

# Memo

**Date:** July 31, 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 AUGUST 2, 2017 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, August 2, 2017. 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 Reports (Agenda III – for approval) – The financial reports for fiscal year 2017 beginning July 1, 2016 through April 22, 2017 and June 30, 2017 are submitted for approval. With 100% of fiscal year 2017 completed, the overall program was under budget at a little over 90% expended.

Permissive License Plate Fees (Agenda IV – for discussion) – Keith Earley discussed permissive license plate fees at the June meeting. A quorum was not present so the Council could not take action on the issue. The topic will again be discussed at this meeting.

CMAQ Scoring and Ranking (Agenda V - for approval) – Applications we submitted in June for the 2017 CMAQ solicitation. The TIP scoring and ranking subcommittee reviewed and scored all application and recommended projects to fill the available CMAQ funding through FY 2023. The recommendations were approved by the TIP Committee at their July meeting. Transportation Council action is requested on the list of recommendations. The TMACOG Executive Committee would then need to approve the list before TMACOG's list can be submitted to the Ohio Statewide Urban CMAQ Committee (OSUCC) in September.

Special STBGP Funding Request – I-475 Widening/Dorr St. Interchange (Agenda VI - for approval) – ODOT District 2 is submitting a Transportation Review Advisory Council (TRAC) application to fund improvements on I-475 from Central Ave (US20) to Airport Hwy (SR2). ODOT staff made a presentation to the TIP Committee in June to request TMACOG managed STBGP funds and show additional local participation in the TRAC application. In order to more closely follow the TIP process, the Committee requested that an STBGP application be submitted that could be scored and ranked against the unfunded projects from the FY 2016 funding solicitation round. Following submittal and scoring, the matter was again discussed at the July TIP Committee and a \$4 M funding request was approved. The issue is now brought before the Transportation Council for additional discussion and action.

TARTA Sales Tax Next Steps (Agenda VII – for information) – In June, Steve Atkinson from TARTA discussed the proposal to replace the TARTA property tax with a .5% sales tax levied by TARTA. The proposal needed to be approved by all TARTA member communities in order to be placed on the fall ballot and a no vote was recently cast by Sylvania Township. Jim will discuss TARTA's next steps for future funding.

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

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

FY 2018-2021 TIP Amendment #1 (for approval) – TIP Amendment #1 is being presented to the Transportation Council for approval. The amendment deletes one project at the request of the City of Toledo (PID 103437 – Secor Rd widening). This project utilized \$2,600,000 of CMAQ funding in FY 2020 for RW and \$5,838,000 of CMAQ funding in FY 2022 for construction. The amendment also revises funding for two projects at the request of TARTA.

FY 2018-2021 TIP Modification #1 (for approval) – TIP Modification #1 is being presented to the Transportation Council for approval. The modification moves one City of Toledo project (SR 51 Signalization) from FY 2021 to FY 2018 and adds \$31,295 to the City of Waterville SR 64 bridge project.

Pedestrian and Bikeways Committee Operating Procedures (for approval) – The Pedestrian and Bikeways Committee reviewed their Operating Procedures and requests the approval of updates. The most notable changes are the removal of the Pedestrian and Bikeways Steering Committee, holding meetings on a bi-monthly basis, and to nominate one committee member to serve on the TIP Committee and one on the Chessie Circle Coordinating Committee. The amended operating procedures were approved by the Pedestrian and Bikeways Committee and are being presented to the Transportation Council for approval.

Freight Advisory Committee Operating Procedures (for approval) – The Freight Advisory Committee reviewed their Operating Procedures and requests the approval of updates. The most notable changes are the removal of the Freight Steering Committee, and text updates to the Purpose, Membership, Members Term of Office, and the Committee Leadership Articles. The amended operating procedures were approved by the Freight Advisory Committee and are being presented to the Transportation Council for approval.

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. The Senate Appropriations Committee backed a bill to fund the U.S. Department of Transportation for the 2018 budget year that would increase TIGER infrastructure grants, support new transit capital starts and avoid rescinding any highway program funds. The version that House appropriators advanced would zero out TIGER, make deeper cuts in transit capital grants and rescind \$800 million in contract authority from state DOTs' federal-aid highway funds. Both measures can now advance to consideration by their full chambers' members, although news reports indicate the House and Senate may wait to take them up after returning from a summer recess in September. That would give lawmakers only a few weeks to finalize such a spending bill before the new fiscal year starts Oct. 1, or force them to extend current-year funding levels to keep government offices open.
- B. Staff Change – Christine Connell provided TMACOG her two week notice on July 17th and her last day on staff was July 28<sup>th</sup>. Christine accepted a position at the Consulate General of Canada-Detroit that she will begin in mid-August. Christine’s vacancy on staff will be filled in the upcoming months.
- C. Royce Maniko brought up an issue at the TMACOG Board of Trustees meeting that was referred to the Transportation Council for review. Royce attended a meeting at SEMCOG and participated in

a discussion of connected and automated vehicles. He would like to present information at a future meeting and discuss ways for TMACOG and SEMCOG to collaborate on planning efforts.

- D. TMACOG was notified that we received an Active Transportation Grant award from ODOT. We applied for \$27,375 to purchase five pneumatic and five infrared trail counters to conduct additional bicycle and pedestrian counting. We are now working for ODOT District 2 on the final scope of services prior to the equipment purchase.
- E. The Ohio Conference on Freight begins today in Columbus and goes through Friday. The conference is being led this year by the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) with financial support from the Ohio Association of Regional Councils (OARC) and Ohio MPO including TMACOG. As of last Friday, the registered attendance was 280 and all tours were fully booked.
- F. Upcoming events:
  - **2018 TMACOG General Assembly** – January 29, 2018, Holiday Inn French Quarter, Perrysburg, 8:00 am