

TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT MEETING MINUTES  
AND SUPPLEMENTAL PROJECT REPORTS

Regular Board Meeting  
By Electronic Participation (Teleconference)  
In Accordance with HB 404  
March 29, 2021

Chair Pflum called the meeting to order and welcomed attendees to the Hamilton County Transportation Improvement District (HCTID) Board Meeting at 1:02 p.m.

Board Members Present: Henry Frondorf, Jack Pflum, Eric Beck, John Brazina, Christie Kuhns,

Board Member absent: William Seitz

Also in attendance: Charlene Vollhardt, Todd Gadbury, Lisa Doerger – Hamilton County; Chris Meyer – Redevelopment Authority; Rusty Schuermann – Kegler, Brown, Hill & Ritter; Martha Kelley; Bill Shefcik; Dan Corey; Dan Springer; Dan Pozniak; Rob Hans; Jon Wiley; Jake Stremmel; Jeff Wallace; Steve Mary; Matt Clayton; Nathan Alley; Robert Koehler; John Bruggen; David Wormald; Caroline Duffy; Stefan Spinosa; Duane Phelps; Darryl Haley; Standish Fortin; Anne Rahall; Frank Aransky

*Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence...*

- Chairman Pflum welcomed and introduced Chris Meyer who will be representing the Redevelopment Authority at the TID meetings.
- Chairman Pflum commented the TID Board members will be invited to the City of Cincinnati ribbon cutting ceremonies as they relate to transportation.
- Chairman Pflum reported the link to the Transportation Improvement District website has been added to the agenda.

*Approval of Minutes...*

- Chairman Pflum entertained a motion to approve the minutes from February 22, 2021...
- ***Board Member Beck made the motion to approve the HCTID Board Meeting Minutes from February 22, 2021; seconded by Board Member Kuhns and the motion carried upon roll call vote: Chairman Pflum – yes, Board Member Brazina – yes, Board Member Frondorf – yes, Board Member Beck – yes, Christie Kuhns – yes.***

*Transportation issues...*

*Regional Partner Reports*

*ODOT update:*

- Stefan Spinosa with ODOT discussed the “Update of ODOT Major Projects in the Downtown Cincinnati Area” report. A copy of the “Update of ODOT Major Projects in the

Downtown Cincinnati Area” handout was distributed, which is attached hereto and made a part of.

*Clermont County TID updates...*

- Board Member Beck reported no updates. They are continuing to move forward on their projects.

*Butler, Warren County TID updates:*

- Dan Corey reported the demonstration presented at last month TID meeting was done by Goggle Earth Pro. The Consultants are currently working on a display of the presentation which will be distributed as soon as completed.
- Standish Fortin commented they have been waiting for a public meeting on Fields Ertel. He mentioned there is a safety concern regarding sidewalks to connect schools, parks, and stores to the residents in the eastern corridor area of Fields Ertel. They would like to know how to get sidewalks integrated into the project.
- Board Member Beck stated the Hamilton County Engineer’s office cannot build sidewalks, but he will follow up with Todd Gadbury and the Township since this is not part of the TID project at this time. There are currently multiple projects on Fields Ertel.

*TID Corridors of Opportunity...*

- Board Member Beck reported that JMA, the Consultant for the City of Harrison, will be applying to OKI for the STBG (Surface Transportation Block Grant) for funding the Dry Fork Road intersection.

*Western Hills Viaduct update:*

- Bill Shefcik reported they submitted the INFRA grant application for one hundred and thirty-six million seven hundred and ten dollars. There were over 100 letters of support and a Resolution of support from SORTA that accommodated the application. They also submitted a grant application to TRAC in the amount for one hundred and forty million dollars for construction.
- Board Member Beck commented that typically INFRA has not granted the full amount to projects, so we are expecting a reduced amount of what was applied for.

*Cincinnati Transportation Update...*

- John Brazina reported no updates.

*Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber update:*

- No one present to update.

*Redevelopment Authority Project update...*

- Chris Meyer reported no updates.

*SORTA Update...*

- Darryl Haley reported they have an RFP out for an engineering firm to score the projects on their infrastructure funds. They will be taking project applications until June 30, 2021. He reported they are doing a comprehensive review of the right of way that SORTA owns within Hamilton County.
- Darryl Haley reported the Fare Simplification will soon be in place and at the end of May, Phase I of Reinventing Metro starts. This is a 24-hour service on 7 routes.

*OKI Update...*

- Bob Koehler reported the OKI application cycle is open until June 3, 2021. He stated that OKI selection process does reward projects with bicycle and pedestrian elements included within the project.

*Tri State Trails Update...*

- No updates.

*Old Business...*

- None

*New Business...*

- Rusty Schuermann reported on H.B. 74. The State Transportation Budget is with the Governor for review and signature. It is expected to be signed on or before April 1, 2021. There are two state fiscal years in the biennium budget: with fiscal year 2022 beginning July 1, 2021 and then fiscal year 2023 beginning in July 2022. The budget provides funding for eligible TID projects to supplement the project funding in place. The cap of \$250,000 per fiscal year that a TID can apply for, per project, has been increased to \$500,000.00, again available on a reimbursement basis. The amount of funding for each fiscal year remains at 4.5 million for a total of 9 million for the biennium. The Hamilton County TID has previously utilized such TID funding with significant success with local partners. The application period will begin May 1, 2021 and close May 31, 2021. There is indication there may be a second round later in the summer or fall.

- Board Member Brazina wished to confirm that the maximum funding is up to \$500,000 and asked Rusty Schuermann if there is a limit of projects that can be submitted from the TID.
- Rusty Schuermann commented that the TID can apply for multiple projects. And a TID could apply for this grant funding over several years but it could not be over \$250,000 in any given year and could not exceed 25% of the total project cost. They are doing away with the 25% cap and increased the maximum amount to \$500,000 per year.
- Chairman Pflum reported in detail on the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) report card on infrastructure. This report card is produced every four years and provides a letter grade concerning the adequacies, efficiencies, and effectiveness of the infrastructure in the United States.
- Bob Koehler stated that OKI compiles different data sets regarding surface transportation. They can extract information at the County level from their regional data sets. The Project Administrative Assistant program has a GIS map that is linked based. The ODOT website has several things based on the federal performance measures related to infrastructure.
- Stephan Spinoso stated it was his understanding that the Board would like to create a localized report with data that is available from ODOT. The following web-based reports and data sets are available to the public through the Ohio Department of Transportation's website.
  - [ODOT's Strategic Plan | Ohio Department of Transportation](#)
    - ODOT Performance Metrics Dashboard – Critical Success Factors
  - [Asset Management | Ohio Department of Transportation](#)
    - Transportation Asset Management Plan – Details the asset data acquisition processes
  - [State of Ohio, Transportation System Performance, 2020](#)
  - [Ohio Transportation Information | ODOT TIMS \(state.oh.us\)](#) – GIS data that can be downloaded.
- Stephen Spinoso stated other sources of information can be found on the Asset Management Program and the Transportation Information Management System (TIMS) program.
- Chairman Pflum commented that perhaps ODOT could issue an annual or bi-annual report about the status of our infrastructure limited to transportation related issues. This may help us to determine future funding and future deficiencies.
- *Next Meeting Dates...*
  - Monday, April 26, 2021 @ 1:00 p.m. – Electronic participation
  - Monday, May 24, 2021 @ 1:00 p.m. – Electronic participation

*Adjournment of Meeting...*

- ***Board Member Beck made the motion to adjourn the HCTID meeting at 1:25 p.m.; seconded by Board Member Frondorf and the motion carried upon roll call vote: Chairman Pflum – yes, Board Member Brazina – yes, Board Member Frondorf – yes, Board Member Beck – yes, Christie Kuhns – yes.***

Respectfully submitted,

Eric J. Beck, P.E.-P.S.  
Secretary/Treasurer for HCTID