

UNAPPROVED MINUTES

MONROE COUNTY FEDERAL AID COMMITTEE

- DATE & TIME: December 17, 2025, 10:00 a.m.
- PLACE: Monroe County Road Commission
840 S. Telegraph Rd.
Monroe, MI 48161
- MEMBERS PRESENT: Matthew Snell, Monroe County Road Commission, Chairman; Patrick Lewis, City of Monroe, Vice-Chairman; Jason Berry, Monroe County Community Planning and Engagement; Jim Gardner, Monroe County Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Panel; Al Prieur, Bedford Township; Al VanWashenova, Frenchtown Charter Township; Michelle Zawerucha, MDOT
- MEMBERS EXCUSED: J.T. Hensley, Lake Erie Transit
- MEMBERS ABSENT: Townships Association Representative
- OTHERS PRESENT: Lisa Householder, TMACOG; Sonora Manthuy, City of Monroe; Ally Racisz, SEMCOG; Ryan Simmons, Monroe County Community Planning & Engagement; Kevin Vettraino, SEMCOG
1. The meeting for the Monroe County Federal Aid Committee was called to order by Chairman Snell at 1:32 p.m.

Chairman Snell asked the people present at today's meeting to introduce themselves.

Chairman Snell listed the voting members of the Committee and stated that a quorum is present.
 2. Approve Minutes of November 14, 2024 Meeting – Chairman Snell asked for a motion to approve the Minutes.

Motion by Vice-Chairman Lewis, supported by Mr. Prieur, to approve the minutes of the November 14, 2024 Monroe County Federal Aid Committee meeting.

MOTION CARRIED
 3. Public Comment – No members of the public wished to make a comment.
 4. Old Business – There was no old business conducted.
 5. New Business:

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- A. Review of Projects Completed in 2025 – Chairman Snell reviewed the various projects that the Road Commission completed in 2025, which included several road and bridge projects, as well as the Loop Trail project, which he said is now 85 percent to 90 percent complete and will carry over into 2026. Vice-Chairman Lewis reviewed the City of Monroe’s project in 2025, which involved repairing some joint locations.
- B. Review of Funding Targets – Chairman Snell went through the funding targets for the next four years. He said that there are two iterations of targets attached in the agenda packet, one is the standard allocation, with 2026 projects and targets already accounted for, and the other list of targets listed was for 2027 through 2029 if the County participates in the MDOT Federal Aid Buyout program, which would allow the County to sell its federal money to MDOT in exchange for a smaller amount of money from the State. Chairman Snell explained the benefits of this, as future Road Commission projects would not have to go through as arduous of a review process, one that often ties up their staff’s resources and time. He said that they plan to start participating in the program with their 2027 projects, and that they have already spoken to other Road Commissions that have had a good experience with the program.

Vice-Chairman Lewis asked if the project list would still need to be approved. Chairman Snell confirmed that the projects would still need to be approved and placed on the TIP. He said that the program works on a first come, first serve basis, so there is a chance that they may not be picked by MDOT for the program, and the Road Commission would then have to go through the normal federal aid process.

- C. Review of Revisions to 2026 TIP – Chairman Snell displayed on a map the various projects for 2026, which he said would be focused on capital preventive maintenance, along with the roundabout project at Smith and Jackman Roads. He said that these projects have been carried over from 2025, and that that is when they were originally bid. Chairman Snell then went over the remainder of the 2026 Road Commission projects and highlighted any changes that were being made to these projects from what was originally proposed.

Vice-Chairman Lewis explained that their 2026/2027 project will be work on Jones Avenue from M-125 to LaPlaisance, and that they will be benefiting from a TAP grant from this project, as well. He explained that the project will hopefully benefit both motorized truck traffic by directing it onto Jones off of LaPlaisance, and non-motorized traffic as part of a non-motorized corridor that will eventually travel down LaPlaisance Road to I-75. He explained that this project began with the help of a SEMCOG Planning Grant.

- D. Presentation of 2027 and 2028 projects – Chairman Snell showed a project map of his 2027 road projects. Vice-Chairman Lewis asked if the Grafton Road project included signalization at Sigler Road.

Chairman Snell said that this will be a separate project, but that it will be completed. Vice-Chairman Lewis asked if this would be done with CMAQ money. Chairman Snell said that it would be. Chairman Snell explained the cold in-place recycling process that will be used for several of the 2027 projects, and said that it is good for projects that involve asphalt over concrete.

Chairman Snell explained that the 2028 projects would all be bridge projects, and that there will be 48 of them that year. He said that some of them will involve epoxy overlays, while others will be

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mill and fill projects with waterproofing. He said that they will try to seek federal aid buyout money for these projects, as well.

Vice-Chairman Lewis explained the City of Monroe's Roessler Street bridge project and the need to replace the aging bridge deck. He said that the City will be considering the Federal Aid Buyout for this project.

Chairman Snell stated that they do not have a 2029 project list yet. Vice-Chairman Lewis brought up the I-75 upcoming rehabilitation project and how it would impact the City's road system, so that they are holding off until they see the impacts of this project.

Motion by Vice-Chairman Lewis, supported by Mr. Prieur, to approve the revisions to the 2026 TIP, the 2027 and 2028 Monroe County Road Commission project list, and the 2028 City of Monroe project.

Chairman Snell asked for a roll call vote. (Yes Votes: Berry, Gardner, Lewis, Prieur, Snell, VanWashenova, Zaverucha; No Votes: None)

MOTION CARRIED

6. Committee Member Items:

- A. Updates from SEMCOG – Ms. Racicz said that the 2025 amendment should be approved by FHWA by the end of the month. She said that the first 2026 amendment will be due in January and approved in February, so amendments will need to be in by January 9th. She said that, for the TAP program, they will be transitioning to a one time a year call for projects. She said that they are fully programmed out for 2026 and 2027, and are almost programmed out for 2028, so they will be focusing on 2028 and 2029 projects when they make their call for next fall's projects, with a due date likely to be in the summer. She reminded those on the Committee to get their NEPA right-of-way section 106 things in early, and that right of way needs to be done now after NEPA is started.

Kevin said that the next call for projects for Planning Assistance grants will be in March of 2026, with applications due in May. He said that, for TAP projects, geographic distribution of projects is an important factor, and that there are opportunities in Monroe County to obtain more TAP funds due to this.

- B. Updates from MDOT – Ms. Zaverucha mentioned that no money offers can be made for right-of-way before NEPA clearance is completed. Chairman Snell asked if property owners could be talked to as long as finances are not discussed. Ms. Zaverucha said that this is the case. Mr. VanWashenova asked if property owners could at least be asked what they are thinking. Ms. Zaverucha stated not officially.

C. Updates from other Committee Members –

1. Vice-Chairman Lewis mentioned the Village of South Rockwood was the recipient of a Planning Grant and that they will be working on a village-wide non-motorized plan. He said that the plan will try to coalesce around a few buildable things because the Village does not have unlimited resources even to cover the matches for grants, but that they would still like to eventually make a TAP submission. He said that the priorities will be to link to the Downriver Greenways links on the other side of the Huron River and then to connect to the rest of the Monroe County non-motorized plan.

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Vice-Chairman Lewis stated that he believes that MDOT is looking at a 2029 start for the I-75 reconstruction project over the River Raisin, and that it will probably affect the City of Monroe's traffic and projects for that year. Finally, he mentioned the IIJA program earmark for the West Elm Avenue underpass project. He stated that they are working with CSX to get this done. He stated that they are hoping to start the project by 2028, but that the project date may be beginning to slide due to delays.

2. Mr. Gardner stated that the Monroe County Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Panel, with Lucie Fortin, is working on a plan of corridors that they believe are vital for non-motorized transportation in Monroe County. He stated that it is the Panel's desire to work with the Road Commission so that this plan can be accomplished. He stated that the plan is not ready yet, but that the Panel would like to make it known that they would like to work closely with the Road Commission in the future.

Mr. Gardner stated that the City of Luna Pier's section of Gagne Road has been horrible for a while and that it has been torn up for a while due to too many trucks using that road. He stated that the City is in preliminary engineering stages of putting the project of fixing Gagne Road out to bid. He said that it has been seven years since the City has done their own project, but that it will likely be started in the springtime.

3. Ms. Householder stated that TMACOG will potentially be changing their name to Lake Erie West Regional Council. She stated that it will go before their General Assembly in January. She stated that during their strategic planning process some members expressed that it would be better not to have Toledo in the title of the organization.

Chairman Snell adjourned the meeting at 2:12 p.m.

2027 Federal Aid Projects

Road	Limits	Township	Length (Miles)	Proposed Work	Current TIP Amounts								
					STUL Monroe	STU Toledo	STU Detroit	STL Rural	ST Monroe	ST Toledo	ST Detroit	MTF Funds	Total
Deerfield	North County Line to Dennison	Summerfield	2.14	Cold-in-Place Recycling and HMA Overlay	\$42,000			\$861,000				\$0	\$903,000
Grafton	Newport to Sigler	Ash	1.97	Cold-in-Place Recycling and HMA Overlay	\$500,000	\$367,000						\$0	\$867,000
Lewis	Sterns to Temperance	Bedford	2.00	HMA Mill and Fill		\$112,000	\$155,000		\$28,800	\$22,000	\$7,000	\$550,000	\$874,800
Totals					\$542,000	\$479,000	\$155,000	\$861,000	\$28,800	\$22,000	\$7,000	\$550,000	\$2,644,800

2028 Federal Aid Projects

Road	Proposed Work	Current TIP Amounts								
		STUL Monroe	STU Toledo	STU Detroit	STL Rural	ST Monroe	ST Toledo	ST Detroit	MTF Funds	Total
Various - 28 Bridges	Epoxy Overlay and Concrete Deck Patching	\$690,000	\$490,000	\$158,000					\$400,000	\$1,738,000
Various - 20 Bridges	Mill and Fill w/ Waterproofing Membrane				\$878,000	\$44,000	\$21,000	\$7,000	\$50,000	\$1,000,000
Totals		\$690,000	\$490,000	\$158,000	\$878,000	\$44,000	\$21,000	\$7,000	\$450,000	\$2,738,000

City of Monroe Proposed Federal Aid Projects - 2026 to 2028

Year	Project Name	Limits	Proposed Work	Funding Breakdown				
				STUL Monroe	STP Flex	TAP	Local Match	Total
2026	Jones Avenue	M-125 to LaPlaisance	Roadway / Intersection Reconstruction and Non-Motorized Improvements	\$ 316,000	\$ 14,000	\$ 646,000	\$ 416,000	\$ 1,392,000
2027 (AC)	Jones Avenue	M-125 to LaPlaisance	Roadway / Intersection Reconstruction and Non-Motorized Improvements	\$ 472,000	\$ 14,000		\$ 122,000	\$ 608,000
Jones Avenue Project Total				\$ 788,000	\$ 28,000	\$ 646,000	\$ 538,000	\$ 2,000,000
2028	Roessler Street	Bridge over River Raisin	Bridge Deck Concrete Overlay & Expansion Joint Replacement	\$ 329,000	\$ 15,000		\$ 656,000	\$ 1,000,000