

# ***Bikeways:***

**Where Transportation Meets Recreation**



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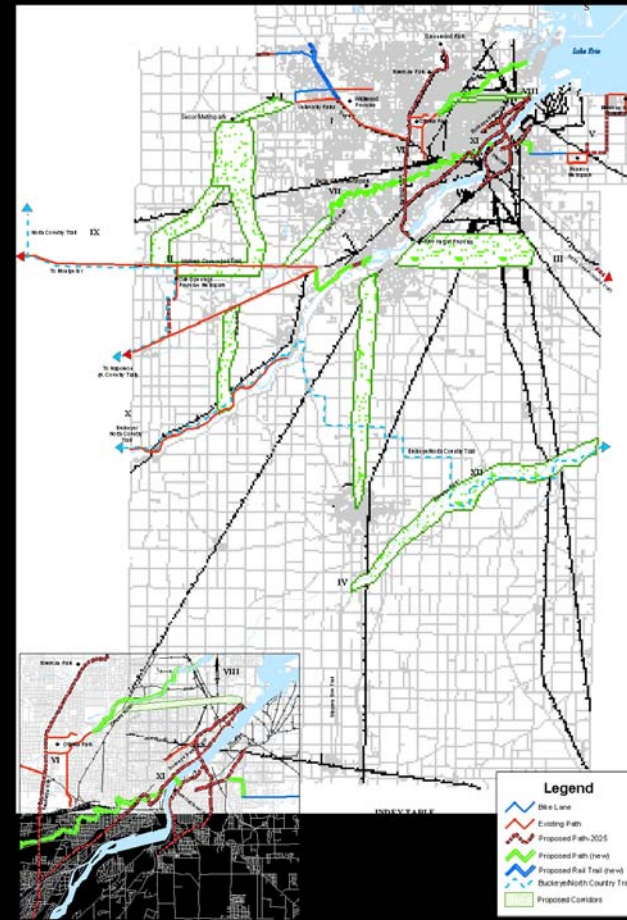
# **TMACOG: one of Ohio's “MPO’s” for transportation**

- **Metropolitan Planning Organization responsible for transportation planning for this urban area (*Lucas-Wood-S. Monroe*)**
- **Pedestrian & Bikeways Committee helps guide regional planning**



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# Bike Paths and proposed corridors – part of Regional Transportation Plan



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# Building the Bikeway Network



- **Local governments can apply to TMACOG for TRANSPORTATION ENHANCEMENT funds**
- **Our regional share of TE is small – 10% of federal highway funds we receive**
- **About \$600,000 per year**



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# Building the Bikeway Network



## Transportation Enhancements

- **TMACOG tries to fund several projects each round (every 2 years)**
- **Examples:**
  - **Oregon--Municipal Complex Connector Phase 2, \$272,000 (total cost \$340,000)**
  - **Lucas County--Wabash Cannonball Trail 2G & 2H, \$462,720 (total \$578,400)**



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# TMACOG TE Application Process

Three funding categories:

- Pedestrian & bikeways
- Streetscapes
- Historic transportation



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# TMACOG TE Application Process

Selection committee ranks projects based on criteria.

- Criteria spelled out in application packet
- Crucial that all be addressed in applications submitted



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# **TMACOG TE Application Process**

Applicants may give presentations:

- Clarify project details and purpose
- Highlight how project meets criteria



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# **Eligible Bikeway Transportation Enhancement Projects**

- Provision of facilities for pedestrians and cyclists
- Preservation of abandoned railway corridors (including acquisition, conversion and use for pedestrian and bike trails)



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# Transportation Enhancement Projects

- Direct relationship to transportation
- 20% cash match
- Publicly owned, and on public property
- Exceptions:
  - When property acquisition is part of project (rail-trails)
  - 20-year lease / easement may be accepted



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# Transportation Enhancements in “Rural” Areas

Apply to Ohio Department of Transportation

- ODOT District 2: Mike Ligibel 419-373-4457 or Rick Perse 419-373-4433 rperse@dot.state.oh.us
- State website (ODOT, Office of Local Programs): <http://www.dot.state.oh.us/local/>
- Annual process—next Letter of Interest available Jan 1 and due Feb 1, 2006



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# Ohio: recreational trails eligible for TE?

**NO:**

- Must serve transportation purpose between logical termini
- Show potential users it will serve
- Transportation purposes includes work trips; travel to / through rec areas



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# **Ohio: Recreational trails eligible for TE?**

**Rail-to-trails are eligible:**

- **May use TE funds even if almost all the use will be recreational.**
- **A rail-to-trail qualifies because corridor served a surface transportation purpose in the past.**



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# Ohio: Can TE rehab trails?

- Yes, can reconstruct or rehab existing pedestrian/bicycle facility
- Can upgrade for ADA compliance (ramps, etc.)
- No maintenance and operation activities.



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# Recreational Trails Program

- Federal transportation funding
- Allow motorized vehicles on trails (huge need in northern Ohio)
- Managed by Ohio Dept of Natural Resources
- Smaller funding source, but reliable & increasing yearly (\$1.25 last year, \$1.56 now)
- Ohio: smaller projects, up to \$200,000



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# Recreational Trails Program

- Can fund loop trails in parks

- For more info (Ohio):

<http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/grants.htm>

- FHWA website for national news:

<http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/rectrails>



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# Clean Ohio Trails Fund

- 4-year program, in last year
- Capital budget for FY 2005–2006 did not include funding for Round 4
- Funding for Round 4 expected in 2006-2007
- Round 4 applications: accepted until February 1, 2006.



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# Clean Ohio Trails Fund

- Up to 75% of the project costs for eligible trail acquisition and development costs.
- Local match can be in-kind contributions or other interests in land, labor, or materials.
- Approximately \$6.25 million/year
- Uses same application as Recreational Trails Fund



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# Clean Ohio Trails Fund

- Bigger projects (\$200,000 or more)
- No motorized vehicles
- Projects that provide connectivity
  - Close trail system gaps
  - Connect communities, parks, etc.

Contact: Mary Fitch 614-265-6477  
[mary.fitch@dnr.state.oh.us](mailto:mary.fitch@dnr.state.oh.us)



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# Clean Ohio Trails Fund

- Will this bond-issue be renewed?
- Contact Bill Demora, Ohio League of Conservation Voters

[bdemora@ohiolcv.org](mailto:bdemora@ohiolcv.org)



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# A few tips...

- Involve citizens & develop a bikeway plan
- Link neighborhoods, parks (in-park bikeways), schools, downtowns, etc.



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# A few tips....

- Plan can include paths, bike lanes, and signed bike routes



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# A few tips....

- In funding applications, show strong community support –volunteer hours and monetary contributions
- Talk to TMACOG, ODOT or ODNR staff – they can help!



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# A few tips....

- When you have a success, recognize local and state officials!



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# In TMACOG area

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