

# Minutes

## Pedestrian & Bikeways Full Committee

April 21, 2015

8:00 a.m.

TMACOG Boardroom



Toledo Metropolitan Area  
Council of Governments  
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### 1. Welcome & Introductions

Chair Ed O'Reilly called the meeting to order and asked members to introduce themselves.

### 2. Approval of October Minutes

Ron Myers moved that the minutes be approved. Tom Vanden Eynden seconded the motion. All approved.

### 3. New Business

#### a. University/Parks Trail Fence Review

This trail was constructed in 1994 at which time, in response to concerns of some adjacent property owners, privacy fences were installed. After 20 years much of the fencing has reached the end of its useful life and is falling into disrepair. Metroparks gets several complaints a year from homeowners and trail users about the condition of the fences. Metroparks has made piece-meal repairs, but the growing need for repairs is becoming too great to continue this ad hoc approach.

Two options to address this situation are to repair and replace the fencing, or to remove and not replace the fencing. Over the course of the spring and summer further assessment of the fences could be done to provide detailed information to trail owners (City of Toledo and Board of Lucas County Commissioners). A series of meetings could then be held to engage the public and adjacent property owners and obtain additional input on a recommended course of action.

#### b. Wabash Cannonball Annual Meeting Summary

The coordinating committee met on March 5, 2015. Some discussion took place on whether to use funds for marketing or for upgrading trail signage. The trail recently ranked very highly in the Maumee Valley Planning Organization's long range planning project list.

#### c. New Vice Chair Nominations

Dave Zenk nominated Emily Ziegler of the Metroparks of the Toledo Area to fill the Vice Chair position that was vacated by Michelle Grigore. No further nominations were made and nominations were closed. By unanimous vote Emily Ziegler was elected.

### 4. Old Business

#### a. 2045 Long Range Plan: Ped-bike projects in context

The pedestrian and bikeways projects listed in the draft 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan were presented in relationship to environmental justice (EJ) areas. These are areas of concentrations of minority and low income populations. The bike network has been developed to consider the needs of people in EJ areas because they may face greater challenges in accessing employment and other services. Discussion ensued about ideas for developing the concept of bike supportive areas. Other attributes that could be included in defining bike supportive areas could be no-car households, proximity to key destinations, etc.

**b. Chessie Circle Trail Development Update**

The city of Toledo is fine-tuning how the trail will cross some key intersections such as at Bancroft, and at Dorr.

**c. Bike Month Update**

Lance Dasher thanked the bike month subcommittee for its work on organizing events and developing marketing for Bike Month 2015. The Bike Month [webpage](#) has been updated.

**5. Member Initiatives Roundtable**

- Emily Ziegler reported that progress on the Side Cut trail is moving forward despite some delays associated with damage due to the ice jam. Clean-up and restoration of the area is going well.
- Ron Myers mentioned that planning for the bikeways in the Sylvania area has been occurring with the involvement from several stakeholders including the city of Sylvania, Sylvania Township, Lucas County Engineers, Olander Parks, the Sylvania Area Joint Recreation District, Sylvania schools, and TMACOG. The group is developing a plan for more local routes to connect neighborhoods to key destinations. An announcement of a date and location for a public hearing is anticipated for the Sylvania-Metamora bike path. All are encouraged to attend and provide comment. In Monclova Township, the North Jerome Road extension of the Wabash Cannonball Trail has received funding through the Clean Ohio fund. The requests for improved signage/signaling have been completed at the University/Parks Trail intersections with McCord Road and with Holland-Sylvania Road.
- Chris Beaulieu reported that the Riverside Trail project should go to bid next month.
- Pat Squire distributed flyers for 4 biking events organized by the Maumee Valley Adventurers. She encourages members to help pass the word about these rides and also noted that the 2015 statewide bicycling calendars for Ohio and Michigan are now available.
- Steve Atkinson noted that there are several upcoming fix-it and helmet fitting events, many of which are being organized by the Safe Routes to School committees in the region. He also noted that the Sylvania Cycling Classic is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, June 20.
- Howard Abts reported that some more sections of the North Coast Inland Trail have been completed.
- Christine Connell reported that the Ohio Bicycle Federation's Statehouse Summit was set for April 22. A top legislative priority is passing a bill to require three feet passing distance when motorists are passing bicyclists.

**Upcoming Schedule:**

**Full Committee:** Quarterly on 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays:

2015: January 20, April 21, July 21, October 20

**Steering Committee:** Quarterly on 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays:

2015: February 17, May 19, August 18, Nov. 17