

St. Clair County Transportation Study (SCCOTS)

The SCCOTS program provides participating local units of government and transportation agencies access to “pass-through” federal and state transportation funds. Other services offered to local governments, transportation agencies, and the citizens and businesses they serve include assistance, advice and education on particular transportation issues, projects, and programs. The SCCOTS program is also involved with transportation issue advocacy at the regional, state and national levels.

St. Clair County is one of seven counties that are part of the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG); which is designated to serve as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)/ Transportation Management Area (TMA) for St. Clair County. Transportation policy and funding decisions made by SCCOTS committees are forwarded to SEMCOG for further action. SCCOTS activities and programs complement and enhance those of SEMCOG.

SCCOTS Policy (Metropolitan Planning Commission)

Administers the SCCOTS program and decrees transportation planning policy. This committee meets on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 3pm.

SCCOTS Advisory Committee

In addition to taking official action as Federal Aid Committee (FAC) for St. Clair County, its function is to make recommendations to the MPC on each transportation issue that comes before it. SAC membership is open to all St. Clair County local units of government (e.g., cities, villages and townships), the County Board of Commissioners, the MPC, other transportation-oriented agencies such as the Blue Water Area Transportation Commission (BWATC), the St. Clair County Road Commission (SCCRC), the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT), and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). SCCOTS encourages members of the general public to participate in the meetings and activities of the SAC. This committee meets on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 9:30am.

SCCOTS Technical Subcommittee

The SCCOTS Technical Subcommittee (STS) is responsible for analyzing technical issues at the request of the SAC. One of the Technical Subcommittee’s principal activities is the development of priority lists for the inclusion of projects in SCCOTS and SEMCOG’s Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The membership of the STS is comprised of SCCOTS Advisory Committee members that represent Act 51 agencies. All decisions made by the Technical Subcommittee are forwarded to the Advisory Committee for action. This committee meets as needed.

Being a Transportation Study Area there are three documents that the Federal Highway Administration requires:

- **Long Range Transportation Plan**- A plan that outlines planning principles, goals, and objectives for the next 25 years. Is updated every four years.
- **Transportation Improvement Program**- A list of federally funded transportation projects for a four year time period, developed with fiscal constraints. The current TIP is for 2020-2023.
- **Unified Planning Work Program**- A document that outlines the planning activities that we plan to accomplish each year; developed every year for the upcoming fiscal year. We go by SEMCOG’s Fiscal Year which is July 1-June 30.