



## MVPO Rural Transportation Technical and Citizens Committee

Wednesday, August 17, 2016 – 1:30 p.m.

MVPO Conference Room

**Members Present:** Paul Barnaby, Charles Schreck, Cody Chrisman, Tim Schumm, Todd Roth, Chad Lulfs, Melinda Warner, Matt Gilroy, Bruce Yancey, Dennis Miller, Ellen Smith, Emma Kirkpatrick

**Others Present:** Jennifer Ort (Defiance County Economic Development), Michael Springer (Northwest Consultants), Teri Suarez (Fulton County Commissioners)

### Meeting Notes

**1. Introductions/Convene Meeting**

**2. RTPO Program Activities Update**

a. Technical Assistance Activities

- i. MVPO is continuing to help communities in the region with items related to transportation. A new map for the Wabash Cannonball Trail was recently completed for the Northwestern Ohio Rails to Trails Association (NORTA). They will add the map to updated trail heads and kiosks and MVPO will help develop an interactive map for their website in the coming months.
- ii. Defiance County is in the process of developing a Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan that will detail how agencies that currently provide transportation could coordinate to save resources. This Plan will also make the County eligible for funds through ODOT. MVPO is assisting in the process of completing the Plan and receiving approval from ODOT.
- iii. MVPO continues to write and submit applications for communities in order to receive transportation-related funding from a variety of sources.

b. Transportation Improvement Districts (TIDs)

- i. All five counties are now registered as TIDs (Henry County was registered before this year). There were five applications submitted for funding in June, and two of them received funding. The Village of Paulding was awarded \$169,000 for the USR 127 and Gasser Road intersection project and the Village of Fayette was awarded \$182,000 for the reconstruction of East Industrial Parkway. The next funding cycle will be in June 2017.

c. Intermodal Facilities Project Update

- i. ODOT recently undertook a project to update the list of Federal Highway Administration Designated Intermodal Facilities in Ohio. There are currently no

facilities designated in the MVPO region. However, the Menard's Distribution Center in Williams County was submitted to ODOT for consideration. This location has both truck and rail capabilities. Furthermore, Traxler Drive connects the Distribution Center to SR 15, which could potentially become eligible for additional funding to maintain it if the facility is designated.

### 3. Safety Report

#### a. Overview

- i. *Handout: Executive Summary and Top Locations*
- ii. MVPO developed a comprehensive five-year Safety Report presenting regional crash trends from 2010-2014, top crash locations from 2012-2014, and potential funding opportunities to enhance safety throughout the MVPO region. The Safety Report was identified as an implementation item from Moving Together 2040 (MVPO's Long Range Transportation Plan). The Safety Report addresses the FHWA's Safety Performance Measures and Targets, in order to be consistent with state and national goals for safety.
- iii. There were 21,900 crashes from 2010-2014 within the five counties. Most were property damage only crashes, however there were many fatal and injury crashes. Animal crashes were identified as the crash type with the greatest amount of crashes, though they mostly resulted in Property Damage Only (PDO) crashes. Fixed object crashes had the second highest amount of crashes and surpassed animal crashes in fatal, serious injury, and injury crashes. Crashes are down 19% using five year averages from 2004-2014. Two serious crash types were identified, including roadway departure and intersection crashes. High risk drivers such as impaired drivers were analyzed. Driver characteristics and speed-related crashes were also examined. Roadway users and conditions were explored for pedestrian and cyclist crashes, as well as daily conditions such as time of day, weather, and day of the week. We found that factors other than daily conditions must have contributed to the majority of crashes from 2010-2014.
- iv. The top crash locations were identified for urban and non-urban sections and intersections. The top intersection was identified as South Clinton St. at Davidson/Williams St. in the City of Defiance, and the top section was identified as SR 191 from SR 2/34 to Co Rd B-50 in Williams County.

#### b. Comments

- i. Bruce Yancey noted that the intersection of CR 24 and SR 34 is dangerous and should be on the list. Ellen Smith confirmed that the intersection is on the list and is the top high crash rural intersection out of all the locations identified. A question was asked about the way crash rate was calculated. Ellen Smith explained that the Crash Rate formula was adapted from methods consistent with other RTPOs and MPOs in Ohio. It takes into account the crash frequency, EPDO rate (severity of crashes), and the crash rate. These values are used to determine a rank sum for each crash location, which determined their overall rankings.

c. Next Steps

- i. The draft report will be presented at the MVPO Executive Council meeting on September 6, 2016. There is a new Safety page on the MVPO website with more updates coming soon. Preliminary data will be available on the Safety page in order to keep current with trends. The Safety Report will be updated in June 2017 for 2016 data.

**4. Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP) 2018 – 2021**

a. Overview

- i. MPVO has been tasked with developing a Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP) for the years 2018-2021. The RTIP will be directly included in the 2018-2021 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). A Transportation Improvement Program is a four year listing of the Federal and State funded transportation projects that will be implemented throughout Ohio over the four year timeframe. This document gets updated every 2 years. Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) develop their Transportation Improvement Programs, which are included in the STIP, listing the federal and state funded projects in their respective regions as well as projects they have selected to fund. For rural areas outside the boundaries of an RTPO, ODOT consults with rural elected officials to solicit input on the STIP. As the RTPOs now exist, each RTPO will develop their own TIP and these will be directly included in the STIP, as is done with the MPOs. RTPOs do not currently have funding to distribute to local governments for projects, however, and therefore will list those projects with state and federal funds with implementation items from 2018-2021 in the five county area. |A list of unfunded project needs – a 'local priority' table- will also be included in the document. These projects can come from the Long Range Transportation Plan, but would be projects that may be implemented in some way during the 2018-2021 timeframe or are priorities for getting state or Federal funding during that time. This document is due in May 2017.

b. Rural Consultation Meeting

- i. The next major item in this process is to hold a rural consultation meeting with ODOT and the five Counties in the MVPO region. This meeting is required to give County engineers, County commissioners, Township trustees, City and Village mayors, engineers, councils, and port officials the opportunity to provide input about the projects that are planned to be included in the STIP. This will be an opportunity to work with ODOT on identifying opportunities to align RTPO project priorities with ODOT projects. There will be ODOT staff and representation from Districts 1 and 2, and possibly from the Central Office. The meeting is scheduled for October 4, 2016 at 1:30 p.m. and it will be located in the auditorium of Northwest State Community College. After that meeting, the next step will be to work on the various sections of the document while ODOT continues to send updates regarding the programmed projects. At the end of February 2017, ODOT's draft STIP will be completed. The draft RTIP will be

available for public comment on MVPO's website in the spring of 2017. On May 1, 2017 the final board-approved RTIP will be uploaded to ODOT's website and sent for federal approval.

- c. RTIP Schedule
  - i. Handout: RTIP Guidance Document – Schedule
  - ii. The schedule for developing the RTIP first involves ODOT sending out a list of projects programmed from 2018-2021. MVPO will send ODOT the Long Range Plan projects.
- 5. **Upcoming Events/Important Dates**
  - a. MVPO Rural Consultation Meeting: October 4, 2016 at 1:30 p.m., Northwest State
  - b. There was no other business discussed.
- 6. **Adjourn**

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS: Please mark your calendars.

**Technical Committee: 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays at 1:30 p.m.**

**Citizens Committee: 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m.**

**2015:** November 18, **2016:** February 17, May 18, August 17, November 16