

# Memo

**Date:** April 29, 2016  
**To:** Keith Earley, Chair  
James Bagdonas, Vice Chair  
Members of the Transportation Council  
**From:** David Gedeon, Acting Vice President of Transportation  
**Subject:** **TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL REPORT FOR MAY 4, 2016 MEETING**

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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, March 4, 2016. The agenda and meeting materials are available at [www.tmacog.org/Transportation/trancom.htm](http://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 2016 beginning July 1, 2015 through March 26, 2016 is submitted for approval. With 74% of the fiscal year completed, most work elements remain below budget. Expenditures here higher for Element 60150 (Ped/Bike) to coordinate Bike Month Activities and develop a new bike user map and for Element 69720 (Transportation Summit) to carry out the event. Both the federally funded and locally funded program categories are still below budget.

FY2016-2019 TIP Amendment #10 & Administrative Modification (Agenda IV – for approval) – TIP Amendment #10 is being presented to the Transportation Council for approval. Amendment #10 is a request from TARTA for a variety of changes including the addition of two projects and the modification of three projects in the TIP for FY 2017. The administrative modification involves moving the Jackson Blvd Transit Hub from FY 2017 to FY 2020. There is no change in funding.

FY2017 Transportation Annual Work Program (Agenda V – for approval) - The draft of the annual work program and a summary of major FY 2017 work products was presented to the Transportation Council for review in March and is now on the agenda for approval. The Transportation work program will be incorporated into the agency-wide consolidated work program and will be presented to the TMACOG Board of Trustees in June for final approval.

Annual Self Certification (Agenda VI – for approval) – Each year, TMACOG must certify that the transportation planning process complies with federal regulations and laws pertaining to metropolitan planning organizations (MPO). The resolution lists the main federal planning regulations that require a TIP, a Long Range Plan, an Annual Work Program, Community Involvement program, and other elements of the MPO process. It also lists the Environmental Justice Executive Order, Disadvantage and Minority Business Enterprise Participation regulations, Americans with Disabilities, Clean Air, and Civil Rights laws. To the best of our knowledge and appropriate to the scope and complexity of transportation issues in our area, the TMACOG planning process complies with these laws and regulations

Appointment to Complete Streets Appeals Committee (Agenda VII – for approval) – The TMACOG Complete Streets Policy identifies that an appeals committee will be appointed by the Transportation Council chair for two-year terms. The five (5) person committee consists of two (2) representatives

from jurisdictions, one (1) representative from a transit agency, and two (2) members who are professional engineers. The committee will also be supported by one (1) TMACOG staff member. The purpose of the appeal committee is to review applications exceptions to the complete streets policy have not been approved and a mutually acceptable alternative cannot be reached between the project sponsor and TMACOG staff.

Repurposing of Earmark Funding (Agenda VIII – for information) – David Gedeon will speak on the FAST Act provision to repurpose earmarks. Earmarks must meet the following criteria to be repurposed – meet the definition of an earmark; authorized or designated on or before September 20, 2005; administered by FHWA; less than 10% obligated or the project has been completed or closed. There are no projects in the region that meet all the necessary criteria. The earmark received for the acquisition of the Chessie Circle corridor does meet the age requirement but is roughly 70% spent and is not subject to repurposing. The statewide contact regarding earmark repurposing is Alana Haberman from ODOT.

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

Vice President’s Report (Agenda X – 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. On April 12<sup>th</sup>, FHWA Deputy Administrator David Kim was in Toledo for National Work Zone Awareness Week. He participated in an event in a media event in Perrysburg and wanted to meet with TMACOG staff. He noted the various funding programs that are available through the FAST Act. Among other topics was a discussion on the Ohio Conference on Freight. From that discussion, FHWA posed the possibility of FHWA Administrator Greg Nadeau speaking at this year’s conference. His office has confirmed that he will be the luncheon keynote speaker on Wednesday. In addition, FHWA wants to do a roundtable immediately following the conference for a smaller more select group, facilitated by Mr. Nadeau.
- B. TMACOG submitted a letter of support for a grant application submitted by Transportation for America to TransitCenter to fund a transportation leadership academy program for Ohio’s metropolitan areas. This is the same leadership academy that James Corliss spoke of at the Transportation Summit.
- C. TMACOG has issued a solicitation for STP projects. The solicitation will fill projects into the TIP for FY2021 and FY2022 and include approximately \$11M in funds. Applications are due on June 3, 2016.
- D. TMACOG executed a contract to again partner with the City of Toledo Division of Environmental Service to conduct the 2016 Gas Cap Replacement Program. The city will have interns test gas caps at a variety of gas stations around the region. Local media are invited to the initial event to conduct interviews and record video. Testing will begin in June and concludes in August.
- E. Upcoming events:
  - National Train Day Toledo**, Saturday, May 7, 2016, Toledo Amtrak Station
  - Bike Month**, various events will take place during the month of May
  - 2016 Ohio Conference on Freight**, August 22-24, 2016, Hilton Cleveland Downtown