

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

August 18, 2022

There was a meeting of the **Community Development Committee** of the Lima-Allen County Regional Planning Commission held on **August 18, 2022**, at **3:30 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/Introduction
2. Approval of CDC Minutes- August 19, 2021
3. RTA Report
4. 2021 Crash Summary Report
5. Active Transportation Plan
6. Bik/Ped Count Update
7. Complete Streets
8. ADA Transition Plans
9. Funding and Project Update
10. Comprehensive Plans Update (Lima, Elida, Bluffton)
11. FY2023 UPWP Update
11. Other
12. Next Meeting Date
13. Adjournment

A quorum being present, Mitch Kingsley brought the meeting to order and proceeded with the agenda.

1. ROLL CALL

Mr. Berlin Carroll,II	Allen County
Ms. Susan Crotty	City of Lima
Ms. Sue Gerker	Allen Economic Development Group
Ms. Marin Harbur	Land o' Lakes
Mr. Mitch Kingsley	Village of Bluffton

STAFF

Mr. Cody Doyle	Lima-Allen County Regional Planning Commission
Ms. Colleen Barry	Lima-Allen County Regional Planning Commission
Ms. Shaunna Basinger	Lima-Allen County Regional Planning Commission

2. APPROVAL OF CDC MINUTES – August 19, 2021

Motion 1 (08-18-22) CDC

Susan Crotty made the motion to approve the CDC minutes of August 19, 2021. Seconded by Sue Gerker; motion carried.

3. RTA REPORT

Cody Doyle stated that without an RTA representative being present, the RTA report is presented without comment and that any questions can be directed to executive director Shane Coleman.

Chairman Mitch Kingsley shared a Bluffton Icon Article (online news source) entitled “All Aboard the #9 Lima-Bluffton Bus” by Paula Scott on August 18, 2022. This article can be found online.

Marin Harbur offered her data analysis skills if the RTA would be interested in doing a more in depth analysis of their month to month data. Staff made note to convey the offer to Shane and RTA.

Motion 2 (08-18-22) CDC

Sue Gerker made the motion to accept the RTA report. Seconded by Susan Crotty; motion carried.

4. 2021 CRASH SUMMARY REPORT

Cody Doyle started by explaining the different format that the crash summary and other LACRPC documents are going to have going forward, speaking specifically of the increased number of infographics and summarized information versus the more long winded, text heavy documents of the past. Continuing, Doyle went on to discuss the data from the 2021 crash summary. A few key points highlighted: an increased number of fatalities were seen in 2021, with the majority of them happening during the day on dry roads. Concerning the performance measures: we met 2 of the 5 goals (total number of serious injuries and serious injury rate). The complete report is available on the LACRPC website.

Susan Crotty asked if our funding would be effected due to a year of higher fatality counts. Doyle replied that he wasn't sure and would ask Shane, going on to say that since the entire state of Ohio, and even on a national scale, we have seen a drastic uptick in fatalities that a reduction in funding isn't likely in his opinion.

Motion 3 (08-18-22) CDC

Susan Crotty made the motion to accept the 2021 Crash Summary Report. Seconded by Marin Harbur; motion carried.

5. ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN

Cody Doyle gave a brief introduction of the current Active Transportation Plan update, stating that it was last updated in 2019 and the current update is being done to better align with ODOT's Walk Bike Ohio Plan. The intention is to place Allen County in a more advantageous spot to apply for federal grant monies that will become available due to the Bi-Partisan Infrastructure Bill. Doyle then asked Ms. Basinger to give more insight since she has been working on this project with Mr. Haunhorst. Ms. Basinger went on to say that the initial survey has been completed with about 42 responses, we are in the process of updating active transportation network inventory, and Haunhorst is looking to have the update completed by the end of 2023.

Ms. Basinger gave information about the ongoing Youth Active Transportation Survey that is taking place under the direction of the Bike/Ped Task Force. This survey will provide a youth perspective of the active transportation system in Allen County and to possibly get youth representatives to be members of the Bike/Ped Task Force on a more consistent basis. Mitch Kingsley suggested that the Youth Active Transportation contact Joel Steinmetz of Lima Senior High who runs a bike club at the high school.

6. BIKE/PED COUNT UPDATE

Every spring and fall, Activate Allen County conducts the Bike Ped counts for major active transportation pathways in Allen County. The fall dates are September 12th-16th and signups will be available online in the coming weeks. Everyone is encouraged to take part and volunteer to get counts. Doyle also stated that Activate Allen County is looking to reconsider the locations they take the counts. With the introduction and use of the Streetlight Program, a program that can use cellular data to track movement of populations through large geographic areas with great specificity, the efficacy of the current process will be reevaluated.

7. COMPLETE STREETS

A Complete Streets Policy is being written and implemented for the Village of Bluffton. Complete Streets are streets designed and operated to enable safe use and support mobility for all users. Walk audits have been conducted, surveys have been conducted, and a workshop is scheduled for the near future. The hope is to implement complete streets policies across Allen County.

8. ADA TRANSITION PLANS

The LACRPC is continuing to work with our members to complete the ADA Transition Plans. Spencerville and Bluffton are being worked on now with Delphos being next on the list to begin.

9. FUNDING AND PROJECT UPDATE

We are currently in the midst of our 2021-2024 TIP. We have begun the process of creating a 2024-2027 TIP. Project solicitation began on July 1st, with project being accepted through September 30th. The TIP must be completed and submitted to ODOT by the end of April 2023.

10. COMPREHENSIVE PLANS UPDATE (LIMA, ELIDA, BLUFFTON)

Lima

The Vision 2040 Comprehensive plan for Lima has completed much of its public participation and is now being presented to City Council to be brought to the public for comment and approval before final approval and adoption by the city. Approval within LACRPC for this document is still needed. The public priorities are as follows: blight, crime, downtown revitalization, economic development, pedestrian facilities, negative perception, more greenspace and parks.

There was a lengthy discussion about how this committee may be able to help dispel negative and false narratives surrounding Lima using the data and work LACRPC does and has access to. Some of these false narratives are quality of life in Lima and crime rates in Lima.

Motion 3 (08-18-22) CDC

Berlin Carroll made the motion to accept the Vision 2040 Plan. Seconded by Marin Harbur; motion carried.

Elida

The survey has been completed and the 120 page document can be found on the LACRPC website for review. IT will be available for public comment for 30 days at which point it will be brought back before the LACRPC committees for final approval and then on to Village of Elida for approval and adoption.

Motion 4 (08-18-22) CDC

Susan Crotty made the motion to accept the Elida Comprehensive Plan. Seconded by Marin Harbur; motion carried.

Bluffton

A steering committee has been established and 620 responses have been received thus far with the initial survey. This is a high return. With the help of the steering committee and other community leaders, the Bluffton community has given a large amount of feedback to our organization which has helped guide and craft the Vision of what they would like Bluffton to be. With that feedback, actionable items and key topics have been chosen and will be discussed in more depth with the invested members and eventually the public once more when an in-person community participation event is held in September. Key needs thus far: more housing, more housing for sub median household income, more restaurant space, additional recreation amenities.

11. FY2023 UPWP UPDATE- Unified Planning Work Program

Every year a UPWP is created, however due to the financial information from the previous year being unavailable the financial stats are omitted until they are completed and can be input. This update is the inclusion of those financial stats.

12. OTHER

LACRPC has been working with ODOT and the counties that surround Allen county to create a **Rural Transportation Planning Organization**. It will start as a Rural Planning Organization, work will take place over two years to be designated as a RTPO by the Governor. Auglaize, Hancock, Hardin, Mercer, Putnam, Van Wert, and Wyandot have all signed on to take part meaning we have 100% participation from those we approached.

13. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 15th unless otherwise notified.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Motion 5 (08-18-22) CDC

Susan Crotty made the motion that the meeting be adjourned. Seconded by Berlin Carroll; motion carried.