

Agenda

Pedestrian & Bikeways Steering Committee

November 15, 2016

8:00 a.m.

TMACOG Boardroom



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

Ed O'Reilly called the meeting to order.

2. Approval of August Minutes *[minutes]*

Dick Currie moved that the minutes be approved, Keith Webb seconded the motion. All approved.

3. New Business

a. Annual Work Plan *[Draft for Review]*

Each year, TMACOG prepares a draft work program for approval by our executive board. Christine Connell presented the section of TMACOG's annual work plan that covers Pedestrian and Bikeways activities proposed for the next fiscal year --FY2018 which is July 1 2017 to June 30, 2018-- for review and discussion. It serves as a management tool that outlines the goals, objectives, and work products of this committee and is part of the official agreement between TMACOG and ODOT. It is provided to SEMCOG as well. The key tasks for the coming year will be to produce a bicycle users' map and host a successful Bike Month. We also hope to move the US Numbered Route project forward, so it promises to be a busy year.

b. Call for Committee Leadership Nominations

Ed O'Reilly opened the floor to nominations. Ed O'Reilly was the nominee for Chair. Emily Ziegler was nominated for Vice Chair. Additional nominations will be accepted and a vote will be taken at the January meeting of the full committee.

c. Call for Bike Month 2017 subcommittee members

Lance Dasher announced that he will once again be heading up TMACOG's Bike Month efforts and requested volunteers to serve on a subcommittee. The committee will begin meeting soon to establish new goals and areas of focus for 2017.

d. Ped-Bike Priorities for 2017-2018 Transportation Legislative Agenda

Christine Connell presented the pedestrian and bikeways priorities that are being proposed for inclusion on the 2017-2018 Transportation Legislative Agenda. She also shared a new approach to the agenda that is intended to improve the impact of the agenda. This includes a new webpage with reference resources and links for taking action. This agenda will be brought before TransCouncil in December for review and comment. A final draft is desired as soon as possible

after the first of the year. Members were asked for their reaction and input on the new approach.

4. Old Business

a. Chessie Circle Trail Development Update

Metroparks held an open house on October 19 regarding development of the trail from River Road to Glanzman Road. This 1.4 mile section includes a bike ped bridge over the Anthony Wayne Trail. Work is beginning now and the trail is expected to open in May of 2017. Future plans call for a trail access point with parking and restrooms at the site of the former Beverly elementary school. UT owns the section from Bancroft south to the MetroParks's section. There is discussion as to whether a change of ownership might be a result of the university's master planning process.

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

The proposed routes for the US Bicycles Routes system through the TMACOG region have been finalized and are posted on the TMACOG website. ODOT has indicated a renewed focus on this and now hopes to have the projected submitted to AASHTO for certification in spring of 2017. TMACOG requested further guidance from ODOT on how the signage is to be handled. As of last week we were told that the plan is to install signs approximately every 5 miles and at every intersection. The signs are estimated to cost about \$50 apiece. ODOT's goal is to pay for the initial sign and installation, just as was done for route 50.

c. University/Parks Trail Maintenance Plan Development

On hold until the owners decide what to do. Steve Day will do some follow-up with Lisa Ward on where the city is with this project.

d. Regional Bike Users Map Development

Staff is continuing to put together resources and will share progress next meeting.

e. Ohio House Bill 154

Akron Metropolitan Area Transportation Study (AMATS) letter to Senator LaRose, Chair of the Ohio Senate Transportation Committee. And similar letters from the Hudson Bicycle Club, Akron Bicycle Club, and Stark County Bicycle Club, each with members in Senator LaRose' district (Akron Area).

5. Member Initiatives Roundtable

Howard Abts announced that the drawbridge in Port Clinton is to close for repairs. He asked whether the restriction for bikes on SR 2 will be relaxed during the closure.

Dick Currie reported that the Perrysburg Slow Rollers are building awareness within the city about bikeways, especially among council members. The city's most recent safety committee meeting was attended by a number of riders who asked for safer biking facilities in Perrysburg.

Keith Webb celebrated the region's first "Bikes May Use Full Lane" sign which was recently installed on Monclova Road. This is important until bike lanes or other more robust facilities can be installed.

Pat Squire announced that Maumee Valley adventurers are working on 2017 events to add to the Ohio Bicycling Calendar. The deadline to submit events is in January.

Terry Waltzer reported that the Maumee Valley Adventurers met revenue projection on 4 of 5 rides, and all were a success in terms of attendance. The New Year's Day ride will be taken

over by Toledo Area Bicyclists and will involve CycleWerks. Bike shops are developing more and more rides. These are very welcome, but committee members expressed that they want to see these rides supplement, not compete with, club rides. Everyone is interested in growing the numbers of riders in the local biking community.

Christine Connell reported that she attended the Midwest Regional Bike Summit in Chicago and participated on a tour of Chicago's bike facilities.

Ed O'Reilly commented that it is heartening to see more rails to trails conversions in the Midwest. He noted that the Clean Ohio funding program is very helpful in Ohio. A Bike Share proposal for downtown Toledo looks to be headed for approval in December by TMACOG's Transportation Council.

2017 Ped-Bike Meeting Schedules:

Full Ped-Bike Committee (Quarterly on 3rd Tuesdays): January 17, April 18, July 18, October 17

Steering Ped-Bike Committee (Quarterly on 3rd Tuesdays): February 21, May 16, August 15, November 21

Chessie Circle Coordinating Committee: January 13, March 10, May 12, July 14, September 8, November 10