



LIMA-ALLEN COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

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Shane A. Coleman
Executive Director

TO: CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

FROM: Shane A. Coleman, Executive Director
Lima-Allen County Regional Planning Commission

DATE: August 18, 2020

RE: CAC Meeting

There will be a meeting of the **Citizens Advisory Committee** of the Lima-Allen County Regional Planning Commission on **Tuesday, August 25, 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. UPDATE: FY 2020 Completion Report
3. UPDATE: Safe Routes to School & ADA Transition Plans
4. UPDATE: FFY 2021 Safe Communities Grant
5. UPDATE: Delphos and Lafayette CDBG Projects
6. UPDATE: CDBG Program
7. UPDATE: Thayer Road Safety Study
8. Roadside Safety Audit – S. Metcalf Street
9. FINAL: 2019 Traffic Crash Summary Report
10. Fall Bicycle & Pedestrian Count Program
11. Other
12. Adjournment

The Lima-Allen County Regional Planning Commission will continue with the regularly scheduled Committee meetings during the month of July, 2020 via video conferencing. To Comply with Ohio Director of Health guideline and Orders limiting and prohibiting group gatherings of more than 10 persons, no in-person attendance by the public will be available. Anyone who wishes to request Privilege of the Floor for any committee meeting in July, 2020 is encouraged to contact the LACRPC at 419-228-1836. The public is encouraged to view all committee meetings via our Facebook page. All meeting agendas and minutes are published on the LACRPC website at: <https://www.lacrpc.com>.

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



CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

August 25, 2020

There was a meeting of the Citizens Advisory Committee of the Lima-Allen County Regional Planning Commission on **Tuesday, August 25, 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:

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A quorum being present via teleconference, Shane Coleman brought the meeting to order and proceeded with the agenda (the meeting is also being broadcast via Facebook Live).

1. **ROLL CALL**

Mr. Mark Bishop	Shawnee Township
Mr. Tyler Black	Johnny Appleseed Metropolitan Park District
Mr. Norm Capps	Perry Township
Mr. David Graff	West Central Ohio Land Conservancy
Mr. Michael Hensley	Allen County Council on Aging
Mr. Patrick Maloney	Legal Aid of Western Ohio
Mr. Charles Schreck	Ohio Department of Transportation District 1

STAFF

Mr. Shane Coleman	Lima-Allen County Regional Planning Commission
Mr. Cody Doyle	Lima-Allen County Regional Planning Commission
Mr. Adam Haunhorst	Lima-Allen County Regional Planning Commission
Ms. LeeAnn Sypherd	Lima-Allen County Regional Planning Commission

Shane Coleman reported that Thomas Mazur retired after 30+ years. His final days were at the end of June. Shane Coleman stated that he became the Executive Director of the Lima-Allen County Regional Planning Commission (LACRPC) in mid-May. He has been working to acclimate himself to what the RPC does and pick up where Thomas Mazur left off. Shane also introduced to the Committee Adam Haunhorst the new Planning Engineer. Adam Haunhorst began in April after James Patterson also retired.

2. **UPDATE: FY 2020 COMPLETION REPORT**

Shane Coleman reported that the RPC is required to provide this document to ODOT. The document will be presented to the TAC and the TCC Committees next week for review and action so that staff can submit the document to ODOT. Shane Coleman reported that

2. UPDATE: FY 2020 COMPLETION REPORT (Continued)

the RPC's fiscal year goes from July 1st through June 30th. The Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) is developed every year by the Executive Director, staff, internal Committee structure and public comment. A draft of the document is presented to ODOT and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) each year. Both ODOT and FHWA will review the document and comment and any comments/suggestions are incorporated into the document. The document is then presented to the internal Committee structure for approval. Shane Coleman reported that the UPWP includes an introduction, historical background pertaining to the RPC, identifies the various stakeholders and the structure of the all of the Agency's Committees. The "heart" of the document presents an overview of the RPC's various activities and the work that the Agency will undertake for the coming year. The UPWP lays out some \$700,000+ in staff planning expenditures and then breaks out the different work program elements. All of the activities are funded by various sources which are identified in the table such as FHWA, Federal Transit Administration (FTA), ODOT, MPO, RTA and other stakeholders that staff completes work for during the year. Shane Coleman reported that the FY 2021 UPWP is on the RPC's website and stated that subcategories 100 through 500 are non-ODOT (Local) related line items. Subcategory 105 represents Information Services and is heavily related to Census activities. Series 200 represents Emergency Planning Services with Subcategory 205 representing the Safe Community Coalition. Shane Coleman reported that Series 300 represents Environmental activities such as Keep Allen County Beautiful (KACB) and environmental planning. The 400 series represents regional interests such as the Clean Ohio grants for parks, NRAC funding, Farmland Preservation, Economic Development, Housing and the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. Shane Coleman stated that staff reports activities under the 600 Series to ODOT. Subcategory 601 includes technical services and information as well as modeling. Subcategory 605.8 represents active transportation, bike and pedestrian activities, staff's work with the Bike/Ped Task Force and Activate Allen County. Subcategory 605.8 was not completed and stands at 90% as staff continues to work with some communities on their ADA Transition Plans. The City of Delphos is still working on their ADA Transition Plan and with the departure of myself to take over the Executive Director's position at the RPC, staff will more than likely be assisting Delphos to complete their Plan. Shane Coleman reported that Subcategory 610.4 Long-Range Planning, is considered 100% completed. Shane Coleman stated that there had been a conversation pertaining to Gomer developing an ADA Transition Plan. Staff completed an update to the Richland Township Comprehensive Plan. American Township is due for an update to their Comprehensive Plan. Staff reached out to the American Township Trustees who were not aware that their Plan was due for an update. This update has been included in the FY 2021 UPWP. Staff is working on a Comprehensive Plan for the Village of Harrod and an update for the Village of Elida as well as Auglaize Township. Shane Coleman reported that staff was budgeted \$722,877.45 and accomplished the work described for \$552,820.68 which will be carried over into FY 2021. The table includes the carryover as well as the original allocations for each line item Shane Coleman replied that the report should be completed sometime tomorrow and will go through the internal Committee structure this week.

3. UPDATE: SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOLS & ADA TRANSITION PLANS

Shane Coleman stated that the City of Delphos and the Village of Elida both submitted applications this year for Safe Routes to School (SRTS) funds. Delphos was invited to submit the application to a selection committee as part of round 2. Delphos was successful and received \$390,000 SRTS grant at 100% federal, no local match required. The SRTS application for the Village of Elida was not successful. Staff is unsure whether Elida will submit another application next year but Elida has been awarded SRTS funds in the past.

4. UPDATE: FFY 2021 SAFE COMMUNITIES GRANT

Shane Coleman stated that the RPC has applied for the FFY 2021 Safe Communities Grant. Evelyn Smith administers the Safe Communities Program for Allen County. The application has been submitted and staff is awaiting confirmation of the awarding of the grant.

5. UPDATE: DELPHOS AND LAFAYETTE CDBG PROJECTS

Shane Coleman stated that there will be some pictures posted to the screen for the Committee to view pertaining to the two (2) local Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) projects that have been completed. Shane Coleman stated that the first project to be discussed will be the Delphos project. Access Engineering from Celina was the project engineer and Shinn Brothers was the contractor. The photos review how the project looks after completion. 'The project was estimated at \$165,000 with CDBG paying \$125,000 towards the cost of the project. The project included resurfacing 1,500' of roadway on Pierce and First streets. Shane Colman reported that the majority of the work was completed on Pierce between Third Street and the railroad. The project included replacement of curbs and gutters with handicapped accessibility as well as construction of sidewalks. The church funded the construction of sidewalks along Pierce Street. Shane Coleman reported that the next set of photos present the CDBG project for the Village of Lafayette. Access Engineering was also the engineer for this project. The original cost estimate for the project was \$85,000; the project was awarded to Degen Excavating for \$76,500. CDBG funds paid \$63,800 of the cost of the project with the remaining paid for by the village as their local match. Shane Coleman stated that the first picture reveals the community mail pick-up area. A cover was installed over the mail boxes and the lot around the area was paved.

6. UPDATE: CDBG PROGRAM

Shane Coleman reported that the Allocation Program is a 2-year cycle. The next funding cycle has begun and Lafayette submitted an application for their Main Street Project.

7. UPDATE: THAYER ROAD SAFETY STUDY

Cody Doyle reported that for some time there have been rumblings that Thayer Road needed safety improvements. Approximately two (2) years ago, the RPC contracted with a consultant jointly funded by the County and the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) to conduct a Safety Study along Thayer Road. Mott McDonald conducted the safety study and held a public meeting with the stakeholders to review the report. Cody Doyle stated that the stakeholders were looking for data on Thayer Road south to SR 117. The prevailing thought has been that the majority of the issues along Thayer Road have been caused by out-of-town travelers that are using Thayer Road as a by-pass around the east side of Lima. Cody Doyle reported that the data from the safety study somewhat confirmed this supposition. Between 2016 – 2018, 80% of the at-fault drivers had zip codes from 30 miles or more away from Lima. The last meeting with Mott McDonald, staff reviewed street light data which follows GPS locations derived from cell phone data. This provides real-time information and staff discovered that there were a number of vehicles from Columbus, Chicago, etc. using the entire stretch of the corridor. Cody Doyle reported that during this meeting, Mott McDonald requested data from staff along Bluelick and Thayer. Before the study, staff was prioritizing US 30, SR 81 and SR 309. Staff laid traffic counters along Thayer Road for Friday, Saturday and Sunday to collect weekend data to determine how much more traffic increases over the weekend. Traditionally, traffic volumes decrease over the weekend but that is not so on Thayer Road.

8. ROADSIDE SAFETY AUDIT – S. METCALF STREET

Cody Doyle reported that this project was initiated by Shelley Miller from the Health Department. Shelley Miller suggested several locations to RPC staff to conduct a Roadside Safety Audit (RSA). Staff pulled data from ODOT's system (GCATS) to determine the highest concentration of bike and pedestrian crashes and forwarded 3 options on to Shelley Miller for her review. Shelley Miller chose a 2,200' stretch of S. Metcalf for the RSA from Ohio Street to Vine. Cody Doyle reported that a team was assembled from the Health Department (Shelley Miller), ODOT (Kylie Siebeneck), City of Lima (Ross Venecotter) and RPC (Adam Haunhorst). The team reviewed all of the data and visited the site. Once the team visited the site, they determined what the major issues were at the intersection of Kibby and Metcalf. Cody Doyle placed a picture on the screen and stated that the intersection of Kibby and Metcalf is an off-set intersection. The western leg of Kibby comes in at about 90' north from the leg to the east. This intersection has inherent issues due to its configuration. Vehicles stack up on Metcalf waiting to make a left turn onto Kibby which makes it difficult for vehicles to turn left onto Kibby from Metcalf. Cody Doyle reported that this intersection has the second highest number of bikes and pedestrians in the county. Staff is looking at closing the two ()² access points at the convenience store as they further complicate the traffic issues. The intersection of Kibby and Metcalf is number 30 on the High Crash Intersection Locations for 2019. Cody Doyle stated that crosswalk updates and detectable warning devices are mandatory upgrades. This intersection is included in the ADA Transition Plan for the City of Lima. Staff determined that the best course of action was to let the City of Lima make the upgrades as they saw fit.

9. FINAL: 2019 TRAFFIC CRASH SUMMARY REPORT

Adam Haunhorst reported that a PowerPoint presentation is up on the screen and stated that staff reviews all OH-1 reports (traffic crash reports) submitted by local law enforcement. The reports are organized spatially based on the location of the crash. Staff reviews, analyzes and organizes the data to produce conclusions and logically present data for the public to understand. Adam Haunhorst reported this year's report focused on Allen County's performance measures which were laid out in the FAST Act by the federal government. The MPO mirrored ODOT's 1% reduction across all safety metrics which include the number of fatalities, fatalities per 100 million vehicle miles (MVM) driven, number of serious injuries, number of serious injuries per 100 MVM driven and non-motorized fatalities and serious injuries. As a county, we met 4 of the 5 goals; we fell short in the number of non-motorized fatalities and serious injuries. Adam Haunhorst stated that total crashes for Allen County increased by 187 in 2019 over 2018 to 3,278 with 34% of all crashes occurring into the Lima corporation limit. The next highest is Bath Township at 14% of total crashes. The intersection of Ft. Amanda and Shawnee moved into number 1 on the High Crash Intersection list with 78 crashes over the past 3 years. The majority of crashes occur where the most traffic exists. The top 15 intersections remain the same just in a different order. Adam Haunhorst reported that fatal crashes dropped down to 7 from 9, major injury crashes dropped from 115 to 70 and alcohol related crashes remained the same at 147. Matt Graff asked if it is common for crashes and the number of injuries to decrease for roundabouts. Adam Haunhorst replied in the affirmative and stated that initially the number of crashes and injuries increased but over time they have decreased which tends to happen as people become more familiar with how a roundabout function. Shane Coleman reported that this entire report is on the RPC website and can be viewed there.

10. FALL BICYCLE & PEDESTRIAN COUNT PROGRAM

Shane Coleman reported that the fall bike/ped counts will go on as scheduled from September 14 – September 20 at approximately 40 locations. Staff encouraged Committee members to sign up to count, pass on the information to others and if you have any questions, please don't not hesitate to call.

11. OTHER

a. New RPC Website

Shane Coleman reported that the RPC has a new website. Please go to the website and review the site. Let staff know of any errors, problems, etc. so they can be addressed.

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at approximately 10:30 AM.