



Support Merit-Based Transportation Infrastructure

Action

Trans4M requests that the Governor and Michigan Legislature:

Support a bill to create performance measures to be used when prioritizing and funding transportation projects.

Issue

Michigan can create better transportation outcomes by defining and using performance measures when prioritizing and funding transportation projects. Allocating funding to transportation projects based on performance measures increases transparency and accountability. It also matches transportation funding to projects that objectively need it the most.

How would Merit-Based Transportation Infrastructure work?

Performance measures would be established by a technical advisory group. These performance measures would be used by MDOT as criteria to prioritize and fund transportation infrastructure projects.

Additionally, MDOT must include in its State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) an analysis of how the Department applied performance measures in the development of the STIP, and how performance measures were used in prioritizing and funding transportation infrastructure projects.

Who is included in the technical advisory council?

The technical advisory group would consist of governmental organizations (state, local, regional) and a set of planning, transportation, equity, disability and environmental groups, among others.

What are some of the performance measures based on?

Performance measures created by the technical advisory group must include, among others, overall accessibility and social equity, multi-modal choices, safety enhancements, air-quality improvements, coordination with long-range plans, economic development, transparency, quality of life, and mobility.

What projects fall under “Transportation Funding”?

“Transportation funding” includes highway projects, public transportation, high-speed and intercity rail, and any other project eligible for funding under 23 USC 133.

Why now?

A transparent, data-driven approach to transportation funding will ensure that projects in communities with the greatest potential to benefit get funded. This objective process will make the best use out of limited transportation dollars.