



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: December 8, 2020

RE: CAC Meeting

There will be a meeting of the **Citizens Advisory Committee** of the Lima-Allen County Regional Planning Commission on **Tuesday, December 15, 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. Safety Performance Measures
3. Public Participation Plan
4. UPDATE: Fall Bicycle & Pedestrian Counts
5. UPDATE: Comprehensive Plans (Elida, Harrod & Lima)
6. Other
7. Adjournment

To comply with Ohio Director of Health guidelines and orders limiting/prohibiting group gatherings of more than 10 persons, no in-person attendance at LACRPC meetings by the public will be available. The public can view committee meetings via the LACRPC Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/Lima-Allen-County-Regional-Planning-Commission-114563720277180/>. Anyone wanting to exercise Privilege-of-the-Floor, for a committee meeting, must contact the LACRPC at 419-228-1836. Meeting agendas/minutes are published on the LACRPC website; click on the "Committees" tab on the left for more meeting information.

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



CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

December 15, 2020

There was a meeting of the Citizens Advisory Committee of the Lima-Allen County Regional Planning Commission on **Tuesday, December 15, 2020**, at 10:00 a.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 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. Norm Capps	Perry Township
Ms. Alice Curth	Delphos Senior Citizens
Mr. Matt Graff	West Central Ohio Land Conservancy
Ms. Casey Heilman	Allen Soil & Water Conservation District
Mr. Michael Hensley	Allen County Council on Aging
Mr. Charles Schreck	Ohio Department of Transportation District 1

STAFF

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

2. **SAFETY PERFORMANCE MEASURES**

Shane Coleman reported the setting of safety performance measure goals in a federally mandated item. States are required to establish five performance measures and set targets for those measures. The required safety performance measures are number and rate of fatalities, number and rate of serious injuries, and number of non-motorized fatalities and serious injuries. ODOT has adopted a 2% annual reduction goal across all five categories for 2021. Ohio's MPOs must establish Safety Management Performance targets for their respective metropolitan areas by February 26, 2021. Staff is recommending concurrence with the 2% target set by ODOT. Adam Haunhorst reported that the safety performance measures are based on serious injuries and fatalities associated with pedestrians and non-motorized vehicles. Staff calculates the data based on a 5-year rolling average of fatalities and serious injuries as well as the non-motorized fatalities and serious injuries. Staff then deducts 2% from the 5-year rolling average to determine arrive at the final figures. Adam Haunhorst stated that for crash rates, staff divides the target number by the total vehicle miles in the County multiplied by average traffic on every road in the county by day. Adam Haunhorst reported that Allen County is mainly on par with fatal crashes this year to 2019.

2. SAFETY PERFORMANCE MEASURES (Continued)

Allen County is meeting its fatalities goal for 2020 with the ultimate goal being 1 fatality. As for crash rate, there has been a reasonably insignificant increase due to the one (1) extra fatality this year as opposed to 2019 thereby, causing Allen County to not meet its fatality rate goal for 2020. The goal for 2021, the fatality rate goal is 0.75. Adam Haunhorst reported as per serious injuries, Allen County has been doing fairly well the past few years. If one reviews the goals over the past few years, the county has been substantially lower than the 5-year rolling average. The county is well below this year than we were in 2019. The serious injury rate mirrors the number of serious injuries for 2020. Adam Haunhorst reported that as for the non-motorized fatal crashes and serious injuries, this is the only performance measure that was not met in 2019. So far, 2020 is mirroring 2019 but so far, there has been a 1 non-motorized crash reduction in this category. Adam Haunhorst reported that Ohio is experiencing a fairly high increase in fatal crashes statewide even with the reduction in traffic. Statewide there were an addition 70 fatal crashes in 2020 over 2019 and are mainly clustered in the major urban areas and along the highways throughout the state. The rural areas are seeing a reduction in fatal crashes. Matt Graff asked how the fatal crash and serious injury rates are calculated. Adam Haunhorst replied that the rates are based on per 100 million vehicle miles traveled (VMT). Staff will take the total miles of roadway in Allen County multiply that by the average number of vehicles traveling on every roadway in the county then divide it by the number of fatalities goal. Matt Graff asked where the 2% reduction goal comes from. Adam Haunhorst replied that Allen County is mirroring the Ohio Department of Transportation's (ODOT) performance measure goal which is 2%. Shane Coleman stated that each Committee member should have received a copy of the performance measure resolution that will be going through the internal Committee structure this week.

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN

Shane Coleman reported that the Public Participation Plan (PPP) is another mandated item that the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) must have in place and follow. Shane Coleman stated that in his 5+ years on the Lima-Allen County Regional Planning Commission (LACRPC) Board as well as his 30 some years in government service, the RPC has done an excellent job of making sure that the PPP is followed and the public has access to information. The public is provided multiple opportunities to participate and comment on documents, projects, etc. As the new Executive Director, Shane Coleman stated that he will continue the policy of transparency and public participation not just because it is mandated but because it is also the right thing to do. Shane Coleman stated that staff reviewed the current PPP. Shane Coleman stated that with Evelyn Smith retiring in January, he definitely wanted her to look over the PPP as she had a lot of experience with helping to craft the document as well as keeping the document up-to-date. Shane Coleman reported that he requested staff to review the document of 35+ pages and determine ways that the document might be condensed and streamlined. For example, on page 2 of the PPP, there are five (5) goals as well as a number of ways that those goals would be met. For example, staff determined that if goal one (1) could be met by completing only two activities, then why not meet the goal in that fashion. Shane Coleman stated that staff reviewed ODOT's PPP, Eastgate MPO's PPP and an MPO in Florida's PPP to see what they had developed. Staff mimicked ODOT's PPP to some degree and reduced the first part of the current PPP down to approximately eight pages by removing each one of the strategies attached to each goal with the intention of continuing to utilize the strategies to reach each goal. Staff would like to use the methods that are most appropriate for meeting the goals. It has become cumbersome to track the PPP goals based on the way that the Plan was originally written. Shane Coleman reported that the original PPP document provides a lot of background

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN (Continued)

information, and even though the document still provides the reasons why the MPO is required to have a PPP, much of the important information is still included. The various federal legislation listed on the first page will be hyperlinked so that if a stakeholder is interested in what the legislation is about, then they can click on the link and go to that page. The document is in a draft status and will be going through the internal Committee structure for review and comment as well as comments from the public. The document will go back through the internal Committee structure for action in a final version with any comments, recommendations, etc. added.

4. UPDATE: FALL BICYCLE & PEDESTRIAN COUNTS

Shane Coleman stated that the fall bicycle and pedestrian counts have been completed. The counts in May were down from previous years due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the lack of persons to take the counts. In May, there were 3,470 bikers and walkers that were counted. The fall counts increased to 4,662 for a total 8,132 counts for 2020.

5. UPDATE: COMPREHENSIVE PLANS (ELIDA, HARROD & LIMA)

Shane Coleman reported that staff will be working on a couple of comprehensive plans for local political subdivisions in 2020-2021. Currently, staff is working on a comprehensive plan for the Village of Harrod. The draft is very close to being completed and staff anticipates its completion today and posted to the RPC website for review and comment by the general public. Staff will forward a link to each Committee member so that each member can review the document and make any comments. Comprehensive plans are used for long-range planning for not just large political subdivisions but also for the smaller jurisdictions. Shane Coleman stated that the document will go through public participation in anticipation of possible approval by the internal Committee structure in February 2021. Shane Coleman reported that staff has been in discussions with the Village of Elida since early summer about an update to their current comp plan. Staff has been holding off on this update as the village is working on the annexation of the new elementary school property. Staff is waiting until the annexation is approved by the county and the village before beginning work on the comp plan update. Staff wants to be sure that the most current Census data for the village is available to be included in the update. Shane Coleman reported that the RPC has agreed to develop a comprehensive plan for the City of Lima. Staff is also participating with the Lima Housing Task Force meetings and information garnered from said meetings will be useful for the development of the comp plan for Lima. Shane Coleman stated that RPC staff will also work on updating the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) in 2021. The CEDS was last updated 6 years ago and should be updated every 5 years. The CEDS is valuable in assisting an entity that is looking to apply for Economic Development Agency (EDA) funds.

6. OTHER

a. Solar Farm in Shawnee Township/Auglaize County

Matt Graff asked about the proposed solar farm in Shawnee Township/Auglaize County and any work the RPC might have been involved in with the company proposing the solar farm. Shane Coleman replied that the RPC has not had much involvement with the proposed project other than conversations with Shawnee Township officials and zoning personnel. RPC staff has completed minor research as relates to floodplains, historical and archeological sites, etc. RPC staff has had no direct contact with the company proposing the solar farm. Shane Coleman stated that the RPC has not “gone on record”

6. **OTHER** (Continued)

a. Solar Farm in Shawnee Township/Auglaize County (Continued)

in support or not in support of the project as the RPC does not have enough information to base any decision on at this time. An RPC staff member has attended the virtual public meetings just to stay informed and see where the project is heading. Mat Graff asked if the RPC staff has gleaned any information that he could take back to people that are interested in this proposed project. Shane Coleman replied that he would defer to the township as township officials are working directly with the developer on the proposed project.

b. Proposed Roundabouts on Thayer Road and SR 309 near Harrod

Norm Capps stated that someone should be in contact with ODOT to inform ODOT that the roundabouts should be large enough for tractor trailers to get through without running up over the median. The roundabout on Bellefontaine/Elm Street is horrendous for truck traffic as well as the roundabout in Shawnee Township. Norm Capps stated that he believed the Shawnee Township roundabout was going to be updated. The roundabouts need to be large enough to be functional especially for tractor trailers. Shane Coleman replied that he has not seen any plans for either of the proposed roundabouts or the updates to the Shawnee Road roundabout but that he would forward the comments on to ODOT.

7. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at approximately 10:30 AM.