

## TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

October 24, 2011

There was a **Transportation Advisory Committee** meeting of the Lima-Allen County Regional Planning Commission held on **Monday, October 24, 2011**, at **1:30 p.m.** in the Conference Room of the Commission office located at 130 West North Street, Lima, Ohio.

The agenda was as follows:

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of TAC minutes – August 23, 2011
3. RTA Report
4. Regionally Significant Transportation Plan
5. TIP Amendments/Resolutions
6. Bluffton Land Use Projections
7. 2010 Crash Summary Report Update
8. Distracted Driver Simulator
9. Other
10. Adjournment

A quorum being present, Kirk Niemeyer brought the meeting to order and proceeded with the agenda.

### 1. **ROLL CALL**

Mr. Mark Droll	Kohli & Kaliher
Mr. Steve Kayatin	Allen County Sanitary Engineer
Mr. Jed Metzger	Chamber of Commerce
Mr. Kirk Niemeyer	City of Lima
Mr. Doug Post	Amanda Township
Mr. Brion Rhodes	Allen County Engineer's Office
Mr. Charles Schreck	Ohio Department of Transportation District One
Mr. Jeff Sprague	Allen Economic Development Group
Mr. Brad Swick	Allen County

### **GUESTS**

Ms. Rosann Christian	Allen County Regional Transit Authority
Mr. Dan Kaseman	Ohio Department of Transportation District One
Mr. Dan Reiff	Allen County

### **STAFF**

Mr. Thomas Mazur	Lima-Allen County Regional Planning Commission
Ms. Marlene Schumaker	Lima-Allen County Regional Planning Commission
Mr. James Patterson	Lima-Allen County Regional Planning Commission
Ms. LeeAnn Sypherd	Lima-Allen County Regional Planning Commission

### 2. **APPROVAL OF TAC MINUTES – August 23, 2011**

#### **Motion 50 (10-24-11) TAC**

Charles Schreck made the motion that the TAC minutes of August 23, 2011 be approved. Seconded by Brion Rhodes; motion carried.

### **3. RTA REPORT**

Rosann Christian reported that the Lima-Allen County Regional Transit Authority (LACRTA) has spent October implementing the new route changes. Beginning the first of October, the new morning hours were implemented. Monday, October 31, 2011, a new route as well as modifications to an existing route will begin. Rosann Christian reported that due to LACRTA's hiring and training of new drivers, the extended evening hours will begin November 14, 2011. Rosann Christian reported that the LACRTA staff is also in the process of modifying some grant applications in order to be able to order new vehicles. The four coordination routes between the LACRTA and the Allen County Board of Developmental Disabilities (ACBDD) continue to be adjusted to meet the needs of the ACBDD clients as well as the clients of the LACRTA.

#### **Motion 51 (10-24-11) TAC**

Mark Droll made the motion to accept the ACRTA report. Seconded by Doug Post; motion carried.

### **4. REGIONALLY SIGNIFICANT TRANSPORTATION PLAN**

Thomas Mazur presented a handout to the Committee members and reported that the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) requested the local Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO) collaborate with their local Chamber of Commerce to reach a consensus on each region's strategic transportation plan. The Regional Strategic Transportation Plan is due to ODOT by November 1, 2011 and must coincide with the 2030 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) and the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Thomas Mazur reported that the table that the Committee members received is the current listing of the rankings of the various projects throughout Allen County. There are eight projects listed within the table and the rankings reflect the cost of the projects and the phasing of the projects. Thomas Mazur reported that the first three projects are all related to the IR 75 Project, followed by the Kibby/Bellefontaine Intersection project, the SR 117/309 project, the Lima Railroad Grade Separation project, the US 30 Project and finally, the SR 309 project. Under the local funding column, the Kibby/Bellefontaine project has no monies allocated to the project. Thomas Mazur reported that staff believes that the \$3 million of MPO monies identified for the Rail Grade Separation Project in the LRTP should be committed to the project if the project is ranked as a significant project for the region. Kirk Niemeyer asked for clarification on the US 30 and SR 309 projects (#7 & #8 on the table). Charles Schreck replied that the US 30 project is a resurfacing project. The SR 309 project is a roadway widening project. Dan Kaseman reported that the widening is from the Village of Elida to Eastown Road. Curbs and gutters will also be replaced but there will be no median barriers. Dan Kaseman reported that #5, the ALL SR 117/309 project is an integral part of the IR 75 project. The #1, #2, #3 and #4 projects will be sold together as one project. Projects # 7 and #8 will be changed to #4 and #5. Thomas Mazur reported that the table will be modified to reflect the movement of project #5 up to #3 to coincide with the IR 75 project and #6 will be ranked #2. Thomas Mazur asked if the funding was available for the Kibby/Bellefontaine Project. Charles Schreck replied that the funding is not available at this time for that project. Thomas Mazur asked if the funding was available for the ALL Lima Railroad Grade Separation (RRGS) project through the detailed design phase. Charles Schreck responded in the affirmative but that no funds are available beyond the detailed design phase at this time. Kirk Niemeyer asked if the Regional Strategic Transportation Plan had to come under a specific dollar amount. Thomas Mazur responded in the negative; the Plan is to help Chambers of Commerce understand what transportation projects were ongoing in their areas. Thomas Mazur requested a motion to add MPO monies to the table for the Rail Grade Separation Project if the Committee members believed that the project is a strategic and viable project for the community. Kirk Niemeyer reported that the City of

**4. REGIONALLY SIGNIFICANT TRANSPORTATION PLAN** (Continued)

Lima is revising their Purpose and Needs Statements per some comments from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and ODOT to include improvements to the interlock north of North Street. Cameras have been installed at the interlock as well as at the Bellefontaine crossing to gather information on the traffic backups at those locations to be included in the revised Purpose and Needs Statements requested by FHWA and ODOT. The Purpose and Needs Statements will soon be submitted to FHWA and ODOT for comment. Charles Schreck reported that the City of Lima funds should also be included with the MPO funds.

**Motion 52 (10-24-11) TAC**

Jed Metzger made the motion to revise the table to reflect project #6 ALL SR 117/309-18.65/15.17, PID 75467 be moved up to number 4 as well as to commit the \$3 million in MPO funds mentioned in the 2030 Long Range Transportation Plan to the ALL Lima RR Grade Separation project, PID 80441 and forward the recommendation on to the TCC for approval. Seconded by Jeff Sprague; motion carried.

Dan Kaseman reported that ODOT has not made a decision about the Kibby/Bellefontaine Avenue intersection project and what the solution would be. The roundabout is one of the alternatives but has not yet been decided on. Thomas Mazur reported that this project may not be included in the LRTP pertaining to modeling and may have to be added to the new 2040 LRTP.

**5. TIP AMENDMENTS/RESOLUTIONS**

Thomas Mazur requested a motion to accept the Authorization to Amend the FY 2012-2015 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to Eliminate \$75,000 of MPO/CMAQ Funds Originally Programmed for Sidewalks in ALL SR 81-PID 86634. Brion Rhodes asked why the sidewalks were being eliminated from the project. Dan Kaseman replied that there is not good connectivity and the need has not been sufficiently identified. Charles Schreck reported that the additional ODOT funds for the right-of-way funds need to be added to the resolution in the amount of approximately \$400,000. Thomas Mazur responded that the resolution will be amended and presented to the TCC for approval.

**Motion 53 (10-24-11) TAC**

Charles Schreck made the motion to accept the resolution for Authorization to Amend the FY 2012-2015 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to Eliminate \$75,000 of MPO/CMAQ Funds Originally Programmed for Sidewalks and the Inclusion of \$400,000 in ODOT District One Funds in ALL SR 81-PID 86634 and forward the recommendation on to the TCC for approval. Seconded by Doug Post; motion carried.

Thomas Mazur requested a motion to accept the Authorization to Amend the FY 2012-2015 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to Revise PID 90948 ALL Lima Elizabeth/West Streets. Charles Schreck reported the resolution is to transfer funding from the detailed design subphase in the amount of \$90,000 to the preliminary development subphase.

**Motion 54 (10-24-11) TAC**

Charles Schreck made the motion to accept the Authorization to Amend the FY 2012-2015 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to Revise PID 90948 ALL Lima Elizabeth/West Streets and forward the recommendation on to the TCC for approval. Seconded by Mark Droll; motion carried.

Thomas Mazur requested a motion to accept the Authorization to Amend the FY 2012-2015 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to Add PID 92337 ALL Lima Bike Path Phase V.

**5. TIP AMENDMENTS/RESOLUTIONS (Continued)**

**Motion 55 (10-24-11) TAC**

Brion Rhodes made the motion to accept the Authorization to Amend the FY 2012-2015 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to Add PID 92337 ALL Lima Bike Path Phase V and forward the recommendation on to the TCC for approval. Seconded by Mark Droll; motion carried.

**6. BLUFFTON LAND USE PROJECTIONS**

Thomas Mazur presented a handout to Committee members and reported that the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) will be updated out to the year 2040 in the near future. Staff has been completing land use projects in anticipation of the updates to the LRTP. The Village of Bluffton has not been reviewed with great detail in the past because it was outside the MPO's model boundaries and is somewhat difficult because the village straddles two counties; Allen County and Hancock County. Thomas Mazur reported that the population is expected to increase approximately 6% out to the year 2040. Illustration 20 represents the residential land use projections by year from 1970 through 2010. The village is expected to experience an approximate 20% increase from 2010 to 2040 or approximately 404,000 square feet. The low, medium and high density land use needs to be reviewed by village officials. Thomas Mazur reported that the growth of commercial and industrial development across the 1970 through 2010 period is somewhat sporadic. Both types of land use need to be reviewed as to existing internal capacity with respect to obsolete, vacant and underutilized buildings. Staff believes that the majority of the industrial/commercial land use activity will occur on the Hancock County side of the village and the residential land use will occur on the Allen County side of the village. Staff is in the process of recommending changes to the village's zoning designations. Staff and the Village of Bluffton are reviewing a possible historic zoning designation to assist in preserving the historic areas of the village that were platted in the 1800's. Kirk Niemeyer asked if the Village of Bluffton has its own Planning and Zoning. Thomas Mazur responded in the affirmative. No action is required at this time.

**7. 2010 CRASH SUMMARY REPORT UPDATE**

Thomas Mazur reported that the document is still in a draft status. For many years, the Lima-Allen County Regional Planning Commission (LACRPC) contracted with TSASS to analyze the crash data. Staff will now be using the ODOT GCATS system to analyze the crash data. James Patterson reported that Table 1 depicts the 2010 Crash Summary data by political subdivision. There were 3,602 crashes in Allen County in 2010; there were 3,480 crashes in 2009 which represents an increase of 5%. Perry Township and Bath Township experienced a significant increase in crashes in 2010 over 2009 at approximately a 20% increase. James Patterson reported that there were four fatal crashes and 868 injury crashes in 2010; there were 12 fatal crashes and 885 injury crashes in 2009. The total number of incapacitating injury and fatal crashes is almost identical over both 2010 and 2009. James Patterson reported that Table 2 depicts the High Crash Intersections. Staff has reviewed the table and identified 10 intersections to be studied for the next intersection study report. The intersections are identified by being on this list, the intersections have not been studied over the past 3 or 4 years and/or if there are intersections under construction, staff will wait to see what effects the construction has had on the number of crashes at that intersection. James Patterson reported that the number of motorcycle crashes dropped dramatically in 2010 over 2009; in 2009 there were 118 motorcycle crashes which included one fatal and in 2010, there were 43 motorcycle crashes with one fatal. The number of alcohol related crashes was up slightly. The speed related crashes is depicted on page 26, Illustration 18. James Patterson reported that Table 43 depicts the contributing factors

7. **2010 CRASH SUMMARY REPORT UPDATE** (Continued)

based on all crashes for youthful and senior drivers. One of the largest contributing factors for youthful drivers is following too closely; for senior drivers the largest contributing factors is failure to yield. The first map following Table 43 contains all of the roadway crashes in Allen County in 2010 with the yellow dots representing fatal crashes. The second map depicts the pedestrian crashes which depicts that the majority of these types of crashes occur within the City of Lima; two maps later, the bike crashes appear to occur within the same areas. James Patterson reported that the next map depicts the heavy truck crashes of which there were 167 in 2010 with no fatalities. The final two maps depict the speed and the alcohol related crashes. Based on population, Auglaize Township has a high number of both types of crashes. Thomas Mazur reported that an assessment of the 2010 crash rates will be attached to the final report.

**Motion 56 (10-24-11) TAC**

Steve Kayatin made the motion to accept the 2010 Crash Summary Report Update as a draft and forward the recommendation on to the TCC for approval. Seconded by Mark Droll; motion carried.

8. **DISTRACTED DRIVER SIMULATOR**

Thomas Mazur presented a handout to Committee members and reported that State of Ohio is engaged in its first statewide public information and education campaign to address highway safety. The state has developed radio and television advertising spots with this campaign but is also utilizing social networking such as YouTube and Twitter. The advertising campaign is targeting several different age groups and modes. One of the primary focuses is the Safe Routes to Schools program which targets school age children and their parents. Thomas Mazur reported that the state is rolling out a Distracted Driver Simulator which is a computer simulation model that will be used as the hook to engage the public especially the adolescents and young adults. Staff would like to have the simulator in Allen County and is asking for suggestions for appropriate venues.

9. **OTHER**

Thomas Mazur presented to Committee members a handout of the meeting dates for the TAC in 2012.

Marlene Schumaker reported that ODOT is allocating an additional \$16,000 in planning funds. These funds do require a local 10% match; the match will impact the local political jurisdictions. The funds will be programmed and presented to the internal committee structure in November.

10. **ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion 57 (10-24-11) TAC**

Brion Rhodes made the motion that the meeting be adjourned. Seconded by Steve Kayatin; motion carried.