

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

The September meeting of the Michiana Area Council of Governments (MACOG) Policy Board was held on the second floor of the Mishawaka City Hall, on September 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
Matt Deitchley, Deputy Commissioner, INDOT La Porte
Jeff Grose, City of Warsaw
Phil Jenkins, Mayor, City of Nappanee
Canneth Lee, South Bend Common Council
Rod Roberson, Mayor, City of Elkhart
Bryan Tanner, St. Joseph County Council
Tony Violi, Mishawaka Common Council

MEMBERS VIRTUAL: Dwight Fish, Elkhart Common Council
Jason Kaiser, Interim Deputy Commissioner, INDOT Fort Wayne
Robert Listenberger, Mayor, City of Plymouth
Suzanne Weirick, Elkhart County Commissioner

MEMBERS ABSENT: Carl Baxmeyer, St. Joseph County Commissioner
Jesse Bohannon, Marshall County Commissioner
Douglas Graham, Elkhart County Council
Cary Groninger, Kosciusko County Commissioner
Kathy Groninger, Kosciusko County Council
Tim Harman, Marshall County Council
Gina Leichty, Mayor, City of Goshen
James Mueller, Mayor, City of South Bend

MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 13, 2025, MEETING

The minutes of the August 13, 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 ROD ROBERSON AND SECONDED
BY TONY VIOLI TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF AUGUST 2025.
ALL IN FAVOR. THE MOTION CARRIED.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chair had no report.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 Budget Clarification

Debbie Gardner explained the total budget amount for FY 2026 that was presented in June should have been \$208,299 less, bringing it down to \$12,759,189 due to a miscalculation from a hidden cell in the spreadsheet. She stated all of the individual line items were correct as presented in June. Only the total budget amount was affected by the error. No action is needed by the Policy Board.

July 2025 Financial Reports

Gardner then presented the MACOG Financial Reports for the month of July 2025 and reminded the members that the fiscal year is July 1 through June 30. Gardner reviewed the year-to-date total expenses, reported the cash balance at the end of the month, and the total amount of disbursements. She then asked for any questions. Hearing none, the following action was taken.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY ROD ROBERSON AND SECONDED BY
BRYAN TANNER TO APPROVE THE JULY 2025 FINANCIAL REPORTS.
ALL IN FAVOR. THE MOTION CARRIED.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

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

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS

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

Transportation Resolution 28-25

Locally Initiated

A. Kosciusko County	Amendment	Exempt Project in Kosciusko County
Resolution 28-25		
Des#: 2401825	Add Project	
Contract#: TBD	Bridge 287 on CR 450 E over Deeds Creek	
	Bridge Replacement	
Phase: PE	Total: \$478,000	Federal: \$382,400 (Bridge) Local: \$95,600 SFY 2026
Phase: RW	Total: \$128,000	Federal: \$102,400 (Bridge) Local: \$25,600 SFY 2029
Phase: CN	Total: \$2,534,000	Federal: \$2,027,200 (Bridge) Local: \$506,800 SFY 2031
Estimated Cost to Complete = \$3,140,000		

INDOT Initiated

B. INDOT	Amendment	Exempt Project in Marshall County
Resolution 28-25		
Des#: 2501000, 2500982	Add Projects to Contract	

Contract#: T-46027 **US 31 at 19th Rd & US 31 at SR 110**
New Bridge Construction

Phase: PE	Total: \$4,119,105	Federal: \$3,707,195 (HSIP)	State: \$411,911	SFY 2026
Phase: RW	Total: \$1,500,000	Federal: \$1,350,000 (HSIP)	State: \$150,000	SFY 2026
Phase: CN	Total: \$33,792,789	Federal: \$30,413,510 (HSIP)	State: \$3,379,279	SFY 2030

Estimated Cost to Complete = \$38,764,617

Contract Also Includes: 2200483 - New Interchange Construction at US 31 at SR 110, 2200482 - Access Control from 1.47 mi S of SR 110 to 0.31 mi S of SR 10

C. INDOT Amendment Exempt Project in Marshall County

Resolution 28-25

Des#: 2500981 Add Project to Contract

Contract#: T-41777 **US 31 at SR 10**
New Bridge Construction

Phase: PE	Total: \$4,366,216	Federal: \$3,929,594 (HSIP)	State: \$436,622	SFY 2026
Phase: RW	Total: \$1,320,400	Federal: \$1,188,360 (HSIP)	State: \$132,040	SFY 2026
Phase: CN	Total: \$38,870,531	Federal: \$34,983,478 (HSIP)	State: \$3,887,053	SFY 2028

Estimated Cost to Complete = \$46,163,219

Contract Also Includes: 1802051 – New Interchange Construction at US 31 & SR 10, 220484 – New Bridge Construction at US 31 and CR 700 N

D. INDOT Amendment Exempt Project in St. Joseph County

Resolution 28-25

Des#: 2003096 Add PE, RW Phase, Change in Scope, Increase CN Funding by \$1,549,594

Contract#: R-43894 **SR 23, 3.5 mi North of SR331 (Adams Rd E Jct)**
Intersection Improvement, Roundabout

Phase: PE	Total: \$300,000	Federal: \$270,000 (CMAQ)	State: \$30,000	SFY 2026
Phase: RW	Total: \$500,000	Federal: \$450,000 (CMAQ)	State: \$50,000	SFY 2026
Phase: CN	Total: \$2,791,240	Federal: \$2,512,116 (CMAQ)	State: \$279,124	SFY 2027

Estimated Cost to Complete = \$3,591,240

Kelsey Triebold presented the items in Resolution 28-25. She reminded the members that the current TIP goes out to 2030, so the action in item A is adding funds for Preliminary Engineering (PE) and Right of Way (RW). The Construction (CN) phase is written in italics and provided for informational purposes. The CN phase of the project will be added to the TIP in the future.

Turnwald restated that the bridge construction for item A is anticipated for 2031, which is beyond the current TIP's 2030 scope, and will need to be re-added later with a TIP that covers the year 2031.

Hearing no objections to the resolution, the Chair called for a motion

PHIL JENKINS MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 28-25.

BRYAN TANNER SECONDED. ALL IN FAVOR. THE MOTION CARRIED.

Staff Update

Grants and Funding

Indiana Trails Grant Program

Dustin New let the members know the Indiana Trails Program (ITP) grant application period is open and applications are due electronically by October 1. The grant request minimum is \$100,000, and the maximum is \$400,000. The ITP will provide a maximum of 80% reimbursement for eligible projects with at least 20% match from the applicant. New is available to assist with the application.

Community Crossing Matching Grants (CCMG)

David Harker reported applications for CCMG open on October 1 and are due by October 31. The statewide funding cap is now \$100 million, with individual awards limited to \$1 million. Applications are being accepted for fiscal year 2026, and then annually in July from fiscal year 2027 onward. The local match requirement for cities and towns under 10,000 population and counties under 55,000 has been reduced from 25% to 20%.

An asset management plan is required by December 1 to apply for CCMG funds. MACOG is available to assist communities with their plans.

Turnwald indicated beginning in FY 2027 communities will have the opportunity to receive formula funds from the Community Crossings program. One of the requirements to access the funding will be for communities to have implement a wheel tax. Turnwald emphasized that a wheel tax is not required to receive CCMG discretionary grant funding, only formula funding.

Plans and Programs

Quarterly Tracking and Review Meeting

Kelsey Triebold announced the next Quarterly Tracking and Review meeting would be held virtually on Thursday, October 2, with forms and milestone reports due by September 17.

Crash Data Update (Quarter 2)

David Harker stated MACOG will begin providing a quarterly update of crash data for Fatal and Serious Injury (FSI) and Vulnerable Road User (VRU) crashes. He noted that Quarter 2 includes April-June 2025 data which, overall, suggests a slight decrease in crashes from the same period in 2024. Harker explained the data is pulled from the state's Automated Reporting Information Exchange System (ARIES) and requires extensive cleaning especially concerning location inaccuracies due to issues like duplicate intersection names or incorrect latitude/longitude entries in reports. He indicated MACOG can provide specific intersection or corridor data upon request. He noted the cleaned data is uploaded to MACOG's online dashboards (<https://maps-macog.hub.arcgis.com/>) and clarified that local roadway refers to county and city roads, not state facilities. If a crash occurs at an intersection that involves both a state road and a local road, he tagged the location as the state road.

New Kosciusko Area Bus Service (KABS) deviated fixed-route bus service in Warsaw

Aidan McHugh announced the recent launch of the Lake City Loop, a new deviated fixed transit route in Warsaw, which has been operating for two days after a year of planning and community outreach. He thanked Mayor Grose and city staff for their assistance with the transit project. McHugh stated that a ribbon cutting will take place on September 29, at 10:00 a.m. at the KAB's office in Warsaw.

Go574 Remix Your Trips Challenge

McHugh also announced an upcoming "all mode" transportation challenge from September 22 through October 19, following a successful bike month challenge last May, to encourage sustainable transportation through the Go574 platform. For more information go to Go574.com.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

There were no comments.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ralph Spelbring provided feedback on the recent change to Elkhart's Orange Line bus route, suggesting that the date of route/schedule changes should be clearly marked and that outdated bus stop signs be removed quickly.

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 PHIL JENKINS AND SECONDED BY
BRYAN TANNER TO ADJOURN THE POLICY BOARD MEETING.
ALL IN FAVOR. THE MOTION CARRIED.

James Turnwald, Executive Director

David Wood, Policy Board Chair