

Erie Regional Planning Commission
MPO Combined Technical Advisory and Policy Committees

Meeting Minutes September 23, 2021

PRESENT: Dave Foster, Erie County Regional Planning Commission; Nick Katsaros, First Energy; Carmen Stamen, Federal Highway Administration; Mike Schafrath, Mark Strohm, Ohio Department of Transportation; Bob England, Erie County Health Department; Eric Dodrill, Erie County Soil and Water; Pat Shenigo, Steve Shoffner, Erie County Commissioners; Tony Valerius, City of Vermilion; Gary Boyle, Arielle Blanca, Perkins Township; Erik Engle, City of Huron, Aaron Klein, Josh Snyder, Arin Blair, City of Sandusky; Carrie Whitaker, ERPC staff.

A hybrid meeting was held where attendees were allowed to participate in-person or through WebEx online as some agencies are still working remotely due to COVID 19 precautions. Ms. Whitaker called the hybrid meeting to order at 2:00 PM. She introduced herself and requested those attending the meeting in person to introduce themselves. She then announced those attendees that were participating via WebEx. She next proceeded with the presentation that began with an overview of the meeting agenda.

Agenda Item #1 Consideration of the July 26, 2021 Combined Technical Advisory and Policy Committee Meeting Minutes: Ms. Whitaker presented the minutes from the July 26th meeting. Mr. Foster motioned to approve the minutes as presented and Mr. Boyle seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion was passed with no further discussion.

Agenda Item #2: Consideration of Resolution 2021-12 SFY 2021-2024 TIP Amendment for PID 107223 Huron US 6 @ Center/Main Street Intersection Improvement Project: Ms. Whitaker explained that the City of Huron has requested PID 107223's construction phase be moved from SFY 2022 to SFY 2025. The project involves road resurfacing through ODOT's urban paving program and intersection improvements that the MPO previously awarded \$500,000 towards. Ms. Whitaker explained that the City would like to conduct further analysis to ensure the proper alternative is selected as the traffic signal at the location is not warranted. The City indicated a robust public involvement was unable to be performed due to the COVID-19 pandemic during 2020. Ms. Whitaker also explained that the City has been reviewing options regarding treatments for the Jim Campbell Blvd. at Center Street intersection. This intersection is located nearly adjacent to the US 6 intersection. Mr. Shenigo motioned to approved Resolution 2021-12 and Mr. Boyle seconded the motion; all voted aye and the motion passed. No further discussion was held on this item.

Agenda Item #3: Consideration of Resolution 2021-13 Approval of the SFY 2021 Progress Report: Ms. Whitaker explained that the progress report is an annual document completed by staff for the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT). The document provides progress staff made during the previous state fiscal year on MPO related activities. Mr. Foster motioned to approve Resolution 2021-13 and Mr. Shenigo seconded; all voted aye and the motion passed. No further discussion was held on this item.

public comment period ended on September 27th. No comments have been received so far and the report will be forwarded to ODOT and FHWA by the required September 30th deadline. No further discussion was held on this item.

ODOT Safety Program: Ms. Whitaker reviewed and explained changes ODOT has recently made to their Safety Program. No further discussion was held on this item.

ODOT Township Stimulus Grant: This new grant is a one-time funding opportunity for Ohio's Townships to complete sidewalk, roadway, or culvert (under 10 feet) projects. More information and application can be found on ODOT's website. Projects can be funded up to 100% and applications are due November 19th. No further discussion was held on this item.

MPO Sub-committees: Ms. Whitaker noted both of the MPO's sub-committees, the Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee (BPAC) and the Citizens Advisory/Safety Committee met in September. Meetings are usually held quarterly and separately. Due to current low staffing resources, moving forward the meetings are going to be combined but still will be held on a quarterly cycle. The first combined MPO Sub-committees meeting will be held on December 15th at 8:30 a.m. No further discussion was held on this item.

No other business or further discussion was held and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectively Submitted,



Carrie Whitaker, Sr. Transportation Planning Engineer

Erie County Office of Regional Planning

Metropolitan Planning Organization