

WELCOME!

*Brandenburg Park
Chesterfield Township*



AGENDA

- **Welcome and Introductions**
- **Promoting tourism on Lake St. Clair**
 - *Matt Carr, CPRP, Recreation Coordinator, Chesterfield Township and Amanda Metdepenningen, Communications Assistant, Chesterfield Township*
- **Blue Economy on the St. Clair River**
 - *Sheri Faust, Co-Founder and Executive Director, Friends of the St. Clair River*
- **Guide to Transportation Planning**
 - *Trevor Layton, Communications Manager, SEMCOG*
- **Supporting different leaders / leadership styles**
 - *This roundtable discussion will focus on collective experience and lessons learned from supporting different leaders.*

The logo for SEMCOG, featuring the acronym in a large, bold, dark blue sans-serif font. The letters are closely spaced, with the 'S' and 'E' being particularly prominent. The background of the slide includes a dark blue horizontal bar at the top and a white background with a thin orange line below the top bar.

SEMCOG

SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

A graphic element consisting of a wide orange trapezoidal shape pointing to the left, with a dark blue horizontal bar at its base. The text 'COMMUNICATORS NETWORK' is centered within the orange portion in a white, all-caps, sans-serif font.

COMMUNICATORS NETWORK

SEMCOG MEMBERS

★ 188 ★
TOTAL

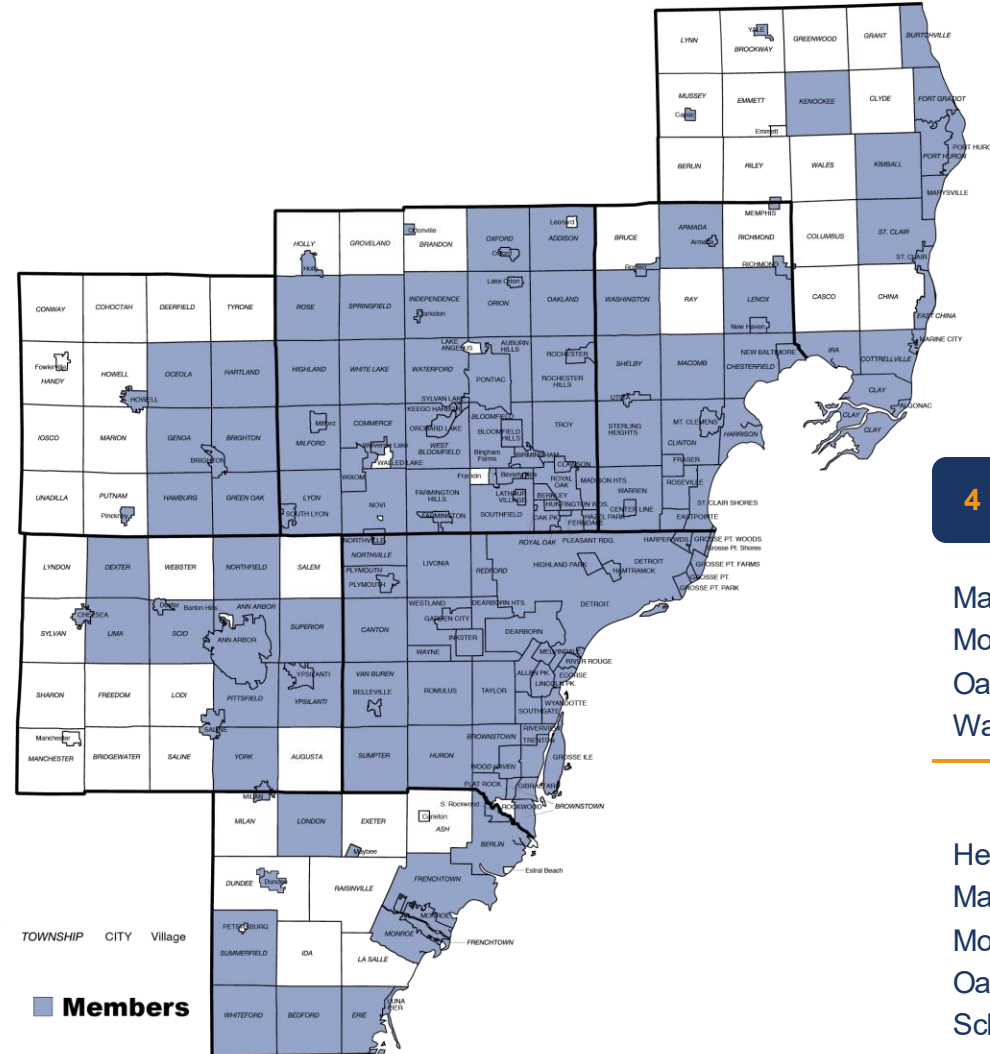
88 CITIES

16 VILLAGES

66 TOWNSHIPS

7 COUNTIES

Livingston, Macomb, Monroe,
Oakland, St. Clair, Washtenaw,
and Wayne



4 ISDs | 7 COMMUNITY COLLEGES

Macomb Intermediate School District
Monroe County Intermediate School District
Oakland Schools
Wayne County Regional Educational Service Agency

Henry Ford College
Macomb Community College
Monroe Community College
Oakland Community College
Schoolcraft College
Washtenaw Community College
Wayne County Community College District

SEMCOG VISION

All people of Southeast Michigan benefit from a connected, thriving region of small towns, dynamic urban centers, active waterfronts, diverse neighborhoods, premiere educational institutions and abundant agricultural, recreational, and natural areas.



Guide to Transportation Planning

Trevor Layton

Communications Manager,
SEMCOG

GUIDE TO TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

- Purpose: Support (guide) stakeholders with...
 - Basic understanding of SEMCOG and the region's transportation system
 - Briefly define regional challenges and opportunities as seen through SEMCOG planning areas
 - Introduce how transportation planning works in our region
 - Public engagement opportunities



GUIDE TO TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

Regional Transportation Planning

Transportation planning refers to a set of practices and programs that work to ensure public dollars intended to improve and maintain our shared **transportation system** are spent effectively. Government leaders rely on a combination of data collection and analysis, regional forecast modeling, community input gathering, and public review to make investment decisions for the **region's** highways, **public transit** systems, bicycle and pedestrian routes, and local roads and bridges.

SEMCOG, the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments, is a regional partnership of over 185 local governments. We support regional planning throughout the seven counties of Southeast Michigan. This includes the development of a **Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)**, and a four-year list of federally funded transportation projects called the **Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)**, along with several other key regional plans on topics such as economic development, water resources, and parks and recreation.

THIS GUIDE PROVIDES AN EXPLANATION OF:

Our shared transportation resources and assets

Who is responsible for the various parts of our shared transportation system

Regional challenges and opportunities related to transportation planning

SEMCOG's role in coordinating with various transportation partners

How to get involved



GUIDE TO TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

page.

SEMCOG Transportation Committees

COMMITTEE	FUNCTIONS
Transportation Coordinating Council	Guides SEMCOG policies, with committees and task forces engaging stakeholders across the region.
↳ Civic Advisory Committee	Learn more on page 22.
Federal Aid Committees	Guides transportation planning across the region by recommending regional projects.
Rural Task Force #1	SEMCOG serves as the Rural Task Force #1, which annually estimates the money available for implementing rural transportation projects.
Transportation Safety Action Committee	Exchanges information on transportation safety efforts in the region and monitors the implementation of the Southeast Michigan Transportation Safety Plan.
Freight Task Force	Consists of key public and private stakeholders who guide the Southeast Michigan Freight Task Force.
Southeast Michigan Active Transportation Committee	Advances the regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Mobility Plan through updates, collaboration, and strategy.

3

Southeast Michigan's transportation network is vast and no single mode works in isolation. An effective transportation system connects all modes: roads, public transit, biking and walking, freight, and more. This system improves mobility and the quality of life for people in the region.



GUIDE TO TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

Southeast Michigan's Transportation System

BY THE NUMBERS



25,000 miles of public roads
4,000 miles of all-season truck routes
3,000 bridges



33 million domestic and international travelers at
Detroit Metropolitan Airport in 2025
18 regional airports
4 cargo airports



7 marine ports
29 commercial marine terminals
7 international border crossings

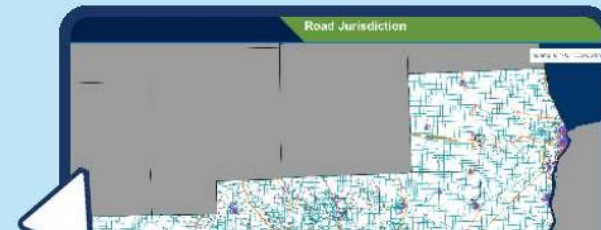


2,300 miles of fixed-route bus service
9 fixed-route transit providers

Who is Responsible for the Roads and bridges?

Southeast Michigan contains 29,304 miles of roads and over 3,500 bridges within its seven counties, 93 cities, 24 villages, and 115 townships. Each of these levels of government, along with the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT), have different ownership and responsibility to maintain infrastructure. We know that when people are using the transportation system they don't necessarily know (or care!) who "owns" the asset—they simply expect it to be safe and reliable. That being said, when support is needed, it is important to know who is responsible.

SEMCOG's Road Jurisdiction Map shows the ownership/responsibility of road and bridge infrastructure throughout the region.



GUIDE TO TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

Challenges and Opportunities

Access to Core Services

Transportation access to core services is fundamentally about having options—not only where people can go, but how easily and efficiently we can get there. SEMCOG's Transportation Access to Core Services report evaluates the ease with which residents can reach everyday opportunities – jobs, schools, healthcare facilities, grocery stores, parks, childcare, and more – within a reasonable amount of time.

2025



Driving is by far the most dominant mode of reaching core services throughout Southeast Michigan. Across nearly all core services measured, shifting from driving to non-driving modes—walking, biking, or fixed-route transit—substantially reduces access.

Example: How trips to the grocery store illustrate access challenges by mode

- Within a 10-minute drive, 97% of households have access to a grocery store
- To reach a grocery store by fixed-route transit within 30 minutes, 39% have access
- 57% can access a grocery store within a 10-minute bike ride and 13% in a 10-minute walk

GUIDE TO TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

As severe flooding events persist and rainfall patterns increase going forward, SEMCOG is working to understand vulnerabilities in the region's transportation and infrastructure networks and determine best practices to address these challenges. To support effective planning solutions for flooding and other environmental challenges, SEMCOG has developed and launched applications such as the Flood Risk Tool and Eco Planning Tool.

As part of its regional transportation process, SEMCOG performs **Air Quality Conformity Analysis** to measure air quality attainment and protect Southeast Michigan's public health. As required by federal transportation programs, impacts on **Environmental Justice** populations are also analyzed and considered in project selection.

The [Southeast Michigan Healthy Climate Plan](#) identifies the region's major sources of greenhouse gas emissions and tracks how energy is used across sectors. Based on this analysis, the Plan outlines comprehensive pathways to reduce emissions, improve energy efficiency, and support economic development across Southeast Michigan through 2050. It focuses on five regional opportunities:

- *Modernize Mobility Systems*
- *Promote Efficient, Affordable Homes and Buildings*



SEMCOG's Flooding Task Force meets regularly to collaborate and develop a comprehensive regional plan.

CONNECTIONS BETWEEN TRANSPORTATION AND LAND USE

The value of Southeast Michigan's transportation system is based on how well it connects people with the places they want and need to go. Safety, travel time, and mobility options are all key considerations for planning, as are the locations of our region's job centers, schools,

GUIDE TO TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

Economic Development

Transportation is integral to the regional economy of Southeast Michigan. The [Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy \(CEDS\)](#) for Southeast Michigan was adopted in 2026. Developed under the guidance of SEMCOG's multi-sector Economic Development Council, the CEDS informs regional and local efforts related to supporting economic development and promoting prosperity. The CEDS focuses on three interrelated pillars:



Great Places

Southeast Michigan's Place assets feature quality-of-life amenities such as the Great Lakes and natural areas that support recreation and culture; historic downtowns, dynamic urban centers and unique neighborhoods; accessible mobility options for people and goods; high-quality universities, colleges, and school systems; first-class medical facilities and healthcare services; and much more. These make Southeast Michigan a desirable location to live, work, visit, and conduct business.

Freight

Freight is the movement of goods from one place to another, and it is essential to our economy and quality of life. Southeast Michigan's extensive network of highways, railroads, airports, water ports, and border crossings position the region as a hub for domestic and international freight movement. Freight is predominantly moved by private companies using both public and private infrastructure. Due to the broadness and complexity of freight movement, effective planning requires strong partnerships and coordination among all industry partners and each level of government.

Federal freight funding is primarily provided to state departments of transportation, though some competitive federal discretionary grant programs are available for local and regional freight improvements. These grants often require significant collaboration among public and private stakeholders. SEMCOG brings these partners together, identifying shared priorities, and helping advance freight investments that strengthen the regional economy.

GUIDE TO TRANSPORTATION PLANNING



2 Transportation Agency Review

Ownership of the asset-sidewalk, transit route, road will determine how an idea is considered for feasibility and funding eligibility.



3 Planning

Generally transportation agencies have plans that guide long term investments and future asset management needs. SEMCOG is required to develop [the Regional Transportation Plan](#), which brings together a vision for how available federal funding will be invested in transportation projects over the next 20 years.

Attend Public Meetings

SEMCOG holds public meetings while we create our transportation plans, and each meeting has an opportunity for **public comment**. These meetings are open to everyone. They are a great opportunity to hear directly from the experts, ask questions, and give your thoughts on new projects.

You can also attend **Federal-Aid Committee** meetings. These are a good place to speak up and have an impact on decisions about local infrastructure. .



semcog.org/events



GUIDE TO TRANSPORTATION PLANNING



Make Your Needs Known

If you have ideas or see problems in your neighborhood, you can contact the right local agency to report them. SEMCOG has a map that shows which agency is in charge of each road. This helps you know exactly who to talk to so your voice is heard.

Join the Civic Advisory Committee

The **Civic Advisory Committee** is a direct way to help shape transportation decisions for our region. This committee is made up of local groups and residents from across the seven counties in Southeast Michigan and reports to the **Transportation Coordinating Council**.

These meetings let you stay involved in important new plans. They also give you a direct way to share your feedback with the

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Transportation Contacts

Road Agencies

The following agencies are responsible for planning, building, and maintaining public roads, bridges, and traffic infrastructure within their specific county.

City of Detroit Department of Public Works

 detroitmi.gov

 313-224-3901

Livingston County Road Commission

 livingstonroads.org

 517-546-4250

Monroe County Road Commission

 mrcr-mi.org

 734-240-5100

GUIDE TO TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

Y & A C R O N Y M S

Glossary & Acronyms

roller-blading are all types of active – or nonmotorized – transportation.

Public Comment

Feedback from the public as part of the region's public involvement process.

Public Transit

High-capacity passenger transportation services operating on schedules along designated routes or lines with specific stops.

Region

A metropolitan that includes urban and rural subregions. The Southeast Michigan region is made up of Livingston, Macomb, Monroe, Oakland, St. Clair, Washtenaw, and Wayne Counties.

Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)