

## Michigan Department of Transportation

### Report to the Legislature

#### Section 1005 of PA 252 of 2014

This report fulfills a Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) reporting obligation under Section 1005 of PA 252 of 2014 as shown below:

Sec. 1005. (1) The part 1 appropriation line item, regional transit authority, shall be expended for the purpose of funding staff and other administrative costs associated with the initial organization and operation of the authority created under the regional transit authority act, 2012 PA 387, MCL 124.541 to 124.558. These funds shall not be used for the ongoing operation of transit services.

(2) It is the intent of the legislature that in developing a public transit plan for the region, as required by section 7(3) of the regional transit authority act, 2012 PA 387, MCL 124.547, the authority develop a plan for the authority to exercise direct control and authority over any existing transit services, whether through acquisition of existing transit service providers or alternate means.

(3) The authority shall include in its report to the legislature, as required under section 6(8) of the regional transit authority act, 2012 PA 387, MCL 124.546, a description of its activities under subsection (2).

Section 1005 relates to an appropriation in MDOT's Fiscal Year 2015 budget (*Sec. 120. ONE-TIME BASIS ONLY*) of \$1.1 million in State General Fund/General Purpose for the Regional Transit Authority of Southeast Michigan (RTA).

In March 2015, MDOT issued a project authorization to the RTA for the \$1.1 million and MDOT anticipates the authorization will be executed between the RTA and MDOT by May 2015. The Section 1005 requirement is included in the authorization and becomes an RTA obligation upon execution. The authorization is effective for three years.

Section 1005 expands the following two pre-existing obligations in the RTA's enabling legislation, Act 387 of 2012:

- The RTA's obligation to file an annual legislative report by March 31 of each year and
- The RTA's obligation integrate the existing transit plans of the region's providers into a single regional master transit plan. This obligation does not have a specific deadline.

In response to Section 1005, the RTA is to include in their Act 387 annual legislative report how they have addressed the legislature's intent that the RTA develop a "plan to exercise direct control and authority over any existing transit services through acquisition or alternate means" and to include this plan in the regional transit master plan that is required under Act 387. The RTA files their Act 387 annual reports directly with the legislature and will file its next report as of the March 31, 2015 deadline. However, the RTA has not yet begun the process of preparing a regional transit master plan therefore in the annual report the RTA files as of the March 31, 2015 deadline, it will not be addressing how the regional transit master plan includes a "a plan to exercise direct control and authority over any existing transit services through acquisition or alternate means."

The RTA is slated to begin its regional transit master planning process in mid-2015. When the RTA files their annual Act 387 legislative report required in March 2016, the RTA will address the Section 1005 requirement. Specifically, the RTA's March 2016 Act 387 report will include a description of activities the RTA has taken that are in response to Section 1005.