

Transportation

General Overview

Since its establishment in 1905, the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) has been responsible for overseeing the State's transportation network, including roads and bridges, public transportation systems, and airports. The Department currently has 3,030 employees, down from 5,200 in 1981. Most employees are based in Lansing, though staff are also located in seven different regional headquarters and 26 local Transportation Service Centers (TSCs) spread throughout the State.

State transportation programs are funded with State restricted, Federal, and local revenues. Public Act 51 of 1951 provides statutory guidance over these funds' distribution.

The Michigan Transportation Fund (MTF) is the largest of the State funds restricted for transportation purposes. A portion of these funds is used to develop the State Trunkline road network under MDOT control. The MTF also is distributed to counties, cities, and villages to help build and maintain the roads under their jurisdiction.

Comprehensive Transportation Fund (CTF) revenues are reserved for public transportation purposes. These funds are used to regulate public transit programs and provide operating assistance for local transit authorities, intercity bus, and passenger rail carriers.

Finally, the Bureau of Aeronautics uses Aeronautics Fund revenues to administer aviation safety and airport development programs.

Major Divisions and Programs

Transportation Planning. This division is responsible for data collection and transportation planning services.

Design and Engineering Services. This division is responsible for design services, construction specifications and standards, and the operation of the Intelligent Transportation System.

Highway Maintenance Division. This division maintains the State Trunkline network and manages annual Trunkline maintenance contracts with county road commissions.

Road and Bridge Program. This program provides funding for road construction and maintenance projects and distributes State transportation funds to counties, cities, and villages.

Aeronautics. This bureau provides air service through the State air fleet and oversees airport safety and development programs.

Public Transportation and Freight Service. The division is responsible for rail freight services and development and also is responsible for management of operating capital and technical assistance programs for local public transit and intercity programs.

Bus Transit: Statutory Operating. This division administers the statutory operating and capital assistance grants to local bus transit agencies.

Intercity Passenger and Freight. The division coordinates the intercity rail, bus, and marine passenger programs.

Public Transportation Development. This division coordinates efforts to develop public transportation services throughout the state including bus capital grants, specialized services for individuals with disabilities, and transportation to work for individuals on public assistance.