

## TMACOG Transportation Planning Committee

Tuesday, October 18, 2011 – 1:30 p.m.

### NOTES

**1. Convene meeting / introductions**

*--Ed Ciecka, Chair*

**2. 2035 Plan Goals: Report Card – Part 1**

*--Staff*

How well is our region implementing 2035 Plan goals? In 2009, we did a report card based on goal measures. Staff will present a 2011 report (part 1) for the Committee's consideration.

**a. Freight transportation:**

*--Roger Streiffert, Kent Gardam*

Freight hubs map; Grade separations map and table; Freight route improvement projects table and map, and pavement condition; Truck crash rates

There are four major multimodal freight hubs. Toledo Express: BAX air freight has pulled out, but funding has been obtained for attracting more trucking to airport. Seaport improvements are all set. Near the CSX intermodal facility (North Baltimore), 2,000 acres are being primed for commercial developed. By the end of calendar year 2011, expect the NS intermodal yard extension to be done; increases in freight volume will depend on City of Toledo marketing the site. It is being said that there is more potential for generating local freight traffic here than at the CSX facility.

Grade separations: Hallett will open fall 2012. NHS Connectors (roads connecting between the National Highway System and freight terminals): pavement condition is improving. City of Toledo noted projects are planned for to improve sections of Summit Street and Detroit Ave.: both are Michigan weight routes (extra-heavy truckloads allowed because of proximity to state of Michigan where heavier trucks are allowed). Roger noted NHS connector designations are currently being updated.

**b. Safety & efficiency:**

*--Kent Gardam, Diane Reamer-Evans*

Overall crash rates; fatalities; access management; ITS project implementation

Crash and fatality numbers and rates in 2010 are significantly lower than in 2007. More ITS projects are done or progressing than in 2009.

More jurisdictions are implementing access management (reduction of conflicts between streets and driveways, by eliminating or combining driveway access points, to keep street traffic flowing). Suggestion: TMACOG should keep access management (A.M.) regulations on file. Ron Myers: Lucas County's A.M. rules have been in place several years and are developing a list of needed updates; it is a big plus that staff has no authority to waive, developers have to go to appeals board. Brian Craft, BG: their A.M. regulations work well; allowed them to reduce the number of driveways on North Main. Mike Stormer: ODOT also has an A.M. appeals board, located at ODOT Central Office in Columbus.

**c. System preservation:**

*--Lisa Householder*

Pavement condition table and map; Bridge condition table and map

On the Bridge Conditions map (based on 2010 ODOT data), it appears some City of Toledo and Lucas County bridges are missing and a Wood County bridge in "imminent failure" doesn't exist. TMACOG staff will send the data to bridge engineers in those jurisdictions for review and update. Suggested: for clarity, do separate maps for different bridge conditions categories.

For the Pavement Conditions summary, Rich Martinko suggested a stacked bar graph (rather than a line graph) to better show shifts in condition over the years.

- d. **Funding:** completing the Plan projects --Diane Reamer-Evans  
Summary table; detailed tables, progress on Committed and Priority Plan projects

In terms of numbers of 2035 projects complete, our region has done well in the past two years. However, per committee comment, we should also look at dollars spent: since the Plan is fiscally constrained, are we planning our project dollars accurately? It would also be interesting to compare Plan project cost estimates to actual project costs.

4. **2035 Plan–Update 2011** --staff

Presenting draft of new Plan summary booklet: will be printed and ready for distribution soon.

5. **Major Projects and Legislative Update** --Mike Stormer, ODOT; Warren Henry; others

Mike Stormer: Nothing new since last meeting. **I-475 over Maumee River** (Maumee-Perrysburg area) wrapping up this year’s work mid-November, reopening until spring when work resumes. Six **TRAC** applications were made, no word expected till after first of year. **SR 18** North Baltimore upgrade/relocation (for improved flow from CSX yard to I-75) is still slated for May-November 2012 construction. **Anthony Wayne Bridge** (High Level) rehab: still evaluating, doesn’t know start date; will be closed for 19 months. (UT involved in acoustic monitoring of when strands in cables break.) **Casino:** still doing work, putting in a retaining wall and working on streets that provide access to I-75.

Warren Henry: October 27 is tentative closing date for purchase of **Westside corridor**. All authorizations have been received from partners, and have state and federal clearances. Purchase price is \$6.56 million. **TRAC** (state of Ohio funding for large transportation infrastructure projects) competition is tight: \$1 billion available to fund \$10 billion in needs over 8 years. **Federal transportation bill:** a continuing resolution has been passed, keeping funding going for the next few months. House Speaker John Boehner appears to be willing to increase the amount for transportations and is pushing John Mica, chair of the House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee, for a bill, but seems unlikely to pass pre-presidential election since would require identifying new funding resources. **Transportation Secretary** Ray LaHood has announced he will retire and not serve another four years.

6. **Upcoming Events and Other Business**

- a. NW Ohio Section Planning & Zoning Workshop, Thursday, November 10, Dana Center
- b. How to Identify and Pursue Federal & State Grants: Tips for Local Governments; Wednesday, October 19, 2:30-4 p.m. (directly follows Board of Trustees), Grand Lobby of the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Plaza
- c. Member roundtable. Ken Fallows: Toledo-Lucas Co Sustainability Commission workshop on Green Infrastructure, October 28, Nitschke Hall, UT. Includes transportation-related topics. For details: <http://www.lucascountygreen.com/infrastructure.html>

7. **Adjourn**

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS:

Planning Committee— 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays at 1:30 p.m.

2011: January 18, February 15, April 19, June 21, August 16, October 18, December 20

2012: February 21, April 17, June 19, August 21, October 16, December 18

Transportation Summit: March 30, 2012 (tentative date)

Train Day Toledo: Saturday, May 5, 2012 at Dr. Martin Luther King Jr Plaza & Amtrak station