

Approval of the Completion Report for Transportation Planning FY 2026 – STAFF REPORT

LAKE ERIE WEST REGIONAL COUNCIL MPO POLICY BOARD AGENDA, SEPTEMBER 23, 2026

Lake Erie West Regional Council is required to submit a Completion Report to the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) documenting work accomplished in the previous year's Annual Work Program and is due in September of each year. As a condition for receiving federal transportation planning funds, ODOT further requires that the completion report be approved by the MPO Policy Board.

Highlights of our FY 2026 Work Program (July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026) activities include:

- Continued efforts in support of a free-flow connection to Columbus through the US 23 Connect study and championed funding in the Ohio Statewide Budget create engineering options for a bypass between US 23 and I-71.
- Scored, ranked and awarded \$23,200,000 in funding for Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality (CMAQ), Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) and Carbon reduction Program (CRP) projects programmed in FY 2029-2030. A solicitation for Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) and Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality (CMAQ) funding was initiated in FY 2026.
- Completed and adopted the Lake Erie West Active Transportation Plan.
- Contracted and began a Regional Trail Maintenance Study to assess current conditions and plan for future investments.
- Held the Ohio Conference on Freight from July 29-31, 2025 in Toledo with roughly 250 attendees. The conference included a site visit to the Gordie Howe International Bridge and customs facility; a tour of the Port of Toledo by excursion boat; and sessions and speakers from all modes of freight transportation.
- Began work to update the Lake Erie West Freight Plan with commodity flow data.
- Participated in Safe Routes to School planning efforts with walk audits, school engagement, bike fix-it events, distributed the Bike User Map, and promoted alternative transportation during Bike Month.
- Supported efforts to establish or improve passenger rail connections between Cleveland-Toledo-Detroit and between Cleveland-Columbus-Dayton-Cincinnati through the Corridor ID program.
- Coordinated efforts locally to update the functional classification network and provided modifications to the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT).
- Approved performance measure targets for safety, roadway and bridge conditions, emission reduction, peak hour excessive delay and non-single occupancy vehicles.
- Completed a jurisdictional comprehensive crash report for the City of Maumee and began work to update the Regional Roundabouts Report.
- Provided data, maps and/or information to numerous members and community partners including: the City of Toledo; villages of Whitehouse, North Baltimore, Ottawa Hills and Hoytville; Jackson and Whiteford Townships, Lucas, Wood, Ottawa, Sandusky, and Seneca counties, TARTA, ODOT, Regional Growth Partnership, Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority, Area Office on Aging; and numerous others.
- Performed traffic and pedestrian and bicycle counts throughout the planning area.
- Established a Data Department to provide more comprehensive maps data and data dashboards to members and staff.
- Held the TMACOG Transportation Summit on March 27, 2026 focused on transportation technology and the Lake Erie West Transportation, Workforce, and Housing Study.

**A RESOLUTION OF THE
LAKE ERIE WEST REGIONAL COUNCIL
APPROVING THE COMPLETION REPORT
FOR THE FY 2026 ANNUAL WORK PROGRAM OF
TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ACTIVITIES**

WHEREAS, the Toledo Metropolitan Area Council of Governments (now known as Lake Erie West Regional Council) is a voluntary association of local governments and non-governmental partners in northwest Ohio and southeast Michigan, organized on May 31, 1968, and established under Chapter 167 of the Ohio Revised Code and the Michigan Public Act No. 7 (EX-SESS), and has carried out comprehensive metropolitan and regional planning since that date; and

WHEREAS, the Lake Erie West Regional Council is designated as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) by the Governor through the Ohio Department of Transportation in cooperation with local elected officials and is authorized to carry out the continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive transportation planning process (Process) for the Toledo area that results in plans and programs that consider all transportation modes and supports community development and social goals; and

WHEREAS, the MPO has been designated by the U.S. Department of Transportation and the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) to direct, coordinate, and administer the Process in the Toledo area as mandated by the Congress in Titles 23 and 49 U.S.C.; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (P.L. 114-94), Lake Erie West, as a Transportation Management Area, is carrying out its planning responsibilities under the applicable provisions of Federal law; and

WHEREAS, the federal regulations published as 23 CFR 450 require that the urban transportation planning process shall include activities to support the development and implementation of a Regional Transportation Plan and a Transportation Improvement Program and subsequent project development activities to the degree appropriate for the area; and

WHEREAS, approval of the Lake Erie West Regional Council's FY 2026 Work Program was granted by ODOT effective July 1, 2025; and

WHEREAS, a cumulative progress report related to the Transportation Work Program is required to be submitted to ODOT in September 2026; and

WHEREAS, as a condition for receiving federal transportation planning funds, ODOT further requires that the Completion Report be approved by the MPO Policy Board; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Lake Erie West Regional Council MPO Policy Board that:

THAT the Lake Erie West Regional Council hereby approves the Completion Report for the FY 2026 Annual Work Program of Transportation Planning Activities.

Adopted by the MPO Policy Board on September 23, 2026.

Yeas _____, Nays _____, Abstain _____.

Date of Adoption: _____

Mike Pniewski, Chair
MPO Policy Board, Lake Erie West Regional Council

Attest:

I, Jodi Cole, Lake Erie West Regional Council Administrative Assistant, do hereby certify that this is a true and accurate copy of Resolution 2026-26, adopted on _____

Jodi Cole, Administrative Assistant