

The logo is a circular emblem with a light green and blue color scheme. It features a stylized map of Michigan in the background, overlaid with a blue bus and a green car. The text "MICHIGAN LOCAL RURAL TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM ADVISORY BOARD" is written around the perimeter of the circle. The main text of the slide is centered over this logo.

**Michigan Local Rural
Transportation Program
2017 Annual Conference
March 30, 2017**

Jim Iwanicki, P.E.

Engineer-Manager

Marquette County Road Commission

Members of Advisory Board

MDOT

- Dave Wresinski, Chair, Director - Bureau of Transportation Planning
- Brad Wieferich, Director - Bureau of Hwy. Development
- Sharon Edgar, Administrator - Office of Passenger Transportation

Transit

- John Drury, Administrator – MASSTrans
- Clark Harder, Executive Director – Michigan Public Transit Association

MML

- Mike Cain, City Manager – Boyne City
- Adam Umbrasas, Village Manager – Three Oaks Village

CRA

- Wayne Schoonover, Manager/Director – Mason County Road Commission
- Jim Iwanicki, Vice Chair, Engineer – Manager – Marquette CRC

Educational Web Site:

michiganrtf.com



The Rural Task Force (RTF) Program has Changed!

In General:

- **Year under belt.**
- **Name Change**
- **Oversight - Advisory**
- **MDOT is responsible for program**
- **The process will continue to be refined and modified as time goes on.**

Points of Emphasis for the RTF Program

Michigan Local Rural Transportation Program

***STATEWIDE GUIDELINES AND OPERATING
PROCEDURES FOR RURAL FUNDING AND
PLANNING COORDINATION***

AGREEMENTS

Funding and Distribution

- MDOT Distributes a “target” amount to each RTF based on statewide formula.
- Each County will get an annual county-level allocation “estimate”.

Obligation Authority

- **Local Rural Transportation Program will have a separate pot of STP-Rural obligation authority.**
- **Any project submitting A “*Complete Biddable Package*” by August 1st will be funded. Even if there is no remaining obligation authority for that fiscal year as long as it is part of the fiscally constrained STIP.**
- **Those submitted after August 1st run the risk of not be funded. (Federal Redistribution or unused rural obligation authority.)**

Obligation Authority (Continued)

- MDOT will carryover up to 5% of any unused Rural obligation authority. Plus any Federal Redistribution amount assigned to the rural program.
- MDOT and the RTF Advisory Board will adjust the upcoming year's target amounts based on the need to fund all "Complete Biddable Package" submitted by August 1st.
- Obligation Authority is also used for cost overruns and closing out projects.

Financial Constraints

- All RTFs must be financially constrained each year.



Borrowing and Lending Funds

- If it is between Task Forces a written agreement shall be used.
- If it is within a Task Force a handshake agreement is ok if all parties are comfortable with that method. Otherwise use a written agreement.

Regional Task Force Meetings

- RTF Advisory Board Recommends a minimum of 3 meetings per year.
 - November/December - Adjust Program
Adjust the Program, especially current year projects to align with adjusted “targets”.
 - March/April – Project Progression Check
Check to see that all task force projects for that year are on track to be a “Complete Biddable Package” by August 1st.
 - June – Check For Unused Funds
Is the Task Force using all available funds.

Do's and Don'ts

- **Do** get your “Complete Biddable Package” in by August 1st.
Use it, or you might lose it!
The Program comes with a funding guarantee if you are on time!
- **Do** give MDOT time to review your “Complete Biddable Package” so if there is a issue it can be fixed by August 1st.
- **Don't** cry if you don't get your “Complete Biddable Package” in by August 1st.

Do's and Don'ts (Continued)

- **Do keep your promises.**
It is your responsibility to spend the money once you committed to the Task Force to spend the money.
- **Do let your County Task Force Members and the other RTF members know early if you are having a problem spending the money prior to the August 1st “Complete Biddable Package” deadline.**
- **Do reach out to other RTFs for help if your Task Force members can't help you keep your promise.**

Do's and Don'ts (Continued)

- **Do** make adjustments and corrections to the upcoming year's program as soon as possible.
- **Don't** make drastic changes for current year STIP. Limit current year program changes to minor adjustments in cost and minor changes to project limits.
- **Don't** make wholesale changes to your program by removing and adding projects.

Do's and Don'ts (Continued)

- **Don't wait to the last minute on your projects.**
Right of way, historical clearance, environmental permits, survey, design and MDOT's letting process take time. Try to address these issues one fiscal year in advance.
- **Do be a good Task Force Member. Don't play games to beat the system.**
- **Do keep tract of your RTF projects.**
Bid savings, overruns, extras, and project closeout all count for and against your task force obligation authority.

What's to Come

- **MDOT is looking into some kind of “Cradle to Grave” Project Accounting to help with accountability.**
- **The process that was developed will not be the end all final product. The RTF Advisory Board knows that changes will happen and that this will be a living - breathing document. We have tried to imagine all the possibilities but things will come up and we will have to workout the kinks.**

Final Words

- **If you follow the rules, your project will be funded without affecting next year's program.**
- **If there are issues please let an advisory member know.**

