

**Erie Regional Planning Commission
MPO Citizens Advisory/Safety Committee Meeting Minutes
March 17, 2021**

PRESENT: Melanie Murray, Perkins Township; Ned Bromm, Perkins Township; Jared Oliver, City of Sandusky Police Chief; Tim Riesterer, Margaretta Township Trustee; Greg Voltz, City of Sandusky; Ralph Chamberlin, Erie Metropolitan Housing Authority; Carrie Whitaker, Nicole Grohe; ERPC staff.

Ms. Grohe called the meeting to order at 8:30 A.M. via a web-ex online meeting. She then proceeded with a PowerPoint presentation.

Agenda Item #1 Approval of December 16th, 2020 Meeting Minutes: Ms. Grohe presented the minutes from the December 16th, 2020 meeting. Mr. Bromm motioned to approve the minutes and Mr. Riesterer seconded the motion; all voted aye, motion passed. No further discussion was held on this item.

Agenda Item #2 Transportation Alternative Project Solicitation: Ms. Grohe noted the MPO was currently accepting project applications for its Transportation Alternative Program. She stated once staff reviews the submitted applications and they were scored by the MPO's project selection committee, she would present the projects to the Safety and Citizens Advisory Committees for their comment prior to final approval by the MPO's Policy Board.

Agenda Item #3 Crash Safety Summary: Ms. Whitaker reviewed crash data items from the SFY 2021 Crash Safety Summary Report. The report is available online at ERPC's MPO main webpage if committee members were interested in reading the document. She also noted that ERPC MPO would be joining in on US DOT's Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) and the National Highway Safety Administration's (NHTSA) public at-grade awareness campaign. The campaign runs March 22 – April 12 and ERPC will be posting flyers, statistics, and safety tips to its Facebook and website pages. She also presented public at-grade rail crossing crash statistics for Erie County. No further discussion was held on this item.

Agenda Item #4 Active Transportation Month: Ms. Grohe stated that due to COVID-19 traditional in person outreach events will not occur this year. Instead, indirect education outreach will be conducted during Active Transportation Month. She stated that a mass emailing will be sent to Erie County employees regarding active transportation and asked if anyone on the committee might be interested in handing out documents/brochures. Mr. Voltz indicated that he may be able to share the active transportation information with various downtown city groups through email. Ms. Grohe also noted ERPC would be doing website and social media posts as well as setting up education stations at Erie County's Offices and Services buildings. Mr. Voltz indicated that he may be able to set up a station at city hall. No further discussion was held on this item.

Agenda Item #5 Updates:

MPO Projects: Ms. Grohe reviewed each of the MPO funded projects through State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2025. Ms. Whitaker noted that the Main and Center Street Intersection Project in the City of Huron is on schedule and plans are being finalized with ODOT to also include connecting Jim Campbell Blvd. to Center Street. Additionally, Ms. Grohe mentioned that the US 6/Cedar Point Drive intersection had received funding from ODOT's Safety Program to advance the design and construction of a roundabout at the location. She noted the City of Sandusky contributed approximately \$260,000 of local funding towards the overall \$5.17 million of project costs; construction is expected to start in the spring of 2024.

Agenda Item #6 Other:

News in Transportation Planning: Ms. Grohe shared a video with the group about Ford Motor Company's Ford Safety Insight program. The program works in conjunction with Streetlight and the Crash Modification Factors Clearing House to create a web-based platform for transportation planners. The platform offers solutions and cost estimates including a rate of return value. Ms. Grohe said the program was just released and not yet widely available. No further discussion was held on this item.

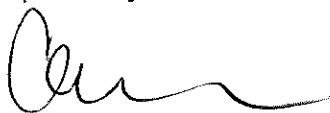
2022 Coordinated Transportation Plan Update: Ms. Grohe informed the committee that the transit plan is required to be updated this year. The area's mobility manager, from the Great Lakes Community Action Partnership (GCLAP), is spearheading the plan update and ERPC will be participating as a stakeholder. The first stakeholder meeting is scheduled to occur within the next week. No further discussion was held on this item.

Walk.Bike.Ohio: The Ohio Department of Transportation has completed a draft of their first ever bicycle and pedestrian plan called Walk.Bike.Ohio. Ms. Grohe said the ODOT public involvement period just wrapped up on February 26th and that more information can be found on the ODOT Walk.Bike.Ohio website. No further discussion was held on this item.

Ms. Grohe mentioned the next BPAC meeting is currently scheduled for June 16, 2021.

No other business was discussed and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectively Submitted,



Carrie Whitaker
Erie County Office of Regional Planning
Metropolitan Planning Organization