

**Erie Regional Planning Commission
MPO Combined Technical Advisory and Policy Committee
Meeting Minutes
July 27, 2023**

PRESENT: Dave Foster, Erie Regional Planning Commission Chair; Scott Ockunzzi, ODOT District 3; Nate Vogt, ODOT Central Office; Lawrence Hall, FHWA; Tony Valerius, City of Vermilion; Arin Blair, Josh Snyder, James Stacey, City of Sandusky; Erik Engle, Stuart Hamilton, City of Huron; Nick Katsaros, First Energy; Gary Boyle, Angela Byington, Perkins Township; Robert England, Erie County Health Department; Michelle Brummer, Gannet Fleming; Tim King, Kevin Cannon, Erie County staff.

Mr. Cannon called the meeting to order at 2:00 P.M. The meeting was hybrid where participants were given an option to appear in person or through a web-ex online meeting. Mr. Cannon noted that Mr. England, Mr. Stacey, Mr. Snyder, Mr. Hall, Ms. Brummer, Mr. Vogt, Mr. Ockunzzi, Ms. Byington and Mr. Hamilton were attending virtually.

Agenda Item #1 Approval of the May 25, 2023 Combined TAC/Policy Meeting Minutes:

Mr. Cannon presented the minutes of the May 25, 2023 Combined TAC/Policy meeting. Mr. Valerius motioned to approve the minutes as presented and Ms. Byington seconded the motion; all voted aye and the motion was passed. No further discussion was held on this item.

Agenda Item #2 Review SFY 26 TA Applications:

Mr. Cannon briefly presented the six projects submitted for SFY 26 TA Applications, including two from City of Huron, two from City of Sandusky, one from Perkins Township and one from the City of Vermilion. Mr. Cannon stated that project selection committee had scored the projects and determined that Perkins Township Sidewalk project had the highest score and would be funded for the SFY 26 TA Applications. Mr. Engle motioned to concur with the project selection committee's recommendation of funding, and Mr. Valerius concurred. Discussion was held and Ms. Blair inquired as to how projects are scored. Mr. Cannon said he could share the scoring sheets. At that point, all voted aye and the motion was passed. Mr. Cannon continued with comments on the Project Selection process, noting that the questions tended to be open for debate, and that the committee would look to revise the scoring sheets into a matrix with methodology. Mr. Valerius and Mr. Boyle agreed that the committee has previously had issues with scoring breakdowns. Mr. Cannon shared he reached out to other MPO's for their scoring sheets to review methodologies, and that over the course of the MPA expansion the committee would look to develop a more subjective scoring sheet. No further discussion was held on the item.

Agenda Item #3 Freight Plan Final Review:

Ms. Brummer with Gannet Fleming presented the final Freight Plan Review. She began with the core plan elements including the six goals, and moved on to the core freight network. Ms. Brummer highlighted the core freight network as a dynamic tool for project programming, and discussed appropriate freight planning into the LRTP and TIP. Continuing, she touched on the formation of the Freight Advisory Committee to encourage public involvement and education for practitioners. Ms. Brummer concluded with implementation over the next two years, including progress reports, annual action plans, and determining public engagement with the process. Mr. Cannon noted the importance of the Freight Plan moving forward for the MPO. Ms. Blair motioned for the adoption of the Erie County Freight Plan as a dynamic document, and Mr. Foster seconded the motion; all voted aye and the motion was passed. No further discussion was held on this item.

UPDATES

Administrative Modifications: Mr. Cannon presented four administrative modifications that have been processed to the MPO. They included PID 113959 ERI CR 0005 02.85 E. Perkins - funding increase in the construction phase from \$451,275.00 to \$745,554.87 in SFY 2025; PID 113961 LOR CR 0624 01.97 Sunnyside Rd. -funding increase in the construction phase from \$861,708.75 to \$1,156,024.10 in SFY 2025; PID 113959 ERI CR 0005 02.85 E. Perkins - detailed design phase carried forward into the SFY 2024-27 TIP; and PID 118478 ERI CR 0110 1.97 Campbell - environmental phase carried forward into the SFY 2024-27 TIP.

Committees- Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory, Citizen Advisory and Freight Advisory: Mr. Cannon spoke about restarting two committees, the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) and Citizens Advisory and Safety Committee (CAC), as well as starting a Freight Advisory Committee. Mr. Cannon laid out a timeline of quarterly meetings in a hybrid format, and spoke to the possibility of combining the BPAC and CAC committees based on time assessment. Policy members concurred in the past the committees had been combined for a short time. No further discussion was held on the item.

US 6 Connectivity Corridor Update: Mr. Ockunzzi provided a monthly update for the Route 6 Connectivity Corridor, noting design was moving along well along the corridor. Perkins Avenue and the Maples Motel is currently in preliminary design and still appears similar to what was originally in the TRANS system study completed in 2019. Mr. Ockunzzi stated that ODOT is still looking to work with Maples Motel on coming to a solution for Right of Way, and that there is no desire for ODOT to take the hotel. Alternative information appearing online to this is incorrect. Mr. Ockunzzi concluded with ODOT's ongoing work with the Erie Metroparks addressing the ingress/egress and repaving coordination.

No other business was discussed and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectively Submitted,

Kevin Cannon, Transportation Planner
Erie County Offices of Regional Planning
Metropolitan Planning Organization