



WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

March 5, 2025

WORKING SESSION

I. ROLL CALL

A Working Session of the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners was held at the Administration Building, in the City of Ann Arbor, Michigan, on March 5, 2025.

The meeting was called to order at 05:36 PM by Comm. LaBarre, Chair of the Working Session.

Members Present:	Comms. Shannon Beeman, Justin Hodge, Andy LaBarre, Jason Maciejewski, Yousef Rabhi, Caroline Sanders (5:51 PM), Katie Scott
Members Absent:	Comms. Crystal Lyte, Annie Somerville
Others Present	Greg Dill, County Administrator; Andrew DeLeeuw, Deputy County Administrator; Michelle Billard, Corporation Counsel; Tina Gavalier & Catherine Jones-Alther, Finance; Guillermo Hernandez, Director of Human Resources; Jeff Rose, ITS; Ashley Hall, BOC Communications and Operations Manager; Ashlyn Poole, Clerk's Office; and members of the public.

II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

III. REPORT FROM THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

None.

IV. REPORT FROM THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS LIAISON

None.

V. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- A. Matt MacDonald, Washtenaw County Road Commission Managing Director, along with Brent Schlack, Director of Engineering, and Adam Lape provided a Road Commission update.

Comm. Beeman asked about the project on Scio Church Rd. McDonnell explained the work that the Road Commission would be performing on the road.

Comm. Rabhi inquired about non-road commission jurisdictions and the methods that the road commission was using to keep these jurisdictions accountable, since the road commission was providing some funding. Comm. Rabhi requested that these

jurisdictions provide reports on the status of ongoing projects in a similar way to how the road commission submits reports to the Board.

MacDonnell explained the process that non-road commission jurisdictions follow. He noted the fact that the road commission assists after the projects were completed when cities request reimbursements.

Deputy County Administrator DeLeeuw, stated that this reporting issue was something that administration had been working on. He also stated that a reporting and planning resolution had been passed in 2024 and was sent out to all entities who receive funding from any of the millages. He stated that not all entities had signed the agreement yet, but stated that he would get the information to Comm. Rabhi at a later date. He clarified that, as the language was written, receipt of the funds was not contingent on a MOU.

Comm. Rabhi expressed his disappointment with the vagueness of the language use in the resolution and stated that he would consider this when voting on renewing millage in the future.

County Administrator Dill stated that he would reach out to the communities receiving millage funds and clarify reporting expectations.

Comm. Rabhi asked about signs distributed by Washtenaw county and inquired whether they had been put up. MacDonnell stated that the signs were provided by the road commission to the cities. Comm. Rabhi expressed his desire to look into legal methods to ensure that cities were following conditions that they agreed to.

Comm. Maciejewski asked for an update on Parker Rd. which MacDonnell provided. Comm. Maciejewski asked about safety updates that could be made on a specific road. He also asked for more info on planned roundabouts. Schlack spoke more about this.

Comm. Hodge mentioned concerns about scheduling Bunton Rd. Schlack and MacDonnell provided an update and stated that it was part of a 2026/2027 project.

Comm. Sanders thanked the Road Commission and their staff for their prompt responses and for their work.

Comm. Scott echoed the sentiments of Comm. Sanders and spoke about a recent repair made.

Comm. Rabhi spoke about his desire to speak with MacDonnell about diversity in the Road Commission staff. MacDonnell spoke about their efforts to diversify their workforce.

Comm. LaBarre asked about materials and how they may be affected by tariffs. MacDonnell explained that most supplies were provided in Michigan. However, there may be a trickle down.

Comm. Rabhi asked about gravel pits and MacDonnell explained that there were no more gravel pits and there was no desire to restart the mining process. He cited the high cost of equipment and labor.

Comm. Beeman spoke about the gravel pits in her district.

Comm. LaBarre asked if there was anything that the Board should be concerned about being discussed at the State level. He also asked about Reimagine Washtenaw and if anything in that program affected the Road Commission. MacDonnell stated that he was pleased with the conversations that were being had at the state level. Regarding Reimagine Washtenaw, he said he had not heard anything about the planned investment.

Comm LaBarre asked about staff, retention, and benefits at the Road Commission. MacDonnell elaborated on the topic.

Comm. Scott reiterated that one additional commissioner was still needed on the road commission.

Comm. Rabhi asked about petro chemicals and tariffs. MacDonnell expanded on this.

The commissioners praised former commissioner Doug Fuller.

VI. ITEMS FOR CURRENT/FUTURE DISCUSSION

Comm. LaBarre encouraged his fellow commissioners to add any issues that they would like to bring to Working Session to the calendar.

VII. ADJOURN TO NEXT SESSION

Comm.Hodge, seconded by Comm. Scott, moved to adjourn. Voice vote - motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 06:37 PM.

Andy LaBarre, Chair of the Working Session
Lawrence Kestenbaum, Clerk/Register

By: Ashlyn Poole, Deputy Clerk
Board Approved: March 19, 2025