

**MICHIANA AREA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
POLICY BOARD MEETING MINUTES
December 10, 2025**

The December meeting of the Michiana Area Council of Governments (MACOG) Policy Board was held on the second floor of the Mishawaka City Hall, on December 10, 2025. Members of the public were invited to attend in person or watch a live stream of the meeting on YouTube. Public comments and questions were accepted in advance of the meeting by email sent to macogdir@macog.com, in person, as well as by utilizing YouTube's live chat feature. David Wood, Chair of the Policy Board, called the meeting to order. It was noted there was a quorum present.

MEMBERS PRESENT: David Wood, Mayor, City of Mishawaka
Carl Baxmeyer, St. Joseph County Commissioner
Jesse Bohannon, Marshall County Commissioner
Matt Deitchley, Deputy Commissioner, INDOT La Porte
Douglas Graham, Elkhart County Council
Cary Groninger, Kosciusko County Commissioner
Kathy Groninger, Kosciusko County Council
Jason Kaiser, District Deputy Commissioner, INDOT Fort Wayne
Rod Roberson, Mayor, City of Elkhart
Suzanne Weirick, Elkhart County Commissioner
Tony Violi, Mishawaka Common Council

MEMBERS VIRTUAL: Dwight Fish, Elkhart Common Council
Robert Listenberger, Mayor, City of Plymouth

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jeff Grose, City of Warsaw
Tim Harman, Marshall County Council
Phil Jenkins, Mayor, City of Nappanee
Canneth Lee, South Bend Common Council
Gina Leichty, Mayor, City of Goshen
James Mueller, Mayor, City of South Bend
Bryan Tanner, St. Joseph County Council

MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 12, 2025, MEETING

The minutes of the November 12, 2025, meeting were distributed for review prior to the meeting. David Wood asked the Policy Board members if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes. There being none, he called for the Policy Board's approval.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY JESSE BOHANNON AND SECONDED BY
MATT DEITCHLEY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 2025.
ALL IN FAVOR. THE MOTION CARRIED.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

David Wood apologized for missing a couple of meetings over the past year due to scheduling conflicts associated with his duties as President of Aim (Accelerate Indiana Municipalities). He then noted the need for a Nominating Committee for the election of calendar year 2026 Policy Board officers.

James Turnwald reminded the members that every December members of the Policy Board are asked to volunteer to serve on a Nominating Committee and put together a proposed Slate of Officers to serve as the Policy Board's Executive Committee for the next calendar year, beginning immediately following the January meeting. Phil Jenkins, Douglas Graham, and Suzanne Weirick volunteered to serve.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

October 2025 Financial Reports

Deborah Gardner presented the MACOG Financial Reports for the month of October 2025. She reviewed the year-to-date total expenses, reported the cash balance at the end of the month, and the total amount of disbursements. Gardner then asked for any questions. Hearing none, she requested the Policy Board's endorsement.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY TONY VIOLI AND SECONDED BY CARL
BAXMEYER TO APPROVE THE OCTOBER 2025 FINANCIAL REPORTS.
ALL IN FAVOR. THE MOTION CARRIED.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Kathy Groninger reported that MACOG staff made Administrative Modifications to the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) during the month of November. No action is required. A list of modifications was provided to the members, and the information is available on the MACOG website.

Groninger also pointed out a copy of the calendar year 2026 meeting schedule was provided to the members. Turnwald added meetings will continue to be held on the second Wednesday of each month in Mishawaka. The only potential change will be for the November 11 meeting because it falls on Veterans Day.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS

Amendments to the State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2026-2030 Transportation Improvement Programs (TIP)

Transportation Resolution 33-25

INDOT Initiated

A. INDOT	<u>Amendment</u>	Exempt Project in Elkhart County
Resolution 33-25		
Des#: 2100013	Add PE Phase	
Contract#: B-46123	SR 19 Intersection at CR 28, 1.55 miles South of US 20	
	Intersection Improvement with Added Turn Lanes	
Phase: PE	Total: \$46,900	Federal: \$37,520 (STBG) State: \$9,380 SFY 2026
Estimated Cost to Complete = \$4,543,419	Miles: 0.49	

Contract Also Includes: 2400765 – Small Structure Replacement, 1.55 miles South of US 20

Kelsey Triebold presented the item in Resolution 33-25 and asked for any questions. Hearing none, Triebold asked for the Policy Board's endorsement of the resolution.

CARL BAXMEYER MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 33-25.
TONY VIOLI SECONDED. ALL IN FAVOR. THE MOTION CARRIED.

Transit Resolution 34-25

A. MACOG Transit Resolution 35-25 Des#: MAC-26-023	<u>Amendment</u> Add Project Operating Assistance for the Interurban Trolley Operating Assistance	Exempt Project in Elkhart County
Total: \$1,000,000	Federal: \$800,000 (CMAQ)	Local: \$200,000 SFY 2026

Aidan McHugh presented Resolution 34-25 and asked for any questions. Hearing none, he requested the Policy Board's endorsement of the resolution.

ROD ROBERSON MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 34-25.
JESSE BOHANNON SECONDED. ALL IN FAVOR. THE MOTION CARRIED.

Other Actions

Resolution 35-25

A Resolution to Support the Calendar Year (CY) 2026 Safety Performance Measure Targets for the State of Indiana.

Safety Target Performance Measures

Number of fatalities – 794.7
Rate of fatalities per 100 million miles traveled – 0.992
Number of serious injuries – 2,965.5
Rate of serious injuries per 100 million miles traveled – 3.702
Number of non-motorist fatalities and serious injuries – 462.96

James Turnwald presented Resolution 35-25. He stated MACOG has the option to support the State's targets that have been developed in collaboration with all of the Indiana MPOs or develop its own. Historically, MACOG has concurred with the State's performance measure targets and staff is recommending concurrence for CY 2026.

Turnwald clarified the targets are for the entire State of Indiana, not just the MACOG region. Additional information related to states targets can be found on the FHWA website <https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/tpm/reporting/state/>. Safety data specific to the MACOG region can be found on the MACOG website <https://maps-macog.hub.arcgis.com/>

Hearing no objections, the following action was taken.

SUZANNE WEIRICK MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 35-25.
TONY VIOLI SECONDED. ALL IN FAVOR. THE MOTION CARRIED.

Resolution 36-25

A Resolution to Approve and Certify updates to the MACOG Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan (PTASP) as required by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA)

Jeremiah Cox presented Resolution 36-25. The Plan was emailed to the members with the meeting notice and hard copies were available for review during the meeting. Cox explained that the document is reviewed and updated annually and presented to the Policy Board for approval.

Hearing no questions or concerns, Cox requested the Policy Board's endorsement of this Resolution.

DOUGLAS GRAHAM MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 36-25.
JESSE BOHANNON SECONDED. ALL IN FAVOR. THE MOTION CARRIED.

Staff Update

Plans and Programs

Relocation of the Interurban Trolley Transfer Center

Aidan McHugh announced the permanent relocation of the of the Interurban Trolley transfer center from the old Elkhart County Courthouse on Franklin Street to Second Street in front of The Depot. McHugh noted the City of Elkhart is planning to provide canopy shelters for riders at the new location.

Quarter 3 Crash Data update

David Harker presented the Quarter 3 (July through September 2025) crash statistics, noting 142 applicable collisions in the MACOG region, resulting in 21 fatal collisions (22 fatalities). Motorcycle collisions account for 27% of all collisions in the quarter, and 43% of all fatalities in the region during that time. Harker also stated that year-to-date, the region accounts for about 8% of all fatalities in the state.

Rail Corridor Overpass and Improvement Study Request for Proposals (RFP)

Caitlin Stevens reported four proposals were received in response to MACOG's Rail Corridor Study RFP. The submissions are currently being reviewed and scored by representatives from MACOG, St. Joseph, and Elkhart Counties. Stevens indicated a consultant will be selected by January and the study will take place throughout calendar year 2026.

Community Crossings Matching Grant (CCMG) Program

Stevens discussed the recent CCMG announcements that awarded \$2.1 million across seven communities in the MACOG region, quite different and significantly less funding than the past few years. It was noted that this year the Program awarded amount was reduced to \$100 million from the previous year's \$350 million. The intent of the change is to move toward direct funding based on lane miles. The transition period will last until the end of 2027.

Travel Demand Model

Stevens provided an update on MACOG's new travel demand model being developed with Cambridge Systematics, which is currently in a phase seeking input on population and employment forecasts. Raj Parikh then presented a tool he developed to help members identify demographics for forecast years up to 2055, which can be used to add comments on the network and view overall county-wide changes via bar and line charts. James Turnwald stressed the importance of technical staff interacting with this live tool to ensure accurate forecasts for traffic, especially regarding areas with rapid development or large employers, thereby improving design planning for future projects.

Quarterly Tracking and Review

Kelsey Triebold reported that the next Quarterly Tracking and Review (QTR) meeting will be held virtually on January 15 with QTR forms being due by December 30.

Electric Vehicle (EV) Test Drive

Triebold informed the members of the Electric Vehicle Test Drive event that will be held on January 21, 2026, at Tire Rack in South Bend. The event is held exclusively for local governments in the MACOG region and open to all departments. Registration is required.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

There were no comments.

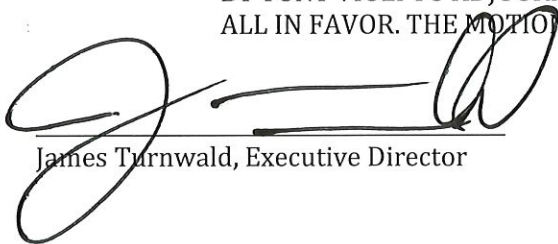
PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further comments or items of business, the Chair called for a motion to adjourn the Policy Board meeting.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY SUZANNE WEIRICK AND SECONDED
BY TONY VIOLI TO ADJOURN THE POLICY BOARD MEETING.
ALL IN FAVOR. THE MOTION CARRIED.



James Turnwald, Executive Director



David Wood, Policy Board Chair

