

## Minutes

### Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting

August 3, 2011

#### **Members Present**

Don Crinkey, Mike Groeber, Bill Peters, Herschel Purdue, Michael Schulsinger, and Neil Webster

#### **TCC Staff Present**

Louis Agresta, Glen Massie, Melanie Runkel, and Scott Schmid

#### **Others Present**

John Detrick – Clark County Commission, Joanne Harris, and Terry Harris

The meeting was called to order by Glen Massie.

#### **Greetings and Introductions**

The meeting was opened with an introduction of members of the Citizens Advisory Committee and TCC staff.

#### **Minutes**

Mike Groeber moved to approve the minutes from the May 4, 2011 meeting. Bill Peters seconded the motion.

#### **Guest Speaker**

John Detrick gave a brief overview of the road system, bike trails, and rail system in Clark County and their impact on economic development. Terry Harris stated that he finds it hard for the trail system to overcome the perception that trails are dangerous or not worth the funding. He has also found it difficult in getting the Chamber of Commerce to promote this asset. John suggested making sure people are aware of the levy on the ballot for the parks. John also provided a brief overview of the addition of Thirty-One Gifts to Clark County.

## **Planning Staff updates**

### **Transit/Alternative Transportation Update Report**

Glen Massie reported that the West Side Transportation Network project has been escalated to the Federal level. The project has been passed through ODOT. Letters were sent to the Department of Labor for certification and FTA is very in favor of this project. Word of whether the project has been approved should be received by the end of August. If approved, this would mean there would be transportation service 5-days a week to New Carlisle and 3-days a week to Mad River Township. Glen noted that John Detrick was instrumental in locating a \$20,000 grant that Job & Family Services was not using, which could be applied towards the project. Terry Harris asked what the prospect is of keeping the bus route in Northridge. Glen stated that current ridership numbers for the route do not support the cost and alternative funding might need to be looked into, however local match will have to be met.

Glen stated that First Transit began operating the SCAT system on July 1<sup>st</sup>. The Transit Rider Advisory Committee is planning a Rider Appreciation Day. This would also be a welcome event for First Transit. More information will be sent to the CAC once details have been finalized.

### **Rideshare/Air Quality Update Report**

Scott Schmid reported that the conformity documentation for Air Quality was approved by Federal Highway for the Transportation Improvement Program and Long Range Plan amendment. Glen Massie reported that staff has worked with WHIO on the airing of commercials for the Rideshare program. WHIO will help TCC staff gauge the success in the number of people who inquire about the service. Glen stated that the TCC is tied in with MVRPC on the Air Quality program. There are also radio spots being run on WROU and K99.1. Don Crinkey added that WIZE runs commercials and may be a consideration for future radio spots.

### **Bike-Ped Update Report**

Louis Agresta provided an update on the bike sharing program through Wittenberg University. He stated that ODOT approved this program as a CMAQ eligible expense. Hopefully this program can be running when the students begin the fall semester. Louis stated that he currently working through the legal approval process through the county. Wittenberg University would be responsible for the maintenance expenses of the bicycles as it is not covered by CMAQ.

Louis provided updates on two planning studies:

- Northridge Sub Area Study – Louis reported that TCC staff wanted to review the area and determine if a good level of service is being met in 30 years. Also, Derr Rd., Middle Urbana, and Villa Rd. will be reviewed as well. A public involvement meeting is being held on August 10<sup>th</sup> at the Moorefield Township Office. The consultant will be on hand

at the public meeting to answer any questions regarding suggested improvements. One recommendation being considered is a 5-foot bike shoulder on Derr Rd.

- SR235 Corridor Study – Louis reported that the corridor being reviewed is from US40 to the Clark/Montgomery County line. A consultant is currently reviewing access management points in the area. A public involvement meeting will be held at the end of September.

### **Long Range Plan**

Scott Schmid reported that the Long Range Plan is the TCC's 25-year planning document for the 2035 Horizon Year. Scott provided the Development Schedule and a draft of the goals/objectives/strategies to the committee for review. One public meeting will be held in the fall to discuss the project list and three public meetings will be held in the spring of 2012 to provide the planning document to the public for review.

Terry Harris asked what the status a possible turn lane, similar to the one at Montego, to help alleviate some of the traffic congestion along Middle Urbana Road near Northwood Lakes Condominiums. Louis Agresta stated that as a part of the Northridge Sub Area Study, a recommendation being offered is to include a middle turn lane from Villa Rd. to Emmanuel Way. Louis encouraged him to attend the public involvement meeting for the Northridge Study to discuss the current issue with the consultant.

### **Roadways Update Report**

Scott Schmid reported that an application was submitted for the two phases of the IR70 add lane project. The application is for construction in 2016, with possibly completion in 2018.

Scott provided copies to the committee of the data that will be in the 2011 Local Safety Hot Spots document. The data is compiled of county-wide intersection locations that have been identified as being the most problematic. These intersections are not considered dangerous, but have issues that possibly need to be addressed. Terry Harris asked if the red-light cameras had any effect on the crash data. Scott stated that intersection of Bechtle Ave./Columbia St. is working well and the intersection of Burnett Rd./Main St. is not fairing as well. There have been less angle crashes reported at Bechtle Ave./Columbia St. and this can be attributed to people paying more attention to the red light. There are more rear-end crashes reported, but injury crashes have gone down. However, with Burnett Rd./Main St., crashes in this area could be more attributed to a congestion issue, especially between Main St. and High St. on Burnett Rd. Scott stated it is too early to tell impact of the red-light cameras on crash data. The cameras were installed in 2006 and taking a preliminary look at the data in 2009 showed mixed results. Scott stated the goal is to deliver the Hot Spots document to the Policy Board at the September board meeting.

Scott reminded everyone of the upcoming Annual Meeting. A presentation will be given by the consultant on the Downtown Streets Conversion Study and the Planning Work Program Completion report will be reviewed.

### **Committee Comment**

Mike Groeber distributed a flier to the committee about the upcoming celebration for the Little Miami Scenic Trail.

Melanie Runkel reported that the TCC now has a Facebook page and can be found by searching for Clark TCC.

Glen Massie reviewed the possibility of moving the location of the CAC meetings to other areas or a change in the frequency the meetings are held. Bill Peters stated that the current frequency of the meetings works best and the guest speakers have been a good addition. Joanne Harris felt keeping the meeting location at Springview was best as it is an ideal location. Michael Schulsinger agreed the current location was good with the amount of people currently in the committee. Mike Groeber stated that meeting quarterly is appropriate, unless there is a time when more input from the committee is required. Scott added that if the CAC members are kept on the distribution lists for public meetings, notifications, etc. then the committee can still meet quarterly.

Bill Peters stated that in regards to the Northridge bus route, there might be a possibility to see if grant funding is available through Springfield Metropolitan Housing.

### **Committee Focus Group Breakout Session**

Glen Massie requested input from the committee regarding the breakout sessions. Mike Groeber stated that this can be done only when necessary. As in the case with tonight's meeting, a smaller group isn't required. Glen stated that he wants to make sure the needs of the committee are being met.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.