



www.M119TunnelofTrees.org

M-119 TUNNEL OF TREES SCENIC HERITAGE ROUTE COMMITTEE AGENDA

Tuesday, October 8, 2024 at 9:30 AM

**Readmond Township Hall
6034 Wormwood Lane, Harbor Springs, MI 49740**

I. Welcome and Introductions

II. Review Minutes of September 10, 2024 Meeting

III. Agenda Review

IV. Partner Reports (If Available)

- a. Emmet County Planning and Zoning
- b. Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians
- c. Little Traverse Conservancy
- d. Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT)
- e. Networks Northwest
- f. Committee Member comments – not otherwise on agenda.

V. On-going & Unfinished Business

- a. Adopt-a-highway program
- b. Review Fiscal Year 2024 Budget and accomplishments.
- c. Review Fiscal Year 2025 Annual Work Plan & work on plans for accomplishing goals
- d. MDOT – Byways Workshop in Gaylord 11/4/24 – Possible attendance?
- e. DALMAC info report – Jim Anderson
- f. Byways Annual Evaluation Report – Due 12/31/24?
- g. Set meeting dates and locations for 2025.
- h. Prep for new Committee Chair beginning on 10/1/25.

VI. New Business

VII. Public Comment

VIII. Adjournment

Next meeting on Tuesday, April 8, 2025 – Cross Village Township Hall, 5954 Wadsworth, Cross Village, MI 49740 at 9:30 AM



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M-119 TUNNEL OF TREES SCENIC HERITAGE ROUTE COMMITTEE

DRAFT Minutes

Tuesday, September 13th, 2024

West Traverse Township Hall

8001 M-119, Harbor Springs, MI 49740

Committee Members Present

Dale Scott, Friendship Township (Chair)
Franz Neubrecht, Emmet County Lakeshore Association
Naomi Singer, Cross Village Township
Garon Gopigian, West Traverse Township
Sue Rentrop, Cross Village / Emmet County Lakeshore Association
Laurelynn Harris, Cross Village Township
Don Schaplowsky, Readmond Township
Jerry Root, Readmond Township
Joey Arbaugh, West Traverse Township
Carolyn Sandford, West Traverse Township
Jim Anderson, Friendship Township
James Fisher, Friendship Township

Partners Present

Neil Ahrens, Emmet County Commissioner, District 2 Friendship Township & West Traverse Township)
Isha Pithwa, Networks Northwest
Heidi Phaneuf, MDOT
Ethan Reld, MDOT
Tammy Doernenburg, Emmet County Planning and Zoning Director

Others Present

Linda Rosalik, Cross Village Township Committee Member

Absent

Hillary Taylor, Emmet County
Larry Wallen, Readmond Township
Joe Tomlinson, Readmond Township
Lisa Fineout, Readmond Township Supervisor
Caitlin Donnelly, Little Traverse Conservancy

I. Welcome and Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 9:31 by Chair Dale Scott. Chair led attendance by introduction/roll call to note members' presence at the meeting. With the introductions, Dale Scott read the Mission Statement of The M-119 Scenic Heritage Route.

II. Review and Adoption of Minutes from August 13th, 2024

*Motion by Sue Rentrop, supported by Jim Anderson, to approve the August meeting minutes. All in favor.
Motion passed unanimously.*

III. Agenda Review

None

IV. Partner Reports

- a. **Emmet County Planning and Zoning (ECPZ)** – Tammy updated in response to the minutes from August meeting that she shared/attached information in the packet with regards to tree cutting and right-of-way. Emmet County is working on the Master plan – requested the group to provide any comments regards to the master plan and community if they have any. Planning commission has been working on updating the zoning ordinance and the most recent work was on Accessory building units – increasing the size allowable in some zoning districts while increasing the number of units in some zoning districts. Friendship Township has opposed to that proposal given the reason that it takes out the rural character of the township. The discussion followed the review of setback rules and right-of way. Part of this section is the discussion for the New Business Item (a.)
- b. **LTBBOI** – No report or updates.
- c. **LTC** – Note from Caitlyn – needs some educational materials (brochures) for the new contacts. Building trail this fall near Woodys Woods.
- d. **MDOT** – Update from Heidi – Slope restoration project is ongoing and will be completed by the end of November. Updated about the 2026 chip seal along TOT and gravel shoulders. Updated about the North Region Active Transportation Plan – the draft and maps will be shared soon and asked the group that if they have any comments or input on future connections desired, to please share so it can be included in the plan.

Committee – Culvert and water issue by 5 Mile Rd needs work and attention to resolve. Tree trimming work needed - 1.5 south of the Cross Village Hall. Suggested to MDOT to periodically run tree checks for trimming/removal/dead tree check in case there needs some work. Heidi will request the MDOT staff for evaluating the trees for any immediate work needed and make it a periodical check and pass update to Isha.

Continuing the New Business Item (b.) – Dale updated the group about conversation with Tod Neiss. The Tree Maintenance Survey was done during the last management plan update. Hence, another tree survey is suggested sometime in 2026.

West Traverse Township hall to Forest Beach rd (West Traverse Township) discussion on the tree trimming – MDOT’s answers that any tree trimming requests within the ROW requires a permits which they would not get for that area because of the steepness of the slope. The township is going to work on the ordinance similar to the county ordinance for the Shoreline Bluff protection ordinance. And currently there will be no trimming within the ROW.

e. **Networks Northwest (NN)** – Isha provided an update on the FY2024 budget concerning sign improvements. The group had previously discussed the sign improvements, after which Isha had a follow-up conversation with Clayton. While there is an option to submit another budget change request for FY2024, completing the necessary tasks within the remaining time frame presents challenges. These tasks include identifying which signs to improve, locations, obtaining cost estimates, contracting, signs work, invoicing, and reimbursement—all within three weeks before the September 30th deadline. Additionally, we would need to submit a budget change request to MDOT before starting the work, which is unlikely to be feasible within the given timeline. The suggestion is to use the remaining FY2024 funds, totaling \$522.30, for additional print materials. Meanwhile, we can utilize current meeting time and the October meeting time to discuss and develop the FY2025 budget in detail. If the group is interested in pursuing sign improvements, we can create a cost estimate by the October meeting and establish a detailed plan for each element. This plan would be attached to the FY2025 budget, and we would submit a budget change request to MDOT accordingly for FY25. By preparing a solid action plan, we can avoid multiple budget change requests each month and prevent the time crunch experienced in FY2024. The discussion on this topic continues in Item V.

f. **Committee Members Comment –**

- o Laurelynn Harris - conveyed the issue with GFL trash on their inconsistent trash collection times while the issue seemed inconsistent with the TOT byways works and along the Adopt-the highway program.

V. **Ongoing and Unfinished Business**

- a. **Adopt-A-Highway Program** – Carolyn updated the group about the next pickup – September 21-29. Encouraged to help with the pickup – if the weather is bad you can still pick up the bags will be collected sooner or later.
- b. **Review Fiscal Year 2024 Budget and Expenditure (Sign cleanup)** – Continued discussion from item IV (e.). Suggested to use the remaining funds for the year 2024 in doing additional prints. The committee discussed and decided that printing both brochures i.e., Share the Road and the M119 Management Plan brochure to print as many that could be printed within the remaining budget.

Motion by James Fisher, supported by Naomi Signer, to spend the remaining balance of \$522.30 of the budget (FY2024) on printing the two trifold brochures i.e., Share the Road and M-119 management plan brochure. All in favor. None opposed. Motion passed unanimously.

c. **Review Fiscal Year 2025 Annual Work Plan Budget & work on plans for accomplishing goals–**

The FY2025 has three items – website (\$500), printing (\$1000) and tree assessment (\$250). The group discussed on the action items and budget amount assigned. The discussed continued on having action items and a plan for each item before submitting another change request for budget for FY2025. The discussion lead to not keeping the printing for \$1000 while planning for sign improvements between current meeting and October to prepare for a sign improvements plan document with estimates and then submit the budget change request to MDOT with a solid plan. Proposed a sign improvements need study and cost estimate document preparation to decide for the \$ amount and budget distribution.

Tree assessment can be done via MDOT – Heidi will clarify if there needs to be some amount for

MDOT/ anyone that does the Tree Assessment. Decided to keep tree assessment line item as is for the time. Discussion ended with waiting for a cost estimate on Sign improvements to decide on other action items and their \$ amount.

- d. **Presentation to Emmet County Commissioners 9/19/24**– Dale will do a presentation to Emmet County Commissioners to present and take a few handouts as well on the 19th September. Asked the group if they wanted to join.
- e. **MDOT Byways Workshop in Gaylord 11/4/24 – Possible attendance?** Isha sent out information on the meeting and shared the flyer and asked the group to sign up for it. More details will be sent out soon as they become available.

VI. New Business

- a. **Review of setback rules for the TOT – information attached to the Sept meeting packet from Emmet County**
- b. **Review of Tree Maintenance Survey Status – information attached to the Sept meeting packet**
- c. **Review of Right-of-way maps - information attached to the Sept meeting packet**

Items a., b., and c. were discussed during partner reports and on-going and unfinished business.

Other Clarification –

Tree Maintenance survey: periodical check from MDOT for tree trimming or any work necessary. This check/study pertains to leaning trees, tree trimming needs assessment, dead tree removal etc.

Tree Disease assessment: assessment/survey/study that is done during the management plan update and the study pertains to identifying diseases.

VII. Comments from the public and the board.

- Linda updated the group about the Cross Village Master Plan (10year) – The ordinance has been approved and advertised. The 1st meeting will be Oct 1st (Tuesday) at 5:30 at the Cross Village Community Center and all are welcome. The meeting will discuss the bylaws, committee, roles and responsibilities.
- Contacting bicycle groups for information and keeping update with the group to inform about their upcoming ride or events.
- M26 – signs of lodging and other advertisement along the parking and scenic byway informing that it takes away from the character of the scenic route
- RFC Fire Department has Barn Dance and Potluck announcement – 28th Sept at the Bliss Barn.

VIII. Adjourn

Next meeting on October 8th, 2024 Readmond Township - 6034 Wormwood Ln, Harbor Springs, MI 49740 at 9:30 AM.

*Motion by Dale Scott to adjourn the meeting at 10:51 AM. Supported by Joey Arbaugh Fisher.
Motion passes.*

Clayton Sigmann was unable to attend today's TOT meeting, but he has provided a report for the committee. He has also requested that I circulate the Byways Workshop flyer, which I have attached to the packet. Below is Clayton's update:

Report:

1. The Byway Workshop's registration is open, the registration requests have been sent out through the byway delivery system. If you have not already, please sign-up for the Byways Delivery system, I (Isha) have the instructions to sign-up and can send those along to the committee. But, regarding the workshop, it will be held in Gaylord November 4th, for those worried about attending in-person, there will be a virtual attendance option for the afternoon session, which will focus on byway management from a local byway committee member's perspective. If you wish to be included in the afternoon session, you will still need to register through the link. I (Isha) have passed around the byway's flyer, so please take a look or a picture if you need to as it comes around.
2. The 2024 Notice of Funding Opportunity for the National Scenic Byways Program has been announced and will close December 16th 2024. These are larger grants aimed at projects along the byway and cast a wide net for projects that can be funded. However, these grants require a bit of technical base, so if there is a desire to pursue a project, please reach out to Heidi to begin discussing that process. The grants are competitive on a national basis with all other byways in the country and federally recognized tribes, so be sure to actively include MDOT in your application development. Additionally, applications need to be reviewed and prioritized by MDOT, so applications must be submitted to MDOT by November 20th to be considered for submission. More information about the NOFO has been sent out through the Byway Delivery System, and more details will be forthcoming through that distribution system. However, if you have questions on the workshop or this funding opportunity, please send them along to Clayton or bring them to me (Isha).



MONDAY 11/04/24

2024 PURE MICHIGAN BYWAYS WORKSHOP

Please Arrive Ready to Discuss Your Byway and Its Management.

To Best Support the Continuous Management & Planning of Byways Throughout Michigan, MDOT is Organizing a Workshop to Facilitate Open Byway Communication & Collaboration Through a Statewide Perspective.



For more information go to:
[Sign up the 2024 Pure Michigan Byway Workshop Today \(office.com\)](https://www.michigan.gov/office.com)
or scan the QR code

Topics of Discussion:

MDOT's Strategic Plan

Byway Management

Marketing the Byway

Best Practices

UNIVERSITY CENTER

80 Livingston Blvd.
Gaylord, MI 49735
Room U111/112

MDOT-Byways@Michigan.gov

(517)-897-6029

10:00AM – 4:00PM

Bureau of Transportation Planning

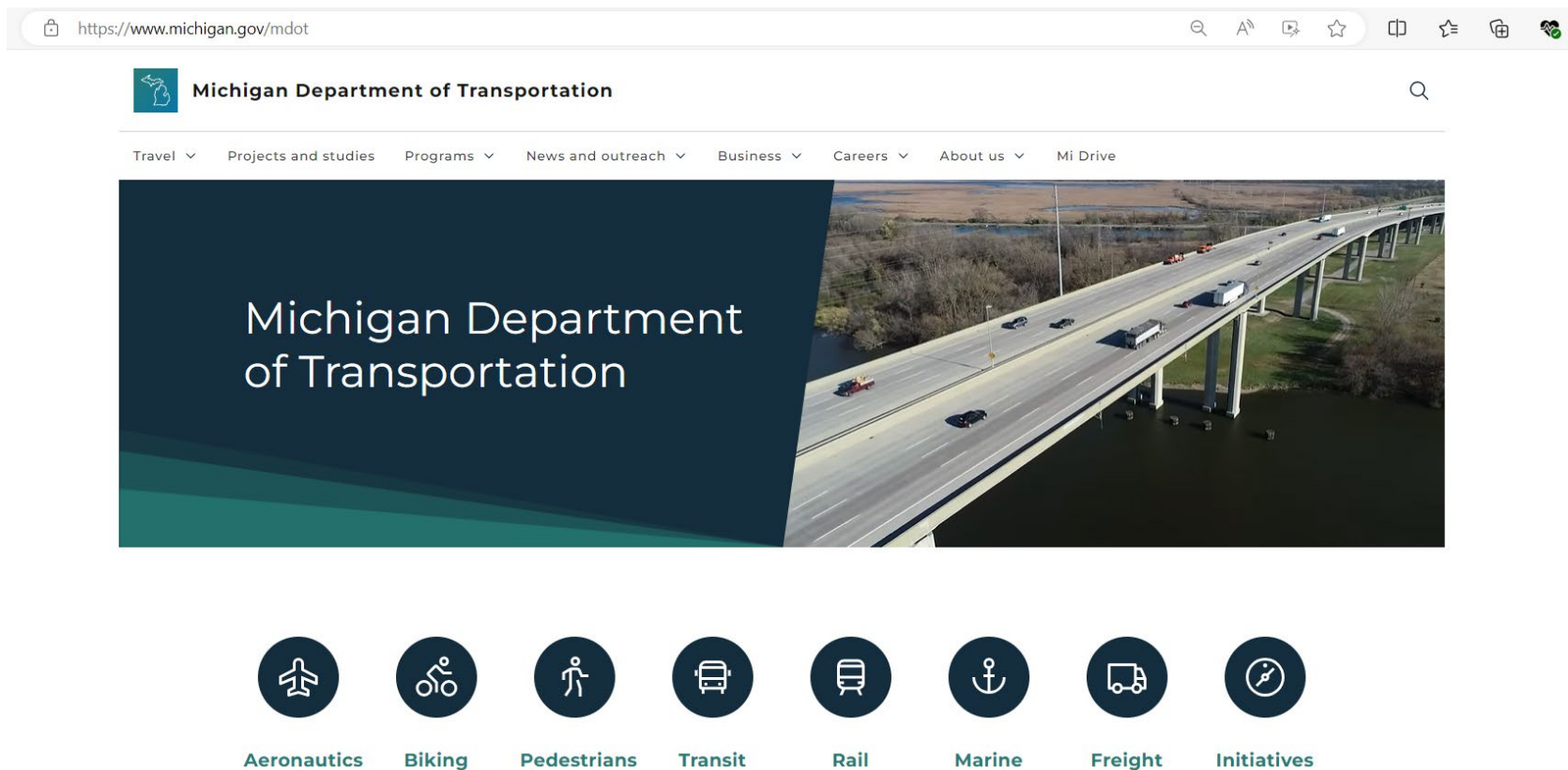
GovDelivery Sign-up
Guidance Documentation



Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) Statewide Planning Section utilizes five Govdelivery listservs to distribute information regarding the metropolitan planning program, the rural task force program, and the small urban program. Anyone interested in any of these programs may sign up to receive announcements directly. Please note that the RTF listserv is used to distribute the RTF Monthly Status Report and the announcement for RTF the monthly meeting.

1. Visit the MDOT Website

- 1.1. Any search engine results in the MDOT Website through a basic Search
- 1.2. Link - [Michigan Department of Transportation](https://www.michigan.gov/mdot) (<https://www.michigan.gov/mdot>)



2. [Navigate to the News and Outreach Dropdown Menu](#)

- 2.1. Navigate to the fourth dropdown menu from right titled “News and Outreach”
- 2.2. Link–[Michigan Department of Transportation](https://www.michigan.gov/mdot) (https://www.michigan.gov/mdot)

The screenshot shows the Michigan Department of Transportation website. The browser address bar displays <https://www.michigan.gov/mdot>. The website header includes the Michigan Department of Transportation logo and a search icon. The navigation menu is open, highlighting the "News and outreach" dropdown menu. The dropdown menu contains the following items:

- Go to News and outreach >
- Media Relations >
- Public Outreach
- News Releases
- Transportation Events
- Transportation Reality Check
- Sign-up for E-mail Updates

At the bottom of the page, there is a dark grey bar with eight circular icons representing different transportation modes: Aeronautics, Biking, Pedestrians, Transit, Rail, Marine, Freight, and Initiatives.

3. Click on “Sign-up for E-mail Updates”

3.1. Within the dropdown menu titled “News and Outreach” navigate to the final link titled “Sign-up for E-mail Updates”

3.2. Link–[Michigan Department of Transportation](https://www.michigan.gov/mdot) (<https://www.michigan.gov/mdot>)

The screenshot shows a web browser at the URL <https://www.michigan.gov/mdot>. The page header includes the Michigan Department of Transportation logo and a search icon. A navigation menu is visible with the following items: Travel, Projects and studies, Programs, News and outreach, Business, Careers, About us, and Mi Drive. The 'News and outreach' menu is expanded, showing a list of options: Go to News and outreach, Media Relations, Public Outreach, News Releases, Transportation Events, Transportation Reality Check, and Sign-up for E-mail Updates. The 'Sign-up for E-mail Updates' option is highlighted with a white background.

4. Sign-in or Sign-up to manage your MDOT Subscriptions

- 4.1. Depending on your status, you may have previously signed up for E-mail Updates and would need to Sign-in, if not you will need to sign-up for E-mail Updates. Enter your E-mail address and click Submit. (If Signing-in, your password is needed)
- 4.2. Link - [Michigan DOT \(govdelivery.com\)](https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/MIDOT/subscriber/new) (https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/MIDOT/subscriber/new)



Email Updates

To sign up for updates or to access your subscriber preferences, please enter your contact information below.

Subscription Type

Email Address *

5. Navigate the Subscription Topics to the Planning Group

- 5.1. Navigate to the Eleventh Subscription Topic Grouping titled "Planning".
- 5.2. Link - [Michigan DOT \(govdelivery.com\)](https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/MIDOT/subscriber/topics) (https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/MIDOT/subscriber/topics)

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- Bridges
- Contracting/Consultants
- Highway Development
- Highway Field Services
- Permit Systems
- Planning
 - Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO) ⓘ
 - NTFA ⓘ
 - Pure Michigan Byways ⓘ
 - Rural Task Force (RTF) ⓘ
 - Small Urban Areas ⓘ

Submit

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6. Navigate the Planning Group Topics to the Pure Michigan Byways Topic

- 6.1. Navigate to the third Subscription titled "Pure Michigan Byways" in the Planning Group. Select the Topic and any others of interest.
- 6.2. Link – [Michigan DOT \(govdelivery.com\)](https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/MIDOT/subscriber/topics) (https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/MIDOT/subscriber/topics)

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- Highway Development
- Highway Field Services
- Permit Systems
- Planning
 - Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO) ⓘ
 - NTFA ⓘ
 - Pure Michigan Byways ⓘ
 - Rural Task Force (RTF) ⓘ
 - Small Urban Areas ⓘ

Submit

Cancel

7. Navigate the Additional Subscription Offerings

- 7.1. You will be given the option of signing up for listservs from other departments. If you don't wish to sign up for any of other listservs navigate to the bottom of the page.
- 7.2. Link - [Michigan DOT \(govdelivery.com\)](https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/MIDOT/subscriber/topics) (<https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/MIDOT/subscriber/topics>)

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✓ Subscriptions updated [×](#)

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- Get info on free meals this summer and next school year from Michigan School Meals.

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Michigan Executive Office of the Governor

- Press Release
- Constituent Newsletter [↗](#)

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8. Verify Topic Selection and Click Submit

8.1. Verify your topic selections are correct, then navigate to the bottom of the page and click "Submit". A confirmation E-mail will be sent to your email.

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9. Finalize Your Subscription Choices & Finish

9.1. A final page will come up and offer the ability to check your preferences if you choose. If not click the finish button. Your preferences will be saved, and you will then receive notices on those topics.

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Success

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Finish

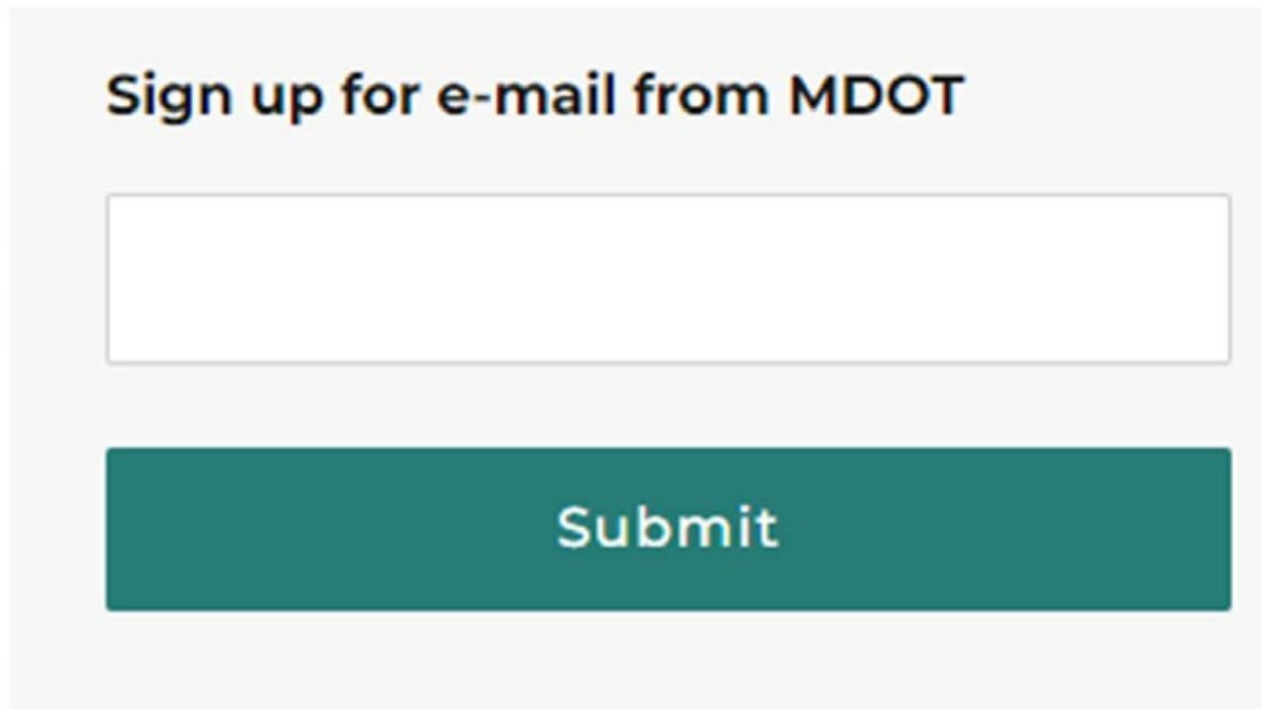
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Alternate Sign-Up Instructions

10. Navigate to the Footer of any MDOT Page

- 10.1. Go to any MDOT public website and scroll to the bottom of the page and find the “Sign up for e-mail from MDOT”. Enter your e-mail address in the box and click the submit button.



The image shows a sign-up form for e-mail from MDOT. It features a title "Sign up for e-mail from MDOT" in bold black text. Below the title is a large, empty white rectangular input field for an email address. At the bottom of the form is a dark teal rectangular button with the word "Submit" written in white text.

11. Enter your Information into the Subscription Widget

11.1. If you are a new user to the system, you will see the screen below. You will need to confirm your e-mail address and if you choose you may set up a password to protect your preferences so that no one can enter you e-mail and change your preferences without entering the password. Read the data privacy policy and check the box if you agree. Once complete click the submit button.

New Subscriber

Subscription Type
Email

Primary Email Address

You must enter a primary email address. You will use this to access and update your subscriptions or modify your subscriber preferences.

Email Address *

Confirm Email Address *

Optional Password

Enter an optional password to add password protection to your subscriber preferences.

Password

Confirm Password

Privacy

By checking this box, you consent to our [data privacy policy](#). *

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12. Select Your Subscription Widget

12.1. The next page will give you list of all of the listservs that are available. Simply click on the box next to the topic that you wish to receive notices on. You can always change these at a future date. The 5 listservs that Statewide Planning utilizes are at the bottom of the page. Once you have made your selections click the submit button.

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- Bridges
- Contracting/Consultants
- Highway Development
- Highway Field Services
- Permit Systems
- Planning
 - Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO)
 - NTFA
 - Pure Michigan Byways
 - Rural Task Force (RTF)
 - Small Urban Areas

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13. Navigate the Additional Subscription Offerings

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14. Finalize Your Subscription Choices & Finish

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Work Order • INVOICE

21377184

Date 9 / 13 20 24
 Job Due _____
 Proof Due ___/___ Time: _____
 Phone Fax Email In Person
 Cust. Contacted _____

Company: NETWORKS NORTHWEST
 Name: ISHA Phone: _____
 Address: _____ Cell: 231-492-8192
 Taken By: DAN Fax _____
 P.O. #: _____

TRACKING INFORMATION
 Ran Order - Initial _____
 Called Customer - Date BH 9-17
 Initial _____

No. Originals	QTY	S	INK	PAPER/COLOR/SIZE	WGT	PAPER	Sort	Staple	Fold	Cut	Drill	Pad	GBC	#ing	Score Perf
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SHARE THE ROAD															
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<input type="checkbox"/> Type/Design - <input type="checkbox"/> CRA <input type="checkbox"/> Disk <input type="checkbox"/> USB <input type="checkbox"/> Email <input type="checkbox"/> Variable Data <input type="checkbox"/> Mailing <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Profit <input type="checkbox"/> Our Permit <input type="checkbox"/> Customer Permit															
<input type="checkbox"/> Lamination _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Mounting <input type="checkbox"/> Trim Only <input type="checkbox"/> Easels															
<input type="checkbox"/> Raised VND: <input type="checkbox"/> BC+ <input type="checkbox"/> BB <input type="checkbox"/> CC <input type="checkbox"/> DL <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____															

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- CASH/CC
- ON ACCT.
- TAX EXEMPT (cash sale)

Sub-Total 522⁰⁰
Tax _____
Postage _____
Shipping _____
Deposit _____
Balance 522⁰⁰

Signature: _____ Date: _____

2025 Michigan Byway Annual Work Plan Budget

Byway Name: M-119 Tunnel of Trees Byway

Byway Coordinator: Networks Northwest Date Form Completed: June 11th 2024

Mailing Address: PO Box 506 Traverse City, MI 49685

Tel: (231) 492 8196 E-mail: isha.pithwa@networksnorthwest.org Web Site: <http://www.m119tunneloftrees.org/>

Priority Marketing Activity/Project for Implementation This Year: Website and Social media

Brief Description:

Social media engagement at a level to be specified in the on-going strategic plan development process. Website improvements to occur following direction within the strategic plan.

Priority Activity/Project for Implementation This Year: Printing

Brief Description:

Updating pamphlets and brochures for education and awareness. Print and distribute.

Priority Marketing Activity/Project for Implementation This Year: Tree Assessment

Brief Description:

Tree Health Assessment Update: Complete bi-annual tree health assessment to monitor trees within the corridor for risks such as age, disease, and deterioration to maintain safety and scenic views throughout.

Michigan Byway Program: Page 1 of 4

2025 Michigan Byway Annual Work Plan Budget

Desired Outcome(s)/Measurable Result(s) for This Year:

Education, awareness, and increased safety along the corridor.

Other Top Priorities (Describe)	In CMP (Y, N)	How does it contribute to the Byway Program mission, vision?	Partners (list)	New or continued activity	Target Start Date	End Target Date	Proposed Outcome
Update guidebook and distribute	Y	Provides information and guidance for the corridor	NN, MDOT, Emmet County , Local Units of Government, Tribal	Newly updated, continuous process	October 1 st 2024	May 1 st 2025	Updated guidebook available
Update safety brochure	Y	Supports safety along the corridor	NN, MDOT, Emmet County , Local Units of Government, Tribal	Newly updated, continuous process	October 1 st 2024	May 1 st 2025	Updated safety brochure

2025 Michigan Byway Annual Work Plan Budget

Scheduled Byway Committee Meetings:

Date	Location	Time
04/08/2025	Cross Village Township Hall	9:30 AM
05/13/2025	Friendship Township Hall	9:30 AM
06/10/2025	Readmond Township Hall	9:30 AM
07/08/2025	West Traverse Township Hall	9:30 AM
08/12/2025	Cross Village Township Hall	9:30 AM
09/09/2025	Friendship Township Hall	9:30 AM

ANNUAL BUDGET FOR: October 1st 2024 – September 30th 2025

Planning Activity	Estimated Budget
1. Website	~ \$500
2. Printing	~ \$1000
3. Tree Assessment	~ \$250
Total	\$1750

Admin activities listed are listed in the Regional Transportation Planning Work Program:

Admin Activity	Estimated Budget
1. Prepare and assist in editing/upgrading educational materials such as brochures, plan document, etc. Ensure the byway corridor management plan is up to date.	~\$540
2. Serve as a liaison between MDOT and the local byway committee.	~\$160
3. Attend conferences, workshops, and seminars. Attend MDOT	~\$400

Michigan Byway Program: Page 3 of 4

2025 Michigan Byway Annual Work Plan Budget

Byways Workshop scheduled for the FY2025.	
4. Assist in the management and facilitation of byways meetings.	-\$4800
5. Provide opportunities for public involvement activities related to the byway.	-\$100
6. Maintenance of existing byways websites.	-\$700
7. Review and submit the Byway(s) Work Plan and Budget to MDOT by July 1, 2025 as completed by the byways committee	-\$650
8. Review and submit the Byway(s) Evaluation Report for the previous fiscal year by the end of December 2024.	-\$650
Total	\$8000

2023 Annual Pure Michigan Byway Performance Evaluation

Byway Name: M-119 Tunnel of Trees Scenic Heritage Route

Form Completed By: Isha Pithwa & Laurelynn Harris

Date Form Completed: October 10th, 2023

Evaluation of Previous Year: FY2023

<u>Yes & approved</u>	Management Plan Completed
<u>\$3000.00</u>	Funding Secured in Past Year
	# National Sources:
	# State Sources:
	# Local Sources:
<u>\$0.00</u>	In-kind Contributions Secured in Past Year
<u># 1</u>	New Byway Committee Members
<u># 0</u>	New Byway Partners
<u># 800</u>	Total Byway Volunteer Hours
<u># Unknown</u>	Total Byway Website Hits (for FY 23)
<u># N/A</u>	Total View of Videos on You Tube

Top Three Byway Accomplishments & Outcomes:

(Example: new attractions, new marketing, special events, restoration or conservation activity, workshops)

Accomplishment: Something tangible that has been produced, achieved.

Example: 5000 copies of brochure printed and distributed at 15 local businesses, hotels, and welcome centers.

Evaluation: To determine the worth, value or condition of use through careful appraisal and study.

Outcome: Something that follows as a result or consequence of an activity.
Example: Because of instruction at a fundraising workshop, a participant was able to recruit a sponsor for a local special event.

Performance: The execution of an action, the fulfillment of a claim or promise.

Source: Webster's Dictionary

2023 Annual Pure Michigan Byway Performance Evaluation

Accomplishment	Brief Description	Stakeholders/ Partners	Outcome
1. Management Plan	The Management Plan was primarily updated during fiscal year 2022, but the completion of the task ran into fiscal year 2023, with approval of the plan occurring in fiscal year 2023. The corridor management plan was printed following the update and approval of the document. It was reviewed, Inaccuracies were identified.	Committee, Networks Northwest, Little Traverse Conservancy, MDOT, Emmet County Planning and Zoning	To have an updated and approved 5 year Management Plan completed in FY23. Completed Printing of Plan
2. Website Update and expenditure	The website was updated to reflect the most recent supported changes by the committee. The projected expenditure was less than that the actual expenditure, with close to \$1,800 remaining in the budget with MDOT.	Committee, Networks Northwest	Website was updated and updated under budget
3. Inform the community	Presentation at the history museum; raise awareness of zoning issues		

Testimonial/Quote about Byway:
(100 words or less – or attach as separate sheet)

“M119 the “Tunnel of Trees” is an iconic drive in the state of Michigan. The character of the drive along the coast of Lake Michigan, the canopy of trees along with the twists, turns and narrowness of the road make it one of top traveled roads in Northern Michigan. Time after time it is rated one of the best drives in the US, especially during the “colors” season. Due to its uniqueness, those who drive it maintain their speed and drive at a pace that is safe. While its maintenance is important, any changes regarding its width and/or twists and turns would dramatically alter its experience. As a longtime visitor to the region and property owner, M119 is a priceless asset to the state of Michigan.”

From: Neil Ahrens Board of Commissioners Petoskey, Emmet County, Michigan
 Person’s Name Affiliation Town/County/State
 Date: September 12, 2023

2023 Annual Pure Michigan Byway Performance Evaluation

Demonstration of Byway Principles:

Involving Byway Partners and Participants- The committee collaborated with property owners associations.

Inspiring Destination Stewardship:

The committee continues to clean and beautify the corridor by working with event organizers and Adopt-a-Highway.

Investing in Byway Sustainability:

The Committee continues to be very active to keep this Byway project priorities in the forefront through publicity and education as well as seeking funding for initiatives like periodical professional tree health Assessment along the corridor.

Involving Byway Partners and Participants:

The Committee works with partners and participants as much as possible to better the M119 corridor. An example was through the updating of the Corridor Management Plan which incorporated stakeholders, organizations and local government staff and officials.

Interpreting Byway Stories:

Continues to protect the natural resources along the corridor with partnership with the Little Traverse Conservancy.

2023 Annual Pure Michigan Byway Performance Evaluation

Current SWOT Analysis of Designated Byway

STRENGTHS

- Education
- Committee operations with open dialogue
- Committee participation with effective communications dynamics
- Communications with partners and agencies
- Passion and Preservation

WEAKNESSES

- Not able to do more enforcement of regulations to help with the preservation and protection of the corridor.

OPPORTUNITIES

- Endless for preservation activities
- New residents vs. long-time residents
- Promote that bicyclists ride single file on the highway that does not have a centerline or shoulders
- Website improvements
- Funding

THREATS

- Non-conformity to zoning ordinance
- Visitors not respecting the rules of the roadway

2023 Annual Pure Michigan Byway Performance Evaluation

Byway Membership:

Committee Chair(s): Laurelynne Harris 6155 N. Lakeshore Drive PO Box 188 Cross Village, MI 989-245-0325 harris.laurelynne@gmail.com				
Name	Address	Phone #	e-mail	
Name	Address	Phone #	e-mail	

Active Committee Members:

Laurelynne Harris	Cross Village Township	6155 N. Lakeshore Dr. PO Box 188, Cross Village MI 49723	989-245-0325	harris.laurelynne@gmail.com
Naomi Singer	Cross Village Township	6021 N. Lakeshore Dr., Harbor Springs, MI 49740	Land: 231-526-6264 Cell: 231-881-0299	singernaomi@gmail.com
Larry Wallen	Readmond Township	2091 N. Lakeshore Dr. PO Box 969, Good Hart, MI 49737	Cell: 231-838-7399	martiwallen@icloud.com
Joe Tomlinson	Readmond Township	237 N. Lakeshore Dr., Harbor Springs, MI 49740	231-526-6561	smokinjo44@gmail.com
Jerry Root	Readmond Township	5759 Beckon Road, Harbor Springs 49740		groot@lssu.edu
Carolyn Sandford	West Traverse Township	6523 Otis Ln PO Box 799, Harbor Springs, MI 49740	231-330-7578	clsandfo@charter.net
Joey Arbaugh	West Traverse Township	PO Box 465, Harbor Springs, MI 49740	231-526-5359 231-838-7200	jnarbaugh@gmail.com
Franz Neubrecht	ECLA	2573 S. Lakeshore Dr., Harbor Springs, MI 49740	231-526-5170 Land 517-281-9106 Cell	franz@franrx.com
Don Schaplowsky	Readmond Township	2400 N. Lake Shore Dr., Harbor Springs MI 49740	931-261-3557	donschap12@gmail.com
Sue Rentrop	Cross Village and ECLA	6007 N. Lake Shore Dr., Harbor Springs, MI 49740	231-526-7382	srentrop@rentropmorrison.com
Jim Anderson	Friendship Township	4855 Lakeshore Dr., Harbor Springs, MI 49740	408-225-0246	jcanderl@wisc.edu
Jame Fisher	Friendship Township	4978 Fisher Rd., Harbor Springs 49740	231-838-8833	lakepilot33@gmail.com
Dale Scott	Friendship Township	PO box 857, Harbor Springs 49740	231-357-7339	dscott@trueaccountingcorp.com
Garon Gopigian	West Traverse Township	6975 Hugston Rd., Harbor Springs 49740	231-412-5006	49740@att.net

2023 Annual Pure Michigan Byway Performance Evaluation

Inactive or no longer participating members (to remove from e-mail list):

Sue Stackhouse ECLA 295 E. Lake St., Harbor Springs, MI 49740 517-937-2287 Cell shstackhouse@gmail.com

Name	Address	Phone #	e-mail
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Jane Newbury Friendship Township 3334 Terpening Rd., Harbor Springs MI 49740 231-526-9879 Land 231-838-9854 Cell
newburyjane@gmail.com

Name	Address	Phone #	e-mail
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AUTHORIZATION FROM DESIGNATED BYWAY COMMITTEE

Board President/Chairman:

Laurelynnne Harris

Laurelynnne Harris Dec 29, 2023 14:43 PST

Signature	Date
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Byway Coordinator:

Signature	Date
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FOR INTERNAL USE ONLY

_____ Date reviewed by Michigan State Byways Coordinator

_____ Date reviewed and accepted by Pure Michigan Byways Marketing Committee

_____ Comments attached/provided?







2023-24 Byway Annual Performance Evaluation

Final Audit Report

2023-12-28

Created:	2023-12-28
By:	Isha Pithwa (isha.pithwa@networksnorthwest.org)
Status:	Signed
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