Recommended Projects for Early Coordination With The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality

Listed below are recommended project types that a public transportation agency (PTA) should seek early coordination comments from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality’s, Water Resources Division (WRD). The purpose of the early coordination is to attempt to incorporate the WRD comments into the PTA’s planning and design phase, thereby avoiding costly delays at the time of permit application.

1) New road alignments that will impact a wetland/waterbody
2) Replacement or installation of multiple culverts or a multiple span bridge at a single crossing.
3) Replacement of a culvert/bridge that is experiencing existing scouring/erosion problems, or poor alignment.
4) Projects that involve channel relocation/enclosure of a regulated waterbody.
5) Replacing a structure that may have migratory nesting birds.
6) Projects having navigational concerns-(Is or could be used by canoeists, boaters).
7) Projects that involve trenching (open-cut) across a water body.
8) Projects that are going to reduce the hydraulic capacity of the stream crossing.
9) Red Files, (those that would impact an acre or more of wetland, or 300 feet or more of stream enclosure, or 1000 feet or more of stream relocation, or projects impacting federally endangered species, or projects impacting special federal lands, e.g., federal park, wildlife sanctuary, etc.)
10) Major projects involving Section 10 Waters. These are normally projects on the Great Lakes, drowned river mouths near the Great Lakes and connecting river/channels of the Great Lakes.
11) Non Minor Projects requiring wetland mitigation/preservation.
12) Projects involving historic bridges.
13) Projects which may impact unique environmental features, such as high quality fisheries resources, lake plain prairies, DNR designated natural rivers, federally designated wild and scenic rivers, bogs, fens, and other rare or imperiled wetlands, federal and/or state threatened or endangered species.
14) Projects involving contaminated river/lake sediments.

Please contact your WRD transportation specialist early in your planning process to review these types of projects.