



**RICHLAND COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
 AND
 TRANSPORTATION COORDINATING COMMITTEE
 MINUTES OF MARCH 24, 2021
 12:00 p.m. Via Zoom**

REGIONAL PLANNING		COORDINATING COMMITTEE	
Bob Bianchi		Jack Butler	
Gary Bishop	Present	David Falquette	Present
Teri Brenkus	Present	Chris Kocher (ODOT)	
Donnie Clark	Present	Andrew Shepler (ODOT)	Present
Bob Entemann	Present	Carmen Stemen (FHWA)	Present
Dan Fletcher	Present	Jon VanHarlingen	
Joe Gies	Present	Robert Weaver / Mike Schafrath (ODOT)	Present
Paul Gleisinger (Dave Siebold)	Present	Jordan Whisler (ODOT)	Present
Adam Gove	Present		
Todd Hall			
Sarah Humphrey			
Randy Hutchinson	Present		
John Jaholnycky	Present	PLANNING ADVISORY COUNCIL	
Norman Jones	Present	Tim Bowersock	Present
Cliff Mears	Present	Ellen Haring	
Cheryl Meier	Present	Chriss Harris	
Jodie Perry		Brian McCartney	
Ed Pickens		Charles Pscholka	
Dave Remy	Present	Marion Zaugg	
Steve Schag			
Matthew Stanfield	Present		
Lee Tasseff		GUESTS	
Timothy Theaker	Present	Dave Siebold	
Trae Turner	Present	Matt Whitter	
Deanna West-Torrence	Present	Mark Strohm	
Brian White		Cody Gerhardt	
Jeff Wilson			

Staff Members: Todd Blankenship Lyndsie Martin, Nick Leturgey, David Gentile. Terri Kiser, Jean Taddie, Jotika Shetty

1. Roll Call

Joe Gies started the meeting at 12:00. Roll Call was taken and quorum was confirmed

2. Approval of Minutes of the January 27, 2021 Meeting

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Randy Hutchinson. The motion was seconded by Bob Entemann and approved by all.

3. TRANSPORTATION COORDINATING COMMITTEE

(Business of the Metropolitan Planning Organization MPO)

A. Public Transportation Report

Jean Taddie, RCTB/Transit Development Manager updated on the following:

- Rides to Community Immunity
ODOT has awarded Richland County/RCTB up \$75,000 to provide rides to sites administering COVID vaccines. RCRPC plans to utilize RCT, DAR and door-to-door transportation services. Jean encouraged anyone working on the client or vaccination side to contact her to help partner on this program.
- RCTB will be sending out a RFP request for bus/shelter graphics design and application quotes. She encouraged anyone with vendor recommendations to contact her.
- Jean is working through the FTA Triennial Review, which is a standard review conducted every three years.
- Preparation by RCTB transportation data to be submitted for the NTD Annual Report.

B. Technical Advisory Committee Report

Todd Blankenship, Transportation Technical Director

- 1) **Resolution 21-10** An Annual Resolution Authorizing the Filing of Applications with ODOT

Adam Gove made a motion to approve Resolution 21-10, Teri Brenkus seconded the motion and Resolution 21-10 was approved by all.

- 2) **Resolution 21-11** A Resolution Approving the Richland County Active Transportation Plan (ATP)

The ATP is a plan that supports and encourages the development of active transportation infrastructure. RCRPC has supported many projects in the Richland County area that encourage walking and biking including the sidewalks in Lucas and Bellville the Mansfield Main Street Revitalization Project and so forth.

Nick Leturgey gave a brief presentation to present and explain the Active Transportation Plan. He demonstrated the highlights of the plan, the interactive web map available within the plan to access current and upcoming Active Transportation Projects and reviewed goals and strategies.

John Jaholnycky made a motion to approve Resolution 21-11, Donnie Clark seconded the motion and the Resolution/ATP was approved by all.

C. Other Transportation Issues from the Floor and comments

Project Updates – Todd Blankenship

- Diamond Street one-way to two-way is in process.
- Cook Rd sidewalks will be awarded very soon
- Main St. is in the preliminary stages, updates will be given as the project continues over the next couple of years.
- Adam Gove gave report that the Cook Rd. roundabout is on schedule. Efforts are underway to acquire the necessary right away, bidding of the work is scheduled for late fall this year. Construction is expected to begin in the summer of 2022 with a current estimate of 1.4 million dollars for the project.
Bob Entemann raised the question of how the roundabout will handle large truck traffic. Adam assured all that roundabouts are designed to handle large trucks effectively on the inner circle (apron) and agreed a public meeting to address public questions could be helpful.
- Joe Gies updated that the Shelby downtown streetscape enhancement is set to start in the fall. He also stated the CIC has been very successful in raising funds for upgrading the Black Fork Commons with some very exciting enhancements to come.
- Route 30 is under construction. Regional Planning has some funds in the project and will have updates available on the RCRPC website throughout the project.
- Congress is in process of passing another transportation bill and they are bringing earmarks back in to play. Jotika mentioned that proposals and conversations from Richland County need to be in quickly so they can be presented on April 14.

4. Program – Access Ohio 2045 - Ohio's Transportation Plan

Presented By: Jordan Whisler, ODOT

Jordan Whisler's program was an overview of Access Ohio 2045. The plan is a blueprint to guide, inform and support Ohio's transportation policies strategies and initiatives over the next 25 years. The development process for the plan took nearly three years and involved numerous meetings, teams, committees and extensive public engagement. The five key elements formed to reflect the goals of the A045 Transportation Plan are a 1.SAFE, 2.SMART, 3.CONNECTED, 4. COMMUNITY-ORIENTED and 5. COLLABORATIVE Transportation System. Jordan encourage all to visit Access.Ohio.gov to view the entire plan in detail.

5. REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

A. Zoning Subdivision and Land Use Report

Jotika reported the ZSL Committee met once since the last meeting to review a zoning request in Washington Twp. The variance to split the lot without road frontage was denied by the committee.

Adam Gove gave a motion to accept the ZSL Committee report. Bob Entemann seconded the motion and all approved the motion.

B. Executive Directors Report –

Jotika Shetty updated everyone with the following:

1. D16 Integrating Committee meeting will be Friday, March 26, 2021. New members nominated to represent Richland County starting in May 2021 through April 2024 are Commissioners -Cliff Mears, alternate, Darrell Banks. Cities - Joe Gies, alternate Bob Bianchi, and Townships – Adam Gove, alternate Jack Butler. Methodology for the next round of applications is expected to be the same; the only exception to the process is that applications will be submitted online. All projects were funded for Round 35 and now loan money will be offered.
2. County CDBG funding allocation was announced. \$288,000 was allocated to Richland County. Going forward, after this allocation, all funds will be awarded on a competitive basis only.
3. The annual Tax Incentive Review meeting was held and all were found to be in compliance with their agreements. Majors Metals is expected to be approved for a new agreement of 50% abatement for 15 years.
4. The proposal of reassigning what is a Metropolitan Statistical Area is concerning many about what this would mean for funding and changes for other programs. RCRPC submitted a letter of concern. Jotika thanked everyone who have also supported this concern with letters.
5. RCRPC also sent a letter of support to MORPC for the proposed Amtrak line from Cincinnati to Cleveland.
6. Jotika thanked Nick for all the work he has done for Regional Planning. Nick is planning a career move along with his wife and child back to their home area in Pennsylvania. She informed the commission that she will post Nick's open position shortly.
7. Jotika asked Bob Entemann to update the Commission on how the Townships are going to be included in the American Rescue Plan. Bob informed all that after investigating, it appears to be an error and that Townships will be included.

C. President's Report

Joe Gies thanked Jotika for her letter of support concerning the Metropolitan Statistical Area assignment. He wished Nick good luck with his future endeavors. Joe informed all that most of the Mayors met yesterday to discuss the American Rescue Plan.

6. Community Update - Village of Butler Regional WWTP

Presented By: Matt Whitter & Cody Gerhardt - K.E. McCartney & Associates

The Village of Butler and Bellville, a nearby mobile home park and the school had issues requiring major upgrades to their waste water systems and treatment plants. Once KEM and the Villages realized these problems existed and would benefit from a regional approach they reached out to the EPA. EPA provided a \$4,000,000 funding package as a kickoff for the EPA wastewater regionalization initiative. With the assistance of Jotika at Regional Planning, KEM also was able to obtain a \$500,000 OPWC Grant and a \$750,000 CDBG Grant. With all the support, the project became a reality. A new site location and infrastructure was designed to get everything flowing to one new site. Cody Gerhardt explained in detail the construction process and how the equipment will operate. Jotika added that this has been a model project of how different public entities can collaborate to work together to achieve one goal.

7. Others from the Floor and Comments

Bob Entemann inquired about the Niss Conservancy Project. Jotika replied that she has been advised that they are taking steps to maintain the natural habitation but as of now, recreational areas and other improvements are on hold.



Date of Next Meetings:

Executive Committee:
Full Commission:

April 7, 2021
June 23, 2021

The meeting was adjourned by declaration at 1:39 p.m.

There being nothing further, President Gies concluded the meeting.

By		Attest	
Joseph Gies		Jotika Shetty	
President		Executive Director	



RESOLUTION 21-10

OF THE COORDINATING COMMITTEE OF THE CONTINUING COMPREHENSIVE
LAND-USE AND TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM FOR RICHLAND COUNTY, OHIO

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF APPLICATIONS WITH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

WHEREAS, the Coordinating Committee of the Continuing Comprehensive Land-Use and Transportation Program of the Richland County Regional Planning Commission (RCRPC) who is designated as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Mansfield urbanized area by the Governor acting through the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) in cooperation with locally elected officials of Richland County; and

WHEREAS, RCRPC is authorized to apply for grants through the US DOT Federal Transit Administration (FTA), as authorized under Federal Transit Law, as codified, 49 USC Section 5310, Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities, Ohio's Specialized Transportation Program and executing a contract with the ODOT upon project approval.

WHEREAS, the Director of the ODOT is authorized to make grants for the Specialized Transportation Program;

WHEREAS, the contract for financial assistance will impose certain obligations upon the applicant, including the provision by it of the local share of the project costs in the program;

WHEREAS, it is required by the U.S. Department of Transportation in accordance with the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, that in connection with the filing of an application for assistance under 49 USC Section 5310 the applicant gives an assurance that it will comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the U.S. Department of Transportation (U.S. DOT) requirements thereunder; and


NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Coordinating Committee of the Continuing Comprehensive Land Use and Transportation Program for Richland County:

1. Authorizes the RCRPC Executive Director to execute and file
 - a) Proposals to aid in the financing of capital and operating assistance projects
 - b) Grant agreements with ODOT for the aid in the financing capital and operating assistance projects
 - c) An assurance or any other document required by the U.S DOT effectuating the purposes of Title VI of the Civil Right Act of 1964
 - d) Set forth affirmative disadvantaged business policies in connection to any procurement made as part of the project
2. Authorizes the RCRPC Executive Director to furnish such additional information as ODOT may require in connection with the proposal for the program of projects submitted to the Federal Transit Administration.

Certification:

The foregoing resolution was approved by the Coordinating Committee of the Continuing Comprehensive Land-Use and Transportation Program of the Richland County Regional Planning Commission at its regular meeting held on March 24, 2021.

By:




Joe Gies
President

Date

3/25/21

Attest:



Jotika Shetty
Executive Director/Secretary

Date

3/25/2021



RESOLUTION 21-11

OF THE COORDINATING COMMITTEE OF THE CONTINUING COMPREHENSIVE
LAND-USE AND TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM FOR RICHLAND COUNTY, OHIO

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE RICHLAND COUNTY ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN

WHEREAS, the Coordinating Committee of the Continuing Comprehensive Land-Use and Transportation Program of the Richland County Regional Planning Commission who is designated as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Mansfield urbanized area by the Governor acting through the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) in cooperation with locally elected officials of Richland County; and

WHEREAS, the MPO has identified Active Transportation as an integral piece of a complete transportation network. This plan shall influence direction of active transportation programs and infrastructure throughout the region.


WHEREAS, the Richland County Transportation Active Transportation Plan has been prepared and submitted and now shall be officially adopted, so

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Coordinating Committee of the Continuing Comprehensive Land Use and Transportation Program for Richland County:


Adopts the Richland County Active Transportation Plan

Certification:

The foregoing resolution was approved by the Coordinating Committee of the Continuing Comprehensive Land-Use and Transportation Program of the Richland County Regional Planning Commission at its regular meeting held on March 24, 2021.

By:  3/25/21

Joe Gies Date
President

Attest:  3/25/2021

Jotika Shetty Date
Executive Director/Secretary