



Performance Audit

Traffic and Safety Section

Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT)

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The Traffic and Safety Section, Transportation Systems Management and Operations Division, participates in all phases of MDOT's efforts to reduce traffic crashes, fatalities, and serious injuries; vehicle delays; fuel consumption; pollution; and operating costs by increasing the safety, efficiency, and capacity of the State trunkline system. The Section is composed of four units: Safety Programs Unit, Geometric Design Unit, Traffic Signing Unit, and Pavement Markings Unit. As of July 22, 2019, the Section was working on 44 active contractual projects totaling \$6.8 million. The Section expended \$71.3 million on projects in fiscal year 2018 and obligated \$69.6 million of expenditures in fiscal year 2019. As of June 1, 2019, the Section had 26 full-time equated employees.

Audit Objective			Conclusion
Objective #1: To assess the effectiveness of the Section's efforts to track and analyze traffic crash trends.			Effective
Findings Related to This Audit Objective	Material Condition	Reportable Condition	Agency Preliminary Response
Three of the seven MDOT regional offices did not conduct at least one road safety audit for a proposed project for one or more of the fiscal years between 2017 and 2019 (<u>Finding #1</u>).		X	Agrees

Audit Objective			Conclusion
Objective #2: To assess the sufficiency of the Section's efforts to carry out its responsibilities for highway construction design plans for the proper geometric features, pavement markings, and traffic signing.			Sufficient, with exceptions
Findings Related to This Audit Objective	Material Condition	Reportable Condition	Agency Preliminary Response
MDOT's Michigan Traffic Sign Inventory System (MTSIS) database did not contain all applicable signs that are on the roadway, including 16 (32%) of 50 sampled speed limit signs. MTSIS also did not contain the accurate sign codes, number of sign supports, and correct location for 12%, 3%, and 2% of the signs, respectively (<u>Finding #2</u>).		X	Agrees

Findings Related to This Audit Objective (Continued)	Material Condition	Reportable Condition	Agency Preliminary Response
For 10 traffic survey reports sampled, MDOT could not provide documentation that it conducted all of the required tests related to speed and engineering studies. For example, documentation of horizontal and vertical curve tests was not provided for any of the 10 reports (<u>Finding #3</u>).		X	Partially agrees
Observations Related to This Audit Objective	Material Condition	Reportable Condition	Agency Preliminary Response
MDOT did not establish guidelines for the number of vehicles to be counted and the length of time a speed study should occur (<u>Observation #1</u>).	Not applicable for observations.		

Audit Objective			Conclusion
Objective #3: To assess the effectiveness of the Section's efforts to administer traffic and safety-related construction and design contracts.			Effective
Findings Related to This Audit Objective	Material Condition	Reportable Condition	Agency Preliminary Response
None reported.	Not applicable.		

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Office of the Auditor General
201 N. Washington Square, Sixth Floor
Lansing, Michigan 48913

Doug A. Ringler, CPA, CIA
Auditor General

Laura J. Hirst, CPA
Deputy Auditor General