



## **Battle Creek Area Transportation Study POLICY COMMITTEE**

**1:30 p.m. - Wednesday, May 28, 2025**

Council Chambers, Susan L. Anderson Municipal Bldg. (Springfield City Hall)  
601 Avenue A, Springfield, MI 49037 (269) 963-1158

e-mail: [bcats@bcatsmpo.org](mailto:bcats@bcatsmpo.org) website: <https://www.bcatsmpo.org>

### ***AGENDA***

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1. ROLL CALL
2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA – **ACTION**
3. PUBLIC COMMENTS
4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES of April 23, 2025 – **ACTION**
5. COMMUNICATIONS
6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
  - A.
7. NEW BUSINESS
  - A. BCATS' Public Participation Plan draft – **ACTION**
  - B. FY2026 Unified Work Program draft – **ACTION**
  - C. FY2026 Local Share Resolution – **ACTION**
  - D. FY2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program draft
    - 1.) Resolution of Approval of FY2026-2029 TIP – **ACTION**
    - 2.) Resolution to Accept the Air Quality Conformity Report – **ACTION**
    - 3.) Resolution of MPO Self Certification – **ACTION**
  - E. Staff Attendance at Annual Michigan Transportation Planning Association Conference – **ACTION**
  - F. FY2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment #17 – **ACTION**
8. COMMENTS
  - A. **Next Meeting: June 25, 2025 - 1:30 p.m.**
  - B. Committee Member Comments
  - C. Public Comments
9. ADJOURNMENT

# **BATTLE CREEK AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY**

## **Policy Committee**

### **Minutes of April 23, 2025 Meeting**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Voting: Harry Burdett, Max Gierman (for Richard Bayus), Derek King, Annjanette Kremer, Kristine Parsons, and Steve Skalski

Non-voting: None

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Voting: Mallory Avis, Barry Beamish, Laveta Hardish, Kevin Leiter, Tracy Myers, and Erick Stewart

Non-voting: Jenny Staroska and Southcentral Michigan Planning Council (SMPC)

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Jeff Franklin and Jarret Geering

Chair Burdett called the meeting to order at 1:31 p.m. in the Council Room of the Susan L. Anderson Municipal Building (Springfield City Hall), 601 Avenue A, Springfield MI 49037.

#### **ROLL CALL**

Burdett asked all members and staff in attendance to introduce themselves. It was determined that a quorum of the voting members was present.

#### **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

**It was moved by Skalski, supported by Kremer, to approve the agenda. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Res.  
25-21**

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Jarret Geering introduced himself from OHM Advisors.

#### **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

**It was moved by Kremer, supported by Skalski, to approve the minutes of the March 26, 2025 meeting. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Res.  
25-22**

## COMMUNICATIONS

Franklin shared the following communications:

- FHWA Michigan Division in Lansing, and FTA Region V in Chicago, offices have shared with all MPOs statewide that many FHWA/FTA staff persons have resigned their positions effective Friday, April 18<sup>th</sup>. BCATS staff anticipates that plan/program approvals could be delayed, however we are advised by MDOT to continue our annual MPO schedule of activities.
- In lieu of a new RFP for auditing service, the City of Battle Creek has opted to take advantage of a two-year extension with auditing firm Rehmann. As an affiliated agency with the City's Finance Department, BCATS will also take advantage of this two-year extension with Rehmann for BCATS' separate audit. BCATS would work with City Finance on any new RFP in the future (BCATS receives a discounted rate as an affiliated agency).
- Progressive Companies, the consultant the City of Battle Creek contracted with on the City's Lakeview District plan (formerly referred to as the Beckley Road Corridor Plan), has asked BCATS for a letter of support for their application for a statewide planning award regarding the Lakeview District plan. BCATS staff fully participated in the steering committee and walking audit, and the final Plan calls out BCATS as a federal aid planning partner for the community.

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

## NEW BUSINESS

### A. FY2025 Unified Planning Work Program (UWP) Administrative Modification

Franklin administratively modified the current FY25 UWP, making more specific the details of a Congressionally Directed Spending grant received by Battle Creek Transit on behalf of the Transportation Authority of Calhoun County, stemming from feedback from Federal Transit Administration (FTA). Franklin conducted an email survey of Policy Committee voting members on 4/2/25, with a majority (10 out of 12) responded approving the modification to the UWP. This was an informational item only.

### B. "The Signal" Spring 2025 Newsletter

Franklin announced the latest edition of the BCATS newsletter, "The Signal" is available on the BCATS website, and has been sent to the various consultation lists. This edition announces the completion of the draft TIP document, as well as commences the minimum 45-day period to update the draft BCATS' Public Participation Plan.

**C. BCATS' Public Participation Plan (PPP) draft**

Franklin announced the draft PPP is available on the BCATS website, and was mentioned in the BCATS newsletter "The Signal" and is out for public comment. A minimum 45-day period for public feedback is required to update and adopt a PPP. Franklin anticipates asking for Policy Committee approval at the May meeting.

**D. FY2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) draft**

Franklin announced the draft FY26-29 TIP is available on the BCATS website, and is out for public comment. Franklin anticipates asking for Policy Committee approval at the May meeting.

**E. FY2026 Unified Planning Work Program (UWP) draft**

Franklin announced the draft FY26 UWP is available on the BCATS website. Franklin anticipates asking for Policy Committee approval at the May meeting.

**F. January - March 2025 Quarterly Financial Report**

Franklin reviewed the January – March 2025 Quarterly Financial Report, made available to members at the meeting. Franklin answered questions on the report.

**It was moved by Parsons, supported by King, to accept and file the January – March 2025 Quarterly Financial Report, as presented. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Res.  
25-23**

**G. BCATS Finance Director - Update**

Franklin reported that Brandy Standler has accepted the position of BCATS Finance Director and that her start date with BCATS would be April 28, 2025. The Policy Committee had previously approved this appointment at their March meeting.

**COMMENTS****A. Next Meeting**

Chair Burdett announced that the next meeting of the BCATS Policy Committee is scheduled for May 28, 2025 at 1:30 p.m.

**B. Committee Member Comments**

Kremer reported that this week is National Work Zone Awareness Week, to recognize and champion safer construction work zones statewide/nationwide. Kremer mentioned a nighttime road closure on 4/26/25 of I-194 at Columbia Avenue to facilitate bridge removal work. The Marshall Modernization project is in full swing with bridge demolition forthcoming (M-96 over I-69 in Marshall).

Parsons reported that pulverization on various Newton Township roads is ongoing, with gravel addition to various Newton Township roads forthcoming. A segment of 6.5 Mile Road is closed currently (B Drive S to township line) for contractor tree removal work. B Drive North resurfacing between 6.5 Mile Road and Beadle Lake Road will commence in June after school lets out. Pothole patching is ongoing countywide.

Burdett reported that Aaron Edlefson has been selected for City Manager for City of Springfield.

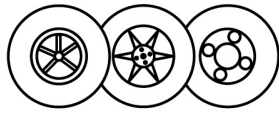
Skalski reported that the City of Battle Creek is reworking its search for their next City Manager. Watkins Road resurfacing is expected completed before July. The bridge project on 20<sup>th</sup> Street over the Kalamazoo River should commence in July.

### **C. Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Burdett adjourned the meeting at 1:56 p.m.

**BCATS****BATTLE CREEK AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY**

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601 Avenue A • Springfield, MI 49037 • 269-963-1158 • [bcats@bcatsmpo.org](mailto:bcats@bcatsmpo.org)

DATE: May 28, 2025

TO: Policy Committee

FROM: Jeff Franklin, Executive Director

SUBJECT: FY 2026 Local Funding Resolution

The Federal funding which supports BCATS' operations requires a local match. The provisions for assessing this local match are spelled out in the Policy Committee bylaws. A recommended FY 2026 Local Funding Resolution is included for this agenda item. The 2026 contribution by each financially participating local unit is the same figure as shown in Table D of the proposed FY 2026 Unified Work Program (UWP) (scheduled for action prior to this item at the Policy Committee meeting of May 28, 2025). The financial contribution percent for each highway agency is based on 2020 U. S. Census population figures. The financial contribution for the TACC is based on the local match requirement for only the FTA portion of the overall Federal planning funding.

**The requested action is for the Policy Committee to recommend this resolution, including the table detailing the funding request, to the local units of government for their separate actions.** The four local financially contributing units are: Calhoun County Road Department under the auspices of Calhoun County government, City of Battle Creek, City of Springfield, and the Transportation Authority of Calhoun County. If approved for distribution, a cover letter, along with a resolution tailored for each unit, is sent to each contributing agency.

Any questions may be addressed to me prior to, or at, the Policy Committee meeting.

## **FISCAL YEAR 2026 BCATS LOCAL FUNDING RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, the urban transportation planning regulations, implementing sections of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA)/Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) federal legislation, require that each urbanized area, as a condition of receipt of Federal capital or operating assistance, have a continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive urban transportation planning process that results in plans and programs consistent with the comprehensively planned development of the urbanized area; and

WHEREAS, in the Battle Creek urbanized area, the continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive transportation planning process is being conducted by the Battle Creek Area Transportation Study (BCATS) Policy Committee, a forum for cooperative transportation decision-making by principal elected officials of local government, developed under federal guidelines for purposes of urban transportation planning conduct; and

WHEREAS, the Battle Creek Area Transportation Study annually develops a Unified Work Program identifying activities and costs necessary for the conduct of the urban transportation planning process; and

WHEREAS, transportation planning funds, indirectly available from the U.S. Department of Transportation, are utilized to carry out the activities defined in the Unified Work Program; and

WHEREAS, these funds, available under the federal legislation as a Consolidated Planning Grant from the Federal Highway Administration (which includes funds flexed from the Federal Transit Administration to FHWA) require a local match of 18.15%, and

WHEREAS, the Policy Committee of the Battle Creek Area Transportation Study has recommended that the local match required to assure the timely conduct of the Study be determined and provided for in the following manner:

1. The reimbursement schedule to be used for participating agencies (those doing BCATS work will be paid 100% of their total charge). BCATS staff office costs will be reimbursed 100%.
2. The formula for computing the local funds will be based on the urbanized area population for FHWA funding (applied to road agencies) and minimum required local match for FTA funding (applied to the TACC only). The local agencies will contribute the local share for their own activities within the BCATS program as noted on the attached table (see 3. below).
3. Distribution for local match funding is shown on the attached table, which is the same as Schedule D in the FY 2026 Unified Work Program.

WHEREAS, it has been determined that the total local share requirements for the operation of the Battle Creek Area Transportation Study's work program for fiscal year 2026 will be \$62,154;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,

the \_\_\_\_\_ agrees to participate in the funding of the local share costs of the Battle Creek Area Transportation Study's work program for fiscal year 2026 (October 1, 2025 - September 30, 2026) by providing \_\_\_\_% of the local match required for BCATS' staff costs, plus \$\_\_\_\_\_ for costs specific to the \_\_\_\_\_ participation in the BCATS program;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,

the total local contribution for the \_\_\_\_\_ for FY 2026 will be \$\_\_\_\_\_;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,

the \_\_\_\_\_ agrees to submit to the Battle Creek Area Transportation Study office (601 Avenue A, Springfield, MI 49037 RE: Fund No. 230.594.2321) payment of local match share no later than January 1, 2026; or the \_\_\_\_\_ shall have the option of making the payment in two (2) equal installments by January 1, 2026 and April 1, 2026, respectively, if arranged in advance;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,

the \_\_\_\_\_ agrees this resolution becomes effective at such time as all other local Study participants providing financial support pass resolutions of financial commitment in the proportion and manner described in this resolution.

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_



**SCHEDULE D**  
**BATTLE CREEK AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY**

**LOCAL SHARE FUNDING TABLE**  
**FY 2026**

<b>UNIT</b>	<b>Federally Required Cash Contribution</b>	<b>Total Cash Contribution</b>
City of Battle Creek (55.98%* of \$47,545 for cash, plus \$2,033 for CBC Public Works activity)	26,616.00 2,033.00	<b>28,649.00</b>
Calhoun County/Calhoun County Road Department (38.40%* of \$47,545 for cash, plus \$2,033 for CCRD specific activity)	18,257.00 2,033.00	<b>20,290.00</b>
City of Springfield (5.62%* of \$47,545 for cash)	2,672.00	<b>2,672.00</b>
Transportation Authority of Calhoun County (TACC) (18.15% of \$58,088** for cash)	10,543.00	<b>10,543.00</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>62,154</b>	<b>62,154</b>

**NOTES:**

1. \*Shares based on U.S. Census 2020 population figures, and road agency shares based on FHWA designated funding towards the BCATS Consolidated Planning Grant
2. \*\*Minimum local match required for FTA Section 5303 designated funding towards the BCATS Consolidated Planning Grant

**BATTLE CREEK AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY**  
**Approval of the**  
***FY 2026-2029 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM***  
**Res. 25-29**

**WHEREAS**, the Battle Creek Area Transportation Study is the designated Policy Committee and Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for greater Battle Creek, and

**WHEREAS**, the Battle Creek Area Transportation Study is responsible for the development of a Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) which is required by both the Federal Transit Administration and Federal Highway Administration, and

**WHEREAS**, the Battle Creek Area Transportation Study *FY 2026-2029 TIP* has been developed pursuant to Section 134 of title 23, United States Code, and

**WHEREAS**, the Battle Creek Area Transportation Study *FY 2026-2029 TIP* includes a "Fiscal Constraint Demonstration" that lists anticipated revenue and estimated funding amounts for the identified commitments for each fiscal year, with the total of proposed commitments not exceeding the total estimated revenue in any category in any fiscal year, and thus is financially constrained, and

**WHEREAS**, the Battle Creek Area Transportation Study *FY 2026-2029 TIP* was developed with the opportunity for public input and comment as provided for by the Battle Creek Area Transportation Study;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, it is the finding of the Battle Creek Area Transportation Study that its *FY 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program* is consistent with its *2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan*, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Battle Creek Area Transportation Study approves its *FY 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program*.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mallory Avis, Vice Chairperson  
Battle Creek Area Transportation Study Policy Committee

DATE: May 28, 2025



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## BATTLE CREEK AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY

601 Avenue A — Springfield, MI 49037 — 269-963-1158 — bcats@bcatsmpo.org

### Resolution #25-30

#### **Resolution to Accept the Transportation Conformity Determination Report for the 1997 Ozone NAAQS for the Kalamazoo-Battle Creek Limited Orphan Maintenance Area for the Battle Creek Area Transportation Study**

**WHEREAS**, per the decision in South Coast II, beginning February 16, 2019, transportation conformity determinations for the 1997 ozone national ambient air quality standard (NAAQS) will be needed for those areas that were maintenance areas when the 1997 ozone NAAQS was revoked and then attainment for the 2008 and 2015 NAAQSs, referred to as “orphan” areas; and

**WHEREAS**, in November 2018, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) promulgated guidance to assist in implementing the court decision in South Coast II, providing the requirements to demonstrate transportation conformity for areas that were “orphan” areas; and

**WHEREAS**, the EPA designated the Kalamazoo-Battle Creek non-attainment area of Kalamazoo, Calhoun and Van Buren counties as a maintenance area for the 1997 ozone NAAQS in May 2007 and attainment in July 2012 for the stricter 2008 ozone NAAQS and in January 2018 for the 2015 ozone NAAQS and in April 2020 created a limited second maintenance plan for the 1997 ozone NAAQS; and

**WHEREAS**, the Kalamazoo-Battle Creek MI maintenance area is deemed an “orphan” area, and the Battle Creek Area Transportation Study (BCATS) is wholly contained in the Kalamazoo-Battle Creek limited orphan maintenance area; and

**WHEREAS**, the Battle Creek Area Transportation Study (BCATS) is the designated Policy Committee and Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Battle Creek , Michigan urban area; and

**WHEREAS**, the conformity of BCATS' FY 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), including the 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan, will be pending approval by the Federal Highway Administration after local action on the conformity report by the Battle Creek Area Transportation Study;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Policy Committee of the Battle Creek Area Transportation Study accepts the conclusions of the Transportation Conformity Determination Report for the 1997 Ozone NAAQS for the Kalamazoo-Battle Creek limited orphan maintenance area for the FY 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and the BCATS 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Transportation Conformity Determination Report for the 1997 Ozone NAAQS for the Kalamazoo-Battle Creek limited orphan maintenance area demonstrates that these planning documents meet the Clean Air Act and Transportation Conformity rule requirements for the 1997 ozone NAAQS to conform to the State Implementation Plan as required by provisions of Title 40 CFR 51.390 and 93 Subpart A, and the South Coast II decision.

Date: May 28, 2025

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mallory Avis, Vice Chairperson  
Battle Creek Area Transportation Study Policy Committee

*Adopted by the Battle Creek Area Transportation Study Policy Committee at its meeting of May 28, 2025*

## **METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLANNING PROCESS CERTIFICATION**

In accordance with 23 CFR 450.336, the Michigan Department of Transportation and the Battle Creek Area Transportation Study, the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Battle Creek, Michigan urbanized area, hereby certify, as part of the STIP submittal, that the transportation planning process is addressing the major issues in the metropolitan planning area and is being conducted in accordance with all applicable requirements of:

- I. 23 U.S.C. 134 and 135, 49 U.S.C. 5303 and 5304, and this part;
- II. Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended (42 U.S.C. 2000d-1) and 49 CFR part 21;
- III. 49 U.S.C. 5332, prohibiting discrimination on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, sex, or age in employment or business opportunity;
- IV. Section 1101(b) of the FAST Act (Pub. L. 114-357) and 49 CFR part 26 regarding the involvement of disadvantaged business enterprises in USDOT funded projects;
- V. 23 CFR part 230, regarding the implementation of an equal employment opportunity program on Federal and Federal-aid highway construction contracts;
- VI. The provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12101 *et seq.*) and 49 CFR parts 27, 37, and 38;
- VII. The Older Americans Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. 6101), prohibiting discrimination on the basis of age in programs or activities receiving Federal financial assistance;
- VIII. 23 U.S.C. 324, regarding the prohibition of discrimination based on gender; and
- IX. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794) and 49 CFR part 27 regarding discrimination against individuals with disabilities.
- X. (*applicable to Non-Attainment and Maintenance Areas only*) Sections 174 and 176(c) and (d) of the Clean Air Act, as amended (42 U.S.C 7504 and 7506(c) and (d)) and 40 CFR part 93

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Mallory Avis, Vice Chairperson  
Battle Creek Area Transportation Study

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May 28, 2025

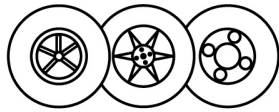
Date

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Todd White, Director  
Bureau of Transportation Planning

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Date

**BCATS****BATTLE CREEK AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY**601 Avenue A • Springfield, MI 49037 • 269-963-1158 • [bcats@bcatsmpo.org](mailto:bcats@bcatsmpo.org)

DATE: May 19, 2025

TO: Policy Committee

FROM: Brandy Standler, Finance Director

SUBJECT: Staff Attendance at the 2025 Michigan Transportation Planning Association (MTPA) Conference

The Annual Michigan Transportation Planning Association Conference is scheduled for July 22 - 25, 2025 in Holland, Michigan. There is a technical session on Tuesday the 22nd and the full, regular conference on Wednesday, Thursday and ½ day on Friday. Expenses for the conference include registration, hotel, any non-included meals, and mileage costs. Anticipated total cost for attendance by both BCATS staff persons is expected to be, at a maximum, \$2,800. There will be featured presentations by Federal, State, and local transportation officials and other presentations on various topics of interest.

**The requested action is for the Policy Committee to approve BCATS staff attendance at this conference and to approve registration and other conference and travel expenditures not to exceed \$2,800 in association with attendance.**

This is an anticipated activity each year and funds are budgeted for this activity. This is the only conference of this magnitude that BCATS staff attends each year.

Questions about this topic may be addressed to me.



ALL PROJECT SEARCH - STANDARD REPORT

Fiscal Year(s) : 2025

Date: 05/05/2025

Page: 1 of 1

Classification: Public

Fiscal Year	Job Type	Job #	MPO	County	Responsible Agency	Project Name	Limits	Length	Primary Work Type	Project Description	Phase	Phase Status	S/TIP Cycle	Fund Source	Template	AC/ACC	ACC Year(s)	Fed Estimated Amount	State Estimated Amount	Local Estimated Amount	Total Estimated Amount	Phase Participating Amount	Phase Non Participating Amount (Part + Non-Part)	Total Phase Amount	Total Job Cost Incl	Total Job Cost Non LAP	Action Type	Action Approval Date	Local Fed Approval Date	FHWA Approval Date	FTA Approval Date	Schedule Obligation Date	Actual Obligation Date	Schedule Let Date	Actual Let Date	Federal Amendment Type	S/TIP Exempt	Comments	S/TIP Status	
S/TIP Line Items																																								
2025	Trunkline	219285	Battle Creek Area Transportation Study (BCATS)	Calhoun	MDOT	M-89	M-89 over Sperry Drain (75' west of 20th Street) in Battle Creek.	0.039	Reconstruction	HMA reconstruction and culvert replacement	ROW	Programmed	23-26	ST	Culverts-Capital			\$76,121	\$14,770	\$2,110	\$93,000	\$93,000	\$0	\$93,000	\$2,336,821	\$2,336,821.00					N/A	07/02/2025		08/07/2026					Pending	
GPA Type Subtotals:			S/TIP Line Items															\$76,121	\$14,770	\$2,110	\$93,000																			
Grand Total:																		\$76,121	\$14,770	\$2,110	\$93,000																			

Total Job Phases Reported: 1

Job Phase(s) highlighted in yellow are delayed to future S/TIP cycle

Preferences:

Report Format: Standard

FISCAL Year(s): 2025

MPO/Non-MPO: Battle Creek Area Transportation Study (Battle Creek)

County: ALL

Prosperity Region: ALL

MDOT Region: ALL

STIP Cycle: Fiscal Year 2023 - Fiscal Year 2026

STIP Status: Pending  
(A - Approved, P - Pending)

Job Type: Trunkline, Local, Multi-Modal

Phase Type: ALL

Phase Status: ALL  
(AP - Programmed, AC - Active, CP - Completed)  
(Active - Obligated)

Amendment Type: ALL

Template: Trunkline - ALL, Local - ALL, Multi-Modal - ALL

Finance System: Trunkline - ALL, Local - ALL, Multi-Modal - ALL

RTF: ALL

Include S/TIP Exempt: No

Include Delayed to Future S/TIP Cycle:No