



LIMA-ALLEN COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

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Thomas M. Mazur
Executive Director

TO: CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

FROM: Thomas M. Mazur, Executive Director
Lima-Allen County Regional Planning Commission

DATE: April 14, 2020

RE: CAC Meeting

There will be a meeting of the **Citizens Advisory Committee** of the Lima-Allen County Regional Planning Commission on **Tuesday, April 21, 2020, at 10:00 a.m.** in the Conference Room of the Commission office located at 130 West North Street, Lima, Ohio.

The agenda will be as follows:

1. Roll Call
2. FINAL FY 2021 Unified Planning Work Program
3. FINAL FY 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Plan
4. FINAL 2019 Fatal Crash Summary Report
5. Other
6. Adjournment

NOTE: PLEASE CALL THE COMMISSION OFFICE AND CONFIRM WHETHER OR NOT YOU WILL ATTEND.



CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

April 21, 2020

There was a meeting of the Citizens Advisory Committee of the Lima-Allen County Regional Planning Commission on **Tuesday, April 21, 2020**, at 10:00 a.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. FINAL FY 2021 Unified Planning Work Program
3. FINAL FY 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program
4. FINAL 2019 Fatal Crash Summary Report
5. Other
6. Adjournment

A quorum being present via teleconference, Thomas Mazur brought the meeting to order and proceeded with the agenda.

1. **ROLL CALL**

Ms. Alice Curth	Delphos Senior Citizens
Mr. David Graff	West Central Ohio Land Conservancy
Ms. Casey Heilman	Allen Soil and Water Conservation District
Mr. Michael Hensley	Allen County Council on Aging
Mr. Chuck Schierloh	City of Lima
Mr. Charles Schreck	Ohio Department of Transportation District 1

STAFF

Mr. Thomas Mazur	Lima-Allen County Regional Planning Commission
Ms. Marlene Schumaker	Lima-Allen County Regional Planning Commission
Mr. Cody Doyle	Lima-Allen County Regional Planning Commission

2. **FINAL FY 2021 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM**

Thomas Mazur reported that the FY 2021 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) looks at approximately \$950,000 of staffing and projects with the projects being broken down into sub-categories. The 100-500 series represents local interests. Thomas Mazur stated that Committee members should have received a copy of the document via email. The first portion of the document is "boilerplate" and includes an introduction which includes information pertaining the Lima-Allen County Regional Planning Commission (LACRPC) and its past activities. Included are lists of each of the Committees and those persons that are a part of each of those Committees and which local political jurisdiction they represent. Thomas Mazur reported that the transportation planning activities begin on page 8 and the planning requirements that the Agency is required to include as part of recognizing certain areas are laid out in the FAST Act planning factors at the bottom of page 9 as well as the performance measures that is addressed on page 10. Then public involvement process is identified in the first 12 pages of the document. Thomas Mazur stated that within the document there are a number of committees that are not "fleshed out" as to their members or their affiliation. Normally, Committee members change bi-annually but today there should be a new member of the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) in attendance, Matt Graff. Matt Graff introduced himself and Thomas Mazur thanked Matt Graff for committing his services. Thomas Mazur reported that the various sub-categories utilize different funding streams and

2. FINAL FY 2021 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM (Continued)

the Agency works to keep these funding streams fairly stable. Sub-category 100 represents Information Services and Sub-Category 200 reflects the Agency's commitment to emergency services and the Safe community Coalition. Environmental issues are addressed under Sub-Category 300 and the Agency's partnership with Keep Allen County Beautiful (KACB) as well as environmental planning. The Agency also coordinates its efforts with the Clean Ohio Grants for Farmland Preservation with the Department of Agriculture and the natural Resource Advisory Councils along with the Metro Park District and greenway acquisitions. Thomas Mazur reported that Sub-Categories 405 and 410 address Housing and the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds. Sub-Category 500 reviews regulatory controls such as zoning, subdivisions and floodplain. Sub-Category 600 represents the bulk of the RPC's activities such as data collection, traffic counts, engineering analyses for transportation. Sub-Category 605.8 represents bike and pedestrian activities as well as other types of active transportation as well as Activate Allen County. Thomas Mazur reported that Sub-Category 610 relates to Long-Range Planning activities and the Long-Range Plan which was completed last year. Supplemental tables are included on pages 50-55 as well as a resolution at the end of the document which will require action by the Transportation Coordinating Committee (TCC). The document has been reviewed by the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) and the Federal highway Administration (FHWA). Thomas Mazur stated that Appendix F has not yet been included in the document. Appendix F represents the Cost Allocation Plan (CAP) and reflects the fringe benefits as well as the direct and indirect costs. Staff does not expect the CAP to be approved by ODOT until June. The document has not experienced any significant changes since January. The FY 2021 UPWP will be presented to the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) and the TCC and then TCC will act on the document.

3. FINAL FY 2021 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Thomas Mazur stated that the Draft FY 2021 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) was presented to ODOT and FHWA. Page 2-3 of the document reveals where staff believes Allen County is with respect to the safety performance measures. Page 2-3 reveals that most of the targets were met for Safety. Allen County did have 9 non-motorized fatalities or serious injury crashes last year meaning Allen County met the first 4 targets but not the last target. Allen County experiences a high number of bike and pedestrian crashes as compared to the rest of Ohio. Allen County typically ranks first or second in the non-motorized injury crashes on the state-wide level followed by or superseded by the City of Findlay. Thomas Mazur reported that Allen County met most of the infrastructure performance measures. Realize that these figures represent the national highway system (NHS) which includes IR-75 and US 30. The pavement condition rating was 4/10ths of a percent off but will be addressed in the next TIP. System performance measures were all met. Transit performance measures were met; the Allen County Regional Transit Authority (ACRTA) did a great job meeting its performance measures except as relates to injuries. Page 2-5 reveals that RTA's injuries per vehicle mile were not met by the fixed route or the demand response services. Thomas Mazur reported that funding streams are on page 3-4 which lists the various projects that the RPC is looking at funding. The region is looking at an approximate \$72 million scope of work. Most of the projects are at the state level. Thomas Mazur reported that the RPC as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), receives approximately \$1.5 million each year which over the 4-year time frame of the TIP represents approximately \$7.6 million for planning purposes. Thomas Mazur reported that Table 3-4 on page 3-4 reveals the commitments that the MPO is making. Staff is working to complete projects for FY 2020. Projects for FY 2021 are listed in the table. Realize that some projects can take multiple years to develop and multiple years to fund. For example,

3. FINAL FY 2021 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (Continued)

State Infrastructure Bank (SIB) loan(s) have been used to fund project(s) and there are payback issues with these. The paybacks are typically about \$600,000 per year until FY 2023 and hopefully the SIB loan will be paid in full. There is the Beaverdam Project, SR 66, SR 190 which is part of an ODOT project that the MPO has allocated funds to, Wayne Street Conversion Project, S. Main Street in Delphos, another small project in Beaverdam and the Westminster Project. Thomas Mazur stated that there is some flexibility in the budget as can be seen by the to-be-determined (TBD) within the table. Some local projects were successful in obtaining ODOT Safety funds or Transportation Enhancement (TE) monies which freed up MPO funds for other projects. RTA has approximately \$12 million in funding within the TIP. Fortunately, RTA now has their own source of secured revenue which may enable RTA to utilize all of the federal funds that RTA receives. In the past, RTA received federal funds but did not have the local match required to enable them to spend those federal funds. RTA's capital grants are an 80/20 local match with their operating grants at a 50/50 local match. Thomas Mazur stated that there are about 15 pages of 11x17 that contain tables listing all of the projects as well as more details pertaining to each project. The last page contains a map which reveals the locations of all of the projects contained within the document. The R-cut project at the intersection of Thayer Road and US 30 is shown on the map. The roundabout projects at the intersection of Thayer and SR 309 and Napoleon Road and SR 309 are included in the map. The 2 Delphos projects are also included on the map. Section 4 reviews how local needs are being met utilizing local funds. Section 5 contains a brief summary. Thomas Mazur stated that the document provides the rationale and justification for the use of federal funds. The document is typically updated every 2 years for a 4-year period but this last time, ODOT postponed the document for a year. The FY 2021-2024 TIP will be finalized Thursday by the TCC. Thomas Mazur stated that ODOT and the RPC have been going through a public involvement process. The RPC received 2 comments on the FY 2021-2024 TIP. One comment pertained to a bike/ped trail linking to the Johnny Appleseed Metropolitan Park District (JAMPD) trail system. Staff has been working with the Country Club Hills Neighborhood Association on this proposed project. There are several issues with this project such as the speeds along Reservoir Road which would mean an off-road bike/ped trail as well as the flooding of the Ottawa River which creates problems. Staff continues to work on solutions to these issues therefore, the cost estimates are not yet available. The preliminary engineering is being completed by the City of Lima, Metro Parks is looking at ways to fund the project and RPC staff is looking at any other possible funding streams that could be used for the project. Thomas Mazur stated that the second comment was from ODOT and related to the speeds on the local NHS system and the increase in the number of crashes. Charles Schreck stated that when one reviews the number of overall crashes on the NHS system especially IR-75, the number of fatal crashes slightly increased, the number of serious injury crashes declined some but the amount of traffic along the IR-752 corridor has increased. ODOT has improved safety measures along the corridor. Thomas Mazur stated that ODOT has no say in the speed limit increase along the IR-75 corridor; the increase was a state level mandate. The 2 comments will be added to the document as well as the Agency's rebuttal.

4. FINAL 2019 FATAL CRASH SUMMARY REPORT

Thomas Mazur stated that finalizing of the 2019 Fatal Crash Summary Report is due in part to the delays in other Agency documents and then the COVID-19 protocols made it difficult to finalize documents due to the mandates. The document was presented to the CAC in January and needs to be finalized. The report was also reviewed by the Fatal Review Committee which reviews all fatal crashes that occur in Allen County. The Safety Review Committee consists of representatives from the Allen County Coroner, Allen County

4. FINAL 2019 FATAL CRASH SUMMARY REPORT (Continued)

Engineer's Office (ACEO), City Engineer's Office, ODOT Engineer's, RPC, Ohio Department of Public Safety (ODPS), Ohio State Highway Patrol, both local hospitals, local law enforcement and local emergency responders. Thomas Mazur reported that the Safety Review Committee reviews each fatal crash, what factors were involved in the crashes and makes recommendations. The Allen County Coroner typically releases the report right before the Super Bowl in an attempt to encourage smart decision making.

5. OTHER

a. New Executive Director for the Lima-Allen County Regional Planning Commission

Thomas Mazur stated that the next meeting of the CAC will be conducted by Shane Coleman who has been hired as the next Executive Director of the LACRPC. He will begin at the RPC on May 18th. Currently, Shane Coleman is the Safety Service Director for the City of Delphos. Shane Coleman has been on various RPC committees, has Chaired committees, been President of the Board for 2 years and remains a member of the RPC Board at this time. Thomas Mazur thanked the members of the Committee for their commitment, time and expertise as well as the support for the RPC and its goals and objectives. Thomas Mazur thanked Chuck Schierloh for his comments and insights for the Long-Range Plan and its impacts on the City of Lima especially being a resident of the City of Lima. Chuck Schierloh thanked Thomas Mazur for his many years of service to the community as the Executive Director of the RPC and the great job he has done. Casey Heilman asked when Thomas Mazur's final day at the RPC would be. Thomas Mazur replied that at this time he is unsure as there are some issues with getting answer from various agencies pertaining to his retirement and the RPC does not want to leave Shane Coleman without assistance as he transitions from his current position to his new position. The Agency also does not want to leave the City of Delphos in a tough position.

6. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at approximately 11:15 AM.