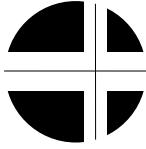


CLARK COUNTY-SPRINGFIELD

TRANSPORTATION COORDINATING COMMITTEE

Public Participation Plan

March 2018



Transportation Coordinating Committee

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Vice Chair

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Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Chair

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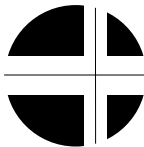
City of New Carlisle

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Clark County Commission

Matt Parrill

ODOT District 7



Transportation Staff

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This report was prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration, the Ohio Department of Transportation, the Ohio Public Works Commission, the West Central Ohio Port Authority, transit and rail freight service providers, and the local governments of Clark County.

The preparation and publication of this document was financed cooperatively by the Federal Highway Administration, the Federal Transit Administration, the Ohio Department of Transportation, West Central Ohio Port Authority and local governments of Clark County.

The contents of this Plan reflect the views of the Clark County-Springfield Transportation Study, which is responsible for the facts and the accuracy of the data presented herein. The contents do not necessarily reflect the official view and policies of the Ohio Department of Transportation or the U.S. Department of Transportation. This Plan does not constitute a standard, specification or regulation.

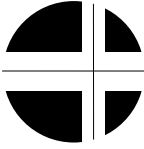
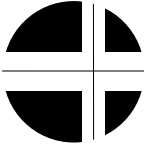


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Section 1 - Introduction

Background

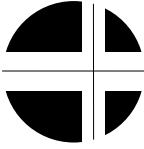
The Clark County-Springfield Transportation Coordinating Committee (TCC) was established in February 1964 to comply with the requirements of the Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1962. The TCC is the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) responsible for transportation planning in the Clark County-Springfield area as designated by the Ohio Department of Transportation acting in behalf of the Governor in accordance with federal law (23 USC 134). The study area encompasses all political subdivisions in Clark County with a total population of 138,333.

The MPO is the forum for cooperative transportation decision-making by the principal elected officials of general purpose local government. The TCC is composed of local elected and appointed officials, transportation professionals, and citizen members. The TCC reviews and approves plans and programs involving expenditures of Federal-aid transportation funds in Clark County.

The TCC is responsible for meeting all the federal requirements of the cooperative, comprehensive and continuing transportation planning process, which became known as the 3-C process. The 3-C process was first required by the 1962 Surface Transportation Assistance Act and 1964 Federal Transit Act. The TCC staff maintains this planning process through work elements that are developed annually for the Planning Work Program (PWP). The PWP describes the work necessary to maintain the transportation planning process and serves as a budgeting mechanism. The transportation planning process implemented through the PWP is described in the Prospectus, dated November 2015.

As the MPO, the TCC must fulfill the requirements of the planning regulations for the Clark County-Springfield area to maintain eligibility for Federal highway and transit funds through the Ohio Department of Transportation. Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act), herein referred to as "Current Legislation" recognizes that transportation improvements impact the economy, environment, and community quality of life. Furthermore, current legislation as an ongoing provision of previous transportation bills, MAP-21 and SAFETEA-LU, documents eight metropolitan transportation planning factors:

- *Support the economic vitality of the United States, the States and metropolitan areas, especially by enabling global competitiveness, productivity and efficiency;*
- *Increase the safety of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users;*



- *Increase the security of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users;*
- *Increase the accessibility and mobility options available to people and freight;*
- *Protect and enhance the environment, promote energy conservation; and improve quality of life;*
- *Enhance the integration and connectivity of the transportation system, across and between modes, for people and freight;*
- *Promote efficient system management and operation, and;*
- *Emphasize the preservation of the existing transportation system.*

Current planning regulations identify five additional requirements of the planning process:

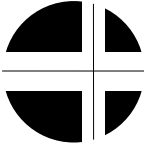
- *A pro-active public involvement process*
- *Consistency with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964;*
- *Identification of actions necessary to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990;*
- *Provide for the involvement of traffic, ridesharing, transportation safety and enforcement agencies, port authorities, airports and appropriate private operators, and;*
- *Provide for the involvement of environmental resource and permit agencies as appropriate.*

As stated in the 2040 Clark County Transportation Plan, public participation should be encouraged at all times throughout the transportation planning process. Specifically, to provide a forum for comprehensive and continuing transportation planning discussions among cooperating members that encourage the development of a safe, efficient, and reliable multi-modal transportation system that meets the needs of residents and visitors in the planning area.

As addressed in the previous Public Participation Plans, Objective 4, Strategy 2, the Public Participation Plan will be revisited every three (3) years. Any applicable amendments will be completed during the triennial Plan review. This document serves to support these strategies and to meet all Federal, state and local requirements.

Organization of the MPO

The TCC is the main policy making body for the MPO. The TCC includes elected officials and appointed officials. Permanent standing committees include a Technical



Advisory Committee, Local Officials, Government, and Citizens Advisory Committee (LOGCAC) and Human Services and Coordinated Transportation Advisory Committee (HSCTAC). The TCC establishes all policies, reviews staff proposals on all phases of the urban transportation planning process and approves the annual budget and work program for the staff. The TCC meets on a monthly basis.

The TCC Policy Board is made up of state government, county government, city government, village government and township government within the MPO planning area.

All members assist in providing information about community attitudes and values. This information, in turn, is taken into account in the development of plans, programs, and projects.

Overview

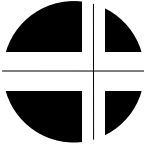
This Public Participation Process is intended to provide guidance for public involvement activities to be conducted by the TCC and contains the goals, objectives, strategies, and techniques used by the TCC for public involvement on all plans and programs. This plan will also address all Federal and State requirements.

The TCC will provide timely information about transportation plans, programs, and projects to citizens, affected public agencies, representatives of transportation agency employees, freight shippers, providers of freight transportation services, private providers of transportation, representatives of users of public transit, and other interested parties. The TCC will also provide these parties with a reasonable opportunity to comment on these transportation plans, programs, and projects.

The TCC will provide reasonable public access to technical and policy information used in the development of the Long Range Plan, the Transportation Improvement Program, and other appropriate transportation plans, programs, and projects through open public meetings and the TCC website.

The TCC will give adequate public notice of public participation activities and allow time for public review and comment on all transportation plans, programs, and projects. Public notice will be conducted through announcements on the TCC website, media press releases, newspaper retail ads, the TCC newsletter, and monthly TCC policy board meetings.

The TCC will respond, when applicable, to all public input. Written or oral comments received on all planning studies during development, including the Long Range Plan and the Transportation Improvement Program, will be documented in the final planning study.



The TCC will solicit the needs of those underserved by existing transportation systems, including but not limited to the transportation disadvantaged, minorities and low-income households as documented in the TCC Environmental Justice Plan.

Section 2 - Goal, Objectives, & Strategies

Public Participation Goal

To provide the public with detailed information on transportation planning services and project development in a timely manner.

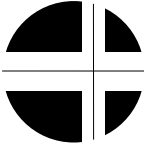
Objective 1. Actively engage the public in the transportation planning process

Strategies

- Maintain an up-to-date database of contacts, including public and private entities, to provide that all interested parties have reasonable opportunities to comment on the transportation planning process and products. These entities should include all resource agencies, as specified by current legislation, including but not limited to local and state land use management, natural resource, and historic preservation agencies.
- Contact members of the LOGCAC upon development and review of plans and plan updates. Maintain a line of communication with all members and keep them advised of upcoming plans, studies, public meetings, etc.
- Provide timely and information about transportation plans, programs, and projects to citizens, affected public agencies, and other interested parties. These entities should include all resource agencies, as specified by current legislation, including but not limited to local and state land use management, natural resource, and historic preservation agencies.
- Provide reasonable public access to technical and policy information used in the development of transportation related plans, and hold open meetings where matters related to transportation planning are being considered.
- Employ visualization techniques to depict transportation plans including charts, graphs, and maps.

Objective 2. Keep the public informed of current transportation related activities

Strategies



- Provide general plan or project specific information during normal business hours and after hours at the request of the public with reasonable notice.
- Share general information with LOGCAC members that can be communicated to all communities within Clark County.
- Maintain an internet website complete with contact information, all transportation plans, work products, and policy board meeting agendas and minutes.
- Produce and distribute an annual newsletter containing contact information, updates on completed or ongoing transportation plans and projects, and upcoming meetings.

Objective 3. Encourage participation in the transportation planning process

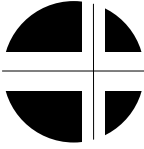
Strategies

- Identify target audiences for each planning study or project including residents, business and property owners, and those traditionally underserved by existing transportation systems such as low-income, minority, elderly, and disabled populations.
- Hold public meetings at a site and time convenient to potentially affected citizens whenever feasible.
- Incorporate Environmental Justice and Title VI policy and procedures into all transportation planning activities by making a meaningful effort to involve protected populations in the transportation planning process.

Objective 4. Continuously improve public participation

Strategies

- Continuously evaluate public involvement techniques used to encourage public participation in the transportation planning process
- Review the Public Participation Plan every three (3) years in terms of its effectiveness in assuring that the transportation planning process provides full and open access to all.



Section 3 - Tools & Activities

There are many tools and activities that can be used to accomplish this public participation goal and objectives. This section describes the tools and activities that the TCC will use to encourage public participation.

TCC Public Information Contact List

The TCC currently maintains a public information contact list that contains local stakeholders' contact information to use when distributing material for public participation. The master list will be reviewed continuously and updated when the information changes or new contacts are to be added. Per current legislation, the parties on this master list will include but is not limited to citizens, local government officials and staff, public agencies, representatives of transportation agency employees, freight shippers, providers of freight transportation services, private providers of transportation, representatives of users of public transit, and other interested parties. Public agencies should include all resource agencies, as specified by current legislation, including but not limited to local and state land use management, natural resource, and historic preservation agencies.

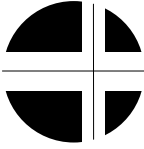
A second expanded list will be maintained specifically for newsletter distribution.

Local Officials, Government, and Citizens Advisory Committee (LOGCAC)

The LOGCAC was formed in October 2015 with members representing areas of special interests such as Air Quality, Transit, Alternative Transportation, Bike-Ped, and Roadways. Members of the LOGCAC bring a new level of public participation to the TCC through expertise and dedication to our communities. The LOGCAC expands the level of community outreach and offers regular public engagement opportunity to the TCC. Following a steady decline in committee attendance, TCC staff determined that a new approach should be reconsidered in order to garner maximum input and promote committee involvement. Though the LOGCAC meets on a regular basis, general assembly of the LOGCAC may be called when projects and plans warrant such an assembly for LOGCAC input, as determined by the Transportation Director.

TCC Website

The TCC currently maintains a website at www.clarktcc.com. The site was established to provide information regarding transportation plans and programs quickly to the public. The website contains links to the current Long Range Transportation Plan, the current Transportation Improvement Program, the current Planning Work Program, the current TCC Newsletter, TCC Board minutes and agendas, and all upcoming meetings. Contact information for staff members including phone and e-mail addresses should be



up-to-date and easy to locate. Any other significant transportation plans or information regarding transportation programs should also be available for the public on the website.

TCC Annual Update

TCC News is the public involvement newsletter of the TCC. The newsletters are published to keep the public informed of ongoing transportation planning activities. In 2012, TCC Staff developed the "TCC Year In Review" document as a supplement to the semi-annual TCC News. Based on information contained in the Year in Review and distribution, TCC Year in Review will be utilized for the purpose of an annual newsletter, including the Annual Listing of Obligated Projects. Newsletters will also be available for viewing on the TCC website for all interested parties.

Newspaper Advertisements

The TCC will place retail ads in the Springfield News-Sun, or any other appropriate newspaper or publication, as announcements of public meetings that are not regularly scheduled. The retail ads should be concise and in language that is easy for the general public to understand. Advertising media may be selected based on maximum circulation and/or message distribution among residents in a project area. An example of a retail ad can be found in Appendix A.

News Releases

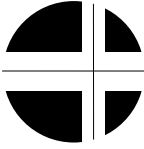
The TCC will distribute news releases to local media (newspaper, television, and radio) as announcements of public meetings that are not regularly scheduled. News releases will also be distributed for announcements on other transportation planning or program decisions or publications. An example of a news release and a list of media contacts can be found in Appendix B.

Direct Mail Notification

The TCC will mail announcements of public meetings that are not regularly scheduled and/or other announcements on transportation planning or program publications directly to the TCC Public Information Contact List including all resource agencies, as specified by current legislation. Additionally, in the course of a specific planning study, residents and business owners near the study area will also be notified of public meetings and developments associated with the study.

Surveys

The TCC will distribute surveys to solicit opinion from the public on various transportation related topics on an as needed basis. The questions on the survey



should be direct and concise in order to obtain a clear picture on public opinion. Surveys are used for a very specific input, so distribution of the survey will vary.

Comment Forms

The TCC will make comment forms available at all public meetings to solicit input on the subject transportation plan or study. The comment forms can be general or specific depending on the nature of the anticipated response. Comment forms will contain TCC contact information for returning the form and the date by which the form is due to be received by the TCC. An example of a comment form can be found in Appendix C.

Public Meetings

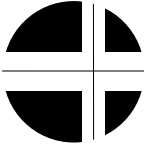
The TCC will hold public meetings to distribute information on transportation plans, programs, and projects. The type of public meeting will vary depending on the nature of the information that is to be conveyed. Meetings should be attended by as many TCC staff members as feasible to ensure that all participants have a chance to speak with someone regarding the subject plan, program, or project.

Meetings should be held, whenever feasible, at a site that is a central location to the citizens that are most affected by the subject plan, program, or project. This central location should also be within an Environmental Justice area if feasible. Meetings should be held in an ADA accessible venue and, whenever feasible, in an area close to a transit route. All meeting notifications should include language indicating that other special accommodations can be arranged by contacting the TCC staff. Meeting times should be set for the most convenient time of the day to maximize attendance.

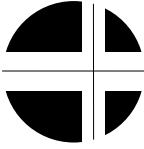
Meeting notices and material should be presented in clear and understandable language. Visualizations techniques should be used at every meeting to help convey the subject material. Visualization techniques include maps of the study area, proposed project area, or conceptual alternatives, graphs and tables such as alternative matrices, project rosters, and budgets, and pictures of existing conditions or conceptual drawings on studies or projects.

The public meeting format will vary depending on the nature of the meeting. The types of meetings are:

- Open Houses – general and open meetings with no (or short) presentations given. Open Houses provide the most interaction with the public as staff can communicate the subject material on a one-on-one basis. Open Houses should be held for at least two to three hours to maximize public participation. Open houses will include a short period of time for attendees to address all participants as needed.



- Workshops – meetings that have a hands-on component. Attendees participate in the development of the plan or project through their input. Workshops should have a defined start time and an organized program schedule.
- Public Forums – meetings that begin with a short presentation outlining the plan or project and then allow for attendees to address all participants. Public Forums should have a defined start time and should last as long as each attendees comment will allow.
- Public Hearings – formal meetings that are used to fulfill Federal, State, or local requirements. Public Hearings consist mostly of a presentation of the plan or project, and allow for public comment after the presentation. Public Hearings should have a defined start time and all proceedings, including public comments, should be transcribed for the record.



Section 4 - Procedures

Long Range Plan

A total of three (3) public meetings are to be held: One during the development of the project list, and (one in Springfield, one in western Clark County) after the development of the draft plan but before TCC adoption.

All public meetings should be advertised through retail ads in the Springfield News-Sun, at least one week prior to the event. A press release for each of the meetings should be released one week prior to the event.

Comments regarding the draft project list and draft plan will be accepted from the date of the draft project list public meeting through two weeks after the final public meeting.

The TCC website should be updated with the development schedule and all draft documents during the development of the plan. Printed copies of all draft documents should be available during normal business hours at the TCC during the development of the plan. Interested parties may call or write to the TCC staff to have printed copies delivered to them.

Amendments to the Long Range Plan will be posted to the TCC website for public review and comment one week prior to adoption by the TCC Board. Comments received on the proposed amendments during the public comment period will be delivered to the TCC Board for review prior to adoption.

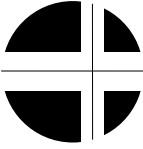
Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

A total of three (3) public meetings are to be held: One during the development of the project list, and two (one in Springfield, one in western Clark County) after the development of the draft TIP but before TCC adoption.

All public meetings should be advertised through retail ads in the Springfield News-Sun, at least one week prior to the event. A press release notification of the meetings should be released one week prior to the event.

Comments regarding the draft project list and draft TIP will be accepted from the date of the draft project list public meeting through two weeks after the final public meeting or through the Statewide TIP public comment period, whichever is later.

The TCC website should be updated with the development schedule and all draft documents during the development of the TIP. Printed copies of all draft documents should be available during normal business hours at the TCC during the development of



the TIP. Interested parties may call or write to the TCC staff to have printed copies delivered to them.

Amendments to the Transportation Improvement Program will be posted to the TCC website for public review and comment one week prior to adoption by the TCC Board. Comments received on the proposed amendments during the public comment period will be delivered to the TCC Board for review prior to adoption.

Transit Program of Projects

The Clark County-Springfield TCC's Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) process is used to satisfy the public participation process of the Program of Projects (POP) for City of Springfield/Springfield City Area Transit, a requirement under U.S.C. Section 5307.

Furthermore, all POP public notices shall bear the following verbiage in clear print on the POP notice "The POP, as presented, is the proposed Program of Projects and will also be the final Program of Projects unless amended."

All POP Activities included in TIP public meetings shall bear the following verbiage in clear print on the TIP public notice: "Public notice of public involvement activities and time established for public review and comments on the TIP will satisfy the POP requirements."

Transit Development Plan

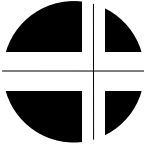
Two (2) public meetings are to be held: One during the development of the project list, and one after the development of the draft plan but before TCC adoption.

All public meetings should be advertised through retail ads in the Springfield News-Sun, at least one week prior to the event. A press release for each of the meetings should be released one week prior to the event.

Comments regarding the draft project list and draft plan will be accepted from the date of the draft project list public meeting through two weeks after the final public meeting.

The TCC website should be updated with the development schedule and all draft documents during the development of the plan. Printed copies of all draft documents should be available during normal business hours at the TCC during the development of the plan. Interested parties may call or write to the TCC staff to have printed copies delivered to them.

Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan



Three (3) public meetings are to be held: One during development of the Plan update and two (one in Springfield, one in western Clark County). Plan development will also include input from providers of local public and human services transportation agencies.

All public meetings should be advertised through retail ads in the Springfield News-Sun, at least one week prior to the event. A press release for each of the meetings should be released one week prior to the event.

Comments regarding the draft plan will be accepted from the date of the draft public meeting through two weeks after the final public meeting.

The TCC website should be updated with the development schedule and draft documents during the development of the plan. Printed copies of all draft documents should be available during normal business hours at the TCC during the development of the plan. Interested parties may call or write to the TCC staff to have printed copies delivered to them.

Public Participation Plan

One public meeting is to be held after the development of the draft plan but before TCC adoption.

The public meeting should be advertised through retail ads in the Springfield News-Sun, at least one week prior to the event. A press release for the meeting should be released one week prior to the event.

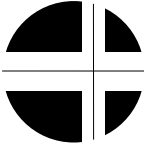
A 45 day public comment period will begin with notification of the availability of the draft plan. Comments regarding the draft plan will be accepted during this public comment period.

The TCC website should be updated with the development schedule and the draft document during the development of the plan. Printed copies of the draft document should be available during normal business hours at the TCC during the development of the plan. Interested parties may call or write to the TCC staff to have printed copies delivered to them.

Title VI Program

One public meeting is to be held after the development of the draft plan but before TCC adoption.

The public meeting should be advertised through retail ads in the Springfield News-Sun, at least one week prior to the event. A press release for the meeting should be released one week prior to the event.



A 45 day public comment period will begin with notification of the availability of the draft plan. Comments regarding the draft plan will be accepted during this public comment period.

The TCC website should be updated with the development schedule and the draft document during the development of the plan. Printed copies of the draft document should be available during normal business hours at the TCC during the development of the plan. Interested parties may call or write to the TCC staff to have printed copies delivered to them.

Planning Studies & Other Planning Documents

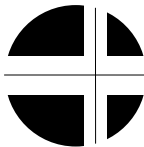
Documents under this category may be presented on a case-by-case basis. These documents may be reviewed at monthly TCC Policy Board meetings with meeting notifications serving as adequate and appropriate advertising.

The public meetings should be advertised through retail ads in the Springfield News-Sun or an advertising media that reaches the maximum number of citizens that may be affected by the subject plan, program, or project, at least one week prior to the event. Press releases for the meetings should be released one week prior to each event.

Comments regarding the study will be accepted from the first public meeting through two weeks after the final public meeting.

The TCC website should be updated with the schedule and all related information and documents during the planning study. Draft documents, displays, and conceptual maps should be available during normal business hours at the TCC during the planning study. Interested parties may call or write to the TCC staff to have printed copies delivered to them.

Additionally, all TCC Policy Board meeting agendas will be posted on the TCC agency website one week prior to scheduled monthly Board meetings. There is no restricted access to the agenda and public access and review are welcomed and encouraged.



APPENDIX C NEWS RELEASE MEDIA CONTACTS

WHKO Radio

1611 S. Main Street
Springfield, OH 45504
Phone: (937)259-2111
email: nancy.wilson@cmgohio.com

WHIO Radio

1611 S. Main Street
Dayton, OH 45409
Phone: (937)259-2111
email: jim.barrett@cmgohio.com

WHIO-TV (Springfield Bureau)

1 Main Street
Springfield, OH 45503
Phone: (937)328-0346
email: newssun@coxinc.com

WDTN-TV

4595 South Dixie Drive
Moraine, OH
Phone: (937)-293-2101
email: billiesue.adkins@wdtn.com

WKEF/WRGT-TV

45 Broadcast Place
Dayton, OH 45418
Fax: (937)263-4500
email: news@daytonsnewssource.com

Springfield News-Sun

1 Main Street
Springfield, OH 45503
Phone: (937)328-0346
email: newssun@coxinc.com

Enon Eagle

P.O. Box 281
New Carlisle, OH 45344
Phone: (937)340-4535
email: editor@newcarlisenews.net

New Carlisle News

114 S. Main Street
New Carlisle, OH 45344
Phone: (937)845-1709
email: editor@newcarlisenews.net

