

# Sault Ste. Marie/Kinross Small Urban Meeting

August 4, 2021 9:00 AM

AGENDA ITEM	UPDATE/ACTION
1. CALL TO ORDER	Meeting began at 9:06 AM.
2. ATTENDANCE	Rob Laitinen, Manager Chippewa County Road Commission, Tyler Perron, City of Sault Ste. Marie; Pete Paramski, Director, Akemi Gordan, Finance Director - EUPTA; Joel Amo, Transportation Coordinator, City of SSM/Mackinac County, CLMCAA; Ellen Benoit, EUPRP&DC Small Urban RPA Coordinator Via Zoom - Wendy Hoffman, Transportation Coordinator Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians; Mark Kloha, Small Urban Program MDOT, Chuck Lindstrom, MDOT Transit
3. SMALL URBAN PROGRAM PURPOSE	Cities, villages, transit agencies, and road commissions located within or serving urbanized areas as defined by U.S. Census with a population of 5,000 to 50,000 are eligible to receive federal Surface Transportation Program (STP) funds from the Small Urban Program. Federal guidelines require an open meeting during the project selection. Additional funding through the COVID-19 Relief Highway Improvement Program (HIP) was allocated in the amount of \$81,204 per Small Urban Area. This funding needs to be obligated by FY 2024. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the programming of these HIP funds. Members of the Small Urban Committees who are invited to the meeting include units of government, road commission, and transit agencies serving those areas. Tribal representation is also invited to provide comment and input on proposals.
4. HIP COVID Relief Fund Obligation	<p>Member request: EUP Transportation Authority has seen an increase in engineering estimates for their new administrative building due to the rising cost and shortage of building materials and also has need for maintenance equipment (snow removal and lawncare equipment). They are requesting the use of the COVID-19 HIP Relief funds to help alleviate this need.</p> <p>Discussion was held by the group on other members needs.</p> <p>The City of SSM has the Meridian Street job coming up in FY 2022 for the SSM Small Urban area which also needs additional funding, but it is not known how much at this time.</p> <p>Chippewa Co. Road Commission has the Industrial Drive project in the Kinross Small Urban area scheduled for FY 2021 which is going through the process to get obligated and may need additional funding there – unless it is unable to get obligated and they lose the funds. M. Khola said there is some wiggle room on that project and MDOT should be able to work with the road commission to get that job obligated if not in FY 2021 than in FY 2022 as there was a shortfall of funds available in 2021 and more funds available in FY 2022 due to an imbalance of projects State-wide. Estimates for the job are not finalized at this time so it is possible that there won't be a need for additional funds depending on the extent/cost of the project.</p> <p><b>A motion was made to grant EUPTA the SSM Small Urban Covid Relief HIP funds in the amount of \$81,204 to be used towards Equipment and the new Administration Building by R. Laitinen. P. Paramski supported that motion. CCRC – Yes, CLMCAA – Yes, EUPTA – Yes, City of SSM - Abstain</b></p> <p><b>A motion to allocate the Kinross Small Urban Covid Relief HIP funds in the amount of \$81,204 to CCRC with the understanding that if all of the funds were not needed then any available funds left would go to EUPTA for their needs was made by CCRC and supported by EUPTA. It was a unanimous vote of approval.</b></p>

5. MEMBER COMMENTS	<p>CLM CAA J. Amo reported that they did get their office equipment and there was a small amount of cost savings.</p> <p>W. Hoffman, Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians reported that she has submitted multiple grant applications through various programs and looks forward to collaborating with members on future projects. She will follow up with an email.</p> <p>E. Benoit announced that MDOT will be sending out the Call for Projects for FY 2024-2026 soon and another meeting will be held in the early fall to develop the Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP).</p>
6. PUBLIC COMMENTS	There were no public comments.
7. ADJOURNMENT	Meeting was adjourned at 10:06 AM.