

TMACOG Smart Transportation & Innovative Mobility Agenda & Notes

Thursday, May 8, 2025, 10:00 PM, in-person and via video conference

Attendees: Laurie Adams, Meg Adams, Andrew Bremer, Joe Cappel, Mike Gramza, Bob Kazmierczak, Kali Sawaya, Rick Bailey, London Mitchell, Peter Voorhees, David Gedeon (TMACOG), Roger Streiffert (TMACOG)

Welcome and introductions – Roger Streiffert, TMACOG

1. TARTA Mobility meets Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Innovation: Observations on modern community building – Kali Sawaya, Transit Planning Project Manager, TARTA

Kali Sawaya from TARTA presented on Bus Rapid Transit and transit innovation. Kali's presentation covered the need for better public transit, Bus Rapid Transit basic components, and a comparison of BRT with various rail-based transit modes. She talked about the importance of innovation and smart technology in BRT, in both vehicles and infrastructure. Intelligent amenities (signage, shelters) and innovative vehicle designs and operations meet public expectations for modern mobility. Kali also talked about innovations at TARTA including EZfare and hybrid vehicles.

2. Smart transportation-related projects and initiatives in TMACOG's 2055 Plan — Roger Streiffert, TMACOG

There was not enough time to cover this topic at the meeting. Included in TMACOG's 2055 Plan are many smart transportation related projects and initiatives including 36 roundabout projects (which have been around a long time, but are still considered innovative in our region), four road diet projects, and several traffic-calming projects. There are also several TARTA innovative transportation projects including signal prioritization for transit and EMS. The updated 2025-26 TMACOG Transportation Legislative Agenda also contains an entire section of recommendations on smart transportation.

3. Miscellaneous topics for discussion/member announcements – All Attendees

Meg Adams, from the Regional Growth Partnership (RGP), has taken over the Northwest Ohio Advanced Air Mobility (AAM) group from Jim Wyse.

Meeting Adjourned

Upcoming 2025 STIM Advisory Group meetings: Thursday, August 14, 2025, 10:00 AM Thursday, November 13, 2025, 10:00 AM

Meetings will be held in the TMACOG boardroom with a video conference option.