

Sault Ste. Marie Small Urban Meeting held via Zoom

February 18, 2021; 9:00 AM

AGENDA ITEM	UPDATE/ACTION
1. CALL TO ORDER	Meeting began at 9:00 AM.
2. ATTENDANCE	David Boyle, Engineer City of Sault Ste. Marie; Pete Paramski, Director, Akemi Gordan, Finance Director EUPTA; Joel Amo, Transportation Coordinator, City of SSM/Mackinac County, CLMCAA; Wendy Hoffman, Transportation Coordinator Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians; Rob Laitinen, Manager Chippewa County Road Commission, Mark Kloha, Small Urban Program MDOT, Vince Bevins, Superior Region Planning, MDOT; Ellen Benoit, EUPRP&DC Small Urban RPA Coordinator
3. SMALL URBAN PROGRAM PURPOSE	D. Boyle explained the City's request to use the Small Urban funds allocated to the FY2022 3 Mile Road project to Meridian Street from Easterday Avenue to W. 12 th St. The reason for the change request is that additional funding for 3 Mile Road was received through the Category F fund that would free up these Small Urban funds for much needed improvement on this segment. Meridian Street is a federal-aid eligible road. P.Paramski made the motion to approve the change request. A second was made by R. Laitinen. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.
4. Member Updates	<p>R. Laitinen requested a list of the priority projects for the upcoming years. W. Hoffman also wants a copy. E. Benoit will send that list out to all members. EUPRP&DC is in process of moving offices to the SmartZone so will have to wait until the network is back up and running.</p> <p>R. Laitinen asked MDOT Vince/Mark if they were aware of any additional funds coming up. Mark Kloha does have some funds coming and is working on the plan for distribution so will get the information out as soon as possible. Emails were sent to RPA about the HIP funds for the Rural Task Force. E. Benoit will double check emails and forward those on to RTF members. M. Kloha also mentioned that they were working towards balancing the even and odd year funding - right now 2021 is over programmed and 2022 under so working with members to get volunteers to re-balance. R. Laitinen asked who they can lobby to try and get an increase in allotment for the Small Urban program as the amount of \$375,000 has never increased in the 16 years that he has been in the program and the program is underfunded. M. Khola agreed that it is needed, hears the same from members around the State, and offered that members can lobby MDOT and send letters to legislators. The forthcoming HIP funds are only a small amount, but will be something around \$70,000-\$90,000 for FY 2022-2023.</p>
5. PUBLIC COMMENTS	No public comments.
6. ADJOURNMENT	Meeting was adjourned at 9:20 AM