provides access to essential services such as education, healthcare, recreation, broadband, and economic opportunities; and creates a region and population that can more rapidly rebound from major or unforeseen events in the future;

WHEREAS, a SWOT Analysis – Southeast Michigan’s Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats – was developed that succinctly demonstrates where the region is now, where improvements are needed, areas of concern with the global economy, and possible areas to advance regional prosperity;

WHEREAS, the Economic Development Council, which includes members representing government, business, economic development, education, workforce, labor, nonprofit, and other representatives guided development of the *Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for Southeast Michigan* and established the core strategies and actions;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, this 19<sup>th</sup> day of March 2026, THAT the General Assembly of SEMCOG, the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments, adopts the *Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for Southeast Michigan*.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the recommended strategies and actions included in the *Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for Southeast Michigan* be integrated and incorporated into other regional planning efforts; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the *Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for Southeast Michigan* be encouraged and advocated through SEMCOG plan implementation activities, educational training workshops, and in coordination with other local and regional planning efforts.

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Committee Clerk

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_



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Robert Clark, Chairperson, Finance and Budget Committee  
Mayor, City of Monroe

DATE: March 19, 2026

TO: General Assembly

SUBJECT: 2026-2027 Work Program for Southeast Michigan and SEMCOG’s Annual Operating Budget and Work Program Summary

**Summary of action requested**

The General Assembly is requested to adopt the [SEMCOG’s Annual Operating Budget and Work Program Summary](#) for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2027

These documents present financial information and work proposed for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026.

**Policy implications**

The Work Program serves as the basis for all SEMCOG staff work, along with the planning work of transportation planning partners. It is the foundation of grant applications, interagency financial pass-through agreements, and SEMCOG’s Annual Operating Budget.

The Annual Operating Budget contains financial information for revenues, expenditures, membership dues schedule, and pass-through funds.

SEMCOG’s Bylaws require the annual budget and membership dues be adopted by the General Assembly after review and recommendation by the Finance and Budget Committee and Executive Committee.

**Background**

The proposed balanced budget is \$21.2 million, a 7% increase from the current budget. SEMCOG’s budget continues to support a robust program of work that addresses the region’s critical issues, provides assistance to members, and supports the ongoing operations of SEMCOG.

SEMCOG’s annual funding allocation from the multi-year federal transportation bill (Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act) continues to be the major funding source. The budget increase is due primarily to funding received for the Drinking Water Monitoring grant.

The 2026-2027 Work Program for Southeast Michigan was released for public comment on January 28, 2026, ending with action to approve at the Executive Committee meeting on February 27, 2026. Any public comments received will be discussed prior to General Assembly action.

SEMCOG's Annual Operating Budget and Work Program Summary will have been released for public comment by February 17, 2026. Any public comments received will be discussed prior to General Assembly action.

### **Actions by other committees**

The Finance and Budget Committee recommended Executive Committee approval of the 2026-2027 Work Program for Southeast Michigan and SEMCOG's Annual Operating Budget and Work Program Summary at its meeting on February 12, 2026. The Executive Committee approved the 2026-2027 Work Program for Southeast Michigan and recommended General Assembly adoption of SEMCOG's Annual Operating Budget and Work Program Summary at its meeting on February 27, 2026.

### **Action requested**

The General Assembly is requested to approve the following resolution.

RESOLVED this 19<sup>th</sup> day of March 2026 THAT the General Assembly of SEMCOG, the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments:

that the Executive Committee approves:

- General Assembly adoption of SEMCOG's Annual Operating Budget and Work Program Summary for Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2027, specifically adopting revenues of \$21,218,415 and expenditures of \$21,218,415; and a membership dues schedule.

ATTEST \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
Committee Clerk



**Department of Homeland Security Remains Shutdown as FY2027 Process Kicks Off.** The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) remains in a shutdown due to Congress's failure to enact FY 2026 appropriations amid disagreements over funding and policies related to ICE and CBP. Democrats have released a list of policy changes for ICE that they want enacted in exchange for funding DHS. Republicans oppose several of these demands, which has led to the current stalemate. In addition to ICE and CBP, agencies such as the Coast Guard, FEMA, and TSA are currently without funding. While many of these employees have been deemed essential and required to work without pay, the longer the shutdown drags on, the more workers call in sick or look for part-time work. In past shutdowns, this has led to long delays at airports, forcing Congress to eventually act. At the same time as all of this is going on, the FY 2027 appropriations process is beginning to move forward: the President's Budget is scheduled to be released in late March or early April, triggering the start of appropriations hearings featuring testimony from cabinet officials. The House Appropriations Committee has provided guidance and set deadlines for FY 2027 community project funding requests and programmatic or bill-language submissions. Most Committee deadlines are set for the end of March, with individual office deadlines set a few weeks before that. In the Senate, the appropriations process is behind the House. The Committee has yet to issue guidance or set deadlines for requests. However, in anticipation of Senate deadlines, both Michigan Senators have set deadlines toward the end of March for Congressionally Directed Spending projects and programmatic requests. Congress is expected to spend much of the summer focused on appropriations, but final passage of spending measures will almost certainly be delayed until after the November election. If the election produces major changes in the makeup of Congress, it could affect whether the spending bills become law later this year or are punted to the new Congress in 2027.

**Housing Package Being Considered in the Senate.** The Senate could vote as early as Thursday, March 12, on a bipartisan housing package that merges its content and name with a House of Representatives package, creating the 21st Century ROAD to Housing Act. Although Senators overwhelmingly voted, 89-9, to proceed with its consideration earlier in the week, the bill must still overcome challenges. Specifically, some House Republicans oppose a sunset provision related to banning central bank digital currencies (CBDC), and the housing industry opposes White House-backed provisions that would ban 'institutional investors' from purchasing single-family homes and would implement a seven-year selling requirement on build-to-rent properties. After the bill clears the Senate, the lower chamber will take up the legislation and may tweak those provisions, risking the loss of support from Senate Democrats and the White House. The Senate bill under consideration creates, reauthorizes, expands, and streamlines numerous housing grant and financing programs, most notably the HOME Investment

Partnership and the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. As part of the CDBG changes, the bill subjects counties receiving CBDG funding to a 10 percent penalty when the housing growth improvement rate is below the national median. Similarly, another section aims to fast-track housing developments by exempting them from federal environmental review. These measure joins a larger political movement pushing for permitting reform, which lead to less local input in areas of housing, energy, and transportation.

**Surface Transportation Reauthorization Behind Schedule.** As the September 30, 2026, surface transportation expiration approaches, Congress remains behind the timeline it initially outlined for advancing reauthorization. Committees of jurisdiction have yet to release a comprehensive draft legislative text, pushing the anticipated markup process further into the spring and compressing the timeline for consideration before funding expires. In the meantime, lawmakers have begun introducing bipartisan proposals that could shape elements of the next authorization. Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee Chair Ted Cruz (R-TX) reintroduced the Highway Formula Fairness Act, which would revise Highway Trust Fund distribution formulas to better align federal highway funding with states' contributions to the fund, guaranteeing that states receive at least 95 percent of the revenue they generate through transportation-related taxes.. Congresswoman Kristen McDonald Rivet introduced the bipartisan Bridges and Safety Infrastructure for Community Success (BASICS) Act, which would expand direct funding access for local and regional entities, that bill would create a significant shift from the current 85 percent state-15 percent local split to a 75 percent state-25 percent local split in the disbursement of Highway Trust Fund dollars. Additionally, the White House is reportedly urging lawmakers to incorporate provisions from the Railway Safety Act into broader transportation legislation, including a requirement that freight trains operate with a minimum two-person crew. Rail industry stakeholders have raised concerns about the potential operational and technological implications of such mandates. While Congress still has time to complete reauthorization by the end of the year, this year's compressed legislative calendar could eventually lead to a short term extension of surface transportation programs if there is not progress soon.

**House Subcommittee Holds Hearing on Safe, Reliable, and Affordable Drinking Water.** The House Committee on Energy and Commerce Environment Subcommittee held a hearing on February 24th to examine challenges and opportunities for safe, reliable, and affordable drinking water. The hearing focused on challenges that publicly owned water utilities face as they navigate complicated regulatory requirements, manage both aging infrastructure and an aging workforce, and provide safe and affordable water to their customers. Witnesses representing drinking water utilities highlighted successes in the drinking water sector but stressed that they face challenges at every level to keep water infrastructure working to provide clean, safe water to residents across the country. The hearing occurred as Congress considers reauthorizing the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund and other water infrastructure programs. Witnesses highlighted the need to avoid a funding cliff as the supplemental funding enacted under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, including for lead service line removal and emerging contaminants, expires this fiscal year. They also stressed the need for Congress to provide the state revolving funds with flexible principal forgiveness, extend project time frames, simplify reporting, and provide targeted waivers for small

projects. Witnesses also urged Congress to act this year to reauthorize several critical financing programs that help communities update and replace infrastructure before it fails, while keeping water rates affordable for their customers. Additionally, the hearing highlighted that Congress has opportunities to strengthen the nation's water systems by taking action to hold polluters accountable for the damage they cause, by helping communities become more cyber secure, and by ensuring EPA remains committed to sound, science-based, regulatory development.

**House and Senate Committees Hold Hearing on the Water Resources Development Act of 2026.** Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works Adam Telle and Chief of Engineers Lieutenant General William H. Graham Jr. testified on February 25 in front of the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works (EPW) and the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure as both chambers develop their versions of the Water Resources and Development Act (WRDA) of 2026. Telle and Graham provided information about the projects and priorities of the Army Corps, as well as the agency's recently-announced "Building Infrastructure, Not Paperwork" initiative for the Civil Works Program. In his statements to both committees, Assistant Secretary Telle argued that the new initiative would help "right-size the incentive structures of the Corps of Engineers" and transform the regulatory and permitting system to help the agency more swiftly to implement its \$45 billion in previously-appropriated, unused funding. General Graham echoed that "Building Infrastructure, Not Paperwork" would enable the Corp to "safely and efficiently deliver quality studies and projects on schedule and within budget." Members from both parties expressed concern at the Corps' reversal, delay, and change of scope on authorized projects. Republicans on the committee inquired about the reforms the Corps would institute to create a more "transparent, uniform, and predictable process" for moving projects forward. Telle pointed out that "Building Infrastructure, Not Paperwork" aimed to ensure a "consistent and coherent program across the enterprise," especially given the highly-decentralized nature of the Corps' workforce.

**Farm Bill Advances Out of Committee in the House.** On March 5, the House Agriculture Committee approved the Farm, Food, and National Security Act of 2026, advancing a five-year farm bill following a two-day markup that considered more than 100 amendments and lasted more than 20 hours. The Farm Bill has been operating under extension since the previously approved five-year Farm Bill expired in 2023. The measure passed the committee by a 34-17 vote with seven Democrats joining Republicans, reflecting bipartisan support despite ongoing disagreements over several policy areas. Among the less controversial provisions, the bill expands and prioritizes several USDA rural development programs that local governments frequently rely on, including the Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program, the Community Facilities Program, the Volunteer Fire Assistance Program, the Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP), and rural broadband funding. But the bill's prospects remain uncertain as it moves toward potential House floor consideration and eventual Senate negotiations. A central challenge is reaching agreement on the nutrition title, which saw major changes to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) in last year's One Big Beautiful Bill. In addition to the broader SNAP debate, provisions affecting hemp regulation, liability protections for glyphosate pesticides, and policies related to E15 ethanol availability must still be resolved. As a result, while the committee's action represents a significant step in moving the bill forward,

agreement on these policy divides must be resolved or we could be headed for another short-term extension.

**President Trump Calls on Congress to Pass the SAVE Act.** President Trump used his State of the Union address and other recent appearances to urge Congress to send the SAVE Act to his desk, even threatening not to sign additional legislation until it passes. The Safeguard American Voter Eligibility (SAVE) Act requires individuals to provide documentary proof of U.S. citizenship—but not a Driver’s License—before being added to federal voter rolls, preventing states from processing registrations without such documentation and potentially creating significant new administrative demands for local governments. While the bill has passed the House and is now awaiting action in the Senate, its prospects remain uncertain: Senate Democrats strongly oppose the measure, making it impossible to overcome the 60-vote filibuster threshold. Senate Majority Leader John Thune has made clear that there is insufficient support to alter filibuster rules or pursue a talking filibuster, despite pressure from President Trump and some conservative lawmakers to do so. Opponents of the legislation warn that the documentation requirements could disenfranchise eligible voters, while supporters want to protect against undocumented individuals voting in federal elections. President Trump has also called for Congress to add provisions to the legislation to eliminate “no excuse” mail voting, limiting absentee voting to active duty military, voters with documented disabilities, and a very narrow list of other exceptions. This legislative stalemate means current voter-registration procedures will likely remain in place for now, but efforts to make changes will continue—changes that could require new verification systems, staff training, and expanded documentation handling, all of which could slow workflows and increase compliance costs.



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**To:** Amy O’Leary, Executive Director, SEMCOG

**From:** Mike Compagnoni, Adam Wright, and Dusty Fancher, Account Lobbyists, Midwest Strategy Group

**Date:** 12 March 2026

**Subject:** Lobbying and Government Relations Activities Summary

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### **Session Schedule**

The legislature has returned to their regularly scheduled spring session in 2026 and will continue being in regular session through Spring Break in late-March and early-April. As a reminder, all introduced legislation in Michigan is valid for the full two-year session which will expire at the end of 2026.

The Governor’s budget presentation was on February 11, and she gave her eighth and final State of the State Address on February 25.

### **State of the State Address**

Governor Gretchen Whitmer provided her final State of the State address to a packed House chamber on the 25<sup>th</sup> of February. Her speech, often reflective on her past seven years in office, covered several major policy initiatives including:

#### *Literacy*

The Governor in her address expanded on her budget executive recommendation from earlier last month where she advocated for a \$625M literacy investment. The proposed funding is centered on universal PreK access, statewide implementation of science-of-reading instruction, expanded Language Essentials for Teachers of Reading and Spelling (LETRS) teacher training, literacy coaches, and targeted tutoring and intervention efforts. The focus is on moving from funding increases to measurable outcomes, reinforced by prior legislation requiring phonics-based instruction and dyslexia screening.

#### *Housing*

Whitmer is advancing a “build, baby, build” agenda that she is promoting as a new state-level affordable housing tax credit with zoning and regulatory reforms to expand duplexes, accessory dwelling units, and higher-density development. The proposal builds on past housing investments, brownfield redevelopment tools, and expanded down payment assistance to increase supply and reduce barriers to construction.

#### *Healthcare*

In response to federal Medicaid cuts, the administration is proposing a dedicated funding strategy to stabilize health coverage for 2.5M residents on Medicaid, while urging extension of Affordable Care Act subsidies. Additional reforms target medical debt through interest rate caps, credit reporting limits, mandatory hospital financial assistance programs, and prohibitions on liens and foreclosures tied to medical bills.



The Governor received generally positive comments regarding her speech, which saw multiple bipartisan standing ovations on several subjects. The last five minutes of the 40-minute-long speech were largely dedicated to the Governor reflecting on her time and service to the state over the last 25 years, during which Whitmer choked up while talking about the loss of her father (Richard “Dick” Whitmer) last month. The speech concluded with her saying, “Big Gretch Out.”

### **House Members Rollout Housing Packing**

A package of nine bills related to zoning reform that are an attempt to create additional housing options were introduced by a bipartisan group of House legislators. The bills, which have seen heavy push back from local government groups would:

- Establish a statewide definition of a “duplex,” and allow duplexes by right in single-family residential zones.
- Cap mandatory parking requirements at no more than one space per unit.
- Expand the scope of who may protest a development being built, from people within 100 feet of the property’s boundaries to 300 feet.
- Cap minimum dwelling size requirements at 500 square feet, to make it easier to densify areas with smaller homes and apartments.
- Prohibit minimum lot size requirements of more than 1,500 square feet for single-family homes.
- Create a 60-day limit for all decisions to be made by local governments for developers.
- Define what constitutes an Accessory Dwelling Unit on parcels with single-family lots, while allowing them to be built either on- or off-site.

The the package saw some testimony in the House Regulatory Reform Committee, [HBs 5529-32](#), but has since been kicked to the House Government Operations Committee. Additional bills in the package are [HBs 5581-85](#), The House Government Operations Committee has yet to take action on the legislation. Local government groups are largely opposed to the bills and have expressed concerns on the numerous preemptions included in the package. Business groups, the real estate industry, and some environmental groups are supporting the bills.

### **Speaker Launches Major Rework of Taxes**

House Speaker Matt Hall (R-Richland Township) is proposing a 6% sales tax on services that would generate \$4.73B in state revenue. The tax plan is a radical reset of how Michigan has traditionally funded services through property and other taxes. I’d note this will be impactful to utilities with potential elimination of the personal property tax should this proposal pass into law.

Examples of taxable services, targeted at higher income households and tourists, included: limousines, country club memberships, private jets, marinas, tourist services, travel agencies, skiing, golf, artificial intelligence services, newspaper publishing, performing arts, environmental consulting, and political ads. Not all services would be taxed, including ones frequently used by all households, including nail salons, barbers, landscaping, health care services, car repairs, childcare, veterinary services, dry cleaning, and streaming services would be exempt.

Hall’s proposal for property tax cuts included eliminating the personal property tax, the 6-mill state education tax, the real estate transfer tax, and the pop-up tax on recently sold property. The result of



the new tax on services minus the property tax cuts is a \$270M tax overall cut. As part of his property tax proposal, Hall said the budgets of local governments and schools would be backfilled at some level (though not fully). However, specifics have not yet been provided.

The Citizen’s Research Council (CRC), using state Department of Treasury data, has said the Republican-led proposal will likely need to tax much more than just luxury services to make up the gap on repealing so many property taxes. CRC has indicated that taxing every consumer-based service would generate \$5.3B a year, so excluding large portions of more commonly used services probably doesn’t get the whole way to the funds needed for revenue neutrality. That includes areas like medical services, daycare, haircuts, legal services, nail salons, car repairs, dry cleaning, and landscaping, all of which Hall has said aren’t on the table. CRC highlighted \$10B in services that could be taxed in business-to-business or business-to-non-profit transactions. Taxing transportation, warehousing, real estate, construction, and other professional services are all possibilities that could, theoretically, raise billions of dollars.

#### **Clawed-Back Work Project Funding Saga Continues**

House Speaker Matt Hall (R-Richland Twp.) said that the actual amount of FY 2024-25 “work project” funding blocked by House Republicans is \$369M, lower than the \$645M originally believed when the House voted last December to disapprove certain unencumbered funds. Hall said much of the money consisted of departmental work project balances that agencies had requested but had not yet spent.

The House and state departments remain in ongoing litigation over the disapproved funding, though the case is currently paused for two weeks while both sides attempt to reach a resolution outside of court. Speaker Hall argued the blocked funds should instead help close Michigan’s projected \$800 million budget shortfall, and said the administration’s accounting made it difficult for lawmakers to know precisely which projects would be affected when the cuts were made. Hall said during his press conference that most locally directed projects are still moving forward and that the House largely targeted unused departmental funds rather than community projects. He framed the cuts as eliminating “waste, fraud and abuse,” while Democrats pushed back on that characterization.

#### **House Hustles Through \$152M for Selfridge Air National Guard Base**

The Michigan House voted 65–41 to approve \$152M in state funding for runway upgrades at Macomb County’s Selfridge Air National Guard (ANG) Base. The House fast-tracked the bill just hours after it was introduced. Speaker Hall pushed the measure to ensure the planned F-15EX fighter mission, announced jointly by Governor Whitmer and President Trump last April, stays on schedule for 2028 rather than slipping to 2030. Democrats largely opposed the bill, citing minimal notice, roughly \$60M already unspent at the base, and a looming state budget shortfall. The new F-15EX mission is expected to bring an estimated \$800M to \$1B in economic impact to the base, which is currently hosting a KC-135R tanker squadron and a squadron of soon-to-be-retired A-10 Warthogs. The Senate has yet to take up the supplemental spending bill but may do so if the funding becomes a requirement for the new mission.

#### **House Budget Subcommittees Get Targets**

House Appropriations Chair Rep. Ann Bollin (R-Brighton) said House Appropriations subcommittee chairs have now received budget targets for the next fiscal year, marking a much earlier start to the process compared with last year, when recommendations did not emerge until after the May Consensus



Revenue Estimating Conference. Bollin said the overall spending target will be lower than the current year's budget, reflecting House Republicans' priorities of reducing spending, improving government efficiency, and focusing funding on key areas like education and affordability. She added that lawmakers are reviewing the budget line by line, including examining unfilled state positions and other areas they believe could be trimmed.

Meanwhile, Senate Appropriations Chair Sarah Anthony (D-Lansing) said Senate subcommittees are continuing to hear presentations on Governor Whitmer's proposed budget and gather stakeholder input as they develop their own spending plans. Chair Bollin reiterated that House Republicans do not intend to fill the projected \$800M revenue shortfall with tax increases and argued that the \$5B property tax reduction proposal from House Speaker Matt Hall would be revenue neutral. While Bollin said she hopes a budget agreement can be reached before the September 30 deadline, she indicated the House is prepared to push negotiations later if necessary to secure a plan aligned with Republican priorities.

#### **Digital Service Bills Discussed in House Appropriations**

The Michigan House Appropriations Committee heard testimony on three bills aimed at improving state IT oversight: [HB 5504](#) and [HB 5505](#), which would create a State Digital Service Office and a Legislative Digital Oversight Office respectively, and [HB 5663](#), which would cap IT projects at 36 months and \$10M. Sponsors cited failures such as the UIA website during COVID-19 as evidence that state IT projects routinely go over budget and underdeliver. Sponsors have said Michigan needs in-house technologists to oversee vendors. Several legislators raised concerns about duplication with existing centralized IT services at the Department of Technology, Management, and Budget (DTMB). DTMB submitted a card in opposition to the legislation. The bills have not yet been voted out of committee and we expect resistance to HB 5663 from vendors and the state.

#### **Medical Debt Reporting and Cap Changes Pass Senate Committee**

Two bipartisan Senate bills aimed at addressing medical debt cleared committee unanimously and are headed to the Senate floor, carried by an unlikely pairing of a Democratic Appropriations Chair Senator Sarah Anthony (D-Lansing) and a conservative Republican co-sponsor, Senator Jonathan Lindsey (R-Hillsdale). [SB 701](#) and [SB 702](#) would cap interest and late fees on medical debt at 3% annually, ban wage garnishments and property foreclosures for medical debt, and require hospitals to refund overpayments within 60 days. The bills add rules that would apply to third-party debt collectors as well. The bills move forward against a backdrop of growing concern that federal-level consumer protections are eroding and supportive comments on the issue from Governor Whitmer in her State of the State address last week.

#### **House Democrats Propose Electing Public Service Commissioners**

Legislation was introduced that would require members of the Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC) to be elected by voters rather than appointed by the governor. [HJR Q](#) and [HJR R](#), sponsored by Rep. Reggie Miller (D-Van Buren Twp.), and [HBs 5676](#) and [5677](#), sponsored by Rep. Jimmie Wilson Jr. (D-Ypsilanti), would expand the commission from three to five members, with candidates nominated by political parties and elected to staggered four-year terms beginning in 2028, with a 12-year term limit. Supporters say the change would give residents more direct influence over decisions affecting utility rates amid growing concern about electricity costs. The bills were referred to the House Government Operations committee and face uncertain prospects in the Legislature.



## **Political Update**

### *Sigs On the Way for Citizen Voting Language*

Organizers submitted over 750,000 signatures, well above the 446,198 required, to place a constitutional amendment on Michigan's November ballot requiring proof of citizenship to register and photo ID to vote. If certified, the proposal would require the Secretary of State to verify citizenship for all current voters, with specific documentation like a valid REAL ID, passport, or birth certificate needed to register. Pending verification of the signatures and certification, the proposal is expected to become a major topic in the general election, which will likely see several other unrelated ballot proposals on the ballot.

### *Santana Announces Bid for MSU Board of Trustees*

Term-limited State Senator Sylvia Santana (D-Detroit) has confirmed she will seek a seat on the Michigan State University Board of Trustees, setting up a competitive Democratic nomination contest ahead of the Michigan Democratic Party's April 19 endorsing convention in Detroit. Santana is expected to compete for the party's endorsement alongside current trustees Brianna Scott of Muskegon and Kelly Tebay of Ann Arbor, both of whom were elected to the board in 2018.

### *Singh, Weiss, Whitsett Decline Reelection Runs*

Senator Sam Singh (D-East Lansing) has opted to not seek reelection in the State Senate for a final term. His email announcement opens the Ingham County-based seat up to a large group of potential candidates, though only MDOT employee and Ingham County Commissioner Mark Polsdofer has filed so far. While not considered marginal, the seat is somewhat more competitive since redistricting as it now encompasses some rural and more conservative areas around Lansing.

Additionally, State Rep. Regina Weiss (D-Oak Park) has declined to seek a fourth term in the House, citing an interest in focusing on other areas. This will likely trigger a competitive Democratic primary in this safe for Democrats seat in southern Oakland County. With Rep. Weiss not running, there are now 19 of the 110 members of the House not seeking reelection to the chamber for a variety of reasons.

Lastly, State Rep. Karen Whitsett (D-Detroit) announced that she will not seek reelection and plans to leave the Democratic Party, citing religious convictions and disagreements with the party's positions on issues including abortion and LGBTQ rights. Her decision prompted sharp criticism from Michigan Democratic Party Chair Curtis Hertel, who posted "Good riddance," on X, in response to the announcement, and said new representation would benefit the district and the House Democratic caucus. Whitsett, first elected in 2018, has frequently clashed with Democratic leadership and had a strained relationship with the party in recent years. Her departure opens the safely Democratic 4th House District seat in Detroit.

### *Schor Files for State House*

Erin Schor, wife of Lansing Mayor Andy Schor and Policy Director for SOS Jocelyn Benson, has announced she'll be seeking the House seat being vacated by Rep. Kara Hope (D-Delhi Township). Hope is not seeking reelection citing health and family reasons. Schor is the first major candidate to enter the



race. The district is widely considered safe for Democrats and includes part of Lansing and the southern portion of Ingham County.

*Former Reps. Churches and Afendoulis Jump Back Into House Races*

Two former State Representatives, Lynn Afendoulis and Jaime Churches, have filed for State House to fill their old seats. In the 27th House District, former Rep. Jaime Churches (D-Wyandotte) is looking for a rematch against Rep. Rylee Linting (R-Wyandotte). Linting defeated Churches in 2024 by a little over 2,000 votes in a good year for Republicans, but this is considered one of the more marginal seats for House Republicans to hold onto. Former Rep. Lynn Afendoulis (R-Grand Rapids Township), has filed to backfill departing State Rep. Bryan Posthumus (R-Cannon Township), the seat is considered safe for Republicans.

*Cash Advantage Emerges in 35th Senate Special Election*

New campaign finance filings show Republican Jason Tunney entering the May 5 special election for Michigan's 35th Senate District with a significant cash-on-hand advantage over Democrat Chedrick Greene. Reports covering activity from January 19 through February 23 show Tunney with about \$135,000 in the bank, compared with roughly \$64,000 for Greene. Much of Tunney's fundraising total includes personal loans he made to his own campaign, which now total more than \$200,000. Greene, however, raised more from donors during the reporting period overall, bringing in about \$172,600. The contest is being closely watched, as Democrats currently hold a narrow 19–18 majority in the Michigan Senate.

*Meteorologist Terri DeBoer Launches Challenge to Scholten in MI-03*

Veteran West Michigan meteorologist Terri DeBoer announced that she will run as a Republican for Michigan's 3rd Congressional District, setting up a challenge to incumbent U.S. Rep. Hillary Scholten (D-Grand Rapids). DeBoer, a longtime television personality in the region, most recently worked at FOX-17 (WXMI) after earlier broadcast roles at WWMT-TV in Kalamazoo and WOOD-TV in Grand Rapids. The Grand Rapids-based district was historically Republican but flipped in 2022 when Scholten defeated Republican John Gibbs for the seat previously held by Peter Meijer.

*Chamber Poll Puts Gubernatorial Candidates in Dead Heat*

A poll released recently by the Detroit Regional Chamber shows a virtual dead heat in the gubernatorial race between Independent Mike Duggan, Democrat Jocelyn Benson, and Republican John James within a couple points of each other. The poll also delves into economic issues and voter perceptions of major issues. Full details are available [online here](#).

Interestingly, when reviewing likely voters, Duggan held a slim lead amongst the candidates:



If the election for Governor were held today and the candidates were [ROTATE] John James the Republican candidate, Jocelyn Benson the Democratic candidate and Mike Duggan the Independent candidate, who would you vote for to be Governor? IF DON'T KNOW, ASK: IF YOU HAD TO CHOOSE SOMEONE RIGHT NOW.

		Registered	Likely	Definite
1.	John James	28.3%	28.9%	29.5%
2.	Jocelyn Benson	27.8%	28.0%	30.9%
3.	Mike Duggan	29.8%	30.1%	30.3%
4.	Other ....DO NOT OFFER	1.0%	1.0%	1.0%
5.	Don't Know/ Refused....DO NOT OFFER	13.1%	12.0%	8.3%

*Polsdofer Files for State Senate*

Ingham County Commissioner Mark Polsdofer (D-Meridian Township), has filed to run for the 28th Senate District, a seat currently held by Sen. Sam Singh (D-East Lansing). Singh has indicated he will not be seeking reelection. This is considered a safe seat for Democrats, but has trended towards the middle due to redistricting.

*Johnson Rolls out \$10M Ad Blitz*

Republican gubernatorial candidate and businessman Perry Johnson is rolling out a record-breaking \$10M spend on six weeks of early TV ads to boost his campaign to be Michigan's next governor. The ads will portray Johnson as a tax cutting and regulation slashing innovator with a background in the auto industry, like his ads in his previous runs for governor and president. Johnson has never held political office and is running against several more seasoned candidates including Congressman John James (R-Shelby Twp.), State Senate Minority Leader Aric Nesbitt (R-Lawton), and former Michigan Attorney General Mike Cox. Congressman James is currently holding a double-digit lead in most polling, but it remains to be seen if the avalanche of ads will tip things towards someone like Johnson.