

# MVPO Transportation Technical and Citizens Committees Meeting



Wednesday, August 29, 2018 – 10:30 a.m.  
Second Floor Conference  
1300 E. Second Street, Suite 200  
Defiance, OH 43512

**Members Present:** Charles Schreck, Todd Roth, Tim Schumm, Bruce Yancey, Amy Metz-Simon, Tina Hiler, Matt Gilroy, Matt Davis, Dennis Miller, Ellen Smith, Emma Kirkpatrick, Marissa Lumbrezer, Warren Schlatter, Jerry Hayes, Paul E. Heisey

**Others Present:** Kelly Carey, Joel Mazur

## Meeting Notes

1. **Introductions/Convene Meeting**
2. **RTPO Program Activities Update**
  - a. Technical Assistance Activities
    - i. Safety Initiatives/Data
      - The Village of Montpelier has been working on a safety application through the ODOT Safety Program. The funds will be used for SR 107 (E Main Street) Bike and Pedestrian Improvements. The area is lacking infrastructure for bicyclists and Pedestrians. The application is due to District 2 on Friday and is due to the Central Office on September 30. Awards will be announced in early November.
    - ii. ODOT Pilot Program
      - MVPO is part of a Statewide Committee that discusses safety issues with ODOT. Recently, ODOT started a transportation safety working group. ODOT's safety program has approximately \$102 million dollars available annually for the State of Ohio to make necessary safety improvements. Applications are accepted twice a year: April 30 and September 30 and in order to apply the entity must have completed a safety study for the project location.
      - ODOT is launching pilot program to encourage more communities to utilize safety funds. They will provide communities and counties with a consultant to complete safety studies at no cost to the local agency. They will do a call for projects each year where different entities can submit projects that would like to apply for safety funds for. ODOT will then review the projects and decide on a project site. ODOT has asked MVPO to help pilot this program – they would like MVPO to choose a site to be the first to get a safety study completed. For a project to be eligible the site

must be locally maintained, documents crash history, ranked on a priority list, should lack financial resources or technical capabilities to complete their own.

iii. Coordination of Human Services Transportation

- Regional Coordination Mobility Management

- a. A mobility manager is a high-level planner whose job is to investigate ways that coordination between transportation services can be enhanced. They can do multiple things including educating the public about what services exist, they can meet with stakeholders to determine what needs exist in the county, investigate special needs such as transportation to employment, and can investigate how to coordinate services so that transportation can be expanded. ODOT is currently in the process of encouraging regionalization throughout Ohio for mobility management. As such, MVPO will be meeting with ODOT in a couple of weeks to discuss the possibility of utilizing one mobility manager for multiple counties. This will reduce duplication because each county in the region won't need to hire their own manager and it will also set our area up for regionalization, which ODOT is going to be requiring in a few years.

iv. Active Transportation

- Williams County parks board is working with MVPO to develop an active transportation plan. This plan will identify existing infrastructure (such as sidewalks, trails and bike lanes), where gaps in infrastructure exist and potential funding sources to fill the gaps. A public survey was recently conducted, and 445 responses were received. MVPO will be presenting the survey results to the group next week and will discuss date, time, location, and agenda for the public meeting.

v. Street Light Data Insight

- ODOT has purchased Streetlight Data which is data related to traffic patterns. When people use their map application on their phones it is sold to a third party and is then utilized for analyses purposes. MVPO Staff was trained on how to utilize this data and are currently helping the Village of Archbold with an Origin Destination study. The data only offers percentages of total traffic, which is still helpful to see the big picture. MVPO is offering to help communities use this data if they have any projects of analysis that could help them with planning.

vi. Other Projects

- The City of Wauseon is investigating potentially installing a Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon (PHB) where the Wabash Cannonball Trail crosses Shoop Avenue (SR 108). A public survey about the trail is currently being conducted. The survey flyer was sent out in the water bills, but response has been low.

b. MT2040 Annual Project List Update 2018

- Project list has been updated. There were 15 new projects this year and 14 project updates. The Village of Fayette sent in projects for the first time and a township also submitted a project. MVPO used a two-step ranking process. The first step is to award points based on data -traffic counts, crashes, pavement condition rating, etc. – The next step is a subjective process completed by MVPO staff and they looked at E.D. and accessibility. All projects were rescored by rank and any ties were given to projects with an emphasis on safety.
- This year the project list update is important because MVPO is updating the Regional Transportation Improvement Program. MVPO will submit the top 20 projects to the State. Specifically, MVPO will be asking each local sponsor to submit their top two projects that they believe would be feasible to accomplish in the next few years if funding was made available.
- Next Steps
  - A motion was made to accept the draft list and allow it to go out for public comment. Matt Davis moved the motion and Matt Gilroy seconded the motion. There were no oppositions.
  - MVPO will make any necessary changes and will complete the final draft, which will be approved by MVPO’s executive staff council at the end of the year.

**3. Upcoming Dates/Other Information**

- RTIP Rural Consultation Meeting: Thursday, September 27, 2018 at 1:30 om (Northwest State Community College)
  - The meeting is a chance for the communities and counties in the region to come and talk to ODOT about projects. Communities will also be given the chance to see the project ODOT will be completing from SFY 2020-2023.
- Other Business
  - The group wants examples of projects funded to help others and a list of application deadlines would be nice at future meetings.

**4. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m.