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GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**  
LANSING

BRADLEY C. WIEFERICH, P.E.  
DIRECTOR

August 28, 2024

**TO: Rural Task Force Program Agencies**

**SUBJECT: FYs 2026 - 2029 Local Rural Task Force Program Call for Projects**

The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) in conjunction with the Rural Task Force (RTF) Program Advisory Board is issuing a "Call for Projects" in non-urban areas for Fiscal Years (FYs) 2026 - 2029. The purpose of this call is to solicit projects from local rural highway and transit agencies wishing to utilize Federal Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBG and State Transportation Economic Development Fund-Category D (TEDF D) funding for FYs 2026-2029. Projects selected to receive STBG and TEDF D funding will be included in the FYs 2026-2029 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). The FYs 2026 - 2029 STIP will cover the four fiscal years between October 1, 2025, and September 30, 2029.

Through the call, it is anticipated that MDOT will designate approximately \$64 million in FY 2026 to \$68 million in FY 2029 of STBG allocation and \$10 million of TEDF D funds annually to the Rural Task Force Program for FYs 2026-2029. STBG funds require at least a 20 percent non-federal match and TEDF D funds require at least 20 percent non-state match. All funds must be spent on construction costs, contingencies for roadway projects, or transit capital projects. Right-Of-Way, construction engineering, and preliminary engineering costs are not eligible.

In FY 2018, the Rural Task Force Program Advisory Board set the policy to program projects to 100 percent of the allocation targets. In recent years the federal obligation authority has been 85-87 percent of the allocation targets. Programming above the obligation authority allows full utilization of the obligation authority and of August redistribution. Funding targets may be adjusted in the future to reflect updated state and/or federal legislation or unanticipated factors.

Rural projects included in the STIP are scheduled to be obligated in the fiscal year they are shown. To be included in the STIP, each respective Rural Task Force must approve the projects and submit selected projects, utilizing the 1799 or 1797 data sheets, for FYs 2026 - 2029 to their Regional Planning Agency (RPA) Representative no later than January 14, 2025. Because this is a S/TIP development year, local (county) RTF meetings are required to select projects to be brought forward for final approval by the regional RTF committee. RPAs will program the FYs 2026 - 2029 projects in JobNet and forward their program/project lists to MDOT no later than February 11, 2025. Programs submitted to the RPAs must be financially constrained to their annual allocation targets.

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If you have any questions regarding the Local Rural Task Force Program or would like an MDOT representative to attend your Rural Task Force meetings, please contact either me or the MDOT RTF Program Manager, Brian Stark, at (517) 582-4970 or [StarkB1@Michigan.gov](mailto:StarkB1@Michigan.gov).

Sincerely,

Todd White, Chair  
Rural Task Force Program Advisory Board

Enclosures

cc: Rural Task Force Program Advisory Board