

CONTEXT SENSITIVE SOLUTIONS For Alternative Use of Highway Right-of-Way

In 2005, The Michigan State Transportation Commission formally adopted a Context Sensitive Solutions (CSS) process as an integrated part of the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) mission to provide the highest quality integrated transportation services for economic benefit and improved quality of life. Under CSS, MDOT requests stakeholder dialogue to ensure that interchanges, bridges, other transportation projects, and alternative uses (Ex: aesthetic enhancements etc.) align with community goals, objectives and vision, and respect the scenic, aesthetic, historic, economic, and environmental character of the community.

Therefore, when an Eligible Entity is requesting an Alternative Use of the MDOT Highway Right-of-Way, the Eligible Entity must follow the CSS process by notifying and engaging stakeholders of the proposed alternative use prior to the submittal of a permit application to MDOT.

CSS Engagement Requirements

Due to the potential implications of allowing the Alternative Use within highway right-of-way, CSS engagement notifications should be made and comments solicited from the following public and stakeholder groups, as applicable:

- Regional recognized group¹
- Local government agencies, elected/appointed officials, and road commissions
- Adjoining landowners
- Native American Tribal Sovereign Nations
- U.S. Forest Service (USFS)
- General public and other groups

Note: Please provide a copy of this CSS Engagement notification to MDOT (not for comment purposes).

The Eligible Entity shall compile and provide all comments to MDOT from this CSS Engagement. Please note the above list is not all inclusive and other stakeholder groups may be applicable.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the undersigned has solicited comments from all required stakeholders. A summary of the CSS Engagement comments is attached.

By the _____
(Name of Board, etc.)

of the _____ of _____
(Name of Eligible Entity) (County)

NAME (Print or Type Name)	TITLE
SIGNATURE	DATE

¹ Regional recognized group - These groups must be acknowledged and recognized by the Eligible Entity having jurisdiction and a role that sets them apart from the Eligible Entity. They have common grounds of understanding and perspectives regarding rules and regulations to be followed when relating with one another.