



LIMA-ALLEN COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

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Doug Post
President

Brion Rhodes
President-Elect

Jay Begg
Treasurer

Chris Seddelmeyer
Secretary

Thomas M. Mazur
Executive Director

TO: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Mr. Jay Begg
Mr. Kevin Cox
Mr. Jerry Gilden
Mr. Brion Rhodes
Mr. Robert Sielschott
Mr. Larry Vandemark

Mr. Shane Coleman
Mr. Howard Elstro
Mr. Mitch Kingsley
Ms. Chris Seddelmeyer
Mr. Thomas Tebben

FROM: Mr. Doug Post, Chairperson

DATE: September 19, 2019

RE: EC Meeting

There will be a meeting of the **Executive Committee** of the Lima-Allen County Regional Planning Commission held on **Thursday, September 26, 2019**, at **4:00 p.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. Approval of EC Minutes – August 22, 2019
3. Communications
4. Financial Report
 - a. Budget Report
 - b. Bills to be Approved
 - c. Payroll and OPERS
5. Standing Committees Reports
 - a. Administrative Affairs Committee
 - b. Community Development Committee
 - c. Developmental Controls Committee
 - d. Transportation Coordinating Committee
6. Other Committee Reports
7. Staff Planning Assistance Report
8. Old Business
9. New Business
10. Adjournment

NOTE:

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



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

September 26, 2019

There was a meeting of the **Executive Committee** of the Lima-Allen County Regional Planning Commission held on **Thursday, September 26, 2019 at 4:00 p.m.** in the Conference Room of the Commission office located at 130 West North Street, Lima, Ohio.

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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. Jerry Gilden	Marion Township
Mr. Doug Post	Amanda Township
Mr. Brion Rhodes	Allen County Engineer's Office
Ms. Chris Seddelmeyer	Shawnee Township
Mr. Thomas Tebben	City of Lima

STAFF

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

2. **APPROVAL OF EC MINUTES – August 22, 2019**

Motion 91 (09-26-18) EC

Chris Seddelmeyer made the motion that the EC minutes of August 22, 2019 be approved. Seconded by Shane Coleman; motion carried.

3. COMMUNICATIONS

a. Request from MORPC

Thomas Mazur reported that staff received a request from MORPC to make 2 public presentations to the Lima Community about the work that is being done with high speed passenger rail and Hyperloop technologies. A few weeks ago, a Hyperloop pod was in the square for people to view. MORPC has been the lead MPO in Ohio receiving federal DOT monies to support new digital technologies and the deployment of autonomous vehicles. They have been working quietly with the City and the RPC and others along the US 33 corridor to investigate the possibilities of establishing these rapid speed initiatives from central Ohio through NW Ohio and on to Chicago. Thomas Mazur reported the 1st public hearing is tentatively scheduled for October 9th at the City Council Chambers in the square at 5:00 PM and the 2nd is scheduled here on October 24th in front of the TCC at 3:00 PM.

b. Intermodal Connector Status

Thomas Mazur reported that after roughly 18 months of working with Eric Davis, ODOT has signed off on an intermodal connector status serving the Lima Integrated Industrial Complex. Copies of the maps of the proposed intermodal connector area are included in each packet. Staff worked with Eric Davis at the AEDG to get the freight rail and employment data from the area industries. Then staff re-packaged total employment and total truck traffic as one integrated community behind an electrified fence - sharing waste streams, data, contract service providers and employees. Thomas Mazur reported that ODOT's response was overwhelming offering to extend the corridor down Dixie Highway to National Road in Cridersville in deference to the rail blockage at Exit 120 at Breese and CSX. The recommendations and designation now go to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) for their perusal. Thomas Mazur stated that if FHWA approves the proposal, it would mean Allen County would have 2 intermodal connectors which would connect Proctor & Gamble (P&G) to the national highway system (NHS) and this new proposal would connect all of the county roads in the area of the intermodal connector into a higher status by linking them to the NHS system. Chris Seddelmeyer asked if this new status means that there would possibly be a "fix" for the intersection at Buckeye and Ft. Amanda roads. Thomas Mazur replied that that intersection is part of the intermodal connector. Brion Rhodes asked if the "fix" at Buckeye and Ft. Amanda could be extended to Adgate Road as the refinery is discussing moving all of its truck traffic to that entrance to their property. Thomas Mazur replied that staff could make sure it was in the MPO recommendation.

c. 2020 Census

Thomas Mazur reported that staff has been inundated with Census announcements from data releases, new reports, to employment opportunities; sometimes up to 6 a day. They are actually becoming a pest. The Census Bureau pushes the need to support a Complete Count Committee at least once a week. Marlene Schumaker stated that one staff member is spending 6-7 hours per day on Census work. Brion Rhodes asked if local agencies are calling requesting information. Marlene Schumaker replied that it is mostly the Census Bureau requesting data, maps, etc. Thomas Mazur stated that the majority of the inquiries stem from the Local Update of Census Addresses (LUCA).

d. HB 288 – Disallowing Eminent Domain re: Recreational Trails

Thomas Mazur reported that there is a new push in HB 288 that would eliminate the use of eminent domain with respect to recreational trails. Currently, the bill sponsors are looking for immediate action and approval of legislation that effectively bars the use of eminent domain for any trail project regardless of its status or acceptance by the community. Various entities including Rails to Trails have rejected the claims as over-kill

3. COMMUNICATIONS (Continued)

- d. HB 288 – Disallowing Eminent Domain re: Recreational Trails (Continued)
and necessary to address trail systems in rural and remote areas where property owners cannot be found or when county records are errant.
- e. Other Updates
Thomas Mazur reported that there are other updates in your packet including a transportation update from ODOT, a training activity for those with tree programs and an update from ODNR regarding menacing beetles for your perusal.
- f. ODSA Surveys
Thomas Mazur reported that staff received a request from the Ohio Development Services Administration (ODSA) requesting the public complete surveys pertaining to housing, homelessness and community development. The links are listed in the handout included in each packet.

Motion 92 (09-26-19) EC

Kevin Cox made the motion to approve the Communications Report. Seconded Chris Seddelmeyer; motion carried.

4. FINANCIAL REPORT

- a. Budget Report
Marlene Schumaker reported that the Agency is still in line with what is expected. There will be changes made to the budget possibly next month.

Motion 93 (09-26-19) EC

Brion Rhodes made the motion to approve the Budget Report. Seconded by Jay Begg; motion carried.

- b. Bills to be Approved
Marlene Schumaker reported that the list of invoices were included in the information emailed to each Committee member. There were no unusual invoices in September.

Motion 94 (09-26-19) EC

Brion Rhodes made the motion to approve the bills to be paid. Seconded by Jay Begg; motion carried.

- c. Payroll and OPERS

Payroll	Amount	PERS	Medical
08/14/19	\$14,589.62	\$2,042.55	
08/28/19	\$16,228.23	\$2,271.95	
09/11/19	\$15,159.30	\$2,122.30	\$638.10

Motion 95 (09-26-19) EC

Brion Rhodes the motion to approve Payroll and OPERS. Seconded by Jay Begg; motion carried.

5. STANDING COMMITTEES

- a. Administrative Affairs Committee
Thomas Tebben reported that AAC did not meet in September.

5. STANDING COMMITTEES (Continued)

b. Community Development Committee

Thomas Mazur reported that the CDC did not meet in September.

c. Developmental Controls Committee

Kevin Cox reported that the DCC met on Tuesday, September 17th. Kevin Cox reported that the petitioner sought to change the zoning of parcel 28-1400-01-002.000 on Gratz Road just south of I-75 from Agricultural to Commercial for possible commercial use. Kevin Cox reported that there are no identified floodplains on the parcel; several small wetland areas on the southernmost portion of the parcel were identified by USDA. No historical or cultural resources have been identified. The parcels are not served by municipal water and sewer services. Staff contacted County and Village of Bluffton officials to identify access to municipal utilities. Staff was unable to establish any commitment to extend utilities to the parcel at this time. The parcel does not have access to fixed route public transit services but has access to demand response services. Gratz Road is classified as Local on the Federal Functional Classification System. Roadway width does not meet FHWA standards of 12' lane widths. Traffic volumes total 275 vehicles per day. Kevin Cox reported that current zoning in the general area is largely Agricultural. Parcels to the north of I-75 are zoned Agricultural, R-1 Residential and M-2 Manufacturing. Parcels south of I-75 on Gratz Road are all zoned Agricultural. The Township's 2040 Comprehensive Plan identifies the area as Agricultural. Kevin Cox state that Michael Zimmerly, Richland Township Zoning Inspector, had reported that the Township was unaware of possible plans for the parcel if it was rezoned. Kevin Cox reported that recommended that Richland Township deny the rezoning as presented based on noncompliance with the Richland Township Comprehensive Plan, the design limitations of Gratz Road and the lack of access to utilities needed to support commercial development.

Kevin Cox reported that the petitioner sought to change the zoning of parcels 46-0206-12-001.000 and 46-0206-12-002.000 from R-I Residential to R-II Residential for the purpose of converting a single family home into a duplex (side by side). Current zoning in the immediate area is R-1 Residential. The parcels identified already contain a house spanning both parcels with two separate addresses. Kevin Cox reported that there are no identified floodplains or wetlands on the parcels nor have any historical or cultural resources been identified. The parcels are served by both municipal water and sewer services. The parcels do have access to fixed route public transit services. Wardhill is classified as Local on the Federal Functional Classification System. Traffic volumes on Spencerville Road near the intersection of Wardhill are approximately 6,840 vehicles per day. Kevin Cox reported that City View Terrace was platted in 1909. The platted subdivision encompasses the area between Spencerville Road, the Catholic Cemetery, the Railroad and Trolley Avenue. The 424 platted parcels had frontages that ranged from 17' to 40'. Currently that same area supports just over 100 parcels with land uses ranging from residential to utilities to commercial to public worship and cemetery grounds. Many of the owners of the residential properties own multiple parcels within the neighborhood. Currently there are 104 residential parcels; only 56 of the units are owner occupied. When contiguous parcels with the same owner are combined the number of parcels drops to 64. Kevin Cox reported that staff recommended that Shawnee Township deny the rezoning as presented based on noncompliance with current Township zoning requirements as neither parcel meets minimum lot size and setback requirements of the R-II zoning classification. Staff further recommended a more detailed study of the area by the Township.

5. STANDING COMMITTEES (Continued)

c. Developmental Controls Committee (Continued)

Thomas Mazur reported that staff originally wrote a Hazard Mitigation for the County in 2005. The Plan was a requirement at the time to get FEMA funding. Thomas Mazur commented that at that time there weren't any requirements as to what the Plan contents had to be and little guidance as to what was expected. The Plan was supposed to address all natural hazards. Thomas Mazur commented that the previous EMA Director hired a consultant to develop an update to the Plan. Thomas Mazur commented that staff worked with the current Director, Tom Berger, to update the Plan after it lapsed. Thomas Mazur commented that new Hazard Mitigation Plan requirements are a little more demanding and it is critical that we get the local governments involved as well as the fire departments and public works departments. Thomas Mazur commented that the County has talked about hiring a consultant to come in and write the new Plan and develop hydraulic models.

Kevin Cox reported that an applicant in Bath Township requested a variance to the width to depth ratio in order to facilitate the sale of the undeveloped area of the parcel. The configuration of the proposed lots is similar to the lots in the general area. The parcel being created (1.9 acres) and the remainder of the parent parcel (10.1 acres) both meet minimum township zoning requirements. The proposal reflects a width to depth ratio of 4.7 to 1. Moreover, the new proposed lot reflects both wetlands and hydric soils. Given the existing topography of the lot and the soils present. Staff noted conditions may present a serious challenge to the creation of a buildable lot. However, staff recommended approval and the DCC accepted and approved staff's recommendation.

Motion 96 (09-26-19) EC

Thomas Tebben made the motion to accept the DCC report. Seconded by Jay Begg; motion carried.

d. Transportation Coordinating Committee

Doug Post reported that the TCC did not meet in September.

6. OTHER COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Citizens Accessibility Advisory Committee

Thomas Mazur reported that the CAAC did not meet in September.

b. Citizens Advisory Committee

Thomas Mazur reported that the CAC did not meet in September.

7. STAFF PLANNING ASSISTANCE REPORT

Information Assistance

Staff provided updated LUCA 2020 Census information to the State office. Staff destroyed all LUCA-related information including addresses and names as instructed by the Census Bureau. Staff continued to develop employment data for Allen County Public Health to support program analytics and outreach. Staff provided American Community Survey data to Allen County Public Health to support grant writing activities. Staff worked with the Shawnee Township Fire Department to develop baseline mapping and identify target populations including schools, nursing homes, employers, etc. Staff updated sections 1 thru 5 and reviewed/revised sections 6 and 7 of the WOCAP Community Assessment. Staff reviewed Complete Count Committee membership and possible agenda items with WOCAP staffers. Staff reviewed and provided GIS mapping of "Hard to Count Populations" to

7. STAFF PLANNING ASSISTANCE REPORT (Continued)

WOCAP officials. Staff provided census information to address a data request made by The Lima News which targeted “educational technology donut” in Lima area. Staff reviewed daycare centers and daycare camps by type with representatives of the Allen County Department of Jobs & Family Services and WOCAP. Staff reviewed recidivism rates at prisons at the national, state and local levels with Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Corrections. Staff compiled a Census Affiliate Annual Report for CY 2018. Staff met with representatives of Red Cross, United Way and the City of Lima to discuss demographic profiles.

Safe Communities

Staff sent 4 press releases regarding: August fatal crash monthly update; Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over kickoff event; Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over overtime enforcement; and, the Safe Community-FOPA/FOP Awards Luncheon. Staff held a Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over kickoff media event at the Allen County fairgrounds with local law enforcement personnel and held a table top event following the kickoff. Staff worked with Lima Memorial Hospital and iHeart Radio to record Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over public service announcements. Staff prepared for, set-up/tore down, and hosted the 21st Annual Safe Community FOPA/FOP Awards Luncheon. The event drew some 80+ persons. Staff prepared for/attended a University of Northwestern Ohio student traffic awareness event as well as prepared for/attended Operation Lifesaver/seatbelt event at Elida High School; 30 attended. Staff submitted a grant reimbursement claim to the Ohio Department of Public Safety.

Keep America Beautiful

Staff prepared for and attended Keep Allen County Beautiful meeting. Staff continued to work with litter stakeholders to identify litter hot spots on area transportation corridors/sidewalks. Staff contacted the Ohio Department of Transportation Pollinator Program Coordinator for the availability of seed, equipment and design expertise for targeted road right-of-way projects.

Environmental Planning

Staff worked with representatives of Allen County Public Health to locate and map potential wetlands on Wapak and S. Kemp parcels in Shawnee and Amanda townships respectfully. Staff attended a meeting of the Ottawa River Coalition. Staff reviewed concerns/questions regarding funding for wetland gardens with residents and Ottawa River Watershed Coordinator. Staff worked with local stakeholders to promote, market and inform organizations, employers, and churches of the opportunity to support and participate in the Ottawa River Clean-Up event. Staff worked to document the resident involvement with photo journalism techniques.

Regional Development

Staff sketched an outline of the contents for a multi-jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan for Allen County that would meet the new Federal Emergency Management Agency requirements. Staff reviewed the availability of federal and state funding for Hazard Mitigation planning efforts. Staff contacted representatives of the Ohio Emergency Management Agency to assess the State of Ohio Hazard Mitigation Plan and identify updates resulting from new federal planning requirements. Staff facilitated a meeting between the Ohio Emergency Management Agency, Ohio Department of Public Safety, Allen County Drainage Engineer and the Allen County Emergency Management Office to review the availability of certain data sets, available funding, development of eligible projects, and the use of consultants. Staff reviewed the need to update certain FEMA High Hazard Floodplain maps and the need for hydraulic models in the Bluffton, Delphos and

7. STAFF PLANNING ASSISTANCE REPORT (Continued)

Spencerville communities with representatives of the Ottawa River Coalition and the Allen County Engineers Office. Staff received the full FEMA application requirements and assistance requests from the Allen County Engineer's Office for 2 projects in Bath and Shawnee townships respectively. Staff reviewed the hazard mitigation grant application process and estimated benefits for removal of a Shawnee homestead with the owner, insurance company and the Allen County Engineer's Office. Staff also contacted the Ohio Emergency Management Agency to review the Bath Township hazard mitigation grant application with representatives of the Ohio Emergency Management Agency and the Allen County Engineer's office. Staff worked to update the owners respective flood damage and loss statements dating back to October 2017. Staff reviewed the availability of Hazard Mitigation Grant Program training offered by the Ohio Emergency Management Agency with the Allen County Engineer's staff. Staff developed a PowerPoint to support local hazard mitigation planning.

Farmland Preservation

Staff reviewed the possibility of a Clean Ohio Agricultural Easement Purchase Program with a Jackson Township property owner and referred the owner to the West Central Ohio Land Conservancy.

Housing

Staff continued to compile commercial housing information by type and unit characteristics within the Lima Urbanized Area. Staff attended a meeting of the Allen County Housing Consortium.

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program

Staff submitted a survey solicited by the Ohio Development Services Agency targeting "supportive housing needs", as well as targeting "housing needs" in general. Staff reviewed the recently adopted Allen County Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice document with representative Bradshaw at the Ohio Development Services Agency for compliance with testing requirements. Staff supported the Russel family with CDBG mortgage payment services. Staff reviewed funding availability for sanitary hook-ups with representatives of Allen County Public Health. Staff also facilitated the preparation and filing of program monitoring reports, resolutions, billings, scannings, postings, contract addendums, invoicing, and legal notifications.

Zoning Assistance

Staff continues to provide information relative to local zoning regulations to property owners, appraisers, surveyors, and public officials; staff addressed 19 requests for information this past reporting period. Staff provided technical assistance to officials in American, Jackson, Marion, Richland and Shawnee townships as well as the Village of Elida. Staff received, reviewed and facilitated zoning amendment petitions RI-02-19 and SH-01-19 with the Developmental Controls Committee. Petition RI-02-19 sought to change the zoning of parcel 28-1400-01-002.000 on Gratz Road just south of I-75 from Agricultural to Commercial for possible commercial use. Based upon an under-designed road and the lack of any municipal water or sanitary sewer services the Committee recommended denial. Petition SH-01-19 sought to change the zoning of parcels 46-0206-12-001.000 and 46-0206-12-002.000 in Shawnee Terrace from R-I Residential to R-II Residential for the purpose of converting a single-family home into a duplex. Staff found the petition failing to meet minimum size and set back requirements, and reported an assorted mix of land uses currently present with the exception of R-II. The Committee recommended denial of the petition and that a more detailed study of the area be undertaken by Shawnee Township.

7. STAFF PLANNING ASSISTANCE REPORT (Continued)

Subdivision Regulations

Staff responded to 17 telephone inquiries and facilitated 4 in-house reviews. Staff processed 1 land transfer in American Township and approved 6 minor land divisions in Amanda (1), American (1), Auglaize (1), Jackson (1), Monroe (1) and Sugar Creek (1) townships. Staff reviewed the need for variances to county and/or township regulations with property owners, township officials, attorneys, consulting engineers and/or surveyors in order to approve land divisions in: Amanda, American (2), Bath (2), Marion, Jackson (3), and Shawnee townships. Staff reviewed a proposed industrial park plat with representatives of the Allen County Engineer.

Floodplain Management

Staff has fielded several inquiries (8) from local engineers, surveyors, realtors, property owners and government officials regarding the floodplain status of local properties. Staff facilitated inquiries about the issuance of a floodplain development permit for filling activities at the EOLM landfill on Ft. Amanda Road as proposed by Mannik & Smith Group, Inc. in Toledo and for filling activity proposed by Kohli & Kaliher on Lincoln Highway in Sugar Creek Township. Staff reviewed the proposed removal of a low head dam in the Ottawa River with representatives of the Ottawa River Coalition and Ohio Department of Transportation. Staff subsequently reviewed requirements regarding modeling of low head dam removal in Ottawa River with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources and the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Staff reviewed floodplains, wetlands and hydric soils on parcels in Perry Township along the Freed Ditch with representatives of the Allen County Engineer's Office, Soil & Water Conservation District and Ohio Department of Transportation. Staff reviewed filling of floodway and need for HEC-RAS analysis requirements with representatives of Jones & Henry for a parcel located on Cole Street in Bath Township.

Short Range Transportation Planning

Staff supported a meeting called by the Ohio Department of Transportation to discuss the need and parameters of a US 30 Corridor Study thru Allen County. Staff worked with District 1 and the Village of Cairo and supplied contact information and follow-up phone calls to ensure participation of the stakeholders. Staff contacted representatives of Jobs & Commerce to identify any possible funding for improvements at the Brentlinger and McPherson road intersections along SR 117 in Westminster. Staff met with representatives of Beam Design Group and the Auglaize Township Trustees to consider necessary improvements and funding issues. Staff worked with representatives of the City of Lima and District 1 to finalize the RSA Report for Main Street in Lima and submitted same to Central Office for consideration of possible state funding. Staff continued discussions over the need to address crashes and safety issues on Thayer Road. Staff contacted the Ohio Department of Transportation Safety Program Office with respect to the need for an abbreviated study addressing the Thayer Road corridor. Staff reviewed the creation of quiet zones, the costs of quad gates and the possibility of financing same with the closure of certain at-grade crossings. Issues of track usage, average daily traffic, conditions on the roadway, at-grade crossing crashes, and the redundancy of crossings was discussed with representatives of the Ohio Rail Development Commission, the City of Lima, the Allen Economic Development Group and CSX. Staff participated in several discussions with representatives of the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission relative to high speed passenger rail, Hyperloop-1 and an upcoming press conference to discuss the progress and status of a Rapid Speed Transportation Initiative. Representatives of the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission, the City of Lima, City of Marysville and City of Kenton participated in such conversations. Staff attended a meeting of the District Safety Review Team. Staff continued to support the adopted public involvement process undertaken by the Agency and compiled same for documentation purposes. Staff updated the accomplishments made during FY 2018-2019

7. STAFF PLANNING ASSISTANCE REPORT (Continued)

pursuant to the Agency's Public Participation Plan and compiled a Biennial Review Summary Report and matrix with data thru June 2019. Staff used the documentation process to finalize recommended changes to the Public Participation Plan for the FY 2020-2021 period. A DRAFT Public Participation Plan was posted to the Agency website and conversations regarding same commenced with the internal committee structure. Staff finalized the FY 2019 Completion Report and prepared new financial tables in the FY 2020 Unified Planning Work Program pursuant to finalized federal and state grant funding levels. Staff reviewed staff training options/opportunities. Staff reviewed drainage problems and tarmac issues at the Allen County Regional Airport Authority. Staff reviewed the most recent awards of the Transportation Review Advisory Committee with committee representatives. Staff reviewed and updated its website postings.

Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Staff reviewed the timing and funding for proposed projects on Lincoln Highway and Gomer Road in the unincorporated hamlet of Gomer with representatives of Sugar Creek Township, the Allen County Engineer's Office, the Allen County Sanitary Engineer's Office, Ohio Department of Transportation District Office and the Great Lakes Community Action Partnership. Staff also reviewed the use of Transportation Enhancement Project (TEP) funding in Gomer with representatives of the Allen County Sanitary Engineer's Office, Sugar Creek Township, and Ohio Department of Transportation District Office. Staff reviewed the status of RideAmigos software project (PID 105980) with representatives of AAA³, the Regional Transit Authority, and the Ohio Department of Transportation Central Office. Staff reviewed the status of Bluffton SR 103 Bridge project (PID 93756) with representatives of Ohio Department of Transportation District Office. Staff reviewed engineering assessment from Choice One Engineering regarding the walkability of State Street in the City of Delphos and the availability of funding for sidewalk improvements with City Safety Service Director. Staff reviewed the status of Beaverdam ADA sidewalks (PID 110217) with representatives of EMH&T and Ohio Department of Transportation District Office. Staff reviewed the Wayne & High project (PID 90949) funding and the availability of Toll Revenue Credit with Ohio Department of Transportation District Office personnel. Staff reviewed Westminster project (PID 109435) funding and possible modifications to Brentlinger Road and the driveways serving Rudolph Foods with representatives of the Allen County Engineer's Office and Ohio Department of Transportation Office of Jobs & Commerce. Staff also researched potential Ohio Development Services Agency grant program funding for Westminster project using BUSTR program funding for the removal of discarded fuel tanks with representatives of the Ohio Department of Transportation District Office. Staff reviewed the need for an amendment for transit vehicle replacements (PID 105312) with representatives of the Transit Authority and Ohio Department of Transportation Office of Transit. Staff reviewed the Elm Street Grade Crossing Project (PID 80441) budget with the Lima City Engineer. Staff prepared a DRAFT table outlining projects proposed and scheduled over the FY 2019 thru 2024 period. Staff requested information on a Transportation Improvement Program Waiver from the Ohio Department of Transportation Office of Planning. Staff completed the posting of the SFY 2019 Table of Obligated Projects to the Agency website.

Transportation Planning - Surveillance

Based on a request for information from Monroe Township Trustees, staff deployed the radar board on Slabtown Road and subsequently returned to monitor traffic flow and the 85th percentile speeds. Staff provided data regarding traffic operations on Thayer Road to Allen County Sheriff's Office and Monroe Township Trustees. Staff documented that 93.91% of the vehicles were traveling in excess of 55 mph and forwarded 85th percentile speeds up to 72 mph on the corridor to the Township Trustees and subsequently to the State Highway Patrol. Staff reviewed the need for a formal safety study of Thayer Road with

7. STAFF PLANNING ASSISTANCE REPORT (Continued)

representatives of the Ohio Department of Transportation District One and the Allen County Engineer's Office. Staff began to compile/review crash records and functional classification on Thayer Road to submit a request for funding for a formal study to the Ohio Department of Transportation Office of Safety. Staff met with representatives of the Ohio Rail Development Commission, Ohio Department of Transportation, Class 1 & 2 Railroads and Ohio Association of Regional Council members to review possible methodologies to prioritize rail grade crossing programs. Staff subsequently reviewed the status of rail crossings by Annual Average Daily Traffic, number of trains, number of night trains, type of grade-crossing protection and motor vehicle crashes. Staff also reviewed at-grade rail crossing data to support quiet zone. Staff reviewed an initiative of the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio to report blocked crossings and forwarded same to area stakeholders. Staff worked with the Ohio Department of Health and Allen County Public Health to deliver a "Land Use & Health Workshop". The event venue was the Lima Public Library; Activate Allen County and the RPC facilitated the event; some 20 stakeholders from across the region attended. Staff worked with representatives of Shawnee Township, Shawnee Local School District, and the Ohio Department of Transportation District Office to discuss development of a Safe Routes to School Plan. Staff reviewed Shawnee student resident addresses, proposed improvements and costs as well as project estimator. Staff also prepared gant chart with representatives of the Ohio Department of Transportation and Allen County Public Health to ensure the timeliness of the data collection, planning exercises to be undertaken, and the grant application deadlines. Staff reviewed an extension of Ottawa River Walk thru Heritage Park to the Shawnee School campus with Shawnee Township officials. Due to the timeline and support from Shawnee Schools staff reviewed available consulting services for developing the Plan with representatives of Shawnee Township and the District One Bike & Pedestrian Program Coordinator. Staff reviewed local ADA Transition Plans in the City of Lima, Village of Lafayette and Village of Beaverdam with local officials. Staff reviewed ADA transition planning requirements with Village of Spencerville administrators. The "New Vision" Curb Ramp Inventory System software was shared with representatives of the City of Delphos, City of Lima and Village of Bluffton. Staff reviewed ADA ramps and on-street parking requirements with the City of Delphos and Ohio Department of Transportation District personnel. Staff reviewed spread sheets detailing ADA compliance for content and functionality, especially for mapping. Staff also reviewed the Delphos Safe Routes to School Plan for paired and mutual priorities between the ADA Transition Plan and the Safe Routes to School Plan. Staff prepared for a Bicycle & Pedestrian Task Force meeting. Staff supported and facilitated a guest speaker from the Low Vision Coalition to speak to the importance of pedestrian improvements in the Lima Urbanized Area. Staff supported a regional effort to document bicycle and pedestrian travel data necessary to support local planning efforts and support the National Demonstration Project. Staff worked with more than 2 dozen organizations and volunteers to document bicycle and pedestrian activities in various locations over 5 distinct count periods around Allen County. Staffers documented counts at the following locations: Market & Elizabeth (2), Market & Main (4), Main & North (4), Riverwalk & Adgate Road (5), Riverwalk & Faurot Park (1), Riverwalk & North Street (1), Riverwalk & Schoonover (2), Ferguson Reservoir (3), Metzger Reservoir (2), Williams Reservoir, Herman Park (3), OSU (1), Metropolitan Park District South Loop (2), and the Metropolitan Park District North Loop. Staff worked to finalize and post the FY 2018 Crash Summary Report to the Agency website. Staff supported Safe Routes to School planning activities with the City of Delphos. Staff documented average daily traffic volumes at the following locations: Thayer & Lincoln, Thayer & US 30, Thayer & Sugar Creek, Thayer & Dixie, Thayer & Bluelick, Thayer & Sandusky, Thayer & Mirror Lake, Thayer & SR 81, Thayer & Reservoir, Thayer & Mowery, Thayer & SR 309, Thayer & Clum, Thayer & SR 117, Eastown & Elm, Eastown & Elm, Eastown & Market, Allentown & Cornell, Shawnee & Spencerville, Cable & University, RJ Corman @ Eastown; Northern & West, Metcalf & North

7. STAFF PLANNING ASSISTANCE REPORT (Continued)

Shore, Shawnee @ CSX, Shawnee & SR 117. Staff also documented vehicle turning movements at the intersections of Spring & Metcalf, and Dixie & Buckeye.

Long Range Transportation Planning

Staff worked to provide District One officials with current contact information regarding local fire, EMS and law enforcement officials serving the US 30 corridor in Allen County in an effort to promote their participation in a study. Staff contacted all of the fire and elected officials serving the US 30 corridor prior to the meeting conducted in the Village of Cairo. Given the proposed extension of municipal utility services, possible decisions regarding access to US 30 and new development, staff reviewed the need for a comprehensive plan in Sugar Creek Township with representatives of the Great Lakes Community Action Partnership and the Allen County Sanitary Engineer's Office. Staff undertook density mapping of population, employment, housing, proposed public and private utilities, and traffic generators. Given the new Ohio Rail Plan staff reviewed railroad grade closings and obsolete underpass upgrades and new technology with representatives of the Ohio Rail Development Commission. Staff reviewed the Auglaize Township Comprehensive Plan with Auglaize Township officials. Staff reviewed the modeling results from proposed alternative improvements to US 30 and Thayer Road with representatives of Ohio Department of Transportation District Office and Central Office Modeling Section. Staff reviewed the Rapid Speed Transportation Initiative with MORPC representatives. Staff reviewed the Shawnee Township Comprehensive Plan and land use in the Chipman Addition with local officials who were interested in redeveloping the area. Staff reviewed current and proposed land use in Sections 13 and 14 of Richland Township with representatives of the Allen County Sanitary Engineer, Allen Water District, Richland Township and the Village of Bluffton. Questions about the comprehensive plan and the goals of the Township were called into question.

Specialized Transportation Program

Staff reviewed TARPS and coordination efforts with representatives of TARTA in the greater Toledo area. Staff participated in a webinar sponsored by the National Association of Regional Councils entitled: "Older Americans Act 101: An Introduction". Staff began data collection for website updates to better portray local fixed route transit, paratransit, and operators for purposes of meeting and posting performance measures.

Transit Planning

Staff reviewed the status of a DRAFT comprehensive operational analysis of the Transit Authority. Staff reviewed the availability of Transit Certification of Data submissions. Staff contacted personnel at the Ohio Department of Transportation Office of Transit to request information from the National Transit Database. Staff reviewed transit planning needs and the Maintenance Operations Plan. Staff reviewed transit operations and RPC funding commitments with Transit Authority officials. Staff attended a meeting of the Transit Authority Board of Directors.

Motion 97 (09-26-19) EC

Jay Begg made the motion to accept the Planning Assistance Report. Seconded by Kevin Cox; motion carried.

8. OLD BUSINESS

a. Draft Public Participation Plan Update

Thomas Mazur reported that in each packet is a copy of the Draft Public Participation Plan (PPP) update. The Committee received a report in August but there have been a few more changes. There has been language added that states that staff will not respond

8. OLD BUSINESS (Continued)

a. Draft Public Participation Plan Update (Continued)

to any type of “spam” email comments, requests, etc. Any text in red represents proposed revisions. Thomas Mazur reported that the front portion of the document brings it up to the current Transportation Bill. Any text highlighted in yellow is new from last month. Staff will probably ask for approval of the document at the October meetings.

b. Thayer Road Corridor

Thomas Mazur reported that staff made a safety application to ODOT for technical assistance for the Thayer Road corridor. ODOT responded that the project would be funded. Staff worked with ODOT District 1 to make sure the crash data was accurate as well as sending all of the data pertaining to the stops signs, the rural character of the corridor, the fact that so many drivers using the corridor are from out-of-town, etc. Thomas Mazur reported that ODOT will hire the consultant(s) to conduct a Road Safety Audit (RSA), conduct interviews with the various stakeholders including the townships, Allen County Engineer (ACE), Ohio State Highway Patrol (OSHP), etc. ODOT will also look at possible recommendations which includes, short-term, mid-term and long-term.

9. NEW BUSINESS

a. Retirement Presentation

Marlene Schumaker reported that representatives from an insurance agency would like to come to the RPC office and make a presentation pertaining to retirement. The insurance agency would like to furnish lunch for the staff. Thomas Tebben asked what they are selling. Marlene Schumaker replied that then could be selling insurance but the presentation will be about Social Security and Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS) and how the two go together. Marlene Schumaker stated that she read the information they will be presenting and the information will be of assistance to a couple of RPC employees who will soon be looking at having to make decisions about Social Security and/or OPERS. The EC Committee stated that they did not see any issue with this.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Motion 98 (09-26-19) EC

Chris Seddelmeyer made the motion that the meeting be adjourned. Seconded by Brion Rhodes; motion carried.

Submitted by:

Accepted by:

Signature/Secretary

Signature/RPC President

Date: _____

Date: _____