



RTPO Technical Advisory Committee
Monday, September 14, 2020

Members present: Louis Agresta, Brad Bodenmiller, Tyler Bumbalough, Michelle Caserta-Bixler, Gary Ledford, Steve McCall, Heather Martin, Glen Massie, Regina Rollins, Melanie Runkle, Scott Schmid, Ben Wiltheiss.

Absent member: Tam Blakely, Scott Coleman, and Tim Notestine.

Guests present: Robin Reames, Russells Point; Doug Crabill, City of Urbana/Pathfinders.

The Technical Advisory Committee was held via Zoom and called to order at 9:33 am by Tyler Bumbalough.

New Business:

1. Welcome and Introductions were completed.
2. June 1, 2020 Meeting Minutes
 - Ben Wiltheiss moved a motion to accept the minutes as written and Steve McCall seconded. All in favor.
3. RTPO Public Participation Plan
 - Scott Schmid reported on this item. He reported the public comment period ended September 13 and the only comments received were from Doug Crabill. The document will be updated with the comments. It will be sent to the LUC Executive Committee meeting on October 8 for adoption.
 - Steve McCall moved a motion to recommend adoption of the Public Participation Plan and Ben Wiltheiss seconded. All in favor.
4. RTPO Title VI Program
 - Scott Schmid reported on this item. He provided the committee with the draft document and an overview of the Title VI Program. Scott reviewed the draft document for the committee.
 - Scott Schmid asked if LUC has options for Language Interpretation service. Community options will be included in the plan.
 - There will be a 45-day comment period with the plan of having it reviewed at the December 7 TAC meeting and sent to LUC Executive Committee on December 10 for adoption.



5. Simon Kenton Trail Rural Crossings

- Louis Agresta reported on this item. There had been a request by Doug Crabill for Simon Kenton Pathfinders for trail counts at crossings.
- Doug Crabill explained at the Pathfinders meeting they were discussing safety projects for both counties of the trail.
- Louis Agresta reported that Hickory Grove in his opinion could be a safety project.
- Doug Crabill provided feedback on this area.
- Scott Schmid reported that they could put together an abbreviated safety plan. I was looking to attack it as a corridor plan. These are site distance issues or higher traffic issues that we could present as the region. Those crossings where it's painted inside the railroad gate, there's very little you can do except warning signs ahead of time, but you don't want to overload with too much information. I asked Louis to check with Rails-to-Trails like groups to see how these issues have been handled previously. We want to put together a list to prioritize.
- Doug Crabill – My idea was you get the data back and see what crossings need the most attention and then you put something together for both counties. If there's sponsorship from a county engineer to do improvements in each county, that's great too.
- Scott Schmid – You could be talking about a reimbursement project which would be different.
- Steve McCall – Are you looking at this two-fold? Are you trying to get them to stop at the intersection and have them walk across? We can install something to force them to stop and walk across.
- Louis Agresta – Maybe some stop ahead text painted on the trail.
- Doug Crabill – On the trail over time we've lost a lot of markings that say stop ahead. It may be a simple improvement to get cyclists to pay better attention. You'll still have cyclists go through no matter what we do.
- Louis Agresta – We'll work on it and report back.
- Scott Schmid – We'll draft something as far as scope goes and send it out for comment.

6. Traffic Count Project

- Scott Schmid reported on this item. This program had been suspended during the pandemic. As of the end of July, ODOT is now getting counts in the rural area. We did take counts for Logan County outside 287 outside of Middleburg/NEX. Those counts are down from what we took previously. Scott shared information to show the difference in counts from 2019 in Springfield. This shows the traffic count and patterns have changed. We have some requests pending from Urbana for traffic counts. We do have those collection units available and budget available to collect



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counts. We are beginning to collect traffic counts, but we do believe the data is still not great compared to a year ago.

- Tyler Bumbalough asked if Scott had two intersections in Urbana and Scott responded yes, they do.
- Scott Schmid – We have the four cameras and we're traveling from Springfield, so if you have two more locations it's a cost benefit to do four locations in a week.

7. Project Updates

- Urbana
 - South High Street Corridor Project
 - Tyler Bumbalough reported. We have selected a consultant to lead that and we have a stage 1 submittal due by December. After that we'll get into the design more heavily. It's a construction 2023 project.
- Bellefontaine
 - No representatives of Bellefontaine attended.
- Logan County
 - Scott Schmid reported for Logan County.
 - 33/274 intersection is still where it was and ODOT is going to continue studying.
 - 287 – we did collect data and had a conference call with stakeholders to discuss the data.
 - 235/47 – design is proceeding on the roundabout.
 - IL – a memorandum is expected today. We're hoping to have data to share immediately and to set up another conference call to discuss it.
 - 68 ODOT Study – that information was sent to Ben. It broke down the projects and benefits that provided information on each of the projects. District is going to look at them and see what could be accomplished or has been accomplished. We'll continue to work with District on those projects.
 - Doug Crabill requested that the spreadsheet is sent out to the group.

8. Mobility Management and Transit Updates

- Logan
 - No representatives were available to update.
- Champaign

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- Gary Ledford reported for Champaign. Our numbers are still down. A lot is senior related because senior centers are still closed. We're hanging in there and trying to make sure seniors who ride are safe. Thank you to Michelle's group for providing all our supplies we need to keep everyone safe.
 - Michelle Caserta – We have started the review process for Champaign County Coordinated Plan.
9. Other
- Scott Schmid discussed the meeting being the first Monday's at 9:30 am. At this point it seems it works for most people.

Adjourn: Bill Wiltheiss moved a motion to adjourn the RTPO Technical Advisory Committee meeting at 10:25 am and Steve McCall seconded. All in favor.

Next Meeting: The next scheduled meeting will be December 7, 2020, 9:30 am.

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