

Memo

Date: April 28, 2017
To: Keith Earley, Chair
James Bagdonas, Vice Chair
Members of the Transportation Council
From: David Gedeon, Vice President of Transportation
Subject: **TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL REPORT FOR MAY 3, 2017 MEETING**

This report is an update of staff activity and background on selected agenda items for our next Transportation Council meeting to be held on Wednesday, May 3, 2017. The agenda and meeting materials are available at www.tmacog.org/Transportation/trancom.htm. If you would like a hard copy or have any problems accessing any of the information, please contact Jodi Cole (ext. 120). If you have any questions or concerns on any agenda items, please contact me (ext. 125).

Financial Report (Agenda III – for approval) – The financial report for fiscal year 2017 beginning July 1, 2016 through March 25, 2017 is submitted for approval. With 73% of the fiscal year completed, the overall program is under budget at 64.62% expended. It should be noted that this fiscal report does not include the budget revisions approved at the March Transportation Council meeting. Transportation Budget Amendment (#2) is on the April 12th Board of Trustees agenda and it is anticipated that the May fiscal report will include the revised budget figures.

Toledo Urbanized Area Coordinated Public and Human Service Transportation Plan Addendum (Agenda IV – for approval) – The addendum proposes to incorporate all proposed projects from 2008's Toledo Metropolitan Area Council of Government/Toledo Area Regional Transit Authority Coordinated Public Transit- Human Services Transportation Plan for Toledo Metropolitan Area with present acting roles and local needs for 5310 funds into the current 2012 Toledo Urbanized Area Coordinated Public and Human Services Transportation Plan.

Rideshare Software Update (Agenda V – for information) – TMACOG has partnered with other Ohio MPO's to select a new vendor for rideshare software. The selected vendor is Ride Amigo's and the statewide software is branded as Gohio. This will replace the current software through RidePro. The software works on computers, tablets and smartphones and allows users to connect with other users across multiple travel modes. The software rollout is expected to take place in May.

Development of the TMACOG Bike User Map (Agenda VI – for information) – TMACOG is developing a bike user map that will identify potential bike routes based on the skill of the user. An interactive map has been created giving the public the ability to routes they use on the map and note their skill level along with other information. Paper maps have also been distributed to bike shops and libraries to gather additional information. The user data will be combined with other available data to generate a final product.

Public Comment Period (Agenda VII) – Comments from the public.

Standing and Ad Hoc Committee Reports (Agenda VIII) – From Committee chairs

Vice President's Report (Agenda IX – for discussion) – In addition to the above agenda topics and information covered in the Committee Reports, the following are other items members of Transportation Council should be aware of.

- A. Congress avoided a federal shutdown by passing a one-week continuing resolution to fund the government at 2016 levels until May 5th. Congress also reached an agreement on a funding package that would extend funding to September 30th. Both chambers are expected to vote on the spending bill this week.
- B. The U.S. House of Representatives passed legislation 417-3 to repeal the MPO Coordination Rule. House passage was the final step of the legislative process, and the bill now goes to the president for his signature. After marking up H.R. 1346, the House ultimately passed S. 496, titled *To repeal the rule issued by the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration entitled "Metropolitan Planning Organization Coordination and Planning Area Reform"*. Passing the Senate version, which was identical to the House bill, prevents the Senate from having to act again.
- C. In October 2016, Volkswagen reach a \$14B settlement in federal court for installing "defeat devices" on vehicle that emit levels of NOx that significantly exceed federal standards. Of the \$14B, \$2.7B was set aside to remediate NOx emissions across all 50 states, DC, and Puerto Rico. Ohio can receive up to \$75M based on the number of defeat device vehicles sold in the state. OEPA is the lead agency for Ohio funding. In NW Ohio, the counties of Lucas, Ottawa, Sandusky and Erie have been defined as secondary priority areas that are "possibly" eligible. OEPA would like to provide planning funds and work through MPO's to determine local lists of approx. 8-10 projects and locations. It has yet to be determined by the court-appointed Trustee if planning funds are an eligible expense under the Consent Decree.
- D. May is National Bike Month and TMACOG is the local event sponsor for area Bike month activities. A full list of local activities and events, partners, and other information can be found on the TMACOG website at www.tmacog.org/bikemonth/.
- E. May 1-5 is National Clean Air Awareness Week. Our region is in attainment with each of the six criteria pollutants (ozone, particulate matter, carbon monoxide, lead, nitrogen dioxide, and sulfur dioxide) but it is important that we stay diligent and continue to meet federal air quality standards. TMACOG is promoting Clean Air Awareness Week through social media and additional information can be found at <https://www3.epa.gov/airnow/airaware/index.html>. May is also the beginning of our local Ozone Action Season.
- F. TMACOG is again partnering with the City of Toledo Division of Engineering Services to conduct the Gas Cap Testing and Replacement Program. Interns from the city will test gas caps in June, July and part of August and replace failing gas cap free of charge. Testing locations will be a gas stations across Lucas, Wood, and Monroe Counties
- G. Upcoming events:
 - **Summer Caucuses & Forum withy State Lawmakers** – August 2, 2017, Penta Career Center, 8 am-1 pm