



THE VEHICLE

ANN ARBOR-YPSILANTI URBAN AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY COMMITTEE

July 2001

MDOT to Issue Call for Enhancement Projects

The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will soon be issuing a call for Enhancement projects for FY 2003. The deadline for submission of projects is October 2001.

Projects eligible for Enhancement funds must be included in one of the following four categories.

Non-motorized Facilities include bicycle and pedestrian facilities, preservation of abandoned railway corridors, and safety and educational activities.

Transportation Aesthetics include acquisition of scenic easements and scenic sites, scenic highway programs, landscaping and beautification, and control and removal of outdoor advertising.

Water Quality and Wildlife Mortality includes efforts to mitigate water pollution due to highway runoff and efforts to reduce animal mortality and maintain wildlife habitat connectivity across transportation facilities.

Historic Preservation includes acquisition of historic sites, historic highway programs, historic preservation, rehabilitation of established historic transportation-related structures, archaeological planning and research, and the establishment of transportation museums.

Enhancement funding is awarded based on a statewide competitive application process. Funds are distributed statewide based on merit by category. All cities, villages, county road commissions, MDOT, and transit agencies are eligible to apply for funding.

Projects are evaluated on the basis of their local match (the minimum local match is 20%, though MDOT gives extra consideration to applicants who increase their local match); the relationship to existing and functioning transportation facilities, or other approved transportation projects; environmental soundness; the amount of local, regional, and state support; identification of the appropriate maintenance plans, agreements and preservation covenants; and a completed application form. Also, projects that combine two or more of the enhancement categories, and those that are moderate in cost and can be implemented quickly will receive a higher priority. Projects that provide the greatest social, economic and environmental benefit to the greatest number of people will receive a higher ranking.

More information is about the Enhancement Program is available on the UATS and MDOT websites.

www.uats.20m.com
www.mdot.state.mi.us

Opportunity for Public Comments

The public is invited to submit comments on proposed amendments to the 2025 Long Range Transportation Plan Update for Washtenaw County. Currently there is only one amendment request; to provide funding in the first time period for a project from the Unfunded List.

Project #33

University of Michigan (UM) Non-Motorized Bridge, from UM Life Sciences Complex to the Medical Center Complex. It is estimated that there are more than 1 million non-motorized crossings across I-94 BL/US-23 BR every year. The project is planned for construction in the first time period (2001-2005) with funding being provided through an Enhancement grant with match. The funding was reduced from \$3 million to \$2.5 million. This project is a joint effort by the Michigan Department of Transportation, University of Michigan, and City of Ann Arbor.

Comments are being accepted at UATS through August 15, 2001. Comments can be mailed to the UATS office or emailed to uatsrequests@aol.com. For additional information, check the website at www.uats.20m.com.



UATS Hires New Staff

UATS welcomes its newest employee, Jane Kent, to the position of Transportation Planner. Jane comes to us from the City of Ann Arbor where she has been employed as the Bicycle Coordinator. She is working ½ time for both UATS and the City through the month of July in order to complete several projects for the Bicycle Program. Starting the first of August Jane will be with us full time.

Prior to her move to Michigan, Jane was employed as a Traffic Engineer for the City of Cambridge, Massachusetts, in their Traffic and Parking department. She was responsible for the traffic counting, signing and pavement marking programs for the department. Jane was also the department representative to the Bicycle Advisory Committee and served on the Traffic Calming task force.

Jane will be representing UATS on a variety of committees, including the countywide Greenways Advisory Committee and the Transportation Services Coordinating Committee. Jane will be responsible for publishing the quarterly newsletter and leading the effort to update the countywide non-motorized transportation plan.

Transportation Funding Brochures Available at UATS

UATS recently published a brochure summarizing the major transportation funding programs available through the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21) and the State of Michigan. The programs described in the brochure are available to local communities, transit agencies, and the road commission in Washtenaw County. UATS is also preparing a companion brochure that will focus on available transit funding opportunities. This should be available by the end of summer. For copies of these brochures contact UATS by phone at (734) 994-3127 or by e-mail at uats@aol.com.

The New Bicycle Map is Now Available

The new Ann Arbor Bicycle Map is now available, showing Ann Arbor routes on one side and Washtenaw County routes on the reverse. Ann Arbor Parks and Recreation Department has developed this new map under the direction of the Bicycle Program and in collaboration with the Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission. Both County and City staff used the old map as a starting point, and with input from the Ann Arbor Bicycle Coordinating Committee, local bicycle groups, local bicycle shops, and citizens, developed the new route systems. This is a work in progress and staff are working towards having it available on the City of Ann Arbor's web site with links to the County system and the getDowntown program.

The new maps are available for \$2.00 at Ann Arbor Parks and Recreation Department, Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission, Two Wheel Tango, Washtenaw Cycle and Fitness, and Ann Arbor Cyclery.

From The Library

Intelligent Transportation Primer

This text was developed as a collaborative effort of the Institute of Transportation Engineers, ITS America, and the U. S. Department of Transportation.

Transportation for Livable Cities

By Vukan R. Vuchic

EPA Guidance: Improving Air Quality Through Land Use Activities.

This was produced by U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Report number EPA420-R-01-001 January 2001

Michigan Energy Appraisal Semiannual Projections of Energy Supply and Demand Summer Outlook 2001

Produced by Michigan Department of Consumer and Industry Services, Public Service Commission.

2030 Regional Growth Forecast for Southeast Michigan: Population, Households, and Jobs, 1990-2030

Produced by Southeast Michigan Council of Governments October 2000.

Regional Transit Options January 23, 25, and 30, 2001 Proceedings of Transit Visioning Forum.

Produced by Southeast Michigan Council of Governments 2001

People, Land, and Economic Activity in Southeast Michigan February 2001

Produced by Southeast Michigan Council of Governments 2001

City of Ann Arbor, Michigan FY 2002-2007 Capital Improvements Plan

Approved by City Council May 7, 2001

UATS Committees and Meeting Schedules

The Policy Committee is the decision-making body of UATS. It is comprised of elected or appointed officials of each member agency and the Michigan Department of Transportation. The committee is responsible for all activities that require official action. The officers are: Robert Bliss, Chair; Catherine Braun, Vice-Chair; and Martha Kern, Secretary/Treasurer. Meetings are held the third Wednesday of every month at 9:30 a.m., unless cancelled because there is no business.

The Technical Advisory Subcommittee is comprised of technical staff members of the various units of government. This committee is responsible for reviewing all technical aspects of the planning process and coordinating the work of member agencies and units. The officers are: William Wheeler, Chair; Roy Townsend, 1st Vice-Chair; and Megan Gibb, 2nd Vice-Chair. These meetings are held the first Wednesday of every month at 10:30 a.m., unless cancelled because there is no business.

Cross Street Study

Ypsilanti's Cross Street study is a comprehensive evaluation of the transportation network, business corridor and housing conditions in the area bounded by Oakwood to the west, Huron to the east, and Cross and Washtenaw to the north and south respectively.

More specifically the goals of the study are to:

- Evaluate the transportation network,
- Improve the economic vitality and aesthetic appearance of the business district, and
- Improve and maintain high quality housing in the area.

A series of public visioning sessions has been set up for Wednesday, July 18 from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. The sessions will be held at Eastern Michigan University in Welch Hall, Room 210.

- I. City Officials - 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
- II. Area Stakeholders - 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.
- III. General Public - 6 p.m. - 9 p.m.

For more information contact Tawkiyah Jordan at (734) 483-9646 or tjordan@cityofypsilanti.com.

It's Art Fair Time Again!

This year's Art Fairs will be held July 18, 19, 20 and 21. For folks traveling to and from the Art Fairs, the Ann Arbor Transportation Authority (AATA) will be providing two convenient, inexpensive, even *free* alternatives to the stress of parking downtown on fair days.

1. PARK FREE AND RIDE THE SHUTTLE

FREE parking is available at two shuttle locations: Briarwood Mall and Pioneer School

Shuttles leave the Briarwood and Pioneer Locations approximately every 10-15 minutes going to **two Art Fair destinations**: Main Street at William and South University at State Street.

2. Art Fair Trolleys

Trolleys circulate around the Art Fair area to carry visitors from one Art Fair to another.

Trolleys stops include:

- A. E. Washington and S. Main
- B. E. Washington and N. Fifth
- C. E. Washington and S. Division
- D. E. Washington and Thayer
- E. E. Liberty and Ashley
- F. William and S. Main
- G. N. University and Fletcher
- H. N. University and Church
- I. Packard and S. Division
- J. Packard and Hill
- K. Monroe and S. State
- L. Monroe and Tappan
- M. Hill and Church
- N. Willard and Forest



HOW MUCH WILL THIS COST ME?

SHUTTLE

For fair goers ages 8 and up, the fare for the shuttle is \$1.00 each way (\$2.00 round-trip) and FREE for children 7 and younger.

TROLLEY

FREE for shuttle bus passengers (show return ticket)
\$.50 for others

SERVICE HOURS

Wednesday - Friday: 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.
Saturday: 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

**For AATA information call 734.996.0400 or visit the*

New York State enacted a law making it illegal to talk on a hand held cell phone while driving a vehicle.

Ann Arbor Receives Enhancement Grant

The City of Ann Arbor was successful in their application for Transportation Enhancement funds for the construction of a non-motorized path over Mallets Creek. This project is located on the west side of South Main Street, north of Oakbrook Drive. Funding is for the construction of a path on either side of the existing culvert in addition to an extension over the culvert.

With 80% funding provided by the Enhancement grant and 20% provided by the local match, the break down is as follows:

Enhancement	\$178,000.00
City Match	\$ 44,500.00
Total	\$222,500.00

Ozone Action

There is often confusion when discussing the risks of ozone due to its natural occurrence in the stratosphere as a protective layer high about the earth, however, at ground-level it is the prime ingredient of smog.

Ozone is not emitted directly into the air, but is formed by gases called nitrogen oxides (NOx) and volatile organic compounds (VOCs) that in the presence of heat and sunlight react to form ozone. Ground-level ozone forms readily in the atmosphere, usually during hot weather.

NOx is emitted from gas powered engines, power plants and other sources of combustion such as lighter fluid. VOCs are emitted from a variety of sources, including motor vehicles, chemical plants, refineries, factories, consumer and commercial products, and other industrial sources.

When inhaled, even at very low levels, ozone can cause acute respiratory problems; aggravate asthma; cause significant temporary decreases in lung capacity of 15 to over 20 percent in some healthy adults; cause inflammation of lung tissue; and impair the body's immune system defenses, making people more susceptible to respiratory illnesses, including bronchitis and pneumonia

The Clean Air Coalition of Southeast Michigan declares Ozone Action! days when conditions will create elevated amounts of ground-level ozone. For more information visit www.semcog.org/ozoneaction and www.epa.gov.

