

# Memo

**Date:** July 30, 2018  
**To:** Keith Earley, Chair  
James Bagdonas, Vice Chair  
Members of the Transportation Council  
**From:** David Gedeon, Vice President of Transportation  
**Subject:** **TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL REPORT FOR AUGUST 1, 2018 MEETING**

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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, August 1, 2018. The agenda and meeting materials are available at [www.tmacog.org/Transportation/trancom.htm](http://www.tmacog.org/Transportation/trancom.htm). 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).

Financial Reports (Agenda III – for approval) – The financial report for fiscal year 2018 beginning July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018 is submitted for approval. With 100% of fiscal year 2018 completed, the overall program was under budget with 79.3% expended. The unused program funds will carry over to FY 2019.

Lucas County Highway Traffic Safety (Agenda IV – for information) – Lt. Shaun Robinson for the State Highway patrol will present efforts being undertaken to improve roadway safety.

2045 Plan/FY 2018-2021 TIP Air Quality Conformity (Agenda V – for approval) – Based on FHWA Guidance dated April 23, 2018, TMACOG staff was required to performing a conformity analysis for the 2045 Plan and the FY 2018-2021 TIP. A conformity determination was not required when the Plan and TIP were approved but a recent federal court ruling put the requirement back in place that TMACOG and 81 other MPO's across the country must demonstrate conformity with the 1997 ozone standard. The analysis has been completed and the Plan and the TIP meet the conformity budgets for hydrocarbons (HC) and for nitrogen oxide (NOx).

Multimodal Needs Assessment (Agenda VI – for approval) – Dana Doubler presented the Multimodal Needs Assessment at the June meeting. The completed document is posted on the TMACOG website and the Transportation Council is being asked to approve the report.

Establishment of Autonomous Vehicle Steering Committee (Agenda VII – for approval) – TMACOG received a letter from AAA, the University of Toledo and TARTA requesting the agency to create and facilitate an Autonomous Vehicle Steering Committee. The council operating procedures state the council chair is authorized to appoint additional subcommittees on an ad hoc basis as may be desirable to carry out the mission and purpose of the council. In response to the formal request, the matter is brought before the council to create the desired subcommittee.

Amendment to Transportation Council Operating Procedures (Agenda VIII – for approval) – At the June TMACOG Board of Trustees meeting, the board approved standard language for all agency operating procedures concerning a quorum and clarifying that members must be physically present to vote on action items. In addition to that item, language is also being proposed to allow members to have a designated alternate that can vote in the absence of the member. The modifications are submitted to council approval.

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

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

FY 2018-2021 TIP Amendment #9 (for approval) – TIP Amendment #9 is being presented to the Transportation Council for approval. The amendment modifies two projects at the request of Lucas County (Toledo Harbor Lighthouse – reduction in scope, and Kilburn Road Bike Lanes – splits project into 3 phases). Both projects utilize TMACOG managed funds.

Vice President’s Report (Agenda XI – 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.

- A. TMACOG has been working with TARTA to modify an existing FY 2019 CMAQ project for bus replacements to fund the autonomous electric vehicle project. For each CMAQ project that is approved for funding, the MPO must submit an eligibility request to documents the project scope, funding, and calculates the emission savings attributed to the project. Once submitted, the request reviewed and either approved or denied by the applicable funding agency. In this case, the eligibility request was submitted to ODOT Central office for review by ODOT, FHWA and FTA. ODOT and FHWA Ohio and very supportive of the project, FTA has denied the eligibility. FTA stated that “While electric buses are generally eligible for CMAQ funding, FTA programs are not eligible for procuring autonomous vehicles for revenue service at this time; this includes funds transferred to FTA.” Conversation with FTA are taking place in an attempt to resolve the issue.
- B. House Transportation and Infrastructure Chairman Bill Shuster (R-PA), who is retiring at the end of the current Congress, released a broad proposal this week that seeks to provide short- and long-term solvency for the Highway Trust Fund (HTF) and make other changes to federal transportation policy as well. The purpose of the draft is to raise some essential issues and introduce potential solutions. Some highlights include an increase in fuel taxes until 2028 when they would zero out, new taxes on other transportation items, and pilots and studies looking at how to achieve long-term HTF solvency.
- C. The Ohio Conference on Freight will be held on August 15-17 in Cincinnati. This is the second year that the event has been coordinated outside of TMACOG. Registration is still open and can be completed online at [www.ohiofreight.org](http://www.ohiofreight.org)
- D. TMACOG will be working with the U.S. Census Bureau through the Participant Statistical Areas Program (PSAP) to locally review the boundaries for census tracts, block groups and census designated places (CDPs). The Census Bureau will make recommendations for changes to census geographies and those changes will be reviewed locally for appropriateness.

Upcoming events:

- **TMACOG Tech: Tools and Rules for Managing Meetings** – Wednesday, October 10, 2018, 8:30 am – 10:30 am, MLK Plaza Grand Lobby
- **2019 TMACOG General Assembly** – Monday, January 28, 2019, 8:00 am – 1:15 pm, Holiday Inn French Quarter, Perrysburg
- **TMACOG Transportation Summit** – Friday, March 29, 2019 from 8:00 am – 2:00 pm at The Premier