



**TMACOG TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL  
MEETING MINUTES  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7, 2018**

**Call to Order** – Vice Chair Jim Bagdonas brought the meeting to order with introductions around the room.

**Approval of Minutes** – A motion was made by Mary Ellen Poturalski and seconded by Ken Fallows to approve the February 7, 2018 meeting minutes; the motion passed unanimously.

**Financial (Expense) Report** – Dave Gedeon presented the expense reports for, July 1, 2017 through January 27, 2018. The financial report showed 57.47% of the budget has been completed with 41.61% expended. A motion was made by Ken Fallows and seconded by Mary Ellen Poturalski to approve the expense report as presented; the motion passed unanimously.

**Christopher Van Newhouse, ODOT MPO Liaison to TMACOG** – Dave Gedeon introduced Christopher to Transportation Council. He is the primary point of contact between TMACOG and ODOT Central Office.

**TARTA Sales Tax / Downtown Transit Hub Update** – Jim Gee discussed the proposed switch from a property tax to a countywide sales tax and the transit study that TARTA has underway. He also discussed the recently announced location of the downtown transit hub.

**Toledo Downtown Transportation Study** – Doug Stephens gave a brief presentation on the Downtown Transit Study.

**Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBGP) Solicitation** – Lance Dasher discussed the upcoming STBGP solicitation for funding. TMACOG has roughly \$12M of STBGP available for FY 2023 & FY 2024 and will be requesting the applications be submitted by June 29, 2018. The TIP Committee approved a few changes to the application, including PCR, Safety and V/C.

**Public Comment Period** – There were no public comments presented at this time.

**Standing and Ad Hoc Committee Reports**

**Transportation Council Standing Committee Reports:**

TIP – Ed O'Reilly reported on the amendment below.

Ed explained that Amendment #6 modifies eight projects at the request of TARTA for the Downtown Transit Hub. These projects do not utilize TMACOG managed funds. A motion was made by Joe Cappel and seconded by Tom Kovacik to approve the amendment as presented; the motion passed unanimously.

Pedestrian & Bikeways – Ed O'Reilly stated that the committee hadn't met so there was nothing new to report.

Freight – Ray Huber stated that there was nothing new to report.

Planning – Ron Myers was unable to attend the meeting. Dana Doubler reported that the committee met on February 20 and discussed the multimodal needs assessment. The next meeting is April 17.

System Performance and Monitoring – Andy Langenderfer reported that the committee discussed the congestion management report, and the FHWA local road focus approach. The next meeting is May 7.

Public Transit – Shelley Papenfuse was unable to attend the meeting. Dana Doubler reported that Jim Gee gave the TARTA Sales Tax presentation to the committee at the last meeting.

Passenger Rail – Patrick Miller was unable to attend the meeting. Roger Streiffert reported that the committee is looking to fill the vice chair position. They discussed the AWP, the operating procedures, and webpages. He

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also informed Transportation Council that there is \$10,000 in the TMACOG budget to help with passenger rail initiatives in the region.

**Major Project Updates/Other Committees:**

Major Projects – Mike Gramza had nothing new to report. He will be giving a more detailed report at the upcoming Transportation Summit.

**Vice President’s Report** – Dave reported on several items:

Following the February Transportation Council meeting, the TMACOG Executive Committee approved a resolution of support for local authorities to levy an additional \$5 motor vehicle license tax.

TMACOG has signed a letter of intent with NOACA to work collaboratively and identify mutually beneficial opportunities arising out of the Hyperloop Transportation System proposed from Cleveland, through Toledo, to Chicago. The next step is to establish appropriate roles and responsibilities of each agency. NOACA announced their partnership with Hyperloop Transportation Technologies (HTT) to produce a feasibility study that is anticipated to take between six and nine months to complete. Currently, HTT and NOACA have raised \$1.2 million to finance the study. This is one of two Hyperloop routes proposed in Ohio. The other would extend from Pittsburgh, through Columbus, to Chicago.

TMACOG has hired Austin Mack, Transportation Public Administration Associate, to fill the position previously held by Christine Connell. Austin has a Public Administration degree from Michigan State University. His work responsibilities will include the Transportation Legislative Agenda, Transportation Summit, and the Gohio Commute program.

Recent railroad trade magazines are reporting that the CSX facility North Baltimore will remain open as a block-swapping facility for Chicago interchange traffic and to serve local intermodal traffic. The facility was intended to be discontinued under previous CEO E. Hunter Harrison who passed away in December of 2017. The new CEO Ed Harris also indicated that CSX will take a very aggressive approach to selling surplus real estate and lines.

The first draft of the Transportation AWP was submitted to ODOT Central Office on March 2<sup>nd</sup>. After receiving comments from ODOT, FHWA, and FTA, final changes will be made, and the final AWP will be sent to ODOT by the May 4<sup>th</sup> deadline.

Upcoming events:

- **2018 Transportation Summit** – March 16, 2018, The Premier, Toledo, 8:00 am – 2 pm
- **TMACOG 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Party** – April 26, 2018, Martin Luther King Jr Plaza Grand Lobby, 3:30 pm – 6 pm
- **Train Day** – May 5, 2018, Martin Luther King Jr Plaza, 9:30 am – 4 pm
- **Bike Month** – Various events throughout the month of May.

**Next Meeting/Adjournment** – The next meeting will be April 4, 2018.