



Michigan  
*Office of the Auditor General*  
**REPORT SUMMARY**

*Performance Audit*

Report Number:  
 59-150-01

*Bureau of Transportation Planning*

Released:  
 September 2003

*Michigan Department of Transportation*

*The Bureau of Transportation Planning (BTP) is responsible for developing and implementing the Michigan Department of Transportation's (MDOT's) intermodal planning process. BTP is organized into four divisions: Intermodal Policy, Statewide Transportation Planning, Project Planning, and Transportation Planning Services.*

***Audit Objective:***

To assess the effectiveness of BTP's policies and practices for planning, developing, and implementing the three-year State Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP).

***Audit Conclusion:***

We concluded that BTP's policies and practices were generally effective. However, we noted reportable conditions related to consultant contracts and statutory compliance (Findings 1 and 2).

***Agency Response:***

BTP concurred with the recommendations related to both of these findings and informed us that it was taking corrective action.

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***Audit Objective:***

To assess the effectiveness of BTP's revenue estimation process for funding future transportation projects.

***Audit Conclusion:***

We concluded that BTP's revenue estimation process for funding future transportation projects was generally effective. Our report does not include any reportable conditions related to this audit objective.

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***Audit Objective:***

To assess the effectiveness of BTP's data collection process and related practices and their impact on the planning process and on MDOT's ability to maintain federal eligibility.

***Audit Conclusion:***

We concluded that BTP's data collection process and related practices and their impact on the planning process and on MDOT's ability to maintain federal eligibility need improvement. We noted reportable conditions related to project scoring and project data (Findings 3 and 4).

**Agency Response:**

BTP concurred with the recommendation related to Finding 3 and generally concurred with the recommendation related to Finding 4. BTP also informed us that it has been actively involved in efforts to improve the data collection efforts of the entire federal-aid system. During fiscal years 2000-01 and 2001-02, acting upon recommendations from the Act 51

Transportation Funding Study Committee, MDOT entered into an agreement with the County Road Association of Michigan, the Michigan Municipal League, and the Michigan Association of Regions to develop and test working guidelines for collecting, storing, reviewing, and analyzing data for the federal-aid eligible system.

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A copy of the full report can be obtained by calling 517.334.8050 or by visiting our Web site at: [www.state.mi.us/audgen/](http://www.state.mi.us/audgen/)



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