BY-LAWS
SMART Advisory Council

I.   Purpose

       The purpose of the SMART Advisory Council is:

       A.   To review and advise on proposed SMART Board policy
              changes which affect Older Adults and Persons with
              Disabilities prior to official action being taken by the
              SMART Board.
       B.   To allow Advisory Council members a forum to review
              information, discuss concerns and improvements and
              advise SMART staff on transit issues which may affect
              Older Adults and Persons with Disabilities; and
       C.   To review the State 10E (18) Plan in the Southeastern
              Michigan area and submit comments to the SMART
              Board of Directors.

II.   Membership

       A.   The Advisory Council shall be comprised of 14 voting
              members with 4 members each representing Wayne,
              Oakland and Macomb Counties and 2 members
              representing Monroe County. In addition, two regional
              non-voting members shall be appointed.
       B.   Voting members are to be appointed for staggered four-
              year terms by SMART. Appointments are to be made
              every two years. At each appointment interval 2
              members each from Wayne, Oakland and Macomb
              Counties and one member from Monroe County will be
              appointed. No member may be appointed for more than
              two consecutive terms. Appointments to additional terms
              may be permitted with at least a one-year absence from
              the Advisory Council.
       C.   The Advisory Council is to be comprised of at least fifty
              percent representation by Older Adults and Persons with
              Disabilities. An Older Adult is defined as an individual 65
              years of age or older. The balance of the membership is

to be comprised of representatives from human service agencies or governmental entities who serve Older Adults and/or Persons with Disabilities on a professional or volunteer basis.

D.   Members of the Advisory Council may be compensated for Advisory Council meetings. Compensation will be $25 per meeting.

E.   A member who is absent, unexcused, from two consecutive meetings is automatically removed from the membership. A replacement shall be appointed to fill the vacancy.

III.   Officers/Committees

A.   Advisory Council office holders are to be elected for a two-year term at every other annual fall meeting and will include chair, first vice-chair and second vice-chair. No member may hold the same office for two consecutive terms. The responsibilities are as follows:

Chair: Direct and chair meetings.

                    Establish draft agenda for meetings.

                    Appoint members to special task forces.

                    Represent and act as spokesperson for official and/or special events of the Advisory Council.

                    Direct special regional meetings and public forums.

First Vice-Chair: Assume responsibility of chair in case of absence.

Second Vice-Chair: Assume responsibility of chair in case of absence of chair and first vice-chair.

B.   No more than one officer may be appointed from any one county.

C.   The Executive Committee is to be composed of the chair, first vice-chair, second vice chair and a representative of the County not represented by one of the three officers. Its purpose is to make recommendations to the full Advisory Council or to take official action on an issue if a full Advisory Council meeting cannot be scheduled.

D.   Ad hoc committees for special issues can be created by the chair.

IV.   Meetings

A.   Advisory Council meetings are to be scheduled quarterly with locations rotated geographically.

B.   A summary of meeting proceedings is to be distributed to the SMART Board if requested by the chair.

C.   A quorum of the Advisory Council is seven voting members with official adoption of an issue requiring at least four votes with one vote each from representatives of Wayne, Oakland and Macomb Counties.

D.   When the Advisory Council makes a recommendation to SMART, the process for official review is:

1)   A formal communication is sent to the General Manager;

2)   The General Manager will respond to the Advisory Council and indicate official staff response by the following regularly scheduled Advisory Council meeting; and

3)   If the Advisory Council does not agree with the General Manager's response, the Advisory Council has the option to raise the issue with the SMART Board.