



## TMACOG Transportation Planning Committee

Tuesday, August 18, 2015 – 1:00 p.m.

TMACOG Boardroom

### Notes

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

Dave Gedeon convened the meeting. The April notes were reviewed and accepted on motion by Pat Etchie and seconded by Ken Fallows.

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**2. 2045 Plan: Update** *--Rebekka Apardian, Dave Gedeon*

Staff updated the Committee on the status of the 2045 Plan. It was approved by the Board of Trustees in June and staff is now working to finish up the text of the plan. It will be sent to the FHWA for comments regarding air quality. The next steps are to proof it, format it, and send it out to get printed. All Committee members will get a copy of the printed plan. It will be posted online on TMACOG's website, as well. The final step will be to produce a summary document of the Plan, which is a shorter version highlighting the most important parts, such as the projects, policies, and initiatives. This summary document will be the item seen by most of the public.

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**3. Timelines for major documents** *--Dave Gedeon*

Dave outlined the major documents that TMACOG produces, including the timeframes for updating each. A chart displaying these reports and the corresponding information was distributed.

- a. Regional Transportation Plan: The Long Range Regional Transportation Plan is updated every 5 years with a new plan every 10 years. The last update was this year, so the next update is due in 2020. This is a federally required document.
- b. Congestion Management Plan (CMP): This plan is designed to identify and address areas of congestion in the region. It has a flexible updating schedule of either every 4 or 5 years. This was last updated in 2013, so the next update will be in 2017 or 2018. This is a federally required document.
- c. Transportation Improvement Program (TIP): The TIP is updated every two years and was last updated this year. The next update is due in 2017.
- d. Safety Locations and Measures Report: This report is done every 2 years, with the latest report updated in 2013. This is to be updated this year. It is not a federally required document.
- e. Annual Work Program: This report is a project management tool that outlines all of the products that will come to be each year, along with the budget. It is updated yearly and was last updated this year. This is a federally required document.
- f. Public Involvement Policy: The Public Involvement Policy is updated on a flexible cycle. It was last updated this year and the next update will occur in a year yet to be determined. This is a federally required document.
- g. Title VI: Title VI is updated on a flexible cycle. It was last updated this year and the next update will occur in a year yet to be determined. This is a federally required document.

Ken asked if the crash reports in the Safety Locations and Measures Report will reflect the increased safety of roundabouts to show to the public. Dave noted that the Safety Locations in the report are only the least safe locations and theoretically, roundabouts should not show up in the report. The report could show changes for the worst intersections, however, including increased safety according to severity, frequency, fatalities, ped/bike safety, etc.

It was also asked if we could look at statistics of red light cameras and how they affected dangerous intersections. Ken said that politicians are quick to defend red light cameras by the revenue they bring in by giving out tickets, but it would be nice to have a safety reason for them as well. Dave asked Kris if it was possible to find out when the red light cameras were installed at their respective intersections in order to analyze the safety data based on the dates the cameras became active. Kris said that yes it was possible and Dave indicated

that we could look at their safety stats in the future.

It was also noted that the Legislative Agenda that was put together by TMACOG was a very good piece of documentation that tied the Northwest Ohio region together. It outlined our priorities as a region for the lawmakers to take to Columbus and to Washington. This document was just updated and will be updated again within the next few years.

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#### **4. Ohio APA Conference**

*--Pat Etchie*

Pat Etchie spoke about the APA Conference that is being held in Toledo this year on September 23-25. He provided pamphlets to the Committee that included a snapshot of the topics that are going to be covered, a list of speakers, prices for the conference, and descriptions of other events, such as the mobile workshop. Pat informed the Committee that there are 200 registrants already and registration closes on September 11. There are also options for students to have discounted rates for volunteering 4 hours of their time.

Ken noted that the Design Center was sponsoring the conference and the Friday lunch keynote speaker will be very good.

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#### **5. Major Project Updates**

*--Committee members*

-Traffic direction on I-75 has been switched as progress continues on the highway

-The Whitehouse roundabout and the King & Dorr roundabout are finished and look good.

-Kris: When it comes to ODOT, getting the authority to bid is very hard and things are slow moving. Does anyone have a contact or a way to help speed this along? Specifically, we are waiting on the bridge at the entrance to the Ottawa Golf Course. Dave noted that next Wednesday Dave Dysard will be around for a meeting and she can talk to him then.

-Wood County: The Buck and Lime City roundabout is moving along, and other roundabouts are being talked about, such as in Perrysburg at Carronade and Eckel Junction and at Roachton and 199.

-Kris asked that anyone involved in the design process of roundabouts etc. take into account the turn radius needed for snow plows and fire engines.

-It was asked what happened to the planned pedestrian bridge over Douglas across from the University. The Committee noted that they think the project fell through.

-The bridge over the Maumee River was mentioned as old enough to qualify for a historic designation, which will delay the project over it by approximately 18 months.

-In Monroe County, I-75 is still under construction in a part that is outside of the TMACOG region. Eventually, the part of I-75 in the southern part of the county will be worked on as well. Overall, bridge work in the county seems to be going well.

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#### **6. Member Roundtable and Other Business**

*--Staff and committee*

- a. The federal government extended the current transportation bill until October 29 with an additional \$8 billion. The new bill currently under consideration is called DRIVE, which would be a 6 year transportation bill with only 3 years of funding. There would be a \$100 billion gap as it currently stands. It made it through the Senate but not through the House. Dave noted that he doesn't think that the extension will be enough. Committee members believe a new bill may be put on hold until after the 2016 election due to politics.
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**7. Upcoming Events**

*--Staff and committee*

- a. 2015 Conference on Freight, September 14-16, 2015, Hilton Cincinnati Netherland Plaza , see [www.ohiofreight.org](http://www.ohiofreight.org)
- b. Passenger Rail Forum will be in October but the date has yet to be determined.
- c. 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Central Union Terminal, September 22
- d. 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Lake Shore Limited, weekend of October 31

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**8. Adjourn**

<p><b><u>SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS:</u></b> Planning Committee— 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays at 1:00 p.m. 2015: Oct 20, Dec 15</p>
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