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## SEMCOG invites public comment on amendment to the 2030 Regional Transportation Plan for Southeast Michigan

SEMCOG, the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments, announces the public comment period for projects being considered for amendment to the long-range 2030 Regional Transportation Plan for Southeast Michigan (RTP).

Thirteen projects are proposed for amendment by local agencies — four new projects and a change in scope to an existing project as described below, and nine existing projects from which funds will be transferred to some of the new projects.

- Troy/Birmingham Intermodal Transit Facility, construct a new passenger rail/bus/taxi facility, Oakland County);
- Woodward Avenue Light Rail Service, construct and operate light rail service from Downtown Detroit to Eight Mile, Wayne County;
- Detroit River International Crossing, construct new border crossing between Detroit and Windsor, Ontario, Wayne County;
- Ambassador Bridge Enhancement Project, construct six-lane replacement bridge between Detroit and Windsor, Ontario, Wayne County (Note: this project was originally proposed for amendment in October 2007, but deferred because it did not fully meeting required criteria; those criteria have now been met); and
- Maple Road, widen from two to five lanes from Pontiac Trail to Welch, Oakland County (Note: a project currently exists in the 2030 RTP to widen Maple from Decker to Welch; this amendment would add the segment from Decker to Pontiac Trail).

The 2030 RTP was adopted by SEMCOG's General Assembly in November 2004 and updated in March 2007, and serves as a guide for developing a transportation system that is accessible, safe, and reliable. The 2030 RTP enables federal funding to be spent in the Southeast Michigan region to improve roads, bridges, and nonmotorized systems and to maintain transit services. The proposed amendments are needed to reflect changing priorities and take advantage of new project funding.

The amendment process requires all proposed projects to undergo the same evaluation as the original RTP—identification of financial resources, analysis of air quality conformity, an environmental sensitivity review, an environmental justice analysis, and a public comment process. Additional project details and evaluation results are available online at www.semcog.org/Long-RangeTransportationPlan.aspx or from the SEMCOG Information Center at 313-324-3362.

Address written comments to SEMCOG Information Center, 535 Griswold, Suite 300, Detroit, MI 48226; send faxes to 313-961-4869; call 313-324-3362; or e-mail infocenter@semcog.org. Comments can also be made in person at the following meeting where the amendment will be considered:

 General Assembly, Thursday, June 26, 2008, 4 p.m., The Village Pavilion at Greenfield Village (Dearborn), The Henry Ford, Dearborn. (Please note location change. Enter via Eagle Lane Entrance on Village Road and continue to parking lot.)

SEMCOG is a regional planning partnership of governmental units serving 4.9 million people in the seven-county region of Southeast Michigan striving to enhance the region's quality of life.