



Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, May 6, 2026

Submitted for approval on June 3, 2026

Members Present: Janeen Abar, Rick Bailey, Josh Belnap, Josh Bender, Joe Cappel, Jon Eckel, Tim Grosjean, Mike Hampton, Mike Hill, Kevin Laughlin, Allyson Murray, Mick Murray, Rob Nash, Joe Shaw, Paul Roman, Jason Sisco, Chris Smalley, Matt Sommerfeld, Brian Thomas, Tom Uhler; **Members Excused:** Jon Gochenour, Matt Griggs, Doug Parrish; **Other interested Parties:** Tom Kovacik, TAGNO; **Staff Present:** Dave Gedeon, Lisa Householder, Yaw Kwarteng, Raj Nagisetty, Sean Sammon, Marissa Bechstein, Jennifer Allen

Call to Order – The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) met on May 6, 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 Tom Uhler and **seconded** by Mick Murray to approve minutes from the March 4, 2026, meeting as submitted. **The motion passed unanimously.**

FY2026-2029 TIP Modifications and Amendments – Lisa Householder, program manager at Lake Erie West, presented the following TIP modification, a copy of which was included in the agenda packet.

TIP Modification #4: This modification impacts the following projects in the FY2026-2029 TIP at the request of the project sponsors. The projects do not utilize TMACOG-managed funds. A *motion* was made by Allyson Murray and **seconded** by Mike Hampton to approve TIP Modification #4. **The motion passed unanimously.**

- 1. ODOT District 2 (PID 115418):** Addresses the Detailed Design portion of the project which is moving from FY2026 to FY2027. The overall project estimate will remain unchanged.
- 2. ODOT District 2 (PID 11704):** Adds \$5,290 to the Preliminary Engineering phase in FY2026, which increased the overall cost estimate of the project to \$34,111,928.
- 3. TARTA (PID 118584):** Addresses three transit subawards within the project for FY2027. TARTA is adjusting its federal funding approach to utilize broader eligibility categories, improving flexibility, and simplifying grant management for ongoing work. This project does not utilize TMACOG-managed funds.

TIP Administrative Modifications Summary – Mrs. Householder presented a summary of administrative modifications that were completed by staff from March 2026 to April 2026, a copy of which was included in the agenda packet. The list of projects presented did not require TAC review and approval. The spreadsheet containing details about the staff modifications will be emailed to the TAC members.

Regional Housing Study – Marissa Bechstein, Lake Erie West’s economic development program manager, announced the kick-off last week of a regional housing study that will be conducted by Lake Erie West. The study will examine the connections between housing, workforce mobility, and transportation and will explore how housing availability, employment opportunities, and transportation systems interact across a 6-county region, including Lucas, Monroe, Ottawa, Sandusky, Seneca, and Wood counties. Data is currently being collected. This summer’s initiatives will include a stakeholder engagement process, workshops and focus groups, and a regional commuter survey. Data will be analyzed and a final report on findings will be released in the fall. Anyone interested in serving on the Stakeholder Steering Committee was asked to contact Marissa Bechstein: bechstein@lakeeriewest.org.

Bike Month Update – Raj Nagisetty, Lake Erie West data resources program manager, reported Bike Month activities. A kick-off event took place on Saturday, May 2nd. Other activities scheduled this month include National Walk and Bike to School Day on May 6th and May 15th, EcoFest on May 9th, Outdoor Discovery Day on May 16th, and Ride of Silence on May 20th.

FY 2028-2031 TIP Development Schedule – Mrs. Householder briefly reviewed ODOT’s Draft Ohio STIP Development Schedule, a copy of which was included in the agenda.

Transportation Department Update

Draft Financial Report – Mrs. Householder presented a draft financial report, a copy of which was included in the agenda packet. The report will also be emailed TAC members.

TIP Monitoring Meetings – Meetings will take place at ODOT District 2 offices on May 7 from 9 a.m. to noon. Notifications were sent to TAC members. However, several individuals did not receive the notice due to issues with their email server.

STBG and CMAQ Solicitation – STBG and CMAQ program solicitation opens May 18th. The deadline to submit applications is August 7th. Available funding for program years 2031 and 2032 includes approximately \$20 million in STBG funds and \$5 million in CMAQ funds. CMAQ applications will require a resolution be approved by municipalities’ elected officials. At the next TAC meeting in June, an ad hoc committee will be appointed to review and score the applications. That scoring meeting will take place in August, after all STBG and CMAQ applications have been submitted. Anyone interested in serving on that committee or who would like to discuss potential projects for their community was asked to reach out to Dave Gedeon, transportation director: gedeon@lakeeriewest.org, or Lisa Householder, householder@lakeeriewest.org.

Functional Classification – Updates on roadway classification changes are anticipated by ODOT in June. Mrs. Householder will post a map of federal-aid eligible roads on the Lake Erie West website.

Lake Erie West Data Team – Lake Erie West now has a dedicated team to collect and analyze data. Raj Nagisetty is the program manager, and he supervises three data specialists. Three interns have been hired for the summer. The interns will be sent out in teams to conduct traffic counts. A field data specialist has been hired and will conduct traffic counts year-round, as weather permits. Traffic counts will now be conducted in Ottawa, Sandusky, and Seneca counties. Lake Erie West is working on establishing a 3-county RTPO consisting of these counties. Communities in need of data or traffic counts were asked to reach out to Mr. Nagisetty: nagisetty@lakeeriewest.org.

Draft Active Transportation Plan – This plan is currently available on the Lake Erie West website for public comment. The TAC will vote on the draft plan at the June 3rd meeting.

Roundtable – There was no roundtable discussion at this meeting.

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 June 3rd at 10:00 a.m. A ***motion*** was made by Chris Smalley at 10:34 a.m. to adjourn the meeting. The chair adjourned the meeting.

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

Lisa Householder
Program Manager
Lake Erie West Regional Council

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