



**TMACOG TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 1, 2018**

Voting Members in Attendance: Edgar Avila, James Bagdonas, John Crandall, Keith Earley, Ken Fallows, Jim Gee, Mike Gramza, Ray Huber, Tom Kovacik, Neil Munger, John Musteric, Ron Myers, Tim Porter, Mary Ellen Poturalski

Other Interested Parties in Attendance: Kevin Aller, Eddie Chue, Shaun Robinson, Kathy Streng

TMACOG Staff in Attendance: Tim Brown, Lance Dasher, Dana Doubler, David Gedeon, Lisa Householder, Austin Mack, Gilda Mitchell, Roger Streiffert

Call to Order – Chair Keith Earley brought the meeting to order with introductions around the room.

Approval of Minutes – A motion was made by Mary Ellen Poturalski and seconded by Jim Gee to approve the June 6, 2018 meeting minutes; the motion passed unanimously.

Financial (Expense) Report – Dave Gedeon presented the expense reports for, July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018. The financial report showed 100% of the budget has been completed with 79.27% expended. A motion was made by John Crandall and seconded by Edgar Avila to approve the expense report as presented; the motion passed unanimously.

Lucas County Highway Traffic Safety – Lt. Shaun Robinson spoke about his observations and how he would like to improve the safety of the roadways in the area. Lt. Robinson said that in 2017 there were 55 crashes and 59 deaths and in 2018 to date there have been 16 crashes and 17 deaths. Lt. Robinson feels that enforcement, education, and engineering are the three key factors in helping to improve roadway safety.

2045 Plan/FY 2018-2021 TIP Air Quality Conformity – Dave Gedeon reported to council that based on FHWA guidance dated April 23, 2018, TMACOG staff was required to perform a conformity analysis for the 2045 Plan and the FY 2018-2021 TIP. A conformity determination was not required when the Plan and TIP were approved but a recent federal court ruling put the requirement back in place. TMACOG and 81 other MPO's across the country must demonstrate conformity with the 1997 ozone standard. The analysis has been completed and the Plan and the TIP meet the conformity budgets for hydrocarbons (HC) and for nitrogen oxide (NOx). A motion was made by Mary Ellen Poturalski and seconded by Tim Porter to approve the Air Quality Conformity as presented; the motion passed unanimously.

Multimodal Needs Assessment – Dana Doubler presented the Multimodal Needs Assessment at the June meeting. The completed document is posted on the TMACOG website and the Transportation Council is being asked to approve the report. A motion was made by Ken Fallows and seconded by Tom Kovacik to approve the Multimodal Needs Assessment as presented; the motion passed unanimously.

Establishment of Autonomous Vehicle Steering Committee – Dave Gedeon reported that TMACOG received a letter from AAA, the University of Toledo and TARTA requesting that the agency create and facilitate an Autonomous Vehicle Steering Committee. The council operating procedures state the council chair is authorized to appoint additional subcommittees on an ad hoc basis as may be desirable to carry out the mission and purpose of the council. In response to the formal request, the matter is brought before the council to create the desired subcommittee. A motion was made by Shelley Papenfuse and seconded by John Musteric to approve the Autonomous Vehicle Steering Committee; the motion passed unanimously.

Amendment to Transportation Council Operating Procedures – Dave Gedeon explained to the committee that at the June Board of Trustees meeting, the board approved standard language for all agency operating procedures concerning a quorum and clarifying that members must be physically present to vote on action items. In addition to that item, language is also being proposed to allow members to have a designated alternate that can vote in the absence of the member. Jim Bagdonas suggested that under the quorum section that the language include a committee member or their alternate to count toward the quorum. A motion was made by Jim Bagdonas and seconded by Tim Porter to approve the changes to the operating procedures with the addition of the quorum language; the motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment Period – There were no public comments presented at this time.

Standing and Ad Hoc Committee Reports

Transportation Council Standing Committee Reports:

TIP – Ed O'Reilly was unable to attend the meeting. Lance Dasher reported on the TIP amendment.

Lance presented TIP Amendment #9 to the Transportation Council for approval. The amendment modifies three projects at the request of Lucas County (Toledo Harbor Lighthouse – reduction in scope, Kilburn Road Bike Lanes – splits project into 3 phases, and Bancroft St. resurfacing – moved ahead a fiscal year). These projects utilize TMACOG managed funds. A motion was made by Mary Ellen Poturalski and seconded by John Crandall to approve the amendment as presented; the motion passed unanimously.

Pedestrian & Bikeways – Ed O'Reilly was unable to attend the meeting. Lance Dasher stated that the committee met on July 10. They discussed the success of Bike Month. Another thing that was discussed was the 2045 Plan update. The non-motorized portion of the plan is something that the ped/bike committee will review. They discussed a bike and brainstorm event that could be used to educate elected officials in certain areas. We Are Traffic will be spearheading this effort along with TMACOG.

Freight – Ray Huber reported that the committee met last week. They had a guest speaker, Scott Greneth from Truck Specialized Parking Services Inc.

Planning – Ron Myers reported that the committee met on June 19. They focused on performance measures on the NHS on the ODOT targets. The other major focus is the 2020 update of the 2045 Transportation Plan. They are in the process of expanding the committee to create a task force.

System Performance and Monitoring – Andy Langenderfer was unable to attend the meeting. Lisa Householder noted that the July meeting was cancelled, and their next meeting is September 10. They will have a report at the October Transportation Council meeting.

Public Transit – Shelley Papenfuse reported that the committee will meet on August 22.

Passenger Rail – Tim Porter reported that the committee will meet later in August. The rail study from Ann Arbor to Traverse City was a bit too far along to add in a Toledo connection. The money that was set aside for that study was rolled over into the new fiscal year and will be used for another project.

Major Project Updates/Other Committees:

Major Projects – Mike Gramza reported that the Waterville Bridge will open tomorrow. The piece of I -75 from Dorr St. to South was recently sold to ES Wagner and work should start soon. The second part from South to Wales will sell in February.

Vice President's Report – Dave reported on several items:

TMACOG has been working with TARTA to modify an existing FY 2019 CMAQ project for bus replacements to fund the autonomous electric vehicle project. For each CMAQ project that is approved for funding, the MPO must submit an eligibility request to document the project scope, funding, and calculate the emission savings attributed to the project. Once submitted, the request is reviewed and either approved or denied by the applicable funding agency. In this case, the eligibility request was submitted to ODOT Central office for review by ODOT, FHWA

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and FTA. ODOT and FHWA Ohio and very supportive of the project, FTA has denied the eligibility. FTA stated that “While electric buses are generally eligible for CMAQ funding, FTA programs are not eligible for procuring autonomous vehicles for revenue service at this time; this includes funds transferred to FTA.” Conversation with FTA are taking place to resolve the issue.

House Transportation and Infrastructure Chairman Bill Shuster (R-PA), released a broad proposal this week that seeks to provide short- and long-term solvency for the Highway Trust Fund (HTF) and make other changes to federal transportation policy. The purpose of the draft is to raise some essential issues and introduce potential solutions. Some highlights include an increase in fuel taxes until 2028 when they would zero out, new taxes on other transportation items, and pilots and studies looking at how to achieve long-term HTF solvency.

The Ohio Conference on Freight will be held on August 15-17 in Cincinnati. This is the second year that the event has been coordinated outside of TMACOG. Registration is still open and can be completed online at www.ohiofreight.org

TMACOG will be working with the U.S. Census Bureau through the Participant Statistical Areas Program (PSAP) to locally review the boundaries for census tracts, block groups, and census designated places (CDPs). The Census Bureau will make recommendations for changes to census geographies and those changes will be reviewed locally for appropriateness. This will take about a year to a year and a half to complete.

Roundtable – Tim Porter mentioned that the Rail Forum is tentatively planned for October 15.

Upcoming events:

- **TMACOG Tech: Tools and Rules for Managing Meetings** – Wednesday, October 10, 2018, 8:30 am – 10:30 am, MLK Plaza Grand Lobby
- **2019 TMACOG General Assembly** – Monday, January 28, 2019, 8:00 am – 1:15 pm, Holiday Inn French Quarter, Perrysburg
- **TMACOG Transportation Summit** – Friday, March 29, 2019 from 8:00 am – 2:00 pm, The Premier

Next Meeting/Adjournment – The next meeting will be September 5, 2018.