

Minutes

Pedestrian & Bikeways Committee

July 19, 2016

8:00 a.m.

TMACOG Boardroom



Toledo Metropolitan Area
Council of Governments
300 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive
Toledo, OH 43697
Phone 419.241.9155
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1. Welcome & Introductions

Chair Ed O'Reilly called the meeting to order.

2. Approval of January Minutes [\[minutes\]](#)

Mike Young moved that the minutes be approved, Richard Currie seconded the motion. All approved.

3. New Business

a. Ohio House Bill 154

Ohio House Bill 154 passed the Ohio House of Representatives in late May. This bill is referred to as the "3 foot passing law", which would mandate that in the State of Ohio motorized traffic passing cyclists have to allow three feet of space between the two vehicles. The bill is now in the Ohio Senate. Senate Bill 192 has been referred to committee in the Senate. It is currently in the Transportation Committee and the Labor and Commerce Committee. The bill has to be approved by the Senate by the end of the calendar year or it will die in committee. The Ohio legislature will be in recess until after the November election. The committee was presented with some documentation regarding who to contact to get the bill out of committee and onto the floor of the Ohio Senate.

b. TAP Update

The committee was briefed on the current status of the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP). There is a unique situation that has presented itself with having too much money in the short term that needs to be spent and not enough in the long term to cover project costs in FY2021. There is a solicitation occurring right now through August 12th that is requesting applications for projects that are "shovel ready", meaning that they do not require right-of-way takes or need any environmental work completed. The goal of the solicitation is to get about \$750,000 worth of projects to be programed as soon as FY2018.

4. Old Business

a. Chessie Circle Trail Development Update

The Chessie Circle Coordinating Committee met on July 15. They discussed the repurposing of earmarks. Those earmarks that have not been used can be used within a 50 mile radius for other earmark projects. The group discussed the bridge demolition receiving some of these funds. The process is underway, but we are unsure how much or if the project will receive the earmark funds that were not fully utilized in Fremont. The group also discussed the possibility of a section of the active rail being abandoned if Alro Steel would not see a need to have a rail spur any longer. There was a meeting between Alro and TMACOG to discuss this possibility. Alro has not stated definitely either way whether they see the possibility of using the rail or not.

The portion of the Chessie Circle Trail from River Rd to Glanzman will be out to bid and will be sold soon. This will be the first section to be paved. The next section that has funding committed to it is from Bowman Park to University Hills Blvd in Toledo, and that section will be constructed in 2021.

b. Proposed U.S. Bicycle Routes in the Region

TMACOG is waiting for further guidance on the gathering of resolutions of jurisdictions that the US Bike Routes go through.

c. University/Parks Trail Maintenance Plan Development

A draft plan is nearing completion. The trail owners are finalizing budget information and reviewing options for forming a coordinating committee.

d. Regional Bike Users Map Development

The data is still being worked through at this point in time. The current state of the project has been presented to the System Performance and Management Committee for their input. The engineers of the group gave some good input that is being incorporated in the data.

e. Extension of University Parks Trail

The University Parks Trail is being looked at to extend to the west past King Rd. The current situation is that the King Rd Landfill needs to be cleared to be built on through the EPA. There shouldn't be an issue with this getting approval, but they are still awaiting final approval. There will be a fence of sorts along the portion of trail that runs through the King Rd Landfill.

f. Bike Month

Bike Month was successful with a lot of participation. The weather was cooperative with the events which helped for a good turnout. The media was present at every event besides the Bike to the Farmer's Market. The Ride of Silence in Toledo was very well attended with over 200 participants. Bike to School Day went very well with the strong efforts of LiveWell Greater Toledo. TMACOG will be looking for volunteers for planning next year's Bike Month this winter.

5. Member Initiatives Roundtable

- Melissa Hallenbeck asked a question regarding Washington Local Schools and if they had started a Safe Routes to School travel plan. It does not appear that they have.
- Amy Abodeely introduced herself since she is new to the group. She works for the Toledo Lucas County Health Department.
- Emily Ziegler mentioned that the Metroparks is looking to build a single track trail by Oak Openings, and there is a public meeting coming up in August at Oak Openings regarding the trail. Middle Grounds Metropark will have a grand opening on September 17th. There will also be a public meeting on August 8th from 5pm to 7pm regarding the Promedica property at the East Toledo Family Center.
- Dick Currie stated that Perrysburg now has a Slow Rollers group that is about 6 weeks old. Dick stated that this should solicit to council for more bicycle facilities.
- Neil Munger announced to the group that the Wood County Parks District will be opening a new park called the Sawyer Quarry Nature Preserve. It is a 59 acre park that is located off of Lime City Rd just north of Fremont Pike.
- Steve Day informed the committee that the City of Toledo has put in place a combination of Share-the-Road and protected bike lanes from Promenade Park to the Middle Grounds Metropark.
- Mike Young commented on the Downtown Toledo Master Plan and how bikes are heavily incorporated. The plan should be completed sometime in August.
- Morgan Fitzgibbons introduced himself as new to the region coming from the San Francisco area where he was involved with the MPO there. Morgan stated that he would like to see more downtown enhancements for both bikes and pedestrians.
- Jordan Justice introduced himself as being new to the committee. Jordan is with the Toledo Bicycle Coalition. Jordan commented on the recent public meetings on the Bancroft St improvements and how he was supportive of the entire project while others were not. He expressed his willingness to help advocate any way he can.

2016 Schedule:

Full Committee: Quarterly on 3rd Tuesdays:

January 19, April 19, July 19, October 18

Steering Committee: Quarterly on 3rd Tuesdays:

February 16, May 17, August 16, Nov. 15