

## TRANSPORTATION PLANNING PROGRESS REPORT

APRIL 2019

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

Staff attended the TriState Trails Executive Committee. Items discussed were funding strategies, bike month and trail updates.

Staff answered questions regarding the TA program and scoring process.

Staff attended the ODOT/City of Cincinnati quarterly update meeting to review all city projects.

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

During April, staff monitored and updated highway and transit information contained in the FY 2018–2021 TIP. TIP Administrative Modification #17, and TIP Amendments #16 were presented to the ICC on April 9th and to the OKI Board of Directors on April 11th. Development of the draft FY2020-2023 TIP is complete and the document was released for public comment on April 11<sup>th</sup>. The FY2020-2023 TIP is scheduled for adoption in May. A TIP Amendment and TIP Administrative Modification were prepared for the May ICC and Executive Committee meetings.

### **Surveillance (605.1)**

Staff performed model review and update for the Millikin Road traffic analysis and provided updated traffic forecast.

Staff started working on the Western Hills Viaduct traffic analysis for the City of Cincinnati.

Staff continued to debug the ABM and run model with 2015 base year data and perform alternative and scenario tests.

Staff continued to prepare future year model input for the 2050 AMB model.

Staff started to perform the turning movement data collection.

Staff continued to update the 2015 highway and transit network to generate the E+C network for ABM and the trip model.

Staff continued to compile and input the 2018 traffic counts collected by DLZ into the traffic count database.

Staff continued to compile the 2016 to 2018 traffic data provided by ODOT, IDOT, and KYTC to perform quality control and input into the traffic count database.

Staff continued to compile the Streetlight OD and travel time and distance data and started to validate the model OD distribution.

### **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 continues researching the potential for scenario planning for the next metropolitan transportation plan update. The process to evaluate objective measures continued. Work to develop revenue projections continues. Each state DOT has provided background data.

Coordination and Staff Development: Mobility Lab conference calls with Uber to discuss travel time & speeds data (4/4, 4/11); Uber Mobility Lab/GRH program OKI staff discussion (4/9); Guest lecturer at UC (4/11); Clermont TID (4/12); Butler County TID (4/15); ODOT Division of Planning Staff (4/22); Clinton County Port Authority (4/25); Cinti Chamber Regional Government Day presenter (4/29); Eastern Corridor Partners (4/30).

Congestion Management Process and Performance Measurement: Staff continued coordinating with State DOTs on system performance reporting and TSMO, related to the performance measures program. Staff continued processing federal travel time and speed data for the purposes of the travel time reliability metric. Staff acquired and began processing ODOT's INRIX XD Data.

ITS Architecture: no activity this period.

Project development activities for future corridor or special studies: Staff continues to coordinate with TANK, SORTA, and other stakeholders to investigate transit improvements in the region. Staff initiated work on Kenton County Transportation Priorities project. Staff participated on TANK's Transit Network Study Evaluation Team to score submitted RFPs, interview shortlist and make consultant recommendation (4/11, 17 & 23).

Safety Planning: No activity this period.

Project Level Traffic Forecasting: Staff is actively participating in multiple studies assisting local communities and state DOT's to provide traffic forecasts for planning including Milliken Road interchange and Western Hills Viaduct.

Regional Freight Transportation and Economic Development Planning: CORBA Regional Maritime Committee Meeting (4/3); MARAD proposal discussions (4/4 & 17); TRB Urban Freight Transportation Committee (AT025) Mid-year Meeting (4/8); AV business and pilot project discussions with CVG, UC and REDI Cincinnati (4/24); Presentation to the SE Indiana Port Authority (4/26).

Prioritization Process Update (security): No activity this period directly related to security.

Prioritization Process Update (economic vitality): Staff continues to seek opportunities to identify objective measures to integrate into OKI Prioritization Process.

Transportation Technologies: UC Research & Innovation Week (4/2); DriveOhio Cincinnati Initiative Follow-Up (4/2); Webinar: 2019 FTA Grants for Low/No Emission Buses and Charging Infrastructure (4/5); USDOT T3e Webinar: Signal Timing Optimization for Improved Mobility and Air Quality (4/10); US 27 Smart Corridor Meeting (4/12); CVG Partnership Update (4/17); ITS Midwest (OH/KY Intelligent Transportation

Society of the Midwest): “Improving Highway Safety with ITS” Training (4/22); and, Kroger EV Charging Infrastructure Discussion (4/30).

For Environmental Consultations, staff continued to develop stakeholder identification for engagement. Staff identified additional stakeholder groups to include in the process including county engineers, EMA, and land development design firms. Staff attended the OKI RCC annual meeting and provided update on the Consultation Process.

Staff attended the Ohio River Basin Flood Risk Management Workshop in Northern Kentucky with nearly 70 flood risk professionals from across the region. The event brought together local, state and federal stakeholders to discuss and prioritize flooding hazards on a basin level. Information and contacts will be integrated with the consultation process.

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

April 2 staff attended the Taking Root Board meeting. Staff provided Taking Root website content for ‘What Communities Can Do’ section and included references to the [www.treesandstormwater.org](http://www.treesandstormwater.org) guide.

April 23 staff presented an update on regional planning initiatives and provided a preview of 2020 Environmental Consultations process to the OKI Regional Conservation Council during their annual meeting.

Solar information continued to be prepared for the upcoming Community Energy Plans being prepared for North College Hill.

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

Planned tasks for new intern starting May 6<sup>th</sup>.

Identified list of communities to initially load into updated FIAM.

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

Staff monitored back-up activities which occurred as programmed.

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

Staff attended the Public meeting at which Cincinnati Metro personnel presented an update highlighting proposed changes to the schedule of times and frequency for the Cincinnati Bell Connector. The public was asked to provide input regarding the (3) proposed alternatives. Metro staff emphasized that all of the options are costs neutral meaning no increase to fares but will have to be negotiated with Trans Dev.

Staff attended the city of Covington Board of Commissioner Caucus meeting at which the Commissioners responded favorably to a request from the City Solicitor’s office to vacate the portion of Audubon Road upon which the Devou Park Country Club has been built.

Staff placed a Legal Notice in the Cincinnati Enquirer, Cincinnati Herald and La Jornada Latina inviting the public to a Public Hearing on May 6, 2019, regarding OKI’s draft of its Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for Fiscal Years 2020-2023. The notice in La Jornada Latina was published in both English and Spanish.

Staff completed a review of the Community Engagement and the EJ Empowerment Policy components of APA Ohio's Planning for Equity Policy Guide. Staff suggested that the Policy also reference the LEP (Limited English Proficient) community wherever it references the Environmental Justice communities in the Guide.

Staff placed a Legal Notice in the Springboro Star Press, Cincinnati Herald and La Jornada Latina inviting the public to a Public Hearing on April 30, 2019 regarding a proposed amendment to the Regional Water Quality Management Plan prepared under Section 208 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972. The notice in La Jornada Latina was published in both English and Spanish.

Staff participated in ODOT's Civil Rights Transportation Symposium which included Governor Mike DeWine, ODOT Director Jack Marchbanks and Charles James with the Office of Civil Rights, U.S. DOT. The 2-day event included workshops, panel discussions and an awards presentation.

As the result of a recent appointment, staff participated in the WCPO-TV Move Up Cincinnati Advisory Board meeting. Topics discussed included the Brent Spence Bridge, CVG, DHL, Jobs and Affordable Housing but a major focus for the Advisory Board will revolve around all aspects of Transportation.

Staff shared The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center's announcement of a collaborative research study focusing on how older adults and individuals with cognitive disabilities utilize public transportation. The announcement was shared to the members of the Tristate Transportation Equitable Opportunity Team and the Co-Chairs for the Better Bus Coalition.

Staff participated in the Green Umbrella's Membership & Development Committee meeting and later learned at the Green Umbrella Board meeting that based on data collected during the development of the Great Parks Master Plan that Food and Transportation, in that order, are the top two priorities relative to the needs of residents in Hamilton County. The Master Plan also reported that "Community members are seeking more nature trails, paved walking trails and biking trails" and "The vast majority of visitors drive to reach parks and participate in programs" – which is something park personnel would like to change.

Staff attended a meeting at which students from the U.C. DAAP School of Planning presented an Executive Summary on their findings regarding the appropriateness of Tolling to fund the construction of a new overpass for I-75 and I-71 over the Ohio River.

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

- Cincinnati Metro's IFB (Invitation for Bids) for a Three-Year Parts Washer
- OKI's RFQ for Consultant Services for OKI Board Room A/V System Upgrade
- ODOT DBE/SBE Business Development Training Workshops in Estimating, Accounting and Risk Management
- Cincinnati Metro RFP for Bus Line Inspections

Staff attended community council meetings in East Walnut Hills, Madisonville, Mt Auburn, Over-the-Rhine and Saylor Park.

- **East Walnut Hills** – Captain Aaron Jones, District 2, announced that the Cincinnati Police Department will soon kick-off a Traffic Blitz and each community council is being asked to identify (3) locations where the community would like the police department to set up radar speed signs. This campaign is in support of the city of Cincinnati's Pedestrian Safety Program. The developer of

the former Anthem site presented concept drawings for the final development plan. The site, which is (7) acres, will be developed in two phases and a new street will be constructed through the development to help break up the size of the development. The new street will function as a public street and a traffic light will be installed at Bell Place and Taft Road. The parking garage for the development will be built in Phase 1 and will offer about 325 parking spaces but there will also be some surface parking. Construction of Phase 1 is anticipated to get underway in late fall of this year. Two-way street reconfiguration is still being considered for portions of William Howard Taft Road and McMillan Avenue.

- **Madisonville** – Sixth grade students from the community’s neighborhood school, John P. Parker Elementary School, demonstrated their proposal calling for the use of brightly colored hand-held flags being waved by students and/or residents when crossing the street. The students explained that the flags can be left in a box on each side of the crosswalk for everyone’s use and will hopefully attract attention when they are trying to safely cross the street. Community Council President Botos informed the students that their community council is working on the problem. She reported that the council has also submitted an application to city personnel in the Department of Transportation & Engineering requesting a \$30,000 grant for improved signage, especially in the community’s business district, to address some of the pedestrian safety concerns.
- **Mt Auburn** – The council’s Community Liaison from Cincinnati Police District 4 reported that a speeding blitz will be conducted in the next few weeks and will focus on 2100-2400 Vine Street and on Dorchester Avenue. Community residents asked the officer to include Malvern Place and Sycamore.
- **Over-the-Rhine** – City personnel affiliated with the Mohawk Area Plan, which is part of the larger Brewery District, gave an update on the Plan and reported that Mohawk residents have developed five key components in the Vision for their community. Since Connectivity is one of the key components, residents want to develop a walkable neighborhood business district/entertainment district; diversify available transit options to include walking, bussing, driving, bicycling and possibly an Incline; enhance the biking experience in the neighborhood’s business district, and redesign the Mohawk area’s gateway for improved connectivity between Central Parkway, Mohawk Place and West McMicken Avenue. Personnel with Cincinnati Metro presented an update highlighting proposed changes to the schedule of times and frequency for the Cincinnati Bell Connector. A representative from the community’s Parking & Transportation Committee requested approval from the community council to send a letter to the city of Cincinnati requesting an update regarding timeframes for the implementation plan of the 200 Flex Parking Spaces in the Elm-Liberty-Sycamore-14<sup>th</sup> Street areas. It was also reported that crosswalks near Rothenberg Preparatory Academy across Main Street and Liberty Street will soon be painted to enhance safety for the students.
- **Sayler Park** – Captain Paul Broxterman, Cincinnati Police District 3, reported that the recent fatal traffic accident on River Road at Monitor Avenue involved a pick-up truck pulling a trailer trying to turn left onto River Road from Monitor Avenue. The pick-up truck was hit by a tractor trailer truck traveling west on River Road and the truck driver was killed. The first tractor trailer truck was then hit by another tractor trailer truck traveling east on River Road. It appears the accident was due to a limited sight line at Monitor Avenue because of a curve in the road, sidewalk and a retaining wall that result in traffic trying to turn left onto River Road off of Monitor Avenue having to pull out into the roadway to do so. Personnel with District 3 reported that from June 3, 2016 until April 1, 2019 there have been (26) accidents within a short radius of the accident site. A representative from the

community council's Zoning Committee reported that the installation of a crosswalk at Thornton Avenue and Gracely Drive is on schedule. Personnel from MSD and Stormwater Management along with Commissioner Todd Portune presented their respective recommendations and opinions regarding how best to proceed with projects and solutions for the Muddy Creek CSO (Combined Sewer Overflow). Once the scope and (re)design have been mutually determined by the city of Cincinnati and Hamilton County appropriate staff will report back to the community to share the latest recommendation.

**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 attended the RideShare/Clean Air OARC quarterly meeting.

**Commuter Assistance Services (667.1)**

Staff continued to process and update applications for the month of April.

One commuter used the Guaranteed Ride Home Program during the month of April.

**Vanpooling**

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

**Marketing**

Marketing ads ran on all Cumulus and Radio One stations and La Mega.

Staff participated in a conference call to discuss the ODOT inquiry of Gohio Commute.

Staff attended the RideShare/Clean Air OARC quarterly meeting.

**JARC/New Freedom Coordinated Transportation Plan (674.1/674.2)**

Staff initiated a grant close out in April and will finalize close-out request to FTA once final payment of final invoice is received from FTA. In March, the New Freedom 674.2 grant funding expired.

**Section 5310 Program (674.3)**

Staff consulted with Oversight Team Chair regarding future staff resources and discussed need for program consultation services.

2019 program activities approved by OKI resolution in March were entered into TrAMS. A preliminary grant submittal was provided to FTA staff April 25<sup>th</sup> for review and comment. The final grant will be submitted for FTA approval once comments are received.

No OARC subcommittee activity.

Follow-up with subrecipient agencies not responding or responding with incomplete 2018 vehicle monitoring forms continued through April. The report will be finalized in May and reviewed with SORTA and be included in the OKI TAM Plan.

**New Freedom Pass Through (674.4)**

FTA approved close-out December 2018.

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

No activity this period.

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

Performance Measures: Functional Class, HPMS, CMP and Performance measures –Staff continued to coordinate with state DOT’s and transit agencies on performance measure development.

HSIP and Safety Fund Programs: No activity this period.

3C Planning Process: Staff continues to coordinate with Dearborn County and INDOT personnel to advance the programming of Dearborn STP, HSIP, CMAQ and TA projects. Staff participated in the following meetings, activities and events: The Indiana MPO Council meeting on April 25<sup>th</sup> via conference call. **Transportation Improvement Program:** The OKI Intermodal Coordinating Committee approved TIP Administrative Modification #17 which included one Indiana project. **Transportation Plan:** Staff continues researching the potential for scenario planning for the next metropolitan transportation plan update. The process to evaluate objective measures continued. Work to develop revenue projections continues. Each state DOT has provided background data. **UPWP:** Monthly progress reports were prepared for work elements in the UPWP. The Indiana Planning Roles and Responsibilities (PRRCOM) remains under development by INDOT. The OKI Board adopted the FY2020 UPWP at their April meeting.

Air Quality: No activity this period

Development of improved scheduling and cost estimating procedures: Staff updated the five year funding plan for OKI capital project funds for Dearborn County in September.

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

For Environmental Consultations: staff continued refining environmental resource data. Staff researched methodology for updating landcover and tree canopy GIS data. A data update methodology was designed so that future updates to layers can be done with more efficiently. Staff updated National Heritage, Historic Registry, and Agricultural District data based on the methodology. Staff continued to develop timeline for the next phase of environmental consultations to inform the 2020 update to the long range plan.

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

Travel Model, Data, GIS & Homeland Security: Staff continues developing and testing a beta activity-based travel model (ABM).

Participation Plan: Staff remains active in disseminating information about regional transportation projects and DBE opportunities.

Fiscal Impact Model: No activity this period.

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

At the request of KYTC, Staff conducted a review of the 27 SHIFT projects sponsored by OKI to validate project data. Staff attended the KY Statewide Planning Meeting on 4/17.

**Unified Planning Work Program (695)**

Planning MOA’s between OKI and KYTC and ODOT is complete.

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

FY2020 Unified Planning Work Program – The OKI Board adopted the FY2020 UPWP at their April meeting.

**Transportation Program Reporting (697.1)**

No activity this period.

**Mobile Source Emissions Planning (720.1)**

No Activity.