



**TMACOG TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2017**

Call to Order – Chair Keith Earley brought the meeting to order with introductions around the room.

Approval of Minutes – A motion was made by Ken Fallows and seconded by John Crandall to approve the September 6, 2017 meeting minutes; the motion passed unanimously.

Financial (Expense) Report – Dave Gedeon presented expense report for, July 1, 2017 through August 26, 2017. The financial report showed 15.33% of the budget has been completed with 13% expended. Dave also mentioned that a budget still reflects the estimated numbers as the budget amendment is up next on the agenda. A motion was made by Mary Ellen Poturalski and seconded by Robert Ruse to approve the expense report as presented; the motion passed unanimously.

TMACOG Budget Amendment #1 – Bill Best presented the amendment for approval. The original approved FY 2018 budget includes estimates of planning funds. The amendment is necessary to include actual funding amounts and FY 2017 carryover dollars. The amendment increases the overall TMACOG budget by \$42,606 and the transportation budget by \$41,075. The budget amendment will go to the TMACOG Board of Trustees on October 18, 2017. A motion was made by Ken Fallows and seconded by Mary Ellen Poturalski to approve the amendment as presented; the motion passed unanimously.

FY 2018 Federal Appropriations Bill – Dave Gedeon reported to council that Congress is in talks on a consolidated omnibus appropriations bill (H.R. 3354) for Interior and Environment, Agriculture and Rural Development, Commerce, Justice, Science, Financial Services, Labor, HUD, Transportation, Homeland Security, Defense, Education and other departments. Ordinarily, the appropriations legislation would be approved by October 1 but legislation was passed that provides continuing appropriation at FY 2017 levels until December 8, 2017. The House passed H.R. 3354 on September 14, 2017. The bill contains an \$800 million of unobligated contract authority and the sub-allocated portion of the STBGP and several safety programs have historically been exempted from rescissions. An amendment was added to the House version (Woodall Amendment #285) that would remove this exemption. Dave was seeking a recommendation from Transportation Council to pen a letter to members of the legislature stating the opinion that the sub-allocated funds should continue to be exempted from rescissions. A motion was made by Ken Fallows and seconded by Jim Gee to have a letter sent to legislators; the motion passed unanimously.

Annual Listing of Projects with Obligated Federal Funding – Lance Dasher presented the FY 2017 annual listing of projects that utilize federal funds obligated in the previous fiscal year. In FY 2017, roughly \$81.7 million in federal money was obligated for 112 transportation projects in Lucas and Wood counties.

Active Transportation Plan – Rebekka Aparadian gave a brief presentation on the Active Transportation Plan. She went over the key elements and asked for input saying that it is very much still a work in progress. This effort is coordinated with a statewide initiative led by The Ohio Departments of Health and Transportation and is part of Ohio's Strategic Highway Safety Plan. Key goals are to increase the safety of active transportation users (pedestrians, bicyclists, and transit users); and to increase the number of people participating in active transportation.

Public Comment Period – There were no public comments presented at this time.

Standing and Ad Hoc Committee Reports

Transportation Council Standing Committee Reports:

TIP – Ed O'Reilly was unable to attend the meeting. Lance Dasher stated that there was nothing new to report.

Pedestrian & Bikeways – Ed O'Reilly was unable to attend the meeting. Lance Dasher said the committee met on September 20. They discussed pedestrian crashes in Lucas and Wood counties and presented a couple of maps. They are working with the SPAM committee to look deeper into these crashes. The next meeting is in November.

Freight – Ray Huber was unable to attend the meeting. Roger Streiffert reported that the committee met last week and toured the Toledo Express Airport, Grande Aire, and the customs facility.

Planning – Ron Myers was unable to attend the meeting. Rebekka Aparadian stated that there was nothing new to report.

System Performance and Monitoring – Andy Langenderfer was unable to attend the meeting. There was nothing new to report.

Public Transit – Shelley Papenfuse was unable to attend the meeting. Rebekka Aparadian reported that they did meet. However, 5310 applications are due October 17.

Passenger Rail – Patrick Miller was unable to attend the meeting. Tim Porter noted the upcoming passenger rail forum on October 23 and encouraged registration. Tim said there were no other committee reports.

Major Project Updates/Other Committees:

Major Projects – Mike Gramza was unable to attend the meeting. Aaron Behrman notified the council that on October 12 there will be TRAC presentations held at ODOT Central office.

Vice President's Report – Dave reported on several items:

Applications for FY17 TIGER discretionary grant program were released on September 7th. The FY17 program was appropriated at \$500 million for projects of between \$5M and \$25M that have significant national, metropolitan, or regional significance that improve the safety of America's passengers and goods. Applications are due on October 16th.

Travel on all U.S. roads continues to set records for volume levels. The Federal Highway Administration reported that motorists nationally drove an estimated 283.6 billion miles in July 2017, a .5% increase over June 2017 (1.3 billion vehicle miles) and a 1.2% increase (3.3 billion vehicle miles) over July 2016. In Ohio, motorists drove an estimated 10.5 billion miles in July 2017 a .1% decrease from July 2016 and Michigan drivers traveled an estimated 9.3 billion vehicle miles, 3.8% more than in July 2016.

Upcoming events:

- **Passenger Rail Forum** – October 23, 2017, The Toledo Club, Toledo, 11:00 am – 1:00 pm
- **2017 NW Ohio Planning & Zoning Workshop** – November 17, 2017, Simpson Building, Bowling Green, 8:30 am – 4:00 pm
- **2018 TMACOG General Assembly** – January 29, 2018, Holiday Inn French Quarter, Perrysburg, 8:00 am

Next Meeting/Adjournment – The next meeting will be November 1, 2017.