

## **TRANSPORTATION PLANNING PROGRESS REPORT**

**MARCH 2017**

### **Short Range Planning (601)**

Staff disseminated bike maps to interested citizens.

Staff continued to add bike rack location and pictures to the ARC GIS mobile bike rack app.

Staff attended the Tri-State Trails Northern Kentucky Trails Forum on March 9.

Staff attended the Tri-State Trails Executive Committee on March 13 to discuss the counts program, agenda for the quarterly meeting and finalize plans on Opening Day on the Trails.

Staff attended the Advocacy and Policy subcommittee of Tri-State Trails to set goals and objectives for the group.

Staff attended the Wasson Way field review on March 21 for Phase 2a and the Mason-Lebanon Bike Path Connector on March 28.

### **Transportation Improvement Program (602)**

During March, staff continued to monitor and update highway and transit information contained in the FY 2016 – 2019 TIP. Staff presented a TIP amendment and modification for consideration at the March ICC and Executive Committee meetings. A draft TIP amendment and modification was prepared for consideration at the April ICC and Board of Directors meetings. Staff also continued work on preparing the FY 2018 – 2021 TIP which will become effective July 1, 2017. A final draft of the document was submitted to ODOT in March. The public comment period on the Draft TIP began on March 10<sup>th</sup> and continues through April 12<sup>th</sup>. The FY 2018-2021 TIP is scheduled for adoption in April.

Staff participated in the March 24<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Ohio Association of Regional Councils meeting in Columbus.

On March 27<sup>th</sup>, staff participated in the Field Review and Scope Meeting for the Butler-Warren & Western Row Road Roundabout in Mason. On March 29<sup>th</sup>, staff participated in two Field Review and Scope Meeting in Cincinnati; the Auburn Avenue widening project and the Bassett Road sidewalk project.

### **Surveillance (605.1)**

Staff has been working on checking traffic count locations and their application to the highway network.

Staff has been looking at available freight data to find what data is available for use in the model. Included in this is working with the American Trucking Research Institute to purchase GPS truck travel information.

Staff continued analyzing the data from the establishment survey. ETC has completed phase 3 and data was delivered on March 31, 2017.

OKI and KYTC revised the scope of the Ohio River Bridge Counters project, namely eliminating two bridges, and deciding to mount the units to existing sign trusses (where applicable). A final budget was also reached. The project has been let for April, and has been included in revised STIP modification 2016.041.

Staff continuing work on creating the model summary, model impacts, and environmental justice reporting programs from the Ohio Disaggregate Model System.

Staff has been looking at socioeconomic data and preparing files for 2015 model inputs, including special inputs for the activity based model.

Two staff members attended training for the Activity Based Model at ODOT, one staff member attended training on the Strategic Highway Research Program project to integrate Dynamic Traffic Assignment into an activity based model, and one staff attended the Indiana Model User Group meeting.

Staff began revising the methodology for preparing the socioeconomic database.

Staff participated in a webinar entitled "Understanding the Travel Trends of Teens and Young Adults" sponsored by the Eno Center for Transportation on March 23, 2017.

Staff completed testing ArcGIS 10.5 and began rolling out the update to staff agency-wide.

Staff continued preparation for migrating from ArcGIS server 10.3 to 10.5.

Staff continued updating street centerline segments with data from our member counties.

Staff updated the subdivisions layer.

Staff downloaded the electric car stations layer from FHWA and added the layer to OKI's enterprise geodatabase.

Staff updated the TIP on Demand interactive online map.

Staff continued development of an Ohio River freight dashboard which incorporates river freight data from a variety of sources.

Staff continued development of a Cincinnati SMSA railroad freight dashboard utilizing data from the Public Use Waybill file.

Staff continued development of a crowd sourced application for collecting up-to-date bicycle infrastructure in the region.

#### **Transportation & Homeland Security (605.5)**

No activity this period.

#### **Transportation & Homeland Security (605.6)**

No activity this period.

#### **Long Range Planning: System Management (610.1)**

Transportation Plan: Staff met with local Northern Kentucky leaders to identify the SHIFT project sponsorship list for the update of the KYTC Six Year Highway Plan. This effort required updating and creating several project information forms (PIF's).

Coordination and Staff Development: Staff continued to work with ODOT, KYTC, INDOT, transit agencies and local communities to support the project development process. Staff participated in the following training and coordination meetings in March: Transportation & Infrastructure Forum (3/8), Kentucky Regional Project Priority (SHIFT) (3/8), Eastern Corridor Public Open House (3/9), Clermont County TID (3/17), OARC VW conference call (3/21), OARC Transportation and OSUCC meeting (3/24).

Congestion Management Process and Performance Measurement: Continued adding functionality to the NPMRDS 'HERE' database. Staff attended a workshop on safety performance measure target setting at ODOT.

Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS): OKI's awaits a response regarding the resubmission of ITS Architecture database relative to Truck Parking Information Management System (TPIMS) elements to comply with 23 CFR Part 940.

Project development activities for future corridor or special studies: Staff continues to coordinate with TANK, SORTA, CTC, the City of Cincinnati and the Cincinnati Chamber of Commerce to investigate transit improvements in the region. No activity this month.

Safety Planning: Staff participated in an ODOT safety webinar, regarding an abbreviated HSIP to help local municipalities quickly and easily target funds for safety improvements. Staff continues to monitor activity of KYTC.

Project Level Traffic Forecasting: Staff is actively participating in multiple studies assisting local communities and state DOT's to provide traffic forecasts for planning. See report filed in Surveillance (605.1).

Regional Freight Planning – Staff participated in the following freight, economic development and/or technology transportation planning related meetings/events: REDI Annual Meeting (3/2), Business Courier's Transportation & Infrastructure Forum (3/8), OKI SHIFT meeting (3/8), Joint Meeting with the Habboush Group (3/9), Ridesharing services conference call with SORTA and TANK (3/29), Webinar - TREDIS: Addressing Emerging Technologies Part 1 - Freight Modes (3/30), Tri-ED Smart Factory Panel (3/31) and City of Cincinnati Department of Community and Economic Development's Unlocking the Tri-State Region: Foreign Direct Investment Symposium (3/31).

Staff submitted a revised final list of Critical Urban Freight Corridors (CUFCs) recommendations to KYTC-Central Office. Staff also finalized and submitted a list of CUFCs recommendations to ODOT-Central Office. Staff participated in two conference calls and one meeting in Columbus regarding Ohio EPA's proposed use of a portion of the state's VW Settlement Mitigation Funds. Ohio EPA would like the participating MPOs to use VW funds to create an Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment (EVSE) plan that lays out longer term needs for EVSE in our region. They would like included in the MPO's plan a "top ten" list of locations for EVSE based on "projected demand" and identification of fleet operators interested in adding /converting part of their fleet to EV. Ohio MPOs have been asked to submit a cost estimate for undertaking this task by April 15, 2017.

For Green Umbrella staff attended a meeting of the Watershed Action Team on March 3<sup>rd</sup> and attended a meeting of the Watershed Action Team Policy sub group on March 28<sup>th</sup>.

Staff attended a meeting of the Green Infrastructure Group on March 16<sup>th</sup> where further discussion was held about how this group will shift focus from the installation of GI on residential properties to encouraging and supporting installation of GI on large commercial properties with large areas of imperviousness.

For Taking Root, staff attended a March 30 Board meeting and participated in committee meeting on

March 17 to explore and discuss opportunities to employ the Arbor Day Energy Saving Trees program in our region. (Taking Root is a campaign to address the need to retain forested area, which is a major issue identified in environmental consultations on the transportation plan.)

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Prioritization Process Update – No activity this month.

Environmental Consultations - For Environmental Consultations staff completed edits of our GIS layer for Clermont County. On March 13<sup>th</sup> staff participated in a live interview with WVXU sharing about the various environmental tools and programs at OKI. Staff attended a day long workshop on Asian Longhorn Beetle infestations in Clermont County on March 17<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Long Range Planning: Land Use (610.4):**

March 9, staff attended the Northern Kentucky Chamber's Energy and Environment committee meeting where Kentucky state officials presented their draft plans for disbursing the VW settlement funds available to the state.

March 9, staff attended the Green Umbrella Action Team Leader Council meeting and provided a report on the Transportation Action Team's current activities and future initiatives.

March 10, staff met with Len Sauer, leader of Green Umbrella's metric committee to review data provided to the Green Umbrella Transportation Action Team and discussed future data reporting and management needs.

March 29, staff attended the Southwest Ohio Clean Energy Forum facilitated by Green Energy Ohio. It was reported at this forum that Hamilton County led the state in new solar PV installations in 2016. The OKI Go Solar Ready initiative and it's interactive solar map continues to be a tool used in the region by anyone interested in a particular building's solar potential.

Staff continued researching data sources to identify any updates in data or trends necessary for the SRPP,

[www.howdowegrow.org](http://www.howdowegrow.org), website. A database of updates to the site is being used to track all current and future updates made to the trend and condition statistical information on the website.

March 7, staff met with representatives of the North East Ohio sustainable planning consortium to demonstrate and provided information about the Fiscal Impact Analysis Model program. This group is interested in employing a fiscal impact model in their region.

In March, staff updated portions of the website housing information for the OKI Regional Conservation Council in preparation for the RCC's annual meeting in April.

**Fiscal Impact Analysis Model (610.5):**

Staff activated an updated data for Dearborn County FIAM.

Staff finalized collecting data to update Independence calculations and continued to set up four additional Kenton County municipalities; Covington, Crestview Hills, Edgewood, and Taylor Mill.

Staff continued collecting and analyzing data necessary to expand FIAM functionality to include school district impact using budget information available for districts in the region. Staff also continued to work with the web-based consultant on designing the new web-based FIAM framework to enable more expanded FIAM functionality.

**Fiscal Impact Analysis Model – Web-Based Maintenance and Startup (611.5):**

Staff monitored daily back-up activities which occurred as programmed.

Staff provided FIAM development information, responded to inquiries and provided direction to Prime3GS as they work to accomplish the necessary upgrades to the current FIAM database framework and upgraded user interface. These services will be complete by June 2017.

Staff continued to analyze and input data for 4 additional communities for set-up in Kenton County and for Dearborn County.

**Transportation Services: Participation Plan (625.2):**

Staff completed an update of OKI's Title VI Program and submitted it to KYTC for review and approval.

Staff participated in Metro's "Coffee & Chat" for input from the public regarding experiences, opinions and questions about Metro services.

Staff attended the Eastern Corridor Public Open House which provided a historical overview and next steps for the revamped area between the Red Bank Corridor and the I-275/SR 32 Interchange.

Staff participated in a webinar that reported on the state of Ohio's ranking nationally regarding monies allocated to public transportation and a recommendation that an additional \$15 million be added to the ODOT budget during the next biennial.

Staff notified OKI's DBE Certified Vendor Bid List of four opportunities:

- Ohio Small Business Development Centers' interactive workshop for small business owners considering Quick Books for Financial Management
- City of Cincinnati Department of Economic Inclusion webinar to Learn How to Turn Water into Wealth
- Cincinnati Metropolitan Housing Authority (CMHA) RFQ for Accounting Services to Reconcile General Ledger Accounts
- Ohio Municipalities Business Conference & Expo

Staff attended community council meetings in Clifton, Oakley, East Walnut Hills, Camp Washington, Corryville and Over-the-Rhine.

- Clifton – Councilman Sittenfeld announced the creation of a new position, Chief Advocacy Officer for the Elderly and Disabled and reported that some of the city's most dangerous intersections will be an upcoming focus for City Council.
- Oakley – City personnel reported that the Marburg Avenue Bridge will close after the morning rush hour on March 20<sup>th</sup> and that the first phase of work on Wasson Way between Withrow High School and I-71 will begin in July.
- Camp Washington – The community council has asked the city of Cincinnati to study Hopple and Colerain Avenues to identify traffic calming possibilities to improve pedestrian safety.
- Corryville – The community council voted to request that the city officially change the name of the 4-block business district on Vine Street to Short Vine.
- Over-the-Rhine – Staff from the city's Department of Transportation & Engineering reported on plans to improve connectivity between Washington Park and Findlay Market involving Green and Pleasant Streets. Staff from SORTA gave an update on several streetcar concerns and reported that this summer SORTA will conduct a Title VI trial period offering a 30-day pass to ride the streetcar at a discounted price.

**Special Studies: Regional Clean Air Program (665.4):**

The smog alert hotline and email account was maintained by retrieving messages and responding to those inquiring about the clean air program. Staff worked on marketing plan for upcoming media campaign.

**Commuter Assistance Services: Rideshare (667.1):**

Staff continued to process and update applications for the month of March

Vanpooling

Staff provided van quotes for commuters interested in the vanpooling program.

There are 20 vanpools in operation throughout the region.

Marketing

Staff continues to attend weekly conference calls to discuss the new ridesharing software and branding development.

**Staff finalized contract with Cumulus and ads begin airing the end of March. JARC/New Freedom Coordinated Transportation Plan (674.1/674.2)**

Staff met with Oversight Team leadership to discuss facilitation for an ongoing forum for transportation providers and other agencies providing service to the elderly and individuals with disabilities. OKI staff will develop a timeline and agendas for this ongoing forum.

Staff reviewed draft guidance materials from ODOT for Ohio Coordinated Plans and evaluated consistency with the current 2016 OKI plan.

No quarterly reports were prepared in March. The next reports will be submitted May 2017.

#### **Section 5310 Program (674.3)**

Staff presented Oversight Team recommendations to the OKI ICC and Executive Committee in March for Round 3 (FFY15) 5310 funding.

Staff prepared and submitted a Program of Projects summary report of the 2017 project recommendations to FTA Region 5 for initial review and comment.

Staff participated in a March 22 webinar presented by FTA Region 5 on TrAMS grant application process.

No quarterly reports were submitted in March. The next reports will be submitted in May 2017.

Staff received and reviewed draft plan guidance from ODOT and participated in a meeting with other Ohio 5310 agencies facilitated by ODOT on March 28.

#### **New Freedom Pass Through (674.4)**

Staff continued to manage the Towne Taxi New Freedom taxi voucher program and requested an activity update from Towne Taxi. No invoices were processed in March. The last draw down of \$3,175.00 was processed in October for the taxi voucher program, Grant OH-57-X061. There is a balance of \$43,014 remaining in the Towne Taxi grant. The funds are used to transport people with disabilities in the OKI region on a 24/7 basis.

#### **Ohio Exclusive: Regional Transportation Planning Organization Pilot Program (684.4)**

Project is complete.

#### **Ohio Exclusive: Eastern Corridor Study (684.9)**

No activity this period.

#### **Indiana Exclusive: Dearborn County Transportation Planning (685.1-CPG):**

3C Planning Process - Active management of the OKI TIP continued. Staff continues to coordinate with Dearborn County and INDOT personnel to advance the programming of Dearborn STP and CMAQ projects. Staff participated in the March 23 Indiana MPO Council meeting in Indianapolis. Transportation Plan: No activity this month. TIP: Staff presented a TIP amendment and modification for consideration at the March ICC and Executive Committee meetings. A draft TIP amendment and modification was prepared for consideration at the April ICC and Board of Directors meetings. Staff also continued work on preparing the FY 2018 – 2021 TIP which will become effective July 1, 2017. A final draft of the document was submitted to ODOT in March. The public comment period on the Draft TIP began on March 10<sup>th</sup> and continues through April 12<sup>th</sup>. The FY 2018-2021 TIP is scheduled for adoption in April. Monthly progress reports were prepared for work elements in the Unified Planning Work Program. The Draft 2018 UPWP was prepared and submitted to funding agencies for review.

HSIP and Safety Fund Programs – No activity this period.

Air Quality – No activity this period.

Development of improved scheduling and cost estimating procedures – No activity this period.

ADA and Ladders of Opportunity and service to local governments – No activity this period.

Functional Class, HPMS and CMP Performance measures – Staff continues to monitor state and federal activity on the remaining performance measures to address the goal areas of safety, infrastructure condition, system performance, and environmental sustainability. Performance measures were monitored. Continued adding functionality to the NPMRDS 'HERE' database.

Travel Model, Data, GIS & Homeland Security – Staff continues working to validate the activity-based model and continue to refine the traditional 4-step model. The regional establishment survey continues. Surveys of nearly 200 locations are in process or completed.

Participation Plan – Staff remains active in disseminating information about regional transportation projects and DBE opportunities. Notices regarding the release of the FY 2018 – 2021 TIP were placed in regional newspapers.

Fiscal Impact Model – No activity this month.

Environmental Consultations – On March 13<sup>th</sup> staff participated in a live interview with WVXU sharing about the various environmental tools and programs at OKI.

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**Indiana Exclusive: Dearborn Co. (STP 685.2)**

Bright 74 Project is complete.

**Kentucky Exclusive: Transportation Planning Activities (686.3)**

Consultant Team embarked on data collection in coordination with OKI Project Manager via several meetings: Project Management Team (3/1), KYTC D6 (3/14), Joint Boone County Comp Plan/CVG Master Plan Update (3/14), State of Kentucky and U.S. Legislators' (3/20), TANK (3/21), Tri-ED (3/21), Boone



County Public Schools (3/22), and OKI Board Member/Boone County resident Roger Kerlin (3/23). Two debriefing meetings were held on 3/13 with consultant teams who had responded to the project's RFQ. OKI supplied a complete set of Boone County GIS data layer files to the consultant team on 3/14.

**Unified Planning Work Program (695)**

The FY17 UPWP is in effect. Draft FY18 UPWP development is complete and submitted for comment to the funding agencies.

The metropolitan planning agreements between OKI and partners are in effect.

Monthly progress reports were prepared for work elements in the Unified Planning Work Program (ongoing).

**Transportation Program Reporting (697.1)**

No activity this period.

**Mobile Source Emissions Planning (720.1)**

Staff completed eligibility determinations for various projects that applied for CMAQ funding in 2014 and 2015, including: City of Cincinnati - US 22 Safety and Signal Improvements, City of Mason - SR 741 and Parkside Intersection Upgrades, City of Mason - Butler-Warren and Western Row Roundabout, Sycamore Township - US 22 sidewalks, and BCRTA Bus Replacements.