



TMACOG Transportation Planning Committee

Tuesday, October 21, 2014 – 1:00 p.m.

TMACOG Boardroom

NOTES

1. **Convene meeting / introductions / review Agenda and August notes** --Ron Myers, Chair
Mike Beazley moved, and Rich Martinko seconded, approval of the August meeting notes. The motion passed.
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2. **2045 Plan: Development of Project List** --Staff and committee members

- a. Review methodology: public input, goal work groups, and standing committees; targets
- b. Goal groups – summary of work: *Goal group leaders noted the targets associated with choosing projects for their goals. (See Targets list)*

- (1) **Safety.** Leaders–Ron Myers, Pat Etchie.

Goal: Reduce traffic-related fatalities and serious injuries across all modes.

Ron Myers noted the safety goals and targets came from the feds.

- (2) **Infrastructure condition.** Leaders–Kristin Cousino, John Musteric.

Goal: Maintain and improve the transportation system to a state of good repair.

John Musteric reported.

- (3) **Congestion reduction and system reliability.** Leader–Mike Stormer.

Goals: Reduce congestion on the National Highway System; Improve the efficiency of the surface transportation system.

Mike Stormer noted using a target of 5% increases makes it easy to set up interim targets.

Christine Connell asked if the target to reduce Vehicle Miles Travelled by 5% by 2045 would be per capita, since we can't control interstate traffic, especially freight. Mike: yes, we can look at that.

- (4) **Environmental sustainability.** Leader–Russell Mills.

Goal: Protect and enhance the community and natural environments [while enhancing performance of the transportation system].

Gordon Bowman reported. Noted we have lots of prime farmland and other sensitive areas to protect and opportunities to encourage redevelopment of brownfields. If there is new development, it should be carefully analyzed if it is going on greenfields, and we should protect natural features.

Dave Gedeon noted the (except for Safety) we are awaiting ODOT targets, with which we will need to coordinate, but need to proceed in good faith for now.

Rich Martinko noted need for benchmarks (where we are today) and how we calculated them, so we can calculate in future for consistency. Also the need for interim-year targets or milestones (not just for 2045). Ron noted we did score cards in past, and will do so again.

c. **Personal mobility.** *Goal:* Improve the quality, accessibility, and efficiency of the multimodal personal transportation system

(1) **Bike Network and project list** (Ped-Bike Committee)

--Christine Connell

The Ped-Bike Committee and staff based their proposed project list mainly on implementing the proposed bike network. A list of projects was generated by jurisdiction, to develop key connections in the region, including key north-south and east-west connections. Staff worried with dozens of jurisdictions and stakeholder groups, looked at state and US systems. Looked for gaps/barriers; used guiding principles. Committee has approved the list.

(2) **Public Transit & Passenger Rail** Committee list

--Diane Reamer-Evans

The PT/PR Committee developed and discussed priorities for their proposed list of projects. They recommend several planning initiatives as well as projects.

d. **Freight movement** goal/ Freight Advisory Committee list

--Roger Streiffert

Goal: Strengthen freight access to national and international trade markets to support economic development

Roger Streiffert, Freight Advisory Committee staff, reviewed the freight targets. The committee began work in the spring; looked at various project sources including committee member expertise, freight shippers, Ohio and Michigan statewide studies and plans, TMACOG studies, and public input. Listed possible issues to address, including poor infrastructure, bottlenecks, truck routes, NHS connectors, and multimodal issues, etc. Reviewed previous plan projects. Developed an initial list, and narrowed list using prioritizing criteria, and roughly ranked projects, then put an approximate cost using information from similar projects and other regions. Their list included some big infrastructure projects.

Rich Martinko, UT, noted Ohio major project funding (through the Transportation Review Advisory Committee) is largely focused on economic measures, but our measures don't reflect that. Dave Gedeon noted difficulty in quantifying economic factors. Rich said our projects will be asked how they benefit economy. Ron: TRAC looks at a 2-mile impact area, for instance, amount of undeveloped land, potential for jobs. Dave: hard for us at an MPO level, easier for project sponsors to analyze this.

Rich: could just state how strong the project is in promoting economic development, making a value judgment. Diane: what goal would it relate to? Rich: we need an informed decision. Paul Roman, Oregon: sponsors would have to weigh in on this, no way this committee could know about every implication. OPWC scoring requires showing you are bringing in outside jobs. Rich noted "nexus to Turnpike" wasn't clearly defined.

3. Project ranking: proposed measures

--TMACOG staff

-How will we evaluate which projects will best meet our plan goals?

-Project list: finalize November

-Ranking: finalize December

Staff reviewed the first draft of proposed ranking measures.

Q: Paul Roman--how would we view a project in an Environmental Justice (EJ) area? A: a project requiring new right-of-way may be considered to have a negative impact on low income and/or minority areas.

An early draft project list was provided, showing potential sponsors, who nominated the project, and whether it was on the previous plan or the current Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) funding list. The project cost will be shown initially in 2014 dollars, then TMACOG will apply an inflation factor for the anticipated year of construction.

4. Member Roundtable

5. Upcoming Events and Other Business

--Staff and Committee

- a. Transit Stakeholder Meeting, ODOT: Wednesday, Oct. 22, 2-4 p.m., Hancock Family Center, 1800 N. Blanchard St., Findlay. (Comments on statewide transit study accepted through Nov. 14 at www.TransitNeedsStudy.ohio.gov)
 - b. Passenger Rail Forum, Monday, Nov. 17, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., the Toledo Club. Register at www.PassengerRailForum2014.eventbrite.com
 - c. Other
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6. Adjourn