

## ***Chapter II* The Revised Planning Process**

Recognizing the need for an improved planning process, the Michigan 3-C Transportation Planning Directors Association (3C's), an organization comprised of MPO's throughout Michigan, developed in 2000 what is referred to as "The New Planning Process" (see figure 2). Since this time some revisions have taken place to the process so from here on out the process will be referred to as the "Revised Planning Process. The revised Planning Process emphasizes the need to focus resources on transportation system deficiencies as identified by the transportation management systems. Currently, there are three transportation management systems in operation in the Grand Rapids MPO study area. Congestion Management, Pavement Management, and Safety Management have all been implemented by GVMC in the past eight years. Using these management systems, staff identified transportation system needs in the area.

Upon completion of revenue forecasts and funding strategies, a systematic plan to program projects was developed. Due to the number of deficiencies identified, a pool of deficient projects was developed. This pool of projects was used to select projects for implementation.

Using this revised process, the metropolitan area can be assured that all of the projects programmed in this Transportation Improvement Program, addresses an identified deficiency. Figure 2 details each step in the revised planning process.

FIGURE 2 THE REVISED PLANNING PROCESS

