

Steve Ewing
President

Howard Elstro
President-Elect

Dave Belton
Treasurer

Robert Sielschott
Secretary

Shane A. Coleman
Executive Director

TO: TRANSPORTATION COORDINATING COMMITTEE
Mr. Dave Belton Mr. Frank Burkett
Mr. Kevin Cox Ms. Joan Davis
Mr. Steve Ewing Mr. Jerry Gilden
Mr. Mitchell Kingsley Mr. Doug Post
Mr. Brion Rhodes Mr. Chuck Schierloh
Mr. Charles Schreck Ms. Beth Seibert
Mr. Robert Sielschott Mr. Thomas Tebben
Mr. Larry Vandemark

FROM: Mr. Howard Elstro, Chair

DATE: May 20, 2021

RE: TCC Meeting

There will be a **Transportation Coordinating Committee** meeting of the Lima-Allen County Regional Planning Commission held on **Thursday, May 27, 2021** at **3:00 p.m.** via teleconference from the Commission office located at 130 W. North Street, Lima, Ohio.

The agenda will be as follows:

1. Roll Call
2. Acceptance of TAC minutes – May 25, 2021
3. Approval of TCC minutes – April 22, 2021
4. RTA Report
5. FINAL Transit Development Plan
6. Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)
7. FEMA Mapping Update
8. Other
9. 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.

c: Mr. Chris Hughes, ODOT

NOTE: PLEASE CALL THE LACRPC WHETHER OR NOT YOU PLAN TO ATTEND.

TRANSPORTATION COORDINATING COMMITTEE

May 27, 2021

There was a **Transportation Coordinating Committee** meeting of the Lima-Allen County Regional Planning Commission held on **Thursday, May 27, 2021**, 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. Acceptance of TAC minutes – May 25, 2021
3. Approval of TCC minutes – April 22, 2021
4. RTA Report
5. FINAL Transit Development Plan
6. Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)
7. FEMA Mapping Update
8. Other
9. Adjournment

A quorum of the Committee participating, being present via teleconference, Howard Elstro brought the meeting to order and proceeded with the agenda and introductions.

1. ROLL CALL

Mr. Dave Belton	Shawnee Township
Mr. Kevin Cox	Perry Township
Mr. Howard Elstro	City of Lima
Mr. Steve Ewing	Auglaize Township
Mr. Jerry Gilden	Marion Township
Mr. Doug Post	Amanda Township
Mr. Brion Rhodes	Allen County Engineer's Office
Mr. Chuck Schierloh	City of Lima
Mr. Charles Schreck	Ohio Department of Transportation District 1
Ms. Beth Seibert	Allen County
Mr. Robert Sielschott	Bath Township
Mr. Thomas Tebben	City of Lima
Mr. Larry Vandemark	American Township

GUESTS

Ms. Karen Garland	Allen County Regional Transit Authority
-------------------	---

STAFF

Mr. Shane Coleman	Lima-Allen County Regional Planning Commission
Ms. Marlene Schumaker	Lima-Allen County Regional Planning Commission

2. ACCEPTANCE OF TAC MINUTES – May 25, 2021

Motion 28 (05-27-21) TCC

Kevin Cox made the motion that the TAC minutes of May 25, 2021, be accepted. Seconded by Thomas Tebben, motion carried.

3. APPROVAL OF TCC MINUTES – April 22, 2021

Motion 29 (05-27-21) TCC

Larry Vandemark made the motion that the TCC minutes of April 22, 2021, be accepted. Seconded by Doug Post; motion carried.

4. RTA REPORT

Karen Garland stated the Committee should have received the Allen County Regional Transit Authority (ACRTA) ridership information via email. March ridership numbers increased dramatically and April's ridership numbers continue to follow the upward trend. RTA has been receiving numerous calls for trips. Karen Garland reported the Bluffton and Delphos routes will begin June 7th. Both communities are extremely receptive to the routes. RTA will have buses in both communities during the day and one evening this week and next week to familiarize the residents with RTA.

Motion 30 (05-27-21) TCC

Kevin Cox made the motion to accept the RTA Report. Seconded by Larry Vandemark, motion carried.

5. FINAL TRANSIT DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Marlene Schumaker reported that there had been no changes to the document since last month. The RTA Board did finalize the Transit Development Plan (TDP) earlier this month.

Motion 31 (05-27-21) TCC

Dave Belton made the motion to approve the FINAL Transit Development Plan. Seconded by Brion Rhodes; motion carried.

6. COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY (CEDS)

Shane Coleman reported the Allen County Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) is due to be updated. The CEDS was first created in 2005 and is required to be updated every 5 years. The last update was in 2015, making Allen County a year behind. Staff is currently working on the update. Shane Coleman reported that the Current CEDS is 209 pages and is available on the Lima-Allen County Regional Planning Commission (LACRPC) website. The CEDS is a continuous economic development planning process that addresses Allen County's economic potential as well as some of Allen County's problems. It also promotes sustainable economic development and opportunities, fosters effective transportation systems, and balances fiscal resources through sound management while enhancing and protecting the environment. Shane Coleman stated the CEDS takes a broad look at economic development, and the CEDS is a countywide document. The document was created through broad-based and diverse community participation. The CEDS provides for long-range development, identifies and implements solutions to short-term problems. A CEDS is important in order for the county to be eligible for Economic Development Administration (EDA) funding, an entity that might apply for EDA funds must be a part of the CEDS document. It is also a prerequisite for a designation by the EDA as an Economic Development District (EDD). Shane Coleman stated that he met with Dave Stratton of Allen Economic Development Group (AEDG). AEDG has been working on its own comprehensive plan and used surveys as part of its public participation process. Staff may be able to use AEDG's results as part of this process. Shane Coleman stated that some local entities applied for EDA funds last year (City of Lima and City of Delphos) and both requests for funds were not granted as priorities of the EDA were changed due to the

6. COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY (CEDS) (Continued)

pandemic. The Allen Water District and the Allen County Sanitary Engineer's Office (ACSEO) are both interested in applying for EDA funds for projects as the funds become available. Shane Coleman reported as there are funds being released by the federal government due to the pandemic and stated that there is a potential for funds to be available for Allen County through the EDA, making the update of the CEDS important. Staff is working on updating the document at this time, and there are partners that have agreed to help fund the update, such as the City of Lima, City of Delphos, Allen County Commissioners, and the Water and Sewer Districts. Shane Coleman reported staff had a conversation with EDA last week about possibly establishing an EDD as part of the update process. The conversation entailed whether an EDD would benefit Allen County, the pros and cons, and is an EDD something the county would like to pursue. Establishing an EDD is a lengthy process and probably would entail buy-in from multiple counties in the region. The EDD would look at economic development regionally, and local economic development officials would continue to do what they do. The EDD would help to "open up" the various EDA funding streams to the area, allow staff, etc. to do some long-range planning as it relates to economic development, begin looking at projects that might be able to be funded with EDA monies, and prioritize those projects in the hopes of pushing forward projects of regional significance which might score better than if they were just local projects. Kevin Cox asked about the potential effects of creating a multi-county EDD and the impact a larger effort might have on funding for Allen County. He noted previous collaborative efforts and wants to ensure there are real benefits to be realized by Allen County. While not opposed to the concept, he supports further investigation by staff to better understand the pros and cons of EDD's. Staff agreed there would be further research and discussion before a decision would be made to proceed. The biggest hold-up to RPC's various documents is 2020 Census data is supposed to be released in August. No action is required at this time.

7. FEMA MAPPING UPDATE

Shane Coleman reported staff is making a pointed effort to speak with all of the RPC Committees and he is out and about at the local political jurisdictions as part of the public participation process. Then Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) is in the process of updating the floodplain maps in Allen County. A local administrator's meeting was held earlier this spring. Staff has reviewed the map updates, and the next step in the process is a 90-day comment period. The comment period will commence sometime this summer. Staff anticipates the comment period to begin in June or July. Shane Coleman reported once FEMA has posted the changes to the Federal Register, FEMA will notify RPC that the comment period has begun. Residents in Allen County will have 90-days to comment on or dispute the new maps. Staff would like the Committee members to know that if you live in or near a floodplain, you know someone who lives in or near a floodplain, you have the ability to check these maps. The floodplains in Allen County have increased some with some areas increasing extensively and other areas not so much. Shane Coleman stated that the maps are on the screen for the Committee to view and stated then blue represents the existing floodplains and red are the areas being proposed. RPC does have the maps available for review. Shane Coleman stated that comments from another committee were if the comment going to mean anything and are the maps be approved either way. Staff reached out to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) and asked what RPC should do during the comment period. Any person is welcome to comment but if one is going to dispute the mapping, data to back up the dispute must be present. Shane Coleman reported that flood insurance rates are changing and the change is set to go into effect in September. Adam Haunhorst stated that anyone that lives in Allen County and participates in the floodplain program is eligible for flood insurance regardless if one

7. **FEMA MAPPING UPDATE** (Continued)

lives in a floodplain or not. A number of areas within the county regularly flood but are not considered part of the floodplain because they have not been studied. No action is required at this time.

8. **OTHER**

None.

12. **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion 32 (05-27-21) TCC

Thomas Tebben made the motion that the meeting be adjourned. Seconded by Robert Sielschott; motion carried.