



Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting

June 15, 2023

Meeting was called to order at 10:05 am by Chairman Mr. Tom Konst. Mr. Konst asked attendees to introduce themselves.

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

Mr. Kevin Buettner began discussion on the RTP Capital Allocation program is now funded at \$1.13 million per year, based on the current transportation bill that takes effect July 1, 2023 and lasts through June 30, 2025. Mr. Buettner discussed initial changes and clarifications that OMEGA staff made to the policy and instructions for the program, based on feedback and questions from the initial round in 2022. The federal definition of a bridge applies (20' span). Additional OMEGA-led planning efforts were added to make additional projects eligible. Funds should be encumbered by June 30, 2025 if possible.

Mr. Buettner opened the floor to begin discussion on the policy and other changes/modifications that TAC members wanted to see. ODOT recommended raising the funding caps for planning and infrastructure projects due to the increased funding. A suggestion was made to raise the planning project funding cap to \$50,000. There was also a suggestion to raise the cap for construction projects up to \$500,000. After discussion, Mr. Bachman motioned to raise the cap for planning to \$50,000 and infrastructure to \$400,000. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Buettner then began the discussion about the scoring criteria. After discussion was held, the TAC decided to keep the scoring criteria as it was, with no adjustments. The matter was to be discussed prior to next year's allocation round.

Mr. Buettner followed up by mentioning the potential for OMEGA to request a portion of the funds in the future for regionally beneficial planning efforts. Plans such as the Regional Safety Plan have been utilized to pursue and acquire funding for projects throughout the region. For instance, a regional freight study may highlight certain corridors and recommend projects for funding approval. This funding would not be requested often, but OMEGA staff wanted the ability to ask for it, if needed.

Lastly, Mr. Buettner gave general announcements of upcoming funding opportunities. Mr. Buettner also mentioned that a new solicitation for projects to be incorporated into the long range plan would open on January 1, 2024, and would be voted on in the March TAC meeting. Those projects would then be eligible for the SFY 2025 RTPO Capital Allocation round.

Meeting adjourned at 11:30 am.