



**Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting  
March 22, 2022  
ODOT District 11 Office – New Philadelphia, OH**

Meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. Chairman Mr. Tom Konst asked attendees to introduce themselves.

Mr. Fred Wachtel, P.E., P.S. motioned to approve the minutes. Ms. Lengler seconded the motion.

Mr. Josh Sliker informed attendees that OMEGA submitted more than 100 applications for the township stimulus program. Of those applications, two were approved. Those two projects are Jackson Township (Guernsey County), which was awarded \$130,000 for asphalt road overlay and Killbuck Township (Holmes County) was awarded \$30,900 for chip and seal.

Mr. Josey Rabare discussed the ODOT Township Sign Program, which encompasses six counties and eight townships within those counties that are eligible for up to \$50,000. The township representatives have to complete a learning module before applying. OMEGA is also going to assist with ball banking curves and complete crash maps for the townships.

Mr. Sliker, Mr. Rabare, and Ms. Jeannette Wierzbicki, P.E. provided an overview of the RTP Capital Allocation Program applications and proposed projects. Twelve applications in total were received, from all over the region, primarily in Tuscarawas County. There was a total of \$1.85 million in requests across all 12 applications with a total project cost of about \$17 million. The matching funds on the program were at 7 percent, with a leveraging ratio of 6.7 to 1. Grant funding available for the two-year period is \$1.144 million dollars. Of the 12 applications that were received 10 were bicycle pedestrian or buggy lane projects, one bridge replacement, one highway safety lighting, and three projects were not in the OMEGA plans. These three projects did not score particularly well, unfortunately, and ODOT would not see them in the best light as they were not included in a plan. Wierzbicki noted that there were three counties where we didn't get any classes from Guernsey, Harrison and Carroll counties.

Mr. Sliker provided an overview of the six recommended projects, as noted in the Program Summary sheet provided to attendees. Ms. Wierzbicki noted that scoring criteria may be altered in the future.

After discussion, the TAC made the decision to proceed with funding the six recommended projects. If the projects are successful, remaining funding could be allocated for the top scoring

of the three projects in the designated blue category. Motion was made by Mr. Wachtel, P.E., P.S. seconded by Ms. Lengler.

Mr. Rabare reviewed the OMEGA FY23 Work Plan, to include the development of the 2024-2027 Regional Transportation Improvement Plan (RTIP). Safe Routes to School Plans will also be included. Solutions will also be implemented to increase public transit ridership regionally. Access Ohio 2045 will also be implemented across the region.

Attendees then discussed the Columbus to Pittsburgh Corridor and the US Route 30 projects in relation to the Work Plan. A motion to accept and approve the Draft OMEGA FY 2023 Work Plan was made by Mr. Joe Bachman, P.E., P.S. seconded by Mr. Doug Bachman, P.E., P.S.

Ms. Wierzbicki then reviewed Senate Bill 277 and asked attendees for thoughts and opinions. As a whole, the group voiced concerns regarding funding in relation to the proposed legislation.

Ms. Wierzbicki reminded attendees of the OMEGA Annual Membership Meeting on March 29, 2022 in Coshocton County and opened the floor for additional announcements.

Mr. Konst adjourned the meeting at 3:00 p.m. Next meeting is on June 16, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.