



TMACOG Passenger Rail Committee
Wednesday, February 17, 2015 – 2:30 p.m.
TMACOG Boardroom

Notes

- 1. Convene meeting/introductions** - Patrick Miller called the meeting to order with introductions.
- 2. Administrative Items**
 - a. Review Operating Procedures** – The staff and committee members reviewed the updated operating procedures, which were amended to recreate the Passenger Rail Committee. Questions raised include:
 - Do members need to be officially appointed? Answer: no, anyone who wants to be on the committee can be.
 - Is there a need for a steering committee? Answer: this is up the committee. The committee decided to edit the procedures to say “there may be” a steering committee to leave the option open later.
 - b. Review Current Leadership-** It was voted upon unanimously to keep the current chair and vice chair.
- 3. Review Committee Products-** Staff showed the committee members the AWP for fiscal year 2017. Tim suggested changing the wording of the goal to include “fixed guideways,” but the committee agreed that the current wording was all-inclusive and sufficient. For product number 4, it was asked what type of information would be included? John DeLora spoke of the need to educate the public on regulatory proceedings, talking of the recent issues with on-time performance and a call for comments. “Regulatory proceedings” was added to product number 4. The Legislative Agenda was explained for number 5. For product number 8, the word “advise” was added; and in product number 6, All Aboard Ohio was added as an organization that the committee and TMACOG supports.
- 4. Updates & Committee Roundtable**
 - a. Tim thanked John for the data from Amtrak and said he was glad to have it.
 - b. John spoke about the possibility of finding creative financing options for improvements, for example an arts commission. If you can work art into the project, they may help with funding; i.e. have the sidewalk redone with artwork. He suggested looking at the American Foundations Directory.
 - c. Bill Gill reported that Dave Kuhn has officially retired and that his duties have been spread to 3 different people rather than hiring someone to replace him.
 - d. Greyhound construction has begun downstairs.
 - e. Bill and Tim talked about the 7 route expansions that AAO came up with; AAO is endorsing the pushing route 7, which is an expansion that would run from Pontiac to West Virginia via Toledo, about 700 miles.
- 5. Next meetings/adjourn**