

TMACOG Transportation Planning Committee

Tuesday, June 19, 2012 – 1:30 p.m.

TMACOG Boardroom

NOTES

1. Convene meeting / introductions / review notes and agenda --Ed Ciecka, Chair

Noted: the passing of committee member Evelyn Feiger, Auburn Delaware Residents.

Per motion of Don O'Connor, February meeting notes were approved.

2. Regional Transportation Planning --Diane Reamer-Evans; David Gedeon

a. Progress on 2035 projects and initiatives: year-end report (*see attached*)

The committee discussed and made revisions to the draft progress tables for committed projects and priority projects. On motion by Don O'Connor, second by Ed Ciecka, the tables were approved.

The initiatives table was reviewed and updated. Changes to the table included addition of three NHS connectors. It was approved on motion by Pat Etchie, second by Ray Huber.

Additional discussion regarding the 2035 Plan initiatives:

-Initiative 1: are there any metrics on whether the new freight projects are a success? A: yes on the CSX facility (tracking increase in traffic); working on marketing the NS facility (no increases in traffic yet); for Port, some additional traffic due to new cranes, but Ironville facility no operational yet.

-Initiative 2: ODOT will look at no longer doing Pavement Condition Rating for non-state high/non freeway roads in 2013; if requested, they may consider rating other roads.

-Initiative 5: ODOT rolled multiple proposed freight studies into one statewide study

-Initiative 8: The 2012-2013 Legislative Agenda will be released following the fall elections so it can be available to new officials.

b. Understanding our region: draft new analysis maps

Dave Gedeon noted staff is starting to pull out new demographic and socio economic information from the 2010 Census and American Community Survey. He presented draft analysis maps: 2000 population density compared with 2010 population density ; and 2000 housing density compared with 2010 housing density. It was suggested that some additional jurisdictions be identified on the maps.

c. Linking transportation planning to land use in the TMACOG Region: Update

Diane Reamer-Evans reported that TMACOG staff have begun mapping Lucas and Wood County land use data. A steering meeting to review this initial work will be set.

Bob Krompak noted a \$6.8 million grant has been obtained for demolition of 850 housing structures in Lucas County. In East Toledo, 1 of 5 houses is empty. The Lucas County Land Bank has done inventories of vacant structures – have the info on and excel table.

3. Major Projects and Legislative Update -- Warren Henry, TMACOG; Mike Stormer, ODOT; others

a. TRAC status – outcome of June 6 vote (see [web](#) for 2013-2016 TRAC Major New Project List)

In the new TRAC funding program for major Ohio projects, projects funded in our region include putting the old US 24 roadway back in shape, “resurfacing to abandon,” 2013. TRAC funding for the balance of the McCord Road/NS underpass is pushed off till 2023; however, there is some chance that cost savings on other projects could move that forward.

b. Federal transportation bill progress: Diane provided an article that noted the bill is still stalled.

c. **Turnpike study** – website online www.ohturnpikeanalysis.com/ : data is being gathered; this phase may be done by year's end.

d. **Major project update:** slides; ODOT update.

-July 2: I-475 bridge over Maumee will be done

-US 23 from state line to Central Ave resurfacing to start soon; bridge will go to single lane during construction

-I-75 east side: in process, Perrysburg to Rossford (north end was resurfaced pre-Casino opening)

-Woodville Rd improvement: will start later in summer, run into fall.

-AW bridge project --\$47 m--likely to start 2013; will be closed completely for 19 months

-Monroe St in W. Toledo: pavement project in process; done this summer

-US 24: to open September. \$490 m total project

-I-75/475 system interchange: \$85 m including 3 bridges; complete fall 2013; watch for traffic shifts this summer

-Bowling Green North Main St: paving now; utility work done or in process; nearing mid-point.

-Monroe County bridge replacement: not sure of progress

-Wales Rd rail overpass: under construction

-SR 18, North Baltimore: under construction; have road cut in, moving fast, open this fall.

-ITS Freeway Management System: held preconstruction meeting; system will go to south of Bowling Green

-I-75 bridge repair: will be bridge deck repair

-Secor: Monroe to Central – reconstruction 2013-2014. (note rumors that old cinema site is sold)

-Dorr St near UT: have Byrne-Secor widened by a lane; add median; restrict left turn lanes; allow for U-turns. At recent public meetings, public was supportive.

-TARTA doing new downtown station

ODOT finances affecting major new projects (which generally add new capacity to roads and bridges).

4. **Public Transit and the Regional Transportation Plan**

For discussion: What role does the MPO play in events being played out in various communities?

Ed Ciecka asked to add this to agenda. At Transportation Council, a member asked how TMACOG is involved in the current chain of events regarding efforts by some communities to opt out of regional transit. Ed noted several 2035 Plan initiatives and policies that support regional transit. Perrysburg voted to withdraw; sees they are having some challenges. Rossford receives more service than they pay for, but very few use it; Rossford is having a conversation about it. Sylvania Township may put it on the ballot.

Don O'Connor: heard complaint that TARTA is downtown-centric--- is that relevant?

Warren: TMACOG held a series of transit forums; out of that TARTA did a Comprehensive Operations Analysis (COA). Tried to implement cross-town routes to supplement routes that hub into downtown; but hub/spoke seems to work better. For communities thinking of opting out, it is not easy to access state transit funds, so locals will need to raise funds somehow. Feels jurisdictions should work within the system. Noted the TMACOG Public Transit/Passenger Rail Committee is self-educating regarding funding and measures of success (recently formed 4 subcommittees to research issues).

Ron Myers: constant flow of pedestrians on Airport Hwy from Holland-Sylvania Rd (last TARTA bus stop) to Spring Meadows. As TARTA goes away, how are we getting people to work and services?

Bob Krompak: same issue on Navarre in Wheeling St area: TARTA stops short of Oregon, so people get off

in East Toledo and walk.

TMACOG is trying to keep it to an informational discussion.

5. Upcoming Events and Other Business

a. **2012 Ohio Conference on Freight**, September 13 & 14, Kalahari Conference Center, Sandusky, Ohio: key speakers are lined up; online registration available soon

b. **Member roundtable:** what are your current transportation issues / projects?
–Casino traffic; other

-Rossford: a little congestion at Casino opening week. Consultant's transit study nearly complete.

- Monroe Co: An agreement has been struck to build the new bridge to Canada without spending Michigan state funds. Widening Telegraph in Monroe later in summer.

-City of Toledo: 2014 likely resurfacing Hill from Reynolds to Byrne. Two sections of Suder: improvements and adding bike lanes, 2013 & 2014. Crack sealing: will see a lot in future. 2016 TIP project is AW Trail, inbound.

-Bob Krompak: no complaints from the East Toledo community development corporation regarding the casino. Library Village area: some merchants unhappy (but some okay) with the Sylvania Ave construction

-ODOT: US 24 west of I-475, putting in concrete median wall.

-Lucas County: Perrysburg-Holland Rd bridge closing next week; putting in a wide bridge sized for future traffic. I475/Corey Rd interchange study (Tetra Tech) available in a month; plan to submit for safety funds

-Pat Etchie: November 8th is tentative date for NW Ohio Planning & Zoning workshop

-Wood County: two bridges built this year, two or three more soon. Resurfaced two major roads, may do a third. Starting conversation with Rossford: Safe Routes to School application was approved, including a ped bridge; interested in building a single bridge (vehicle plus walkways) with joint funding.

-Bowling Green: road reconstruction, S. Sand Ridge. Working on crack sealing to extend road life.

-Warren Henry: at Toledo Area Small Business group presentation that he did, one of members commented that he prepared his customers for an upcoming construction project, and his business actually increased. Panama Canal not done till 2015; only port of Norfolk has depth to accommodate larger ships that will be able to traverse the canal; discussing idea of doing breakdowns into smaller ships. 70% of Canal traffic is U.S. Noted impacts on communities of traffic from extracting gas from shale.

6. Adjourn

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS:

Planning Committee— 3rd Tuesdays at 1:30 p.m.

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