OLD BUSINESS

1. **Approval of the May 3, 2012, Meeting Minutes**

   The May 3, 2012, meeting minutes were approved with minor editorial revisions.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Proposed Roundabout – Camp Grayling – S. Thayer/G. Johnson**

   Camp Grayling is the main training facility for the Michigan National Guard. It hosts year-round unit training for all services including the Navy, Marines, the Active Army, and Reserve with over 20,000 military personnel trained annually. It includes over 147,000 acres of woodland, garrison, training areas and range complexes and is the largest National Guard training area east of the Mississippi.

   Michigan Highway M-93 carries traffic to Camp Grayling. The current entrance to Camp Grayling does not meet the Army Access Control Point (ACP) design standards established by the US Army Corps of Engineers. It is necessary to design and build a new entrance to meet current standards as well as enhance its safety and appearance.

   A roundabout design is being proposed by the base and will be constructed by permit from the department. The roundabout will improve the safety and security of the motorists, provide unaware motorists the chance to turn around before entering the base, slow traffic on approach to the guardhouse, and enhance the impression of visitors. All funds for these improvements will come from the Michigan National Guard.

   Approval of the proposed roundabout design is requested.

   **ACTION:** The EOC approves the roundabout design as revised. Revisions include the relocation of a local road to intersect with M-93 outside the limits of the roundabout.
2. **Fix Life Guidelines – C. Bleech/B. Krom**

   This agenda item has been deferred to the next meeting.

3. **Construction of a Roundabout on M-72 at Lautner Road – R. Rasch/B. Chomas**

   The developer of a new Meijer store and future large commercial/mixed-use site proposes to build, at their cost, a 2-lane roundabout and road widening on M-72 and Lautner Road to serve increased traffic.

   This intersection is situated along an existing two-lane rural road (17,000 ADT) which is the main route between Kalkaska and Traverse City. The location of the intersection is one mile east of US-31 in Acme Township, Grand Traverse County. After many years of planning, a new commercial development has been approved by the township which will take its main access from M-72 at the Lautner Road intersection.

   Two alternatives on M-72 were considered in the Traffic Impact Study, including a 4-lane boulevard section with future signalization at major crossover locations, and a roundabout at the intersection with future roundabouts at other major crossover locations. The future improvements will be phased in as development progresses and traffic increases.

   Development of a separate pedestrian circulation plan is proposed by the township which will direct non-motorized traffic away from the roundabout locations to mid-block crossings or an eventual grade separation (tunnel) to be coordinated with the Grand Traverse Resort to the north.

   Concurrent with the deliberations between the developer and the township, communities in the region came together to create the Grand Vision land use and transportation plan for a five county area. The guiding principles support transportation improvements which minimize impervious surface, preserve green space, calm traffic, and conserve energy.

   In comparison to the boulevard alternative, the roundabout option will provide sustained capacity benefits for a longer period of time, and enhance safety, while acknowledging local interests in Grand Vision and place making principles. Approval of the construction of a roundabout on M-72 at Lautner Road is recommended.

   **ACTION:** The EOC approves the construction of a roundabout on M-72 at Lautner Road.

4. **Restaurant Eligibility in the Tourist-Oriented Directional Signs (TODS) Program – M. Bott**

   The TODS Program provides the business identification and directional information for certain tourist oriented activities. A tourist oriented activity is any lawful cultural, historical, recreational, educational, or commercial activity, located on rural highways, but not at interchanges on expressways or freeways.

   The TODS rules and regulations have been in place since 1996, and prohibit some restaurants south of M-46 to participate in the program unless the restaurant is unique or historic. If these same restaurants were north of M-46, they would qualify. Revising the rules would permit more restaurants to participate that are similar to those north of M-46 and by setting population criteria,
would keep whole the intent of signing for rural type facilities that is attractive to tourists. It is estimated that an additional 20-30 restaurants would be eligible for the program.

The proposed rules for the Southern Lower Peninsula (South of M-46) are recommended:

1. In lieu of hours and days requirements, serve at least two meals per day;
2. Display a valid permit from the appropriate public agency as required by law;
3. Will not be part of a national chain, unless the building the business is located in is listed on the State or National Register of Historic Places;
4. Located in a township with a population less than 6,000 (2010 Census);
5. Located three or more miles from a city boundary of 50,000 or more (2010 Census).

**ACTION:** The EOC approves the recommended change to the TODS rules and regulations for the Southern Lower Peninsula (South of M-46).

5. **Establishment of a New Technical Agenda Item for MDOT Specified Materials Within Buy America (BA) – M. Chaput**

MDOT and FHWA have recently revised our BA requirements for projects through the development of a new special provision and Bureau of Highways Instructional Memorandum (BOHIM) effective through the October 2012 lettings. This Technical Agenda item will develop procedures and recommendations for meeting the BA requirements for the institutional process not addressed within the new special provision or BOHIM. Major tasks, subtasks, responsible MDOT staff, and deadlines have all been established. Approval of the memorandum for MDOT Specified Material Within Buy America is recommended.

**ACTION:** The EOC approves the memorandum for Technical Agenda - MDOT Specified Material Within Buy America.

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**Brenda J. O'Brien, P.E.**

Brenda J. O’Brien, Secretary

Engineering Operations Committee

BJO:lmw

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