

# ***JACTS***

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## Consultation

## Chapter 4

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### Process

*Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century (MAP-21)* requires that JACTS consult with federal, state, and local entities that are responsible for the following:

- Economic growth and development
- Environmental protection
- Airport operations
- Freight movement
- Land use management
- Natural resources
- Conservation
- Historic preservation
- Human service transportation providers

The goal of this process is to eliminate or minimize conflicts with other agencies' plans and programs that impact transportation, or for which transportation decisions may impact them.

The above agencies were asked for their future plans in a letter dated April 24, 2013 (see Appendix A). No plans were received. The above agencies were also requested to review the improve/expand list and determine if any environmental or historic areas would be affected by the improvements. One letter and one e-mail were received (see Appendix A).

Since the intent of the consultation, according to FHWA, is to exchange information, and not just ask for comments on the JACTS Plan or TIP, JACTS began the consultation process for its overall program with the distribution of a general electronic communication to the involved parties. An e-mail, dated November 6, 2012, was provided to the following agencies making them aware of the Long Range Plan update:

- American Red Cross
- AMTRAK
- Baker College
- The Brooklyn Exponent
- Catholic Charities of Jackson
- Center for Women
- City of Jackson
- City of Jackson Taxi Companies
- County of Jackson
- The County Press
- Davis Insurance Agency
- The Enterprise Group
- Environmental Protection Agency
- Falling Waters Trail Association
- Family Independence Agency
- Federal Highway Administration
- Fitness Council of Jackson
- Greater Jackson Habitat for Humanity
- Greyhound Bus Service
- Jackson Area Transportation Authority
- The Jackson Blazer
- Jackson Citizen Patriot
- Jackson Citizens for Life
- Jackson City Council
- Jackson County Airport/Reynolds Field
- Jackson County Board of Commissioners
- Jackson County Chamber of Commerce
- Jackson County Cities and Villages
- Jackson Community College

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- Jackson County Convention and Visitor's Bureau
- Jackson County Department on Aging
- Jackson County Extension
- Jackson County Intermediate School District
- Jackson County Health Department
- Jackson County Legal News
- Jackson County Legislators
- Jackson County Medical Care Facility
- Jackson County Parks Department
- Jackson County Police Departments
- Jackson County Road Commission
- Jackson County Township Supervisors
- Jackson District Library
- Jackson Downtown Development Authority
- Jackson Historic District Commission
- Jackson Human Relations Commission
- Jackson Interfaith Shelter
- Jackson Public Schools
- JTV
- Michigan Department of Agriculture
- Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
- Michigan Department of Natural Resources
- Michigan Department of Technology, Management, and Budget
- Michigan Department of Transportation
- Michigan Economic Development Corporation
- Michigan State Housing Development Authority
- Michigan State University
- NAACP
- National Park Service
- National Trust for Historic Preservation
- Norfolk Southern Corporation
- Region 2 Planning Commission
- Ripstra & Scheppelman Surveyors
- The Salvation Army
- Seventh Day Adventist Community Services
- Sierra Club, Michigan Chapter
- South Central Michigan Works
- Spring Arbor University
- Springport Signal
- USDA
- United States Geological Survey
- United Way of Jackson
- YMCA

Additional e-mail correspondence was distributed on April 19, 2013, April 23, 2013, and April 24, 2013 requesting input to the draft and final plans as well as the consultation requests.

### Public Outreach

An e-mail list of the above agencies as well as interested citizens has been compiled and updated. This list is used to notify citizens and interested organizations of opportunities for public comment. In September 2012, the Public Participation Plan was sent out to the above list for their comment.

Public notices seeking comments on the 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan were placed in the Jackson Citizen Patriot on September 23, 2013 and in the Brooklyn Exponent on September 25, 2012 (see Appendix A)

Three public open houses were conducted on April 30, 2013 from 3:30 PM to 7:30 PM in downtown Jackson; on May 1, 2013 from 10 AM to 2 PM in Blackman Township; and on May 28, 2013 again in downtown Jackson. A total of five people attended the three open houses. No public comments were received. These were all advertised in the local newspaper (see Appendix A)

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The Region 2 Planning website included the 2040 LRTP in their “Announcements” on a regular basis. This did not generate any comments.

A Facebook page was created for the 2040 LRTP update and that did not generate any comments. A few “likes” were received.

In addition, the 2040 LRTP was on the agenda for the JACTS Technical and Policy Committees and the Region 2 Planning Commission meeting for the months of October 2012 through June 2013. These meetings are advertised in the local newspaper including the agenda. Discussion and comments about the Plan were generated at these meetings more so than any other venue.

### **Response/Comments**

One comment was received from the initial draft Plan. The Fitness Council of Jackson noted that the deficiencies only identified roads, not deficiencies in non-motorized or transit. It was recommended that non-motorized and transit deficiencies should be identified through a modeling process. This is being looked at through other MPO’s processes.

Two citizens requested being added to the mailing list.

One citizen asked that air quality be discussed around Michigan International Speedway during race weekends. There is no data available for this type of analysis. Another problem is that the Speedway is in Lenawee County. An air quality paragraph was added under Environmental Mitigation, but this did not address the issue.

Several committee members called to better understand the process.

The Jackson Citizen Patriot and the Brooklyn Exponent both wrote articles about the process including information regarding the Open Houses. The Jackson Citizen Patriot article generated four electronic responses. These included some roads that should be reviewed that were not included in the analysis. These have been forwarded to the City and JCDOT.

Another comment mentioned that the Plan is not intermodal, strictly a road plan. The intermodal chapters of the Plan have been forwarded. There was also one comment regarding the timing of the public open houses. The open houses were held from 10 AM to 7:30 PM.