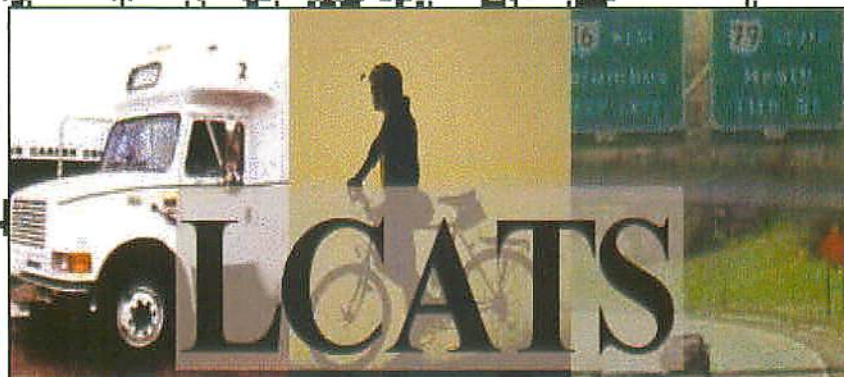




Licking County Area
Transportation Study
(LCATS)

Prospectus



January 2004

LICKING COUNTY AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY

(LCATS)

PROSPECTUS

RESOLUTION 103-05

**IN THE MATTER OF APPROVING THE LICKING COUNTY AREA
TRANSPORTATION STUDY (LCATS) REVISED PROSPECTUS AND BYLAWS.**

WHEREAS, the Policy Committee of the Licking County Area Transportation Study (LCATS), accepts the Technical Advisory Committee's (TAC) recommendation to changes of the LCATS Prospectus and bylaws.

WHEREAS, the 2000 census has updated the LCATS study and urbanized areas; and

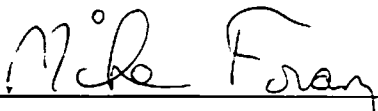
WHEREAS, prospectus and bylaws should be reviewed and updated as appropriate decennially with the census update; and

WHEREAS, the TAC has met on a number of occasions with the TAC adopting the Prospectus and Bylaws as final draft on Wednesday, October 15, 2003 for the Policy Boards approval; and

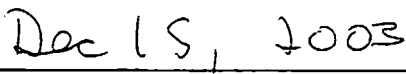
WHEREAS, the Policy Committee of LCATS approved Resolution T-2004-10 on November 18, 2003 and will become effective on Thursday, January 1, 2004.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Licking County Planning Commission Board, County of Licking, State of Ohio that it approves the Licking County Area Transportation Study's Prospectus and Bylaws.

A motion was made and seconded that Resolution 103-05 be adopted. All were in favor.



Mike Foran (Chairman)



Date

RESOLUTION T - 2004 - 10

OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE OF THE LICKING COUNTY AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY (LCATS), ACCEPTS THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE'S (TAC) RECOMMENDATION TO CHANGES OF THE LCATS PROSPECTUS AND BYLAWS.

WHEREAS, the 2000 census has updated the LCATS study and urbanized areas; and

WHEREAS, prospectus and bylaws should be reviewed and updated as appropriate decennially with the census update; and

WHEREAS, the TAC has met on a number of occasions with the TAC adopting the Prospectus and Bylaws as final draft on Wednesday, October 15, 2003 for the Policy Boards approval; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Policy Committee of LCATS recommends the following:

- Section 1. Approval of the Prospectus and Bylaws for the new LCATS urbanized and study areas.
- Section 2. Approved Prospectus and Bylaws will have a date to become effective Thursday, January 1, 2004.
- Section 3. This committee finds and determines that all formal deliberations and actions of this committee concerning and relating to the adoption of this resolution were taken in open meetings of this committee.



Tim Lollo, Chair
Licking County Area Transportation Study

November 18, 2003

LICKING COUNTY AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY PROSPECTUS

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APPENDICES

- I. Articles of bylaws and rules of procedure of the
 Licking County Area Transportation Study (LCATS)
 - A. Articles of bylaws and rules of procedure of the LCATS Technical Advisory
 Committee.
 - B. Articles of bylaws and rules of procedure of the LCATS Bicycle and
 Pedestrian Transportation Committee.
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 (LCATS) and the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) re: Air
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INTRODUCTION

The Newark-Heath Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) was organized in response to the 1980 Census identifying the urban area as having reached the 50,000 population threshold. Due to the requirements of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (ISTEA), and the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990, the Ohio Department of Transportation requested that officials from the Cities of Newark and Heath, and Licking County, form a staffed MPO. As a result, the Licking County Area Transportation Study (LCATS) was formed to conduct a continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive urban transportation planning process for the area.

The actual designation of LCATS was made per Section 450.306 Metropolitan Planning Organization: Designation and Re-designation, from the Federal Register dated October 28, 1993, 23 CFR Part 450 and 49 CFR Part 613. The section states, "Designations of MPOs made after December 18, 1991, shall be by agreement among the governor(s) and units of general purpose local governments representing 75 percent of the affected metropolitan population including the central cities as defined by the US bureau of The Census, or in accordance with the procedures established by state or local law."

The service area for LCATS is Licking County, Ohio (excluding The City of Pataskala and Etna Township,) and the Village of Millersport and portions of Walnut Township in Fairfield County, further referenced as the Service Area herein. A map describing LCATS transportation planning boundaries is located on page 3.

On July 1, 1993, LCATS began operation as the newest Metropolitan Planning Organization in the State of Ohio. The first Policy Committee meeting was held in July 1993.

This prospectus describes LCATS organizational structure, committee bylaws, and the work to be performed in the conduct of the transportation planning process.

LICKING COUNTY AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY MISSION STATEMENT

To ensure the transportation system in Licking County supports and encourages appropriate economic development and social activities, while maximizing the efficient use of our natural and human resources and minimizing adverse impacts upon the natural and built environments.

ORGANIZATION

The objective of the Licking County Area Transportation Study (LCATS) is to conduct and implement a comprehensive multi-modal transportation planning process for the Service Area, which is compatible with anticipated land uses, economic development, and local financial resources.

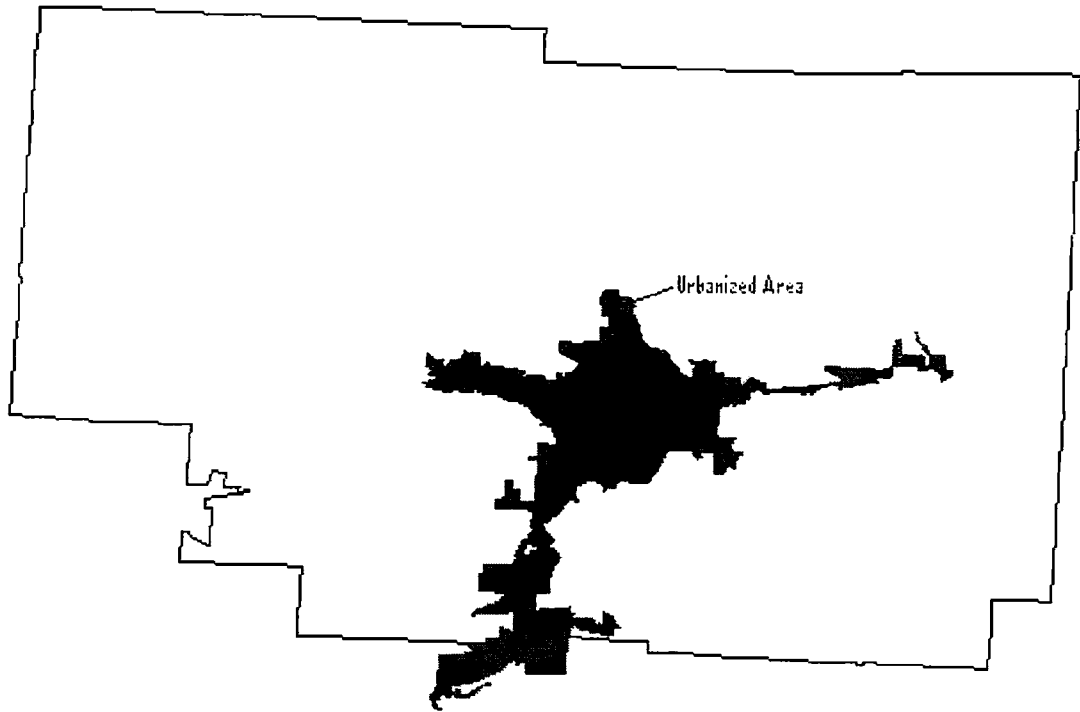
The planning process is carried out through a two-party agreement between the Licking County Planning Commission, pursuant to Sections 713.21 and 713.23, of the Ohio Revised Code, and the State of Ohio, Department of Transportation. Under the two-party agreement, LCATS furnishes to the Ohio Department of Transportation:

1. This Prospectus.
2. A work program and budget for the current year and each ensuing year in accordance with the Prospectus.
3. A periodically updated, annually affirmed transportation plan resulting from the process.
4. A biennially updated Transportation Improvement Program resulting from the process.
5. A periodic reporting of events, developments, and accomplishments resulting from the Transportation Planning Process.

Furthermore, per the agreement, the Policy Committee is delegated the authority and responsibility for the direction, coordination, and administration of the urban transportation planning process. The membership of the Policy Committee is enumerated in the Policy Committee Bylaws, included herein as Appendix I. To ensure that a broad perspective and all pertinent information is considered in the urban transportation planning process, the direct involvement of all transportation implementing agencies and citizens within the Service Area are encouraged, through LCATS Public Involvement Process, to participate in the LCATS forum.

The LCATS Policy Committee solicits input from the Technical Advisory Committee. This permanent sub-committee of LCATS is comprised of representatives with expertise in transportation planning, land use planning, economic development and project implementation, as enumerated in LCATS bylaws, included herein as Appendix I. The Policy Committee also solicits input from the Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation Committee. Also a permanent sub-committee of LCATS, the Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation Committee is comprised of representatives of agencies with interest in bicycle and pedestrian transportation issues, as described in the LCATS bylaws, included herein as Appendix I. The Policy Committee also is responsible for ensuring public input opportunities to the planning process, as discussed in the Transportation Planning Process section of this document.

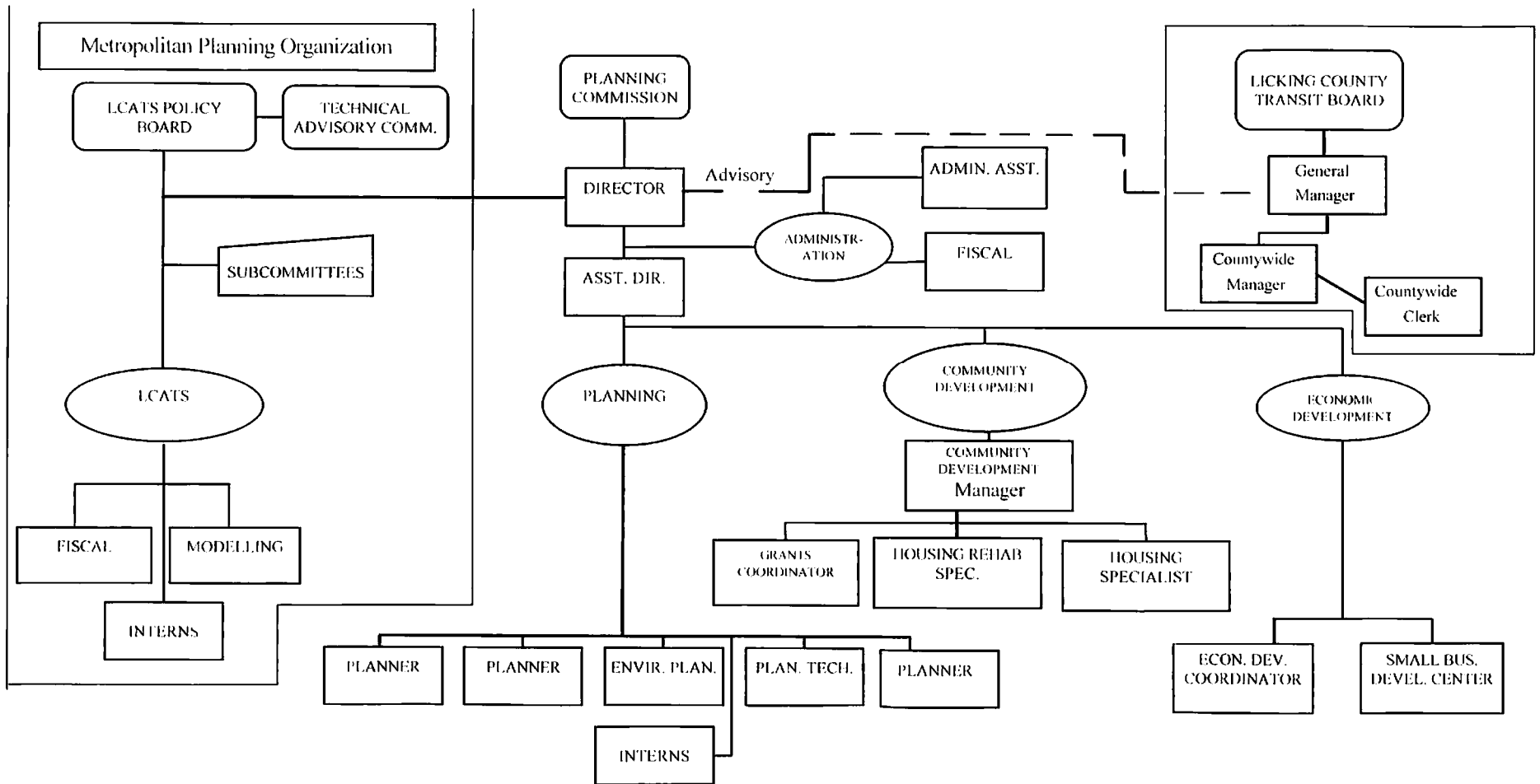
The Licking County Area Transportation Study is a section of the Licking County Planning Commission. The Planning Commission acts as the handling agent for LCATS. The Policy Committee approves all decisions of LCATS. An organizational chart depicting the integration of LCATS staff and functions with the Licking County Planning Commission is included in Section 4.



Licking County Area Transportation Study - Service Area

LICKING COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

Oct. 2003



TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ISSUES

The transportation planning process is designed to study and resolve known problems and issues and to identify and resolve other not so readily apparent problems and issues. This section of the Prospectus will identify the transportation planning issues that the LCATS planning process will address.

General Mobility - There is a need to identify the multi-modal transportation needs for the Service Area to ensure that the transportation system provides an equal and reasonable level of general mobility to all citizens.

Maintenance Needs of the Existing Transportation System - As the competition for public funds increases, it becomes increasingly important to preserve and extend the life of capital investments already undertaken. To this end a comprehensive long-term schedule of maintenance needs to be developed.

Transportation Network System Operation Improvements - Monitor the existing system and making necessary operational improvements to provide for its efficient system operation.

Access Management - As the County continues to grow, especially in the western townships, new access points and maintenance of vehicular flow on arterial roadways will be controlled per Article 8 of the subdivision regulations for Licking County, Ohio.

Transportation System Safety - Implement transportation improvement projects to respond to identified network safety deficiencies.

Funding - Develop a transportation program that allocates the available funding to the highest priority improvement projects.

Public Transportation - Provide assistance to public transit providers to maximize services to meet the mobility needs of transit dependent persons within the Service Area.

Complementing Economic and Community Development - There is a need to coordinate and develop transportation plans and programs which coordinate and complement economic and community development.

Air Quality - The 1990 Clean Air Act amendments require non-attainment and maintenance areas to demonstrate that the transportation plans and programs for these areas are in conformance with the state implementation plan for the attainment of the national air quality standards. The Service Area is a part of a maintenance area for ozone and is therefore subject to these requirements.

Public Input to the Transportation Planning Process - LCATS has an adopted Public Involvement Process, inclusive of the 'Environmental Justice Provision' to ensure opportunities for public input to the transportation planning process.

Financial Authorization - in the normal operations of LCATS and the staff including but not limited to operating expenses, equipment purchasing and travel, both in and out of state, in amounts totaling less than or equal to \$2500.00 may be approved by the Director of the Licking County Planning Commission.

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING PROCESS

The LCATS develops an annual Transportation Planning Overall Work Program (OWP) identifying specific planning work tasks to be conducted in order to accomplish the planning program outlined in the Prospectus. This Work Program identifies specific objectives to be attained, methodology to be used, and products to be developed and functional responsibilities and financial participation. This section will document the individual elements of LCATS OWP.

Short Range Transportation Planning and Service (601): The Short Range Transportation Planning program is the process by which provisions for the near term transportation needs of persons and goods are identified and analyzed, and recommendations for further action are made. The short-range program is designed to identify the problem areas, define a solution to the deficiency, and develop strategies to meet the plan objectives. Typical activities include but are not limited to the following:

1. Major Highway System Service Analysis including high hazard area and high accident location identification.
2. Analysis and development of public transit use and efficiency.
3. Analysis of bicycle and pedestrian facilities.
4. Making recommendations for traffic engineering improvements through local authorities.
5. Access Management studies and plans.
6. LCATS will provide transportation-planning services to member jurisdictions, with individual requests limited to 8 hours of staff time per request. If a request is anticipated to exceed that limit, the party will be informed that the data files and a staff member will be provided to assist the party's representative in completing the request at the LCATS office. If additional services are required, a letter contract with the requesting party may be utilized to carry out the work. Multiple requests dealing with the same issue may be deemed as one request for determining staff time availability.

Transportation Improvement Program (602): The TIP is a listing of transportation projects scheduled for implementation. The TIP identifies projects by funding category and construction phase. TIP projects are drawn from the Transportation Plan implemented by LCATS. An amendment process allows for the addition of new projects, cost adjustments, scheduling changes, and a realistic allocation of the Federal, State, and Local funding available for transportation construction and maintenance. The LCATS Policy Committee adopts the TIP in May of the update year, and upon acceptance by the Federal Highway Administration, Federal Transit Administration, and Ohio Department of Transportation, it becomes the official listing of transportation improvements scheduled for the service area.

Surveillance (605): Surveillance is the maintenance of basic data files for input into other aspects of the continuing planning program. Area wide conditions of physical growth, economic development, and transportation patterns are not static. Continual change and modification of these systems require continuing monitoring to ensure that the recommended

area wide transportation plan responds to changing transportation needs. To facilitate this need, LCATS maintains the following data files:

1. Demographic - Data maintained includes but is not limited to population, dwelling units, automobiles and school enrollment. Current census data files are also maintained.
2. Government Control Data - These are local ordinances and regulations that relate to transportation planning such as master plans, zoning regulations, subdivision regulations, procedures for financing, construction and maintenance requirements, and transportation operations requirements.
3. Financial Resources Update - To facilitate the development of the TIP, project costs are reviewed annually as part of the financial resources update to provide the most accurate data. Comparisons are made as to the availability of fiscal resources and the capability of communities to financially support the TIP as well as the Long Range Transportation Plan.
4. Land Use Characteristics - The prime source for determining changes in land use is building permits, which are collected throughout the year, as they become available.
5. Traffic Accident Program - Accurate accident records of the highway system are necessary for the analysis of system performance. LCATS receives computer printouts of accidents on all streets and highways in the study area from the Ohio Department of Highway Safety and ODOT on a regular basis. These records are used in short range planning program and to develop accident reports.
6. Traffic Counting - LCATS receives traffic counts on area highways from ODOT and local government agencies upon request. In addition to these counts, LCATS may perform its own traffic counting program. The counts may be used to prepare a traffic flow map and in the calibration of the travel demand model.
7. Transportation Facilities - Data maintained includes roadway location and description data, railroad crossings, bridge and other structure descriptions, and traffic control features.
8. Miscellaneous Data - A number of other items are included under the surveillance category and are maintained on a regular basis. These include, but are not limited to, various base maps and aerial photos of Licking County, which are updated every three to five years.

Transportation Plan (610): The Transportation Plan guides the development of future transportation system improvements for a period of at least twenty (20) years. The goals and objectives of this plan are based upon anticipated changes in population, commercial activities, industrial development, and the desired pattern of growth within the service area. The intent of the plan is that local, state, and federal funds available to the service area for transportation improvements will realize the optimum benefits from the investment efforts. The plan provides local governments with information on anticipated future demands on the system, as well as alternative solutions to meet these demands while specifically identifying improvements along with their costs. By identifying alternative solutions to future demands and the foreseeable

consequences of these solutions, the plan provides the area with the information necessary to make sound transportation policy decisions.

Transit Planning (674): The transit planning program is designed to address mobility for the citizens of the Service Area. Specific issues the MPO will respond to include:

1. Address the Americans with Disabilities Act.
2. Address Elderly and Disabled Accessibility to Transit Service.
3. Perform Transit Service Financial Capacity Assessments.
4. Administer the Specialized Transportation Program.
5. Assist the coordination effort through the Licking County Transit Board.
6. Assist the coordination effort through the Newark Transit Program.
7. Assist the coordination effort through MORPC's CAP.
8. Assist in the development and update of Transit Development Plans.

Newark Transit Operations (675.10):

Licking County Transit Board (675.20):

Biennial Report (697): A report on the transportation planning program activities of LCATS will be prepared on a biennial basis. Methods to distribute this documentation may be newspaper, LCATS website, and/or fliers / newsletters done in cooperation with the Licking County Planning Commission.