

Asset Management Background

Understanding Public Act 51 of 1951, as amended

The Michigan Transportation Fund (MTF), established under Public Act 51 of 1951, as amended, is where "specific taxes on motor vehicles and motor vehicle fuels..." are deposited and then allocated. Allocation of the funds from the MTF is based in part on the mileage of roadways under the jurisdiction of each eligible agency and the classifications of those roads.

The Data Inventory and Integration Division within the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) Bureau of Transportation Planning administers the annual certification of local agency roads, street mileages, and classifications under their jurisdiction, and processes all requests for changes to their road and street systems submitted by local agencies. These changes may include additions, deletions, reclassifications, and/or jurisdictional transfers. Other than MDOT, which has jurisdiction over the state trunkline system, the other Act 51-eligible roads in the state are under the jurisdiction of 83 counties and 533 cities and villages.

Under Act 51, county roads can be classified as either primary or local roads. City and village streets can be classified as either major or local streets. Primary roads and major streets are selected by the counties, cities and villages on the basis of the greatest general importance to each respective local agency.

As of Dec. 31, 2016, there were approximately 121,262 miles of roadway under the jurisdiction of Act 51 agencies. Within that mileage, there were:

- 9,668 miles of state trunkline,
- 27,008 miles county primary roads,
- 63,256 miles county local roads,
- 6,415 miles city/village major streets, and
- 14,915 miles city/village local streets.

All Act 51-eligible local agencies annually certify to the State of Michigan the mileages and classifications for their road and street systems as they existed on Dec. 31 of that year. All requests for changes require completed forms and specific substantiation. Most reclassification change requests are field reviewed. Approved mileage and classification changes submitted as part of the annual certification are implemented on July 1 of the following year. Transfers of mileage between jurisdictions are allowed on a monthly basis year-round, as long as the necessary substantiation is submitted.

A.M. Facts were developed by the Data Inventory and Integration Division of the MDOT Bureau of Transportation Planning to provide an overview of the many processes and projects the Data Inventory and Integration Division is responsible for and oversees.