



## TMACOG Transportation Planning Committee

Tuesday, April 21, 2015 – 1:00 p.m.

TMACOG Boardroom

### Notes

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**1. Convene meeting / introductions / review March notes** --Ron Myers, Chair; Kris Cousino, V. Chair

Ron Myers convened the meeting. The March notes were reviewed and accepted on motion by Gary Stookey and second by Ken Fallows.

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**2. 2045 Plan: Policies** --Diane Reamer-Evans, other staff

Review and approve policies. Diane introduced the policies. The chairman provided a few minutes for the committee to review. Discussion:

Mike Beazley: regarding the roundabouts policy, is language needed to reflect challenges to pedestrians and people with mobility challenges; is there data to support? Ron: data shows they are safer. For sight-impaired pedestrians, there are recommendations for special treatments, especially for multi-lane roundabouts. Pat Etchie noted the limited conflict points with a roundabout. Ron suggests deleting roundabout sub-bullets 1 through 4 and keep 5; Ken suggests adding language stating that attention should be paid to the needs of visually impaired. Gary: could get rid of all five qualifiers; Ed Ciecka – add “thorough professional engineering analysis.” Ken: moved to revise roundabout policy with addition of “professional engineering” etc., and strike 1 – 5. Second by Ed Ciecka. Motion passed.

Question: re policy 3 under personal mobility – asked for clarification on item 4.—where does the crash data come from. A: from state database.

Numbering: Rich: recommends using “C.1.1” type of numbering. Policy C.1.2: need to add roundabout policy number reference.

Ken: note these policies include support for pipelines which are safer than any other form of transportation. Question: re. C.2.3, do we have rideshare and vanpooling? A: Have a rideshare program at TMACOG; TARTA looking into van pooling.

Ken Fallows moved to approve policies as amended. Gary Stookey seconded, and motion was approved.

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**3. 2045 Plan: Environmental review** --Tom Lemon

Agencies contacted; responses so far; any projects affected by comments?  
(environmental maps are online at [www.tmacog.org/onthemove\\_environmental.htm](http://www.tmacog.org/onthemove_environmental.htm))

Tom Lemon noted he is helping with TMACOG completion of the plan. He presented a list of agencies that were contacted for environmental review and the comments received thus far. Only the Metroparks had specific project-related comments; the other comments are more generic.

Ken Fallows, TMACOG Environmental Council chair, noted that if draft federal legislation passes, all wetlands would become “waters of the US.”

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**4. 2045 Plan: Wrapping it up** --Diane Reamer-Evans, other staff

- a. Environmental Justice and other final analysis
- b. Presentation to Transportation Council: May 6 (public meeting) for approval (3 p.m.)
- c. Presentation to TMACOG Board of Trustees for approval: June 17 (1:30 p.m.)
- d. Submittal to ODOT: May or June (Note change in deadline)

Diane reviewed next steps a. through d., noting the traffic forecasting analysis is behind schedule because of major updates being completed to the Ohio traffic forecasting model.

- e. Discussion: lessons learned/suggestions for next time.

-Ed Ciecka: in period between now and the next update, staff should look at how social media can be used most effectively for public comment and involvement. Ken noted anything we can do along these lines will be positives in the eyes of ODOT and the federal government.

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For instance a Facebook page devoted to the plan would be good. Twitter could be used to get the topic out there, but should be used with caution.

Kristin: she has learned a lot in the process; noted the need to engage younger people so baton can be passed.

Pat: seems like it was hard to get local government comments; suggests a workshop for them to provide input.

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## 5. Major Project Updates

--Committee members

City of Toledo: Kris: AW high level bridge will wrap up the end of this year, then they will move to do painting. Will have LED lighting.

Gary: Airport, South to Broadway, resurfacing; finishing up Cherry roundabouts; Jeep Parkway currently closed – roads inside to be relocated, adding roundabouts; Joe E Brown Park is a “big dig” to add stormwater storage. ODOT projects: AWT at South and at Western-- intersections to be reconstructed and better signalization. Mike Beazley: Toledo to Maumee bike ride is being pursued on AWT; but may take Broadway instead.

Gary: I-75, Phillips to 280, just getting started. Several ramp closings involved. Bancroft St. project, Monroe to Ashland-- will become a single lane in each direction, with bike lanes (road diet).

Ken: Kenwood gets a lot of traffic; anything coming up? Gary: not yet, but some major announcements coming up from ProMedica.

Lucas County: McCord Rd will close in June, and several other locations will close due to projects, including Angola Road bridge. SB ramp to I-475 will reopen.

Ellen: draft Maumee Valley Planning Organization transportation plan is on her website; expect approval in May. Wabash Cannonball Trail is second highest project after a bridge project. ODOT has extended MVPO’s role as a planning agency for two years.

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## 6. Member Roundtable and Other Business

- a. TMACOG: TIP public meetings completed—no negative comments received.
  - b. Member news and issues—Rossford marina is open and slips are still available. Next week University of Akron hosting an algal bloom conference; Toledo will have speakers. Rich Martinko noted Todd Audet, ODOT District 2, is getting a star – becoming a brigadier general this Saturday – tell him congrats.
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## 7. Upcoming Events

--Staff and committee

- a. **National Train Day Toledo:** – Diane and Brian reviewed highlights
    - preview party Friday Night by the Tracks, May 1, 5-8 p.m., registration at [www.tmacog.org](http://www.tmacog.org)
    - National Train Day Toledo, Saturday, May 2, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
  - b. **May is Bike Month:** see [www.tmacog.org/bikemonth/](http://www.tmacog.org/bikemonth/) for details and calendar of events, including
    - Friday, May 15, Bike to Work Day
    - Saturday, May 16, Bike Day at downtown Toledo Farmer’s Market 9 a.m.–noon.
  - c. **2015 APA Ohio Statewide Planning Conference**, September 23-25 in Toledo, Ohio at the Grand Plaza Hotel and Convention Center. More info: [www.ohioplanning.org/Conference](http://www.ohioplanning.org/Conference)  
Pat said still light on transportation presentations, go on line to submit or to see what’s available.
  - d. **2015 Conference on Freight**, September 14-16, 2015, Hilton Cincinnati Netherland Plaza , see [www.ohiofreight.org](http://www.ohiofreight.org)
  - e. Other: *Diane’s retirement open house/party, Wed., April 29, 3-6 p.m.*
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## 8. Adjourn

<p><b>SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS:</b> Planning Committee— 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays at 1:00 p.m. 2015: Jan 20, Feb 17, March 17, 24, April 21, <b>June 16</b>, August 18, Oct 20, Dec 15</p>
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