



Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting

March 16, 2023

Meeting was called to order at 10:00 am by Chairman Mr. Tom Konst. Mr. Konst asked attendees to introduce themselves.

Mr. Fred Wachtel, P.E., P.S. motioned to approve the minutes. Mr. Joe Bachman, P.E., P.S. seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Mr. Nate Brugler, ODOT Office of Statewide Planning talked about the upcoming statewide Long Range Transportation Plan, Access Ohio 2045. As a part of this effort, the state is seeking to complete a strategic transportation and development analysis. This would help align all long-range planning activities throughout the state and help determine cross-jurisdictional projects. There is currently no process in place in Ohio. This planning process will kick off in July 2023.

Mr. Kevin Buettner provided an update on the RTIP and reviewed the schedule for development of the plan. The RTIP is currently in the Public Involvement period. The plan website has been updated extensively and will be updated as needed for future updates. The RTPO Allocation may be increased, pending the transportation bill in the statehouse. Mr. Buettner also outlined all the upcoming meetings for each county.

Mr. Buettner discussed the upcoming FY 2024 Work Plan. There are no large planning activities, such as the RTIP or Long-Range Plan. A few smaller planning activities are forecast, including Safe Routes to School, Active Transportation Plans and potentially the Regional Freight Plan. A complete rewrite of the Transit Plan is also forecast. Ms. Deb Hill will lead that effort, with the support of the other transportation staff.

Mr. Buettner also discussed the current Township Safety Sign Grant. Changes to the program were mentioned and a list of all eligible townships were reviewed.

A recommendation to approve the RTIP was made by Mr. Wachtel and seconded by Mr. Nathan Troyer. All votes were affirmative. Motion passed.

A recommendation to approve the SFY 2024 Work Plan was made by Mr. Arnold Oliver, and seconded by Mr. Wachtel. All votes were affirmative. Motion passed.

Ms. Jeannette Wierzbicki, P.E., talked about the RTIP process and why it is important for all members of the TAC to be a part.

Mr. Tom Konst asked about the impacts of the recent derailment in East Palestine. He states there may be additional traffic due to the recover efforts. Mr. Buettner and Ms. Wierzbicki stated that currently, the recovery efforts are being led by the US and Ohio EPA, FEMA, Norfolk Southern and other entities. Once the initial efforts are completed, OMEGA has offered to help the village pursue other funding to facilitate the recovery and rebuilding of the infrastructure that was damaged during the incident.

Meeting adjourned at 11:15 am.