



TMACOG Transportation Planning Committee

Tuesday, April 15, 2014 – 1:30 p.m.

TMACOG Boardroom

NOTES

1. Convene meeting / introductions / review Agenda and February notes --Ron Myers, Chair

Moved to approve notes, seconded, and motion passed.

2. 2045 Plan: BGSU Report --Russell Mills and MPA students

Russell Mills introduced Wood County transportation needs assessment.

- a. Public forum—Tony Gianell: they invited community leaders and general public; meeting included 45-minute roundtable discussion. Surveyed participants on how they rated the event – pretty positive feedback. Recommendations included keeping the Wood County area engaged in planning.
- b. Focus groups -- Tara Schuler: four groups were conducted. Seniors group wanted an affordable county wide transit system, better pedestrian safety. Student focus group members were concerned about pedestrian safety, public transportation. Bicycling group wanted more driver and nonmotorized awareness, better road and sidewalk condition, more crosswalks. Freight and industry group noted issues regarding trucking (lack of heavy haul routes beyond Lucas County, for example).
- c. Survey—Alina Raulinaitis: survey based on the eight plan goals. Did a 12-question survey, including primary needs. Distributed online and via paper copy. Distributed fliers with a QR code. They received 223 responses. Recorded open-ended responses according to a subject code. More than half of respondents were students.

Brian Craft noted there has been much upgrading of sidewalks and crossings in BG. Ken Fallows noted the students are the new generation that wants a more urban and non-car-centric lifestyle. Bob Seyfang added quality of life is as important or more important than jobs for young adults.

Summary: Holly Cipriani presented common themes and findings across the three groups: increased bikeability and walkability, increased public transportation in urban and rural areas, general safety concerns and need for awareness.

Diane noted the Planning Committee benefitted from the work of students, incorporating some of their materials into 2045 plan.

3. 2045 Public input meetings, March-April and the 2045 Plan

- a. Comments, learnings – Committee members – Bob Seyfang – wants to see younger people involved in the meetings. Ed Ciecka – attended Waterville, same demographics (middle aged); maybe we need more use of social media and less reliance on public meetings. His kids do nothing but text messaging. Bob: maybe we need to go to 40-and-unders' meetings. Brian: big plus at BG public meeting was interaction between students and older folks. Russell Mills: try a tweetathon. Brian liked immediate feedback from “clickers” at Transportation Summit. Could use smart phones similarly. Offered food – that didn't get a lot of students.
- b. Meeting summaries --David Gedeon—He has been entering meeting comments in a spreadsheet according to meeting location, transportation mode, goal, connectivity. This will allow us to sort and group. We received hundreds of comments: common themes included bicycle and public transportation, infrastructure condition.

- c. Hispanic community meeting, Apr.29, South Branch Library –Janet Arcuicci—to increase diversity of participation, partnering with Hispanic organizations to hold one additional public meeting, which will include a translator.

4. 2045 Survey

- a. Transportation Summit interactive session --*Diane Reamer-Evans, Christine Connell*.
Christine noted that most interesting are the questions that require respondents to prioritize among various choices.
- b. Questionnaire: initial summary --*Janet Arcuicci*
A variety of input options were used to get the widest input. More detailed data analysis is forthcoming.
- c. Comments

5. 2045 Next Steps

-- *Diane Reamer-Evans*

Targets, measures, and projects/initiatives: target date October 2014

5. Project and Planning Updates

--*Mike Stormer, ODOT; Warren Henry; others*

- a. Major project progress: a shortfall in I-75 widening funding is being covered by leftover funds from a Cleveland project. High level bridge is closed for many months. Addition of an I-475 interchange: stakeholders are meeting and looking for millions needed in order to add it: new ODOT policy requires 50% local match.
- b. Other: City of Toledo is installing the first two multi-lane roundabouts at the redevelopment of the old Jeep site.

6. Member Roundtable (time permitting)

7. Upcoming Events and Other Business

--*Staff and Committee*

- a. Fri, May 2, 5-8 p.m.– Friday Night by the Tracks train day preview
- b. Sat, May 3: 9:30-4 p.m.– National Train Day Toledo
- c. May – Bike Month – see www.tmacog.org
- d. Fri, May 9 from 8 a.m. to Noon– TMACOG Tech seminar, Open Doors, Open Minds: Beyond Accessible Design, in the Grand Lobby (register online)
- e. Other—Heather Saylor announced the BG public meeting will be held at a bar.
—Don O’Connor is leaving Toledo; Kristin Cousino was elected vice chair. Steering committee: Dr. Mills was nominated and approved by vote for steering committee.

8. Adjourn