

Erie Regional Planning Commission and Metropolitan Planning Organization



Summer Report
2020

Summer Report

Table of Contents

- Department Information.....2-3
- Community Development.....4-5
- Economic development.....6
- Metropolitan Planning Organization.....-7-14
- Other Projects and Activities.....15-17



Summer Report

Erie County Department of Regional Planning and Development

Erie County Regional Planning Commission

What Can We Do For You?

We would be more than happy to assist with...

Planning Services

- ◆ Zoning Code/Resolution Development and Revisions/Updates
- ◆ Subdivision Regulations Development and Revision/Updates
- ◆ Comprehensive Planning
- ◆ Special Planning Studies
- ◆ Planning Research
- ◆ Downtown Revitalization Activities
- ◆ Legal Opinions on Zoning and Planning Issues
- ◆ Newsletters with Planning Information
- ◆ Grant Search Assistance and Writing
- ◆ Subdivision Review for Unincorporated Areas
- ◆ Lot Split Review and Approval
- ◆ Rezoning Review for Zoning Changes in Unincorporated Areas
- ◆ Census Bureau Programs
- ◆ Floodplain Program Administration

Economic Development

- ◆ Enterprise Zone (EZ) Program Administration
- ◆ Community Reinvestment Areas (CRA)
- ◆ Revolving Loan Fund (RLF)
- ◆ Tax Increment Financing (TIF)

Housing and Community Development Services

- ◆ Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program Administration
- ◆ Community Housing Improvement Program (CHIP) Administration
- ◆ Fair Housing Services
- ◆ Handicapped Access Improvements to Residential Units

Mapping/GIS/Computer Services

- ◆ Geographic Information System (GIS) Access
- ◆ Zoning Map Maintenance and Reproduction
- ◆ Specialized Maps for Documents or Presentations
- ◆ Assistance with Preparation of Documents or Presentations

Summer 2020

Officers of ERPC Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO):

Chair:

Pat Sheingo

Vice-Chair:

Gary Boyle

Secretary:

Nicole Grohe



Officers of Erie Regional Planning Commission (ERPC):

President:

Dave Foster

Vice-President:

Ed Enderle

Secretary:

Tim King



Flowchart of Erie County Regional Planning

Contact Information:

419.627.7792

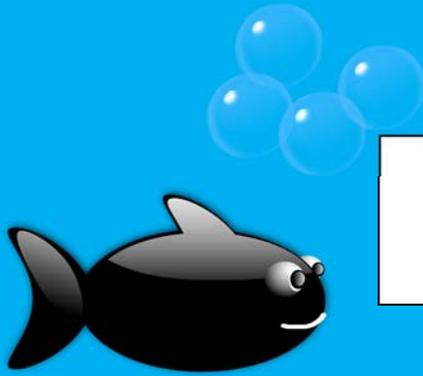
Monday-Friday

8:00 AM-4:30 PM

Planning@ErieCounty.OH.Gov

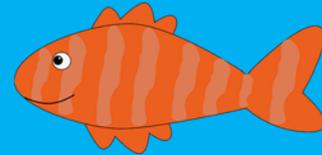
2900 Columbus Avenue

Sandusky, Ohio 44870



**Erie County
Commissioners**

**County Administrator
Pete Daniel**



*Erie Regional
Planning
Commission (ERPC)
Contracted by Erie
County*

**Planning and Development Director
Steve Poggiali**

**Administrative
Assistant
Cindy Rogers**

**Financial Economic
Development Specialist
Zach Rospert**

**Senior Planner
Tim King**

**Associate
Planner
Nicole Grohe**

**Senior Transportation
Planning Engineer
Carrie Whitaker**

**Transportation MPO
Policy & Technical Advisory
Committees**



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Planning and Zoning Update: Due to Covid 19 health concerns, all in person contact with Erie County political jurisdictions has been by appointment only. However planning staff continue to provide guidance to Erie County jurisdictions. Most recently staff have been working with the Erie County Prosecutor’s Office and Vermilion Township to update their Agricultural zoning district to bring

2019 Community Housing Impact & Preservation (CHIP) Grant: Erie County was awarded an additional \$1.25 million in 2019 CHIP funds to continue assisting Erie County residents with rehabilitating their homes. First started in 1995 previous funding successes are as follows:

<u>Amount</u>	<u>Year</u>
\$500,000	1995
\$600,000	1998
\$500,000	2000
\$555,000	2002
\$555,000	2004
\$540,000	2006
\$522,000	2010
\$400,000	2013
\$575,000	2014
\$1,400,000	2017
<u>\$1,250,000</u>	2019
\$7.397 million – total	
\$672,454 average award	



The 2019 CHIP Grant still has Erie County partnering with the cities of Huron, Sandusky and Vermilion. However, due to a higher demand for housing assistance in the City of Sandusky, the funding amounts breakout out as follows:

Erie County	\$300,000
City of Huron	\$300,000
City of Vermilion	\$300,000
City of Sandusky	\$350,000 * Home
<u>Total</u>	<u>\$1.250 million</u>

The CHIP Program allows for no direct costs to applicants with payoff of the lien for housing rehabilitation not due until the sale or transfer of rehabbed home. It should be noted, Erie County has a “Walk Away” policy that stipulates homes with costs estimates in excess of the allowed maximum are deemed a walk-a-way project and the program cannot provide assistance. Due to the COVID-19 virus work on rehabilitating homes had been brought to a halt. Erie County is now cautiously looking to restart working on homes.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Community Development Block Grant Update (CDBG) Awarded Grants: In 2018 Erie County was awarded \$196,000 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding which is primarily designed to help low/moderate income residents or to eliminate slum/blight. During the project review process, the following projects were reviewed and selected by the Commissioners for funding and included on the CDBG Application submitted to the state:

Volunteers of America Homeless Shelter Operating Expenses	\$40,000
Milan Township ADA Restrooms	\$35,000
Berlin Heights West Main Street Improvements	\$81,800
Erie County Admin/Fair Housing	<u>\$39,200</u>
	Total: \$196,000

Following the state of Ohio's approval of Erie County's application, a grant agreement was executed and the necessary environmental/historical reviews and release of funds were completed. Below is a description of the approved projects and the status of each.

Volunteers of America Homeless Shelter: During the CDBG planning process, the Community Development Implementation Strategy Committee (the CDBG recommending board) and the Erie County Commissioners both identified the Volunteers of America (VOA) homeless shelter operations as the number one priority. Therefore, the Erie County Commissioners continued their steadfast CDBG program by supporting their by setting aside funding for the operation of the homeless shelter. The funds will go to pay for heating the facility, as well as the purchase of food and electricity at the shelter. This project will end in August.

The Milan Town Hall on the Village Square: Built in 1877, the Milan Town Hall lacked required Americans with Disabilities (ADA) improvements and much of the building needed to be brought up to code to satisfy current day (ADA) requirements. The 2018 CDBG funds will be used to retrofit the buildings first floor restrooms to compliment the new elevator that was recently installed for ADA accessibility. The CDBG funds will cover almost the entire project cost with Milan Township picking up a small portion. Project design and estimate were completed and a contract was awarded early in 2020. It should be noted, at the time of this writing the project is near completion.

The Village of Berlin Heights' West Main Street Improvements: Located in the heart of downtown Berlin Heights, West Main Street is in poor repair and in need of resurfacing. The \$81,800 budgeted in CDBG funds will cover almost 82% of the total \$100,000 construction estimate. Ohio Public Works Commission funds will be used to improve the lack of drainage that contributed to the poor condition of the road. This project was qualified by door to door income surveys as the beneficiaries are required to be at least 51% low/moderate income. The project is under contract but due to the wet spring the start had been pushed back with construction just getting under way.

The above projects are required to be completed by August 31, 2020. The funds must be drawn by September 30, 2020 with project and close out by October 31, 2020.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Revolving Loan Fund (RLF): Erie County Revolving Loan (RLF) fund offers a loan program with favorable rates to new and existing businesses located or considering locating within the County. The program is designed to fill the gap between the owner's equity and a private lender loan. Therefore, most of the loans are made to those who have exhausted all other financing avenues. The loan cannot exceed 50% of the entire budget or cost and there is a job creation requirement affiliated with each loan. The RLF loan can be used in concert with other local, state, and federal loan programs. All monies from the County's RLF are generated by repayments from businesses that have received financial assistance on Community Development Block Grant Economic Development (CDBG ED) projects. County staff and an outside RLF Committee evaluate all requests and make recommendations regarding loan proposals. Anyone interested in the RLF loan program should contact the Regional Planning Commission at 419.627.7792.

Ohio Enterprise Zone Program: The Ohio Enterprise Zone Program is another economic development tool administered by municipal and county governments that provides real and personal property tax exemptions to businesses making investments in Ohio. While Erie County is certified as an active Enterprise Zone, businesses must first negotiate and have any abatement approved before the project can begin. The maximum exemption level of 100% for 15 years must be approved by the local school district.

Planning staff recently completed two Enterprise Zones. One for Firelands Regional Medical Center in Perkins Township, and one for Akzo Nobel Coatings, Inc. in Huron Township.

The Erie County Commissioners approved an Enterprise Zone Agreement request for Firelands Regional Medical Center. Commissioners approved a 60% tax abatement over 10 years for a project at the former Discount Drug Mart property at 124 E. Perkins Avenue. The \$14,850,000 project calls for construction of a 45,000 square foot building to consolidate their multiple primary and administration care facilities in one location. The project is also estimated to create 19 new jobs over the next 5 years in addition to the retention of 38 full-time and 6 part-time positions.

Akzo Nobel Coatings, Inc. is planning to construct a 3-story Resin Pilot Plant, one pilot reactor system and one scale-up reactor system at their current facility located at 300 Sprowl Road, Huron, Ohio. The \$6,140,000 project will allow Akzo Nobel to retain 48 Full-Time equivalent positions, and hire one additional full-time employee. The facility will also be used during the year as a main training center for employees throughout the organization, subcontractors and consultants. The 15-year sliding scale agreement calls for a 75% abatement the first 5-years, a 50% abatement in years 6-10, and a 25% abatement in years 11-15.

Community Reinvestment Areas: Community Reinvestment Areas: The Ohio Community Reinvestment Area (CRA) Program is an economic development tool administered by municipal and county governments that provides real property tax exemptions to business making investments in Ohio. In order to use the CRA program, a city, village or county petitions to the Ohio Development Services Agency (ODSA) for confirmation of a geographical area in which investment has traditionally been discouraged. Part of the petition reviewed by the ODSA is a survey performed by the respective political subdivision. Once an area is confirmed, communities may offer real property tax exemptions to tax payers that invest in the area.

Tax Increment Financing (TIF): Tax Increment Financing (TIF) is another economic development mechanism available to township, municipal or county governments to finance public infrastructure improvements and, in some circumstances, residential rehabilitation. Payments derived from the increased assessed value of any real property are directed into a separate fund (often referred to as Payments in Lieu of Tax "PILOT") used to pay off the bonds associated with the financing of the improvements.



METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

News in Transportation Planning: Lake Erie Coastal Ohio Trail (LECT): The LECT is a 293 mile national scenic byway that runs along the south shore of Lake Erie from Ashtabula, Ohio to Toledo, Ohio. ERPC assists with corridor management planning for the trail to ensure it keeps its federal designation as a national scenic byway. ERPC learned in April that the National Scenic Byway Foundation selected the LECT as honorable mention for the Visitor Experience Award! There are 120 national scenic byways across the country so thank you to the Foundation for this prestigious honor. If you haven't checked out the LECT yet, you can download the LECT mobile app free from apple app store or google play. Or visit <https://www.transportation.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/odot/traveling/ohio-byways/lake-erie-coastal> .

National Scenic Byway Foundation announces the 2020 Byway Organization Awards

Innovation Award

Winner - Indiana's Historic Pathways
Honorable Mention:
Mohawk Towpath National Scenic Byway (NY)

Public-Private Partnership Award

Winner - Trail of the Ancients (CO)
Honorable Mention:
Appalachian Byway of Ohio
Covered Bridge Scenic Byway (IA)

Interpretation Award

Winner - Lincoln Highway Heritage Byway (IA)
Honorable Mention:
A1A National Scenic Byway (FL)
Kansas Byway Collection

Leveraging Resources Award

Winner - Merritt Parkway (CT)
Honorable Mention:
Byway 136 (NE)
Lakes to Locks Passage (NY)

Marketing & Communications Award

Winner - Florida Keys Scenic Highway
Honorable Mention:
Boom or Bust Scenic Byway (LA)
Sandhills Journey Scenic Byway (NE)
Scenic Highway of Legends (CO)

Visitor Experience Award

Winner - Sheyenne River Valley National Scenic Byway (ND)
Honorable Mention:
Lake Erie Coastal National Scenic Byway (OH)
Land & Sky Scenic Byway (KS)

Scenic Viewshed Improvement Award

Winner - Native Stone Scenic Byway (KS)

Expanding Knowledge Award

Winner - Old Canada Road National Scenic Byway (ME)
Honorable Mention:



The National Scenic Byway Foundation celebrates these Byway Organization Award winners!

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

MPO Overview: As the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Sandusky Urbanized Area, the ERPC is the designated agency responsible for developing and maintaining a comprehensive, coordinated and continuing transportation planning process. This “3-C” process has been adopted to ensure that the region’s local transportation network continues to be developed cognizant of various land use patterns, and one in which the safe and efficient movement of goods and people is paramount. The agency’s transportation planning activities are predicated on a predetermined committee structure which includes the Policy Committee and Technical Advisory Committee (TAC). The Policy Committee is comprised mostly of local elected officials who meet on a regular basis in order to determine transportation needs and improvement schedules. The TAC, which reports to the Policy Committee, represents a cross section of technical expertise that meets to evaluate and review policies and applications before they appear before the Policy Committee. The MPO also involves the general public into the planning processes. In order to ensure input and community involvement, the agency utilizes the services of its Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) and other ad-hoc advisory committees. The MPO also receives valuable input from its Safety Review and Improvement Committee. The MPO’s responsibility to further an integrated transportation plan for the region is a difficult task which requires an informed decision making process involving a diverse cross section of representatives from the community. These committees associated with the MPO meet on a regular basis to give guidance to those projects and policies implemented through the MPO. These committees also work to ensure greater public outreach and comment as a component of future MPO projects.

- Policy Committee Members:**
- Eric Wobser City of Sandusky City Manager
 - Dennis Murray-Ex-Officio Mayor, City of Sandusky
 - Paul Sigsworth-Erie County Sheriff
 - Andy Johns-Federal Highway Administration
 - Angela Byington -City of Sandusky
 - Andrew Shepler-ODOT, Central Office
 - Pat Sheingo-Erie County Commissioner
 - Mike Schafrath-ODOT D3
 - Aaron Klein-City of Sandusky Engineer
 - Gary Boyle-Perkins Township
 - Mayor City of Huron-City of Huron
 - Jim Forthofer-City of Vermilion, Mayor

- Technical Advisory Committee Members (TAC):**
- Andy Johns-Federal Highway Administration
 - Aaron Klein- City of Sandusky Engineer
 - Representative-City of Huron, City Manager
 - Mike Schafrath-ODOT D3
 - Dave Foster-ERPC
 - David Moyer-Erie County Utilities Director
 - Abbey Bemis- Erie Co. Econ. Develop. Corp. Director
 - Matt Lasko- Sandusky Comm. Develop. Director
 - Amy Moore-Erie Metro Parks
 - Robert England-Erie County Health Department
 - Eric Dodrill-Erie Soil & Water
 - Nicole DeFreitas-Sandusky Transit Administrator
 - Tony Valerius-City of Vermilion
 - Nick Kataros -Utilities Representative
 - Gary Boyle-Perkins Township



METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Transportation Improvement Program (TIP):

ERPC MPO Transportation Improvement Program: Coordinating the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) represents one of the Erie Regional Planning Commission's (ERPC) major responsibilities as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Sandusky Urbanized Area. The TIP functions as the formal listing of the federal funded transportation improvement projects that will be implemented within Erie County during the next four years. The formal TIP listing serves as a prerequisite to expending U.S. Department of Transportation federal surface transportation funding on the transportation system improvements within the county. The four-year TIP has primarily two elements, an Annual Element, which are projects programmed for the first year, and a multi-year element, which are projects that have been identified for future years. Below are the ERPC MPO funded projects currently in the State Fiscal Year 2020 – 2023 TIP.

	Jurisdiction	Project Location	Project Description	MPO Approved Funds
SFY 2020	City of Vermilion	Vermilion Road	Phase 2 - Resurfacing	\$673,094 Surface Transportation Funds UNDER CONSTRUCTION
	Erie County Engineer	Columbus Avenue (Perkins - Bogart)	Resurfacing	\$790,400 Surface Transportation Funds PROJECT COMPLETED
	City of Huron	Berlin Road/US 6	Intersection Improvements	\$350,000 Surface Transportation Funds CONSTRUCTION TO BEGIN IN JUNE
	City of Sandusky	Meigs Street	Reconstruction and Multi-use Path-Preliminary Engineering/Detail Design	\$186,556 Surface Transportation Funds DESIGN UNDERWAY
SFY 2021	Perkins Township	East Strub Road (250-Perkins) & Perkins Ave. (Strub-Peterson Lane)	Install Sidewalks (Design, Utilities, Right of Way, Environmental)	\$91,360 Transportation Alternative Funds
	Erie County Engineer	Strub Road (Columbus - US 250)	Resurfacing, Sidewalk Installation	\$225,600 Surface Transportation Funds \$176,000 Transportation Alternative Funds
	City of Sandusky	Monroe Street (Decatur St to Meigs St)	Roadway Reconstruction (Environmental, Right of Way, Detail Design)	\$75,943 Surface Transportation Funds
	City of Huron	US 6 @ Center Street	Intersection Modifications	\$500,000 Surface Transportation Funds
	City of Vermilion	Sunnyside Road (350' north of Jerusalem Rd. to 800' north of Norfolk/Southern grade crossing)	Road repair/resurfacing	\$825,606 Surface Transportation Funds
SFY 2022	City of Sandusky	Meigs Street	Reconstruction and Multi-use Path (Construction)	\$849,615 Surface Transportation Funds
	Perkins Township	East Strub Road (250-Perkins) & Perkins Ave. (Strub-Peterson Lane)	Install Sidewalks (Design, Utilities, Right of Way)	\$339,680 Transportation Alternative Funds
SFY 2023	City of Sandusky	Monroe Street (Decatur St to Meigs St)	Roadway Reconstruction (Construction)	\$683,484 Surface Transportation Funds

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

MPO Project Solicitation and Selection Process Updates: Throughout 2019 the MPO’s Project Selection Committee met several times to discuss updating its project solicitation and selection process. The committee recommended moving the call for new projects to an every other year cycle for specified state fiscal year(s) to be determined by the MPO’s Policy Committee and dependent upon surface transportation and transportation alternative budget availability.

ERPC’s first solicitation cycle under the revised process is currently underway. Project solicitation was held during March and April of 2020 for SFY 2024 and 2025 project. Seven separate project applications were received from three different project sponsors. Below is a chart summarizing the projects submitted and total amount of funds requested and available.

List of Projects Submitted during 2020 MPO Project Solicitation Process

May 12, 2020

Surface Transportation Program (STP)								
Project Sponsor	Project Location	Project Description	MPO Requested Funding	Total Project Cost	MPO/Local Split (percentages)	Functional Classification	Sponsor Self-Score	MPO Score
City of Sandusky	E. Water Street (Franklin St. to Meigs St.)	Resurfacing	\$474,477	\$600,804	79 / 21	Major Collector	61	TBD
City of Sandusky	E. Perkins Avenue (Milan Rd. to Remington Ave.)	Resurfacing	\$449,020	\$568,380	79 / 21	Minor Arterial	69	TBD
City of Sandusky	W. Monroe Street (Broadway St. to Camp St.)	Resurfacing	\$340,823	\$837,844	41 / 59	Minor Arterial/Major Collector	66	TBD
Erie County Engineers	Strub Road (Columbus Ave. to Campbell St.)	Resurfacing	\$365,200	\$456,500	80 / 20	Major Collector	39	TBD
Erie County Engineers	Campbell Street (Bogart Rd. to Marshall Ave.)	Resurfacing	\$422,400	\$528,000	80 / 20	Major Collector	37	TBD
City of Vermilion	Vermilion Road Phase 4a (1,890 ft. from south corp. line to south corp. line - approx. 0.36 mi.)	Resurfacing	\$881,445	\$1,191,772	74 / 26	Major Collector	44	TBD
City of Vermilion	Sunnyside Road Rehabilitation Phase 2 (800' north of N/S RR crossing to 200' north of Shady Lake Dr. - approx. 0.38 mi.)	Rehabilitation	\$889,387	\$932,525	74 / 26	Major Collector	45	TBD
Total			\$3,622,732	\$5,115,625				

MPO Funding Available

- ▶ SFY 2024 - \$1.65 M
- ▶ SFY 2025 - \$1.00 M

The MPO’s project selection committee met in May and began reviewing the submitted project applications and will meet again in June to finish their review and scoring of projects. The projects are each scored using MPO defined criteria. Once the scoring process is complete, staff will summarize the results and present to the MPO’s Citizens Advisory Committee and the public to gather input. Results of the scoring and ranking along with any comments received are then sent onward to the MPO’s Technical Advisory and Policy Committees for final project funding decisions.



METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

ERPC MPO Long Range Transportation Plan Update: ERPC MPO staff is nearing the end stages of updating the MPO's long range transportation plan (LRTP). The LRTP is a 25-year future plan that provides a strategy of capital improvement programming developed to guide the investment of public funds in transportation facilities. The ambition of the LRTP is the development of an intermodal transportation system, one that is efficient, fiscally sound, environmentally friendly, & which provides the regional infrastructure to better compete in the global economy. Federal law requires the LRTP be updated every five years.

Throughout plan development staff has compiled data in order to conduct analysis to review current existing conditions of the region's transportation network. The plan analyzes all forms of transportation including transit, bicycle, and pedestrian facilities and make project recommendations to best fit the future needs of the region while meeting fiscal constraints.

Initially, the plan began before the COVID 19 pandemic and one public meeting was able to be held. However, in March ERPC moved the LRTP public involvement to an online format to comply with state issued stay at home orders. Staff has placed presentations, draft plan chapters and other related materials on its ERPC LRTP website (<https://www.eriecounty.oh.gov/2040LongRangeTransportationPlan.aspx>) for public viewing. ERPC will accept comments on the LRTP through the end of June. If you would like to forward comments or have questions please contact our office by email at planning@eriecounty.oh.gov or by phone at 419-627-7792. The plan update will be taken to the MPO's Technical Advisory and Policy Committee July 23rd meeting to request their approval.



ERPC MPO Regional Safety Plan: Nationally, over 30,000 persons are killed in motor vehicle crashes annually and in Ohio, this number averages 1,000 per year. As such, ODOT has invested Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) funds to partner with the ERPC MPO to develop a regional safety plan. The goal of the plan is to identify strategies and actions to address the critical factors contributing to crashes and provide a framework to reduce fatalities and serious injuries on all roads in the ERPC MPO region. Between 2009 and 2017, Erie County experienced an average of 9 fatalities and 99 serious injuries per year.

Analysis of ODOT crash data as documented in the GIS Crash Analysis Tool (GCAT) database was completed and presented to stakeholders at two stakeholder workshops led by the consultant staff. Following the review and discussion of high-level crash trends, stakeholders prioritized four emphasis areas to prioritize efforts and resources: intersections, roadway departure, distracted driving, and speeding. Stakeholders also reviewed priority safety locations in the region and discussed/identified areas of major concern, issues, factors, actions, and improvements that could be used to reduce fatalities and serious injuries across the region's roadway network. With this input, WSP developed an action plan that prioritizes identified strategies, determine who is implementing/leading them, and established a timeframe for implementation, and resources needed. This action plan, as well as the results of the data analysis were combined into a final plan for use by all transportation and safety stakeholders in the ERPC MPO region to reduce fatalities and serious injuries. The plan can be viewed on ERPC's website at <https://www.eriecounty.oh.gov/DownloadableDocuments.aspx>.

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

US State Route 6 Corridor Planning Study: TranSystems consultants were retained by the Erie Regional Planning Commission to analyze conditions on Cleveland Road (US 6) from Sycamore Line (US 250) in the City of Sandusky to Rye Beach Road in the City of Huron. The study also included the analysis of Butler Street (from Milan Road to Cleveland Road) in the City of Sandusky and Rye Beach Road (from Cleveland Road south to the rail crossing) in the City of Huron.

Existing conditions related to the roadway, railroad, culverts, bridges, signage, geotechnical considerations, utilities, way-finding, multi-modal connections, public transit, and environmental concerns were analyzed throughout the study area. Stakeholder and public meetings were also held throughout the process to present findings and gather feedback to develop and refine feasible alternatives. Based upon the provided information and evaluations, specific alternatives were proposed and recommended for advancement. The project partners determined they would work with ODOT District 3 to submit four separate project funding applications through ODOT's safety program. In April, the applications were submitted and presented to the deciding committee in May. Below are summary sheets of the four submitted applications.

SAFETY APPLICATION SUMMARY

ERI-6-9.07-10.55
US 6, US 250 to Remington Avenue
City of Sandusky, Erie County
April 2020



Project Phase	PE - Environmental	PE - Detailed Design	PE - Right of Way / Utilities	Construction	Total
Fiscal Year 2022				2023	
Previous Safety					\$0
New Safety	\$1,005,813	\$104,888	\$1,155,770	\$2,648,030	\$4,914,501
Sponsor Funding	\$52,937	\$5,362	\$60,830	\$139,370	\$258,499
Total	\$1,058,750	\$107,250	\$1,216,600	\$2,787,400	\$5,170,000

Crash Statistics (2015-2017)

- 45 Total Crashes 2015-2017
- 24% Injury Crashes
- Major Crash Types: 22 Rear End (49%), 31 Angle (24%)
- 78% Crashes occurred May-October
- ERI-6 SLM 10.39-10.49 - Urban Non-Freeway #1377



Location Map

- Signal Removal
- Intersection Improvement



Crash Map

Application Scoring

Category	Value	Points
Expected Crash Frequency	19.07	10
Observed KA/Total	0.02	1
% Improvement Potential	0.0%	0
Relative Severity Index	\$26,523	4
Equivalent PDO Index	3.05	3
Volume/Capacity Ratio	0.85	8
Benefit/Cost Ratio	0.82	0
Safety Funding % Request	95%	10
Application Score:		36



Proposed Conditions

US-6/Cedar Point Drive Roundabout



Proposed Conditions

US-6/Remington Ave Signal Upgrade and Widening

Description

- Convert Cedar Point Dr signalized intersection into a roundabout. A roundabout will reduce serious crash types and overall crash frequency and also reduce congestion.
- Upgrade the signal at Remington Ave and widen to include an EB right turn lane.
- Lengthen SB and WB left turn lanes at US 250.
- Remove 3 unwarranted signals

SAFETY APPLICATION SUMMARY

ERI-6-13.94-15.21
US 6, Camp Road to west of Rye Beach Road
Erie County
April 2020



Project Phase	PE - Environmental	PE - Detailed Design	PE - Right of Way / Utilities	Construction	Total
Fiscal Year 2022				2024	
Previous Safety					\$0
New Safety	\$1,618,442	\$217,808	\$656,530	\$7,474,950	\$9,967,730
Sponsor Funding					\$0
Total	\$1,618,442	\$217,808	\$656,530	\$7,474,950	\$9,967,730

Crash Statistics (2014-2018)

- 2018 HSIP Suburban Intersection #235
- 90 Total Crashes 2014-2018
- 24% Injury Crashes
- 46 Rear End Crashes
- 19 Crashes (21%) occurred in July



Location Map



Crash Map

Application Scoring

Category	Value	Points
Expected Crash Frequency	11.51	6
Observed KA/Total	0.04	2
% Improvement Potential	5.04%	10
Relative Severity Index	\$54,226	10
Equivalent PDO Index	4.7	4
Volume/Capacity Ratio	1.2	10
Benefit/Cost Ratio	0.39	0
Safety Funding % Request	100%	10
Application Score:		52



Proposed Conditions

Camp Road



Proposed Conditions

Proposed Conditions at Sawmill Creek Drive

Description

- Convert the stop-controlled intersection of Camp Road to a roundabout. Roundabouts will reduce serious crash types and overall crash frequency and also reduce congestion due to Cedar Point Traffic.
- Widen US 6 from Camp to Rye Beach to install a TWLT.
- Add EB right turn lane at Sawmill Creek to improve the intersection sight distance.

(Continued...)

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

US State Route 6 Corridor Planning Study (cont'd):

SAFETY APPLICATION SUMMARY

ERI-6-12.89
US 6 and Perkins Avenue Roundabout
Erie County
April 2020



Project Funding

Project Phase	PE - Environmental	PE - Detailed Design	PE - Right of Way / Utilities	Construction	Total
Fiscal Year 2022				2024	
Previous Safety					\$0
New Safety	\$802,300	\$101,700	\$491,550	\$3,440,850	\$4,836,400
Sponsor Funding					\$0
Total	\$802,300	\$101,700	\$491,550	\$3,440,850	\$4,836,400

Crash Statistics (2014-2018)

- 2018 HSIP Suburban Intersection #248
- 2017 HSIP Suburban Intersection #182
- 31 Total Crashes 2014-2018
- 19% injury Crashes
- Major Crash Types: 12 Rear End, 6 Angle, and 5 Fixed Object

Location Map



Crash Diagram



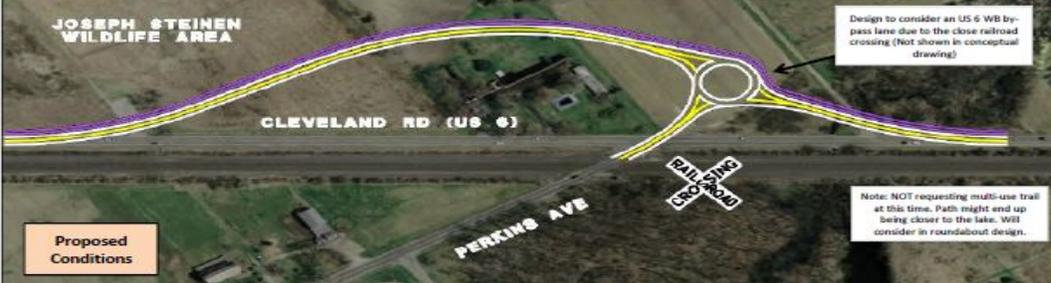
Application Scoring

Category	Value	Points
Expected Crash Frequency	8.03	4
Observed KA/Total	0.00	0
% Improvement Potential	8.49%	16
Relative Severity Index	\$63,328	10
Equivalent PDO Index	3.22	3
Volume/Capacity Ratio	0.6	2
Benefit/Cost Ratio	0.51	0
Safety Funding % Request	100%	10
Application Score:	45	

Description

- Convert the stop-controlled intersection of Perkins Avenue to a roundabout. Roundabouts will reduce serious crash types and overall crash frequency.
- Design to consider an US 6 WB by-pass lane due to the close railroad crossing (Not shown in conceptual drawing)
- Vertical curvature, extreme skew, and close proximity to a railroad crossing

Proposed Conditions



Note: NOT requesting multi-use trail at this time. Path might end up being closer to the lake. Will consider in roundabout design.

SAFETY APPLICATION SUMMARY

ERI-6-15.33, 15.46, 15.64
US 6 & Rye Beach Road Roundabouts
Erie County
April 2020




Project Funding

Project Phase	PE - Environmental	PE - Detailed Design	PE - Right of Way / Utilities	Construction	Total
Fiscal Year 2022				2024	
Previous Safety	\$1,487,600	\$194,700	\$1,415,900	\$5,853,500	\$8,951,700
Sponsor Funding					\$0
Total	\$1,487,600	\$194,700	\$1,415,900	\$5,853,500	\$8,951,700

Crash Statistics (2015-2018)

- SR 2 WB Ramps & Rye Beach Road: 2018 HSIP Suburban Intersection #394
- 40 Total Crashes 2015-2018
- 30% Injury Crashes
- 19 Rear End, 10 Angle Crashes
- 21 Crashes occurred on Friday, Saturday, or

Location Map



Crash Map



Application Scoring

Category	Value	Points
Expected Crash Frequency	8.9	4
Observed KA/Total	0.00	0
% Improvement Potential	0.0%	0
Relative Severity Index	\$25,818	4
Equivalent PDO Index	2.95	2
Volume/Capacity Ratio	1.0	10
Benefit/Cost Ratio	0.30	0
Safety Funding % Request	100%	10
Application Score:	30	

Description

- Convert three signalized intersections into roundabouts
- Roundabouts will reduce serious crash types and overall crash frequency
- Reduce congestion and back-ups at the interchange due to Cedar Point traffic

Proposed Conditions



ODOT is expected to announce their decisions on project funding in June. Stay tuned to the Planning Press and ERPC's website <https://www.eriecounty.oh.gov/ErieRegionalPlanningCommission.aspx> for information on these important projects!

Active Transportation Month: Due to the pandemic stemming from COVID-19 activities planned for May's Active Transportation Month were scaled back. An educational flyer was posted on ERPC's website, Facebook and e-mailed out to various committees. The flyer contained information on how to participate in active transportation activities safely. It is hopeful that next year normal activities can be resumed.

Guidance on how to Incorporate Active Transportation into Your Daily Life during the COVID-19 outbreak:

Ohio Department of Health	Coronavirus (COVID-19)
Families and Individuals	Healthcare Providers and Local Health Districts



Does the Stay at Home order mean I can't take my kids to the park?

Families will still be able to go outside, including to parks and outdoor spaces that remain open, and take a walk, run, or bike ride but should continue to practice social distancing by remaining 6 feet away from other people. Playgrounds are closed because they pose a high risk of increasing transmission.

Can I leave home to exercise?

Yes. Outdoor exercise like running or taking a walk is perfectly acceptable; however, exercise gyms, fitness centers and associated facilities are closed to reduce the spread of coronavirus. While exercising outside, you should still practice social distancing by running or walking at least six feet away from other people.

<https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/families-and-individuals/stay-at-home-information/Stay-At-Home-Order-Frequently-Asked-Questions>



County Projects and Activities

Bayfront Corridor Committee:

Erie Regional Planning Staff also serve on the City of Sandusky Bayfront Corridor Committee. The group meets each month on the third Thursday to discuss a number of issues relative to development along the City of Sandusky waterfront. Topics discussed include the Paper District, transient marina project, the development of the properties west of the Paper District, Lions Park redevelopment, infrastructure and beautification projects, parking, Sandusky Bay Pathway and other related development and recreation projects associated with the Bayfront Corridor.



Erie County Community Council:

ERPC staff also attends Erie County Community Council. Community Council meetings allow staff to share with other social service groups what programs the department has available.

GIS Advisory Board: Staff continues to attend the Erie County GIS Advisory Board. The GIS Board advises county staff on GIS services.



Other County Projects and Activities

Ohio Association of Regional Councils: Erie Regional Planning Commission (ERPC) staff has become very active at the state level over the past few years with the Ohio Association of Regional Councils (OARC). Currently, ERPC staff serves on the OARC Policy Committee working on a strategic agenda with one collective voice with a proactive framework to assertively advocate for issues, policies and interests throughout the State of Ohio. OARC is interested in developing innovative and responsive public policies and legislation that will ensure strong infrastructure, cultivate new public and private sector relationships, create new jobs, enhance the quality of life, and secure a formidable presence for our state. Currently, the Policy Committee is tracking the following bills:

HB 7 - WATER FUND

HB 13- BROADBAND EXPANSION

HB 72 - CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

HB 115 - REGULATIONS

HB 149 - TAX EXEMPTION

HB 163 - WATER/SEWER SERVICE

HB 190 - BROADBAND PROGRAM

HB 252 - LAND REUTILIZATION

HB 264 - INFRASTRUCTURE LOANS

HB 288 - EMINENT DOMAIN

HB 295 - ELECTRIC SCOOTERS

SJR 1 - WATER BONDS

SB 1 REGULATIONS

SB 2 - WATERSHED PROGRAM

SB 161- CAR SHARING



Metropolitan Planning Organization Executive Directors from
around the State of Ohio

The Firelands Partnership: Staff continues to serve on the Steering Committee of the Firelands Partnership. The Firelands Partnership brings together business, educational and community leaders, local government officials and other supporters to provide insights on fostering change and creating economic opportunities. The goal is to create collaboration and partnership over a multi-county area.

Other County Projects and Activities

Lot Splits:

Perkins Township	3
Berlin Township	5
Margaretta Township	1
Huron Township	2
Groton Township	1
Vermilion Township	1

Just a Reminder... We will be closed:

July 3rd Independence Day
 September 7th Labor Day
 October 12th Columbus Day
 November 11th Veterans Day
 November 26th/27th
 Thanksgiving



Presentations: Planning staff made numerous presentations this year to various political subdivisions and local community groups. Topics for these presentations included metropolitan planning organizations, development procedures for townships and municipalities and economic development in Erie County.

Website: The Department's website can be found at:

<http://www.eriecounty.oh.gov/departments-and-agencies/economic-development/erie-regional-planning-commission/>.

The site is updated to include news and information regarding the Metropolitan Planning Organization, Regional Planning/Zoning, Census Information, Comprehensive Plan Development and Department Publications. Follow us on Facebook at ERPC MPO!

Members of Erie

Regional Planning Commission:

<i>City of Sandusky</i>	
<i>City of Vermilion</i>	<i>Margaretta Township</i>
<i>City of Huron</i>	<i>Milan Township</i>
<i>Village of Berlin Heights</i>	<i>Oxford Township</i>
<i>Village of Castalia</i>	<i>Perkins Township</i>
<i>Village of Kelleys</i>	<i>Vermilion Township</i>
<i>Island</i>	<i>Village of Bay View</i>
<i>Village of Milan</i>	
<i>Berlin Township</i>	
<i>Florence Township</i>	
<i>Groton Township</i>	
<i>Huron Township</i>	

