Memo

Date: February 25, 2021

To: Joe Shaw, Chair
Mike Pniewski, Vice Chair
Members of the Transportation Council

From: David Gedeon, Vice President of Transportation

Subject: **TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL REPORT FOR MARCH 3, 2021 MEETING**

This report is an update of staff activity and background on selected agenda items for our next Transportation Council meeting to be held on Wednesday, March 3, 2021. The agenda and meeting materials are available at https://tmacog.org/councils-committees/transportation-council. If you would like a hard copy or have any problems accessing any of the information, please contact Jodi Cole (ext. 1120). If you have any questions or concerns on any agenda items, please contact me (ext. 1125).

TMACOG Draft FY 2022 Annual Work Program (Agenda III) – The draft of the annual work program is being presented to Transportation Council for approval. The FY 2022 major work products are listed on a two-page summary provided on the Council webpage. Individual work element sections have been reviewed and approved by the Transportation Committees that have met in the past couple months. The draft document is due to ODOT on March 5, 2021 and the final Annual Work Program document is due on May 7, 2021.

TMACOG Self-Certification (Agenda IV - for Approval) – Each year, TMACOG must certify that the transportation planning process complies with federal regulations and laws pertaining to Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO's). The resolution lists the main federal planning regulations that require a TIP, a Long Range Transportation Plan, an Annual Work Program, Community Involvement program, and other elements of the MPO process. It also lists the laws and regulations that MPO's must comply with including the Environmental Justice Executive Order, Disadvantage and Minority Business Enterprise Participation regulations, Americans with Disabilities, Clean Air, and Civil Rights laws. To the best of our knowledge and appropriate to the scope and complexity of transportation issues in our area, the TMACOG planning process complies with these laws and regulations.

Transit Safety Targets (TARTA & Lake Erie Transit) (Agenda V – for approval) – The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) requires that operators of public transit systems receiving federal funds through the Urbanized Area Formula Grants develop Public Transit Agency Safety Plans (PTASP) that contain safety performance targets. The requirement further states that performance targets and plans must be coordinated with area Metropolitan Planning Organizations that are also required to approve performance targets and integrate those targets and performance plans into their planning documents. Transit providers must establish by mode seven SPTs in four categories:

- Fatalities: Total number of fatalities reported to National Transit Database (NTD) and rate per total vehicle revenue miles (VRM) by mode.
- Injuries: Total number of injuries reported to NTD and rate per total VRM by mode.
- Safety Events: Total number of safety events reported to NTD and rate per total VRM by mode.
- System Reliability: Mean distance between major mechanical failures by mode.

These targets are now brought before the Transportation Council for both TARTA and Lake Erie Transit.

Support Letter for TARTA Legislative Language in Ohio HB 74 (Agenda VI – for approval) – The Public Transit Committee reviewed language inserted into Ohio HB 74 (FY 2022-2023 Transportation Budget) that would allow additional political subdivisions to join a public transit authority if a majority of the current political subdivision adopt resolution support the addition. The committee supports legislative language to permit the addition of members to a transit service area by a simple majority of the current members to then appear on the ballot and drafted a letter to formalize that support. The letter of support is now being presented to the Transportation Council for approval.

Opposition to Ohio HB 63 (Eminent Domain) (Agenda VII – for approval) - HB 74 is a replacement bill to HB 476 which seeks to amend Ohio law regarding eminent domain. The TMACOG Pedestrian and Bikeways Committee opposes this bill and a letter from the committee was drafted stating their opposition. The issue is now before the Transportation Council as a step to make this an official position of TMACOG.

Public Comment Period (Agenda VIII) – Comments from the public.

Standing and Ad Hoc Committee Reports (Agenda IX) – From Committee chairs

FY 2021-2024 TIP Amendment #4 (for approval) – TIP Amendment #4 would modify PID 105889 (LUC US 23 11.75 Interchange: Reconstruction SR 51 interchange over US 23 in City of Sylvania) to add funding to the PE Environmental & Detailed Design phases of the project (removing those funds from the construction phase). This project utilizes TMACOG managed funding but no new funds are being added to the project.

Vice President's Report (Agenda X – for discussion) – In addition to the above agenda topics and information covered in the Committee Reports, the following are other items members of Transportation Council should be aware of.

- Through the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSAA), state DOT's and MPO's will be receiving additional roadway funding. MPO's across Ohio will receive a total of $49,328,700 to be suballocated according to the statewide distribution formula. In total, TMACOG will receive an additional $3,441,117 in funding available on July 1, 2021 and must be obligated by September 30, 2024.

- TRAC will be moving the I-475 widening and US 20A Interchange project back into FY 2022 from FY 2023. This will put the project back on its original construction schedule. Additionally, TRAC is accepting project funding applications from March 1 to March 26, 2021.

- TARTA and TMACOG are finalizing the Locally Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan. The purpose of the plan is to identify community resources for transportation and facilitate coordination amongst providers. The final plan will be going through the TMACOG and TARTA approval processes in the next couple months.

- The 2021 Transportation Summit will be held virtually on March 26th. The event will feature a panel discussion on the transportation impacts of COVID-19 and the annual construction update.