

TMACOG Public Transit & Passenger Rail Committee
Special Committee Meeting
January 21, 2014

1. Introductions, review purpose

Chairman Patrick Miller convened the meeting. Introductions were made. In attendance: see attached chart.

2. Background: What is S. 5310?

- a. Overall purpose: federal funding for elderly and handicapped transportation. Currently selection of projects is handled by ODOT Transit. Now, urban areas like TMACOG (200,000+ population) will handle this money themselves. TMACOG area will receive \$507,903 for the current year. 10% can be used for administrative costs.
- b. Eligible items for minimum 55% “capital” expenses: includes vans for nonprofits that serve elderly and disabled, mobility management, and one-call centers.
- c. Eligible items for noncapital expenses

3. Who’s in charge of what?

- a. Designated recipients and subrecipients: who’s eligible? TMACOG is the designated recipient; TARTA is eligible to be named instead.
- b. What’s happening in other Ohio urban areas? Warren Henry presented a table showing the status in other urban areas. Four (Canton, Akron, Youngstown, and Toledo) aim to designate their regional transit authority as the designated recipient. Columbus, Dayton, Cleveland, and Cincinnati transportation planning agencies are leaning towards being the designated recipient, sharing some responsibilities with their transit authorities.
- c. Other models?

4. TMACOG proposal, as revised

- a. Draft resolution and draft MOU: the resolution calls for TARTA to be designated recipient, subject to a Memorandum of Understanding. The MOU divides responsibilities between TARTA and TMACOG. TMACOG would solicit, rank, and select projects for 5310 funding, a role it largely plays now, via a 5310 selection committee.
- b. Special subcommittee discussion and recommendation (see NOTES)
 - Concerns raised: see December meeting notes for concerns.
 - Consensus: with one dissenting vote, the special subcommittee agreed to recommend the revised proposal.

c. Full committee discussion and recommendation:

- MOU provides for transparency and oversight of selection process
- Will funds be used for TARTA vehicles? A: no, not allowed.
- Boundaries are Toledo urbanized area, based on population density and Census rules.

Motion to recommend to Transportation Council approval of the resolution and MOU: Rob Greenlese moved, Roger Shope seconded, motion passed.

5. Complete Streets Policy

a. Review, any recommendations: the draft policy includes a procedure for submitting information to the TMACOG Transportation Improvement Program (capital funding) Committee -- indicating the types of complete street provisions in a local government's application for project funding (transit stops, bike facilities, traffic calming, etc.).

- What will happen if the project comes to the TIP and there is a controversy? Arbitration process? A: Appeals process available, and there are exceptions (for example, a port facility that isn't public). A new scoring system needs to be developed; TIP members have been recruited to help set this up.
- Would this apply to CMAQ (Congestion Mitigation / Air Quality federal funds)? A: No, completely separate statewide process for choosing CMAQ projects.
- Clarification: TMACOG TIP is \$12 million/year for capital improvements. Of this \$8 million is the general "Surface Transportation Program" (STP) largely used for street and bridge projects. \$4 million is CMAQ (projects that reduce congestion and improve air quality). \$700,000 is for Transportation Alternatives Program like bikeways.
- Motion: Roger Shope moved, Tom Galloway seconded, a motion to endorse the draft regional policy with the addition of light rail in the list of complete street provisions.

6. Other / Adjourn

TMACOG has hired a new transportation planning staff person, Janet Arcuicci, whose background is transit planning. She comes to us from Arizona.

Schedule for 2014	
Committee	Quarterly, third Wednesday, 2:30 p.m.: Feb 19 , May 21, August 20, November 19
Steering	Quarterly, second Tuesday, 2:30 p.m.: Jan 21, April 8, July 8, Oct 14