



Lake Erie West

REGIONAL COUNCIL

Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, June 3, 2026

Submitted for approval on August 5, 2026

Members Present: Joe Cappel, Jon Eckel, Jon Gochenour, Matt Griggs, Tim Grosjean, Mike Hampton, Mike Hill, Kevin Laughlin, Allyson Murray, Mick Murray, Rob Nash, Doug Parrish, Joe Shaw, Paul Roman, Jason Sisco, Chris Smalley, Matt Sommerfeld, Brian Thomas, Tom Uhler; **Members Excused:** Janeen Abar, Rick Bailey, Josh Belnap, Josh Bender; **Other interested Parties:** Tom Kovacik, TAGNO; **Staff Present:** Dave Gedeon, Lisa Householder, Maeve Horn, Brendan McCauley, Sean Sammon, Sandy Spang, Nathan Springer, Stephen Yankyera, Jennifer Allen

Call to Order – The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) met on June 3, 2026, at 10 a.m. in the Lake Erie West Regional Council Boardroom. Joe Shaw called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. Introductions were made by everyone present.

Approval of Minutes – A ***motion*** was made by Mike Hampton and ***seconded*** by Chris Smalley to approve minutes from the May 6, 2026, meeting as submitted. ***The motion passed unanimously.***

FY2026-2029 TIP Modifications and Amendments – Lisa Householder, Lake Erie West's TIP program manager, presented the following TIP modification and TIP Administrative Modification Summary, copies of which were included in the agenda packet.

TIP Amendment #7: This amendment impacts **ODOT District 2 (PID 96482) I-475 bridge over Monclova Road**. This amendment adds one project to the FY2026-2029 TIP. This project was active during a previous TIP cycle and is not included in the current FY2026-2029 TIP. The construction on the bridge is complete, but there is a final reimbursement of \$7,500 that needs to be paid to the railroad. This project does not utilize Lake Erie West-managed funds. A ***motion*** was made by Allyson Murray and ***seconded*** by Paul Roman to approve TIP Amendment #7. ***The motion passed unanimously.***

TIP Administrative Modifications Summary – This summary included a list of the administrative modifications completed by staff during the month of May. The list presented consisted of 34 projects that did not require TAC review and approval. The spreadsheet containing details about the staff modifications will be emailed to the TAC members.

Ohio Statewide Performance Measure Targets for 2026-2029 (PM 2 & 3) – Mrs. Householder presented the TAC with a letter from the ODOT Division of Transportation regarding their proposed federal PM 2 and PM 3 transportation performance targets for 2026-2029, a copy of which was included in the agenda packet. A ***motion*** was made by Jason Sisco and ***seconded*** by Matt Griggs to accept the proposed targets and recommend them for approval by the MPO Policy Board. ***The motion passed unanimously.*** Once Lake Erie West has received the proposed targets for Michigan, the TAC will be asked to take action on them as well.

Active Transportation Plan – Sean Sammon, Lake Erie West's transportation planning program manager, discussed the proposed 2026-2030 Regional Active Transportation Plan. A link to the draft plan was sent to the TAC prior to the meeting. A 1-page fact sheet about the plan was

included in the agenda packet. A ***motion*** was made by Chris Smalley and ***seconded*** by Paul Roman to accept the draft plan and to recommend it for adoption by the MPO Policy board. ***The motion passed unanimously.***

Regional Trail Maintenance Assessment Project – Mr. Sammon gave an update on the regional trail maintenance study. Verdantas will conduct a trail assessment on existing multi-use paths and water trail access points on the following regional trail networks: the Chessie Circle Trail, University/Parks Trail, Slippery Elm Trail, North Coast Inland Trail (NCIT), Riverside East Trail, and Wabash Cannon Trails (North and South Forks). The study will identify maintenance needs and prioritize capital improvements across the region over the next 20 years.

STBG/CMAQ Scoring and Ranking Ad Hoc Committee – Solicitation for the STBG and CMAQ programs opened on May 18th. The deadline to submit project applications is August 7th. The following members expressed an interest in serving on an ad hoc committee that will score and rank the applications: Rick Bailey, Tim Grosjean, Mick Murray, Doug Parrish, Paul Roman, Joe Shaw, Matt Sommerfeld, and Brian Thomas. A ***motion*** was made by Chris Smalley and ***seconded*** by Tom Uhler to recommend to the MPO Policy Board the appointment of the above TAC members to the ad hoc committee. ***The motion passed unanimously.*** Applications will be scored and ranked at the end of August, before the September 2nd TAC meeting.

Carbon Reduction Program – The current Surface Transportation Authorization Bill expires on September 30th. Congress has proposed the Build 250 America Act, which could potentially eliminate the Carbon Reduction Program that was established under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA). If the bill passes, CRP funding may not be available moving forward. This would affect 10 CRP-obligated projects programmed between FY2027 and FY2030 that would need to be shuffled under a different funding source (CMAQ, STBG, or TAP) or money would need to be borrowed to proceed with these projects. Future STBG, TAP, and CMAQ funding levels are unknown at this time. Matt Sommerfeld suggested staff conduct CMAQ eligibility determinations now for the two FY2027 CRP-funded projects so there are no delays in case funding shifts to this source.

Transportation Department Update – Staff reported on the May Bike Month activities. RailNation 2026, a passenger rail conference, is coming to Toledo and will take place at the train station October 2-4. Brendan McCauley, a new field data specialist, and the interns who will be conducting traffic counts this summer were introduced to the TAC.

Roundtable – A discussion ensued regarding the promotion of the July 14th Union Pacific Big Boy train visit. Sandy Spang noted that the train's visit is receiving a lot of press. The event organizers expect approx. 60,000 attendees and are working through crowd control, safety, and sanitary logistics. The train route will include Fostoria. Doug Parrish announced Metroparks's Watershed Weekend event scheduled to take place June 11-14 along the Glass City Riverwalk.

Public Comment – There were no representatives from the public present for comments.

Adjournment/Next Meeting – The next TAC meeting is scheduled to take place on August 5th at 10 a.m. A ***motion*** was made by Chris Smalley and ***seconded*** by Matt Griggs to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

Joseph Shaw, Chair
Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)
Lake Erie West Regional Council

Lisa Householder
TIP Program Manager
Lake Erie West Regional Council

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