

TRANSPORTATION COORDINATING COMMITTEE

May 24, 2018

There was a **Transportation Coordinating Committee** meeting of the Lima-Allen County Regional Planning Commission held on **Thursday, May 24, 2018**, at **3:00 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 TCC minutes – March 22, 2018
3. Acceptance of TAC minutes – May 22, 2018
4. ACRTA Report
5. Local ADA Plan
6. 2040 Transportation Plan
 - a. Traffic Analysis Zone Assessment
 - b. Goals & Objectives
 - c. Proposed Transportation Projects
 - d. Air Quality Conformity
7. Public Participation Plan Member Survey
8. Other
9. Adjournment

A quorum being present, Doug Post brought the meeting to order and proceeded with the agenda.

1. **ROLL CALL**

Mr. Jay Begg	Allen County
Mr. Shane Coleman	City of Delphos
Mr. Kevin Cox	Perry Township
Mr. Howard Elstro	City of Lima
Mr. Doug Post	Amanda Township
Mr. Dan Reiff	Allen County
Mr. Brion Rhodes	Allen County Engineer's Office
Mr. Dick Schroeder	Allen County Regional Transit Authority
Mr. Robert Sielschott	Bath Township

STAFF

Mr. Thomas Mazur	Lima-Allen County Regional Planning Commission
Ms. LeeAnn Sypherd	Lima-Allen County Regional Planning Commission

2. **APPROVAL OF TCC MINUTES – March 22, 2018**

Motion 25 (05-24-18) TCC

Kevin Cox made the motion that the TCC minutes of March 22, 2018 be approved. Seconded by Dick Schroeder; motion carried.

3. **ACCEPTANCE OF TAC MINUTES – May 22, 2018**

Motion 26 (05-24-18) TCC

Howard Elstro made the motion that the TAC minutes of May 22, 2018 be accepted. Seconded by Shane Coleman; motion carried.

4. ACRTA REPORT

Thomas Mazur reported that a representative from the Allen County Regional Transit Authority (ACRTA) was not available to attend today's meeting. Thomas Mazur reported that the TAC meeting minutes included in the packet contains a report on the RTA report. Dick Schroeder reported that there has been a significant drop in ridership due to the cuts in service. In January, evening and Saturday hours were cut due to the levy not passing. RTA's funding from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) is based on ridership and miles and each year as ridership and miles decline, funding will decline causing a "snowball" effect. Dick Schroeder reported that there are 2 grants at 100% for 2 buses that are ongoing. The property acquisition grant at 100% for employee off-street parking is pending. RTA completed some concrete repairs at its fuel depot. The RTA continues to work on state audits. Doug Post asked if RTA has made a decision to have another sales tax levy placed on the November ballot. Dick Schroeder replied that the RTA Board has not yet voted on this issue.

Motion 27 (05-24-18) TCC

Kevin Cox made the motion to accept the ACRTA report. Seconded by Brion Rhodes; motion carried.

5. LOCAL ADA PLAN

Thomas Mazur reported that the purpose of the ADA plan is to ensure that the municipality creates reasonable, accessible paths of travel in the public right-of-way for everyone, including people with disabilities. Municipalities have already made significant and long-term commitments to developing their pedestrian facilities; more will be required as the Village densifies and updates its pedestrian network. Thomas Mazur reported that this past January the RPC worked with ODOT to hold a workshop and then worked to develop a template for the local municipalities to use in order to adopt the mandated ADA Transition Plan. Thomas Mazur reported that roughly 7 weeks ago, staff met with elected officials of Beavertown to discuss the Plan. At that meeting, staff discussed Title II of the ADA which specifically applies to "public entities" (state and local governments) and the programs, services, and activities they deliver. Thomas Mazur reported that the map depicts the Village of Beavertown. The areas to the far right are the truck stops and other highway-related commercial businesses (in pink). The residential areas are fairly dense for a small village. The public buildings (in blue) are a critical issue and include the Village Administration Building, Village Park, quasi-public buildings such as churches, cemetery, etc. Thomas Mazur reported that Jacob King, a professor from Rhodes State College, has a visual impairment and works with the Low-Vision Coalition which is a group of people with sight limitations met with the village officials and assisted with the study. The table within the packet contains the sidewalk inventory of the Village. The green highlighted street segments/intersections represent compliant sidewalks. If a segment is not green, there are issue(s) that may need addressed. Thomas Mazur reported that there is no North/South pedestrian access but it is compliant with the ADA. The Village Park is not ADA accessible as there are no sidewalks to the park. The Village Administration Building and the Fire Department are not ADA accessible. Commercial services on the East end of the Village are not ADA accessible. The location of the pads within the truncated domes can be an issue as to where located and/or the size and need to be reassessed. The ADA Plan requires an assessment of the problems, then an adoption of any policies and procedures relative to the public planning process and then work to prioritize the issues to address. Within the village corp. limits are 642 employees; 569 of those jobs (88%) are not accessible to residents with mobility limitations because of the lack of sidewalks to the outlying corners of the community. Howard Elstro stated that the ADA constantly evolves and the design standards keep changing. Thomas Mazur stated that as the population continues to age, the ADA will

5. **LOCAL ADA PLAN** (Continued)

continue to change. Howard Elstro agreed and stated that the older populations are asking for more bike paths, more pedestrian amenities, etc. Robert Sielschott asked if Clean Ohio monies could be used for bike/ped amenities. Howard Elstro replied in the affirmative and stated that if Bath Township had a bike/ped plan in place, then the township could apply for Natural Resource Advisory Committee (NRAC) funds and would score higher because of a bike/ped plan being in place.

Motion 28 (05-24-18) TCC

Shane Coleman made the motion to approve the draft Local ADA Plan for the Village of Beaverdam and all motions and recommendations be approved. Seconded by Brion Rhodes; motion carried.

6. **2040 TRANSPORTATION PLAN**

a. **Traffic Analysis Zone Assessment**

Thomas Mazur reported that staff has been working on the 2040 Transportation Plan and developing the data sets required for the Traffic Analysis Zones (TAZ's) to support the modeling process. The TAZ's are similar to Census block groups. There are 395 TAZ's within Allen County which establish baseline and projected traffic based on the current and projected highway network, transit network, population by age cohorts, number of households, number of employees by type of employment using NAICS codes, housing units and number of vehicles. Thomas Mazur reported that the various Comprehensive Plans were of great value with establishing projections as well as the various political subdivisions priorities. Zoning resolutions that prescribed certain uses within specific areas and Utility Plans from the Allen Water District (AWD), City of Lima and the Allen County Sanitary Engineer's Office (ACSEO). There are no Comprehensive Plans for the City of Delphos, City of Lima and the Village of Bluffton which makes projections for those areas a little vaguer. Thomas Mazur reported that the TAZ data has been submitted to the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) as of last week to be run through their Travel Demand Model. Our Travel Demand Model is predicated upon a 4-step gravity model. Thomas Mazur reported that the maps reveal a picture of the TAZ's and staff took the current population as well as historical counts and used a straight-line linear regression. The baseline 2016 data and the 2040 projected data are prescribed within the maps. The Ohio Development Services Administration (ODSA) established the baseline population as well as the projected population. Between 2016 and 2040, Allen County is projected to lose 2,500 persons or 2%. The green areas are the areas expected to grow and yellow areas are somewhat stable. The City of Lima is expected to be the hardest hit. Thomas Mazur reported that staff reviewed the age of the housing stock, those homes built before World War II, homes valued at less than \$25,000 and those homes found to be in less than satisfactory condition. Thomas Mazur reported that the household trends suggest an increase of approximately 2,700 households. Most of the households will be located outside of the City of Lima. The projections for employment from ODSA are 12 year projections. Staff also utilized QCEW information, information from the Allen Economic Development Group (AEDG), Kglobal and IQ Partners to determine the types of jobs that may come to the area. Allen County is looking at a growth of 10,000 employees through 2040. Most of the employment is projected to be around the City of Lima near the existing industrial complexes.

Motion 29 (05-24-18) TCC

Howard Elstro made the motion to approve the Traffic Analysis Zone Assessment and all motions and recommendations be approved. Seconded by Dan Reiff; motion carried.

6. **2040 TRANSPORTATION PLAN** (Continued)

b. Goals & Objectives

Thomas Mazur reported that the packet contains a handout of Proposed Goals & Objectives for 2040 MTP. The previous 2040 MTP contained 4 goals and one of the goals dealt with economic development, employment opportunities and trying to grow the economy. Those goals are not included in this handout. Thomas Mazur reported that these goals are largely driven by the MPO planning criteria that the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) laid out. The objectives are driven by the performance measures laid out in MAP-21 and continued with the FAST Act. Thomas Mazur reported that each year the MPO must report on its performance measures and whether it had met its goals. The 11x17 chart within the packet contains the performance measures so far and the first goal is Safety. This past week staff received a packet of Transportation Performance Measures from ODOT and looks at other factors driven by Air Quality or the Pavement Conditions and includes targets. Staff has had some conversations related to Pavement Condition Ratings (PCR) and Pavement Condition Index (PCI) of the higher order roadways.

Motion 30 (05-24-18) TCC

Kevin Cox made the motion to approve the Goals & Objectives and all motions and recommendations be approved. Seconded by Shane Coleman; motion carried.

c. Proposed Transportation Projects

Thomas Mazur reported that the next handout (Table 38) reveals the projects proposed to be included in the 2040 Transportation Plan. Staff has met with the local political subdivisions to identify potential projects to include in the Plan. Staff discussed with the local political subdivisions which projects were removed from the list and which projects should remain on the list. Thomas Mazur reported that approximately 80% of the projects on the list were in the last Plan. Federal funds can only be spent on the higher order roadways. Thomas Mazur reported that performance measures are being included in the project list and if projects are picked based on the goals and objectives, it is easier to determine which projects receive MPO funds. Thomas Mazur reported that a 5-digit code represents an ODOT project and a 3-digit code represents a project from the previous Plan. The Plan is a 20-year Plan but it makes projects eligible for federal funds and then the projects can be moved to the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) which is the 4-year capital improvement plan. Projects within the TIP may be capped. Thomas Mazur reported that projects will soon be prioritized and the Wayne Street Project may move up based on multiple safety issues.

Motion 31 (05-24-18) TCC

Howard Elstro made the motion to approve the Proposed Transportation Projects listing and all motions and recommendations be approved. Seconded by Brion Rhodes; motion carried.

d. Air Quality Conformity

Thomas Mazur reported that there was a Federal Appellate Court case recently in California that challenged the 1992 Ambient Air Quality Standards. Allen County has been in air quality attainment since 2004. The Federal Appellate Court case has caused ODOT to “step back” from capacity projects as these types of projects often times impact air quality. Thomas Mazur reported that staff did not have to submit the last transportation plan for an air quality conformity determination since Allen County is in attainment. The current Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) projects were not, therefore, modeled and if a project is added to the current TIP, then the project would have to be pushed back to the next Plan so it could be modeled for air quality

6. 2040 TRANSPORTATION PLAN (Continued)

d. Air Quality Conformity (Continued)

conformity. Thomas Mazur reported that staff has been in discussions with ODOT as to whether to wait until September when the new TIP is due to have air quality conformity modeling completed or to go ahead and complete the modeling now. Staff is leaning towards waiting until the new TIP. Projects require local match and many of the smaller political subdivisions cannot come up with local match funds. Thomas Mazur reported that once projects have been “vetted” for the 2040 Transportation Plan, the projects move to the 4 year capital improvement Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). No action required.

7. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN MEMBER SURVEY

Thomas Mazur reported that ODOT, FHWA and FTA award federal funds to the MPO and want to know who makes the decisions on how those funds are allocated. Staff will be emailing a link to a survey to all of the internal committee structure. Staff requests that the members of the committees complete the survey.

8. OTHER

a. Access Ohio Survey

Thomas Mazur reported that ODOT is requesting comments on its 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan via the Access Ohio Survey. The survey can be found at: www.Access.Ohio.gov.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Motion 32 (05-24-18) TCC

Kevin Cox made the motion that the meeting be adjourned. Seconded by Brion Rhodes; motion carried.