

DRAFT

**MINUTES OF THE LCATS TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE AND
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON
TUESDAY, MARCH 11, 2008 AT 9:30 A.M. IN THE
DON HILL ADMINISTRATION BUILDING-ROOM A**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Alison Terry, Village of Granville
Julie Gwinn, ODOT District 5
Brian Morehead, City of Newark
Randy Comisford, ODOT District 5
John Groff, City of Heath
Tim Lollo, Licking County Engineer
Laurie Pitchford, LCTB
John Vermaaten, Licking County Port Authority
Rick Platt, Licking County Port Authority
Mike McFarland, Village of Hebron
Tim Bubb, Licking County Commissioners

MEMBERS ABSENT

Helen Hall, City of Newark

STAFF PRESENT

Sandra Mapel Marty Dowell Corinne Johnson, LCPC

OTHERS PRESENT

Ethan Ortman Noel Mehlo Libby Rushley

Chair Mike McFarland called the meeting to order at 9:36 a.m.

1. Approval of Nov. 13, 2007 TAC meeting minutes

Mike McFarland asked if there were any comments or corrections to the Jan. 8, 2008 meeting minutes.

Tim Bubb moved to approve the Jan. 8, 2008 meeting minutes.

Brian Morehead seconded the motion.

All were in favor and the motion carried.

2. Resolution T-2008-10: Accept TAC project recommendation for draft Transportation Visioning 2030 Plan

Sandie Mapel said the sheet members were given is the compilation of all the projects submitted, and the 2008-15 years are project-specific. The 2016-20 years move into the completion of the Cherry Valley Road Bridge, which would be a local commitment if funds can be obtained, and the rest is preservation-oriented with urban resurfacing in addition to transit vehicle replacement options. The

2021-30 years allow for urban resurfacing and there is \$600,000 allocated to use towards local matches, which could potentially go toward the Cherry Valley Road interchange.

Brian Morehead asked about the purpose of this document. Ms. Mapel said in the Long Range Transportation Plan there are several different parts, one of which is projects that can be funded with LCATS attributable funds. These are the only funds that the policy board has direct control over. There is a second section from a funding standpoint that are significant projects for the region, but they are not matched one-for-one. The LCATS funds that the board truly has control over staff tries to show matching one-for-one. The two sources of funding are Surface Transportation Program (STP), which are very flexible, and Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAC) has to reduce congestion and improve air quality.

Rick Platt asked how earmarks work into this; Ms. Mapel said that LCATS doesn't have control over those, and list them under regionally significant projects. If there is already an earmark for those projects LCATS includes this, as it is truly already one-for-one.

John Groff moved to approve Resolution T-2008-10.

Brian Morehead seconded the motion.

All were in favor and the motion carried.

3. Resolution T-2008-11: Newark requested Country Club Drive and Goosepond Road TIP amendment

Sandie Mapel said this is a resolution for a TIP amendment. The City of Newark had two projects, Country Club Drive and Goosepond Road, and with the cost of inflation the City of Newark is asking to re-allocate the funds for these projects.

Tim Bubb asked if there would be enough money for Country Club Drive; Mr. Morehead said that the city will have to make it doable, as there is a cost estimate in the \$3 million range. Ms. Mapel said that inflation eating into projects is a continual theme everywhere.

Rick Platt moved to approve Resolution T-2008-11.

Tim Bubb seconded the motion.

All were in favor and the motion carried.

4. Resolution T-2008-12: ODOT District 5 request US 40 minor rehabilitation addition to TIP amendment

Sandie Maple said that this amendment doesn't involve LCATS funding, but since a small portion of the project is in the LCATS study area staff needs to reflect this in the TIP. Ms. Mapel said ODOT would do a minor resurfacing project on US 40, which predominantly runs through Muskingum County.

Brian Morehead moved to approve Resolution T-2008-12.

Julie Gwinn seconded the motion.

All were in favor and the motion carried.

5. Resolution T-2008-13: Approval for purchase of color printer

Marty Dowell said that this resolution is an administrative request, which requires authorization to purchase items over \$2,500. The Planning Commission office needs a new color printer, as the current printer has reached its life and is not compatible with the new software utilized by the Planning staff to generate maps for customers. Ms. Dowell said LCATS would also like to include more visualization in

future documents, as is required by the feds to make them more readable. Ms. Dowell said cost estimates have not come in over \$6,600 at this point.

John Groff asked if the LCPC would keep the old copier; Ms. Dowell said she wasn't sure this had been decided yet, and it's possible another department in the building could utilize it or it could go up for public auction. Ms. Mapel said that the office has consulted a few of the regular copier/tech people about the printer, and the type of data that is being sent to it will take up to 12 minutes to print and will cancel out other documents. Ms. Mapel said this is particularly frustrating when you are trying to assist a customer and a map takes forever to print or wont print at all.

Mike McFarland asked if the total cost would be allocated to LCATS, but other departments would still use the printer. Ms. Dowell said the agreement is between ODOT and the Planning Commission, and LCATS is a section of the Planning Commission. LCATS has a separate pot of funds, however this will ultimately be an indirect cost for the Planning Commission.

Alison Terry asked if LCATS looked into leasing a printer; Ms. Dowell said she had not, as the office would prefer to buy.

Brian Morehead moved to approve Resolution T-2008-13.

John Groff seconded the motion.

All were in favor and the motion carried.

6. LCATS and ODOT D5 Project Status Report

Sandie Mapel said Matt Hill maintains the four-year TIP list, and the updated version shows the movement of Goosepond to zero and the increase to Country Club.

Randy Comisford said that there would be a resurfacing project on SR 13 that sold for \$1.3 million. There is a bike tunnel being built under Irvingwick Drive in Heath, the cost of which is \$276,000. There is an I-70 resurfacing project starting this spring, and the SR 37/SR 79 area will undergo a realignment and turn lane/site distance improvements for \$620,000. The US 62/Duncan Plains project, which will be sold in March for the current estimate of \$960,000. The total cost of projects starting this summer will be around \$5 million. Julie Gwinn said that SR 310 and US 40 project would hopefully begin construction around June.

7. Transit Update

Laurie Pitchford said that she is filling in for Cathy Sheets, who is now the General Manager of the Transit Board. Ms. Mapel said that the City of Newark would soon be having a tri-annual review.

8. GIS Subcommittee

Sandie Mapel said that there is tentative funding in place for the Location Based Response System (LBRS) system, and she has sent a sample contract for LBRS to the committee for their comments and to rank the GIS priority for those involved. Ms. Mapel said she also asked the group to review the MOA, which will eventually have to be signed by the County Commissioners, but she would like an agreement from the other agencies. The MOA is required to receive one of the grants, which is about \$122,000.

Alison Terry asked whom the grant for LBRS was through; Ms. Mapel said there are a few different grants. The first grant is through the County Engineers Office from the Ohio Department of Public Safety, which is for \$42,000. The second grant is through the County Engineers Association and is for \$41,000. The \$122,000 grant goes through OGRIP, which is state money. Ms. Mapel said the Auditors

Office and 911 are willing to commit funds, and between the different sources there should be enough money for the project. Ms. Mapel said she is not comfortable purchasing LBRS until there is assurance that the data will be maintained, as she did not want the information to become stale and useless.

9. Information Items

SR 16 Safety Corridor Update

Sandie Mapel said that HNTB has completed the safety study for the SR 16/SR 79/Main St./11th St. interchange area. This will be going to the District Safety Review Team at the April meeting in the hopes of obtaining safety funds. Ms. Mapel said a lot of the problems here were condition accidents related to the flyover ramp, along with speeding.

Sign Retro-Reflectivity and Safety Funding

Ms. Mapel said there are new federal requirements about sign retro-reflectivity, and this is an unfunded mandate requiring everyone's signs to be updated. There was some question as to whether safety funds could be used for replacing and upgrading signs, and the answer is basically no unless you can document that there is a safety problem where signing would be an improvement.

Julie Gwinn said that reflectivity is so great these days that if you had a lit sign before it likely will not need to be lit once it is updated. Tim Bubb asked when the signs would need to be updated; Tim Lollo said there would be a seven year time period.

Draft 2030 Transportation Plan

Ms. Mapel said LCATS staff is working on the draft version of this plan and is asking for assistance with certain areas from the LCPC staff and other entities. Ms. Mapel said the Planning staff is helping with GIS work and LCPC Administrative Assistant Corinne Johnson will work on the cover and design elements.

FY 2008 First Half Progress Report

Ms. Mapel said that every six months LCATS has to submit a report to ODOT and Federal Highway concerning progress made in that portion of the fiscal year. This was submitted at the end of January and was approved.

Draft FY 2009 Unified Planning Work Program

Ms. Mapel said staff has prepared a draft version of this document, and the board would be asked to adopt this in May.

LCPC Annual Report

Ms. Mapel said the LCPC Annual Report is available on the LCATS website and on the Planning website. Ms. Mapel said this is a good document to review as an example of what LCATS hopes to do with visualizations in future documents.

Topics for Transportation Visioning Meeting in July

Ms. Mapel said she would like board members to give staff ideas and input regarding speakers or topics for the annual Transportation Visioning Meeting in July. Ms. Mapel said the Highway Trust Fund will go into the red in FY 2009, and this could be a possible topic for discussion.

10. Other Business/Public Comment

Rick Platt said that Ms. Mapel is a representative on the Columbus to Pittsburgh Corridor group, which includes projects in Licking County. Mr. Platt said this is a significant effort and thanked those involved. Mr. Platt said he also wanted to thank LCATS for the use of their speed trailer. Ms. Mapel said the speed trailer would next be used in Heath, and thanked Tim Lollo for allowing LCATS to store the trailer in the County Garage.

Mr. Platt said that everyone should keep updated on rail issues, as there is a committee currently meeting to discuss a 25-year lease of the rail line, and board members may want to comment on this during the public comment period.

Noel Menlo said that there will be another freight conference held this year, and information could be found on T-MACOG's website.

Randy Comisford said that Ms. Gwinn, Ty Thompson and himself met with local school district officials about the Safe Routes to School Program, which was very successful. ODOT has received applications for the Municipal Bridge Program, including some from Heath and Pataskala. Mr. Comisford said that the Village of Hanover applied for a bridge over SR 668 to link the two schools. Ms. Gwinn said that people who applied for Safe Routes to School funds for construction and weren't successful could still apply through the Municipal Bridge Program for the same projects.

Tim Bubb said that it would be hard to keep 911 technically viable, as the cost of keeping up with wireless technology will be difficult for all counties in Ohio. Mr. Bubb said there is a surcharge in place to help pay for this, and wondered if the state funding would eventually dry up.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, May 13, 2008, 9:30 a.m., LCATS Policy and TAC meeting

Respectfully submitted,

Corinne C. Johnson