

TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT MEETING MINUTES
AND SUPPLEMENTAL PROJECT REPORTS
Regular Board Meeting
By Electronic Participation (Teleconference)
In Accordance with HB 404
April 26, 2021

Chair Pflum called the meeting to order and welcomed attendees to the Hamilton County Transportation Improvement District (HCTID) Board Meeting at 1:03 p.m.

Board Members Present: Henry Frondorf, Jack Pflum, Eric Beck, John Brazina, Christie Kuhns (late arrival)

Board Member absent: William Seitz

Also in attendance: Charlene Vollhardt, Lisa Doerger – Hamilton County; Chris Meyer – Redevelopment Authority; Rusty Schuermann – Kegler, Brown, Hill & Ritter; Martha Kelley; Bill Shefcik; Dan Springer; Dan Pozniak; Jake Stremmel; Steve Mary; Nathan Alley; Robert Koehler; John Bruggen; David Wormald; Tom Arnold; Matt Davis; Anne Rahall; Brian Riblet; D. Adkins; Jay Hamilton; Jeff Heimann; Kendall Bales; Chad Rundle; Jeremy Evans; Pete Metz; Rick Record; Shawn Mason; Ursula Miller; Vanessa Nghiem

Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence...

Approval of Minutes...

- Chairman Pflum entertained a motion to approve the minutes from March 29, 2021...
- ***Board Member Beck made the motion to approve the HCTID Board Meeting Minutes from March 29, 2021; 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.***

Resolution to authorize and adopt the Hamilton County Transportation Improvement District Budget for FY 2021-2022...

- Chairman Pflum entertained a motion to approve the Resolution to authorize and adopt the Hamilton County Transportation District Budget for FY 2021-2022...
- ***Board Member Beck made the motion to approve the Resolution to authorize and adopt the Hamilton County Transportation Improvement District Budget for FY 2021-2022; 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.***

Resolution authorizing applications for HB 74 2022 ODOT TID grant funding for ~~and~~ ^{HAMILTON COUNTY} ~~and~~ ^{ADMINISTRATIVE} of transportation improvement projects...

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IMAGE # |

- Chairman Pflum entertained a motion to approve the Resolution authorizing applications for HB 74 2022 ODOT TID grant funding (Western Hills Viaduct and Pfeiffer Road) for advancement of transportation improvement projects ...
- **Board Member Brazina made the motion to approve the Resolution to authorize applications for HB 74 2022 ODOT TID grant funding (Western Hills Viaduct and Pfeiffer Road) for advancement of transportation improvement projects; seconded by Board Member Beck and the motion carried upon roll call vote: Chairman Pflum – yes, Board Member Brazina – yes, Board Member Frondorf – yes, Board Member Beck – yes.**

*Transportation issues...
Regional Partner Reports*

ODOT update:

- Tom Arnold 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.
- Tom Arnold reported that ODOT has created an interactive website called the Multi Year Work Plan that shows all ODOT capitol projects for the next six years. The link to the website is <https://gis3.dot.state.oh.us/d08/MultiYearWorkPlan/>
- Tom Arnold reported they are in consultant selection for the Brent Spence Bridge (PID 113361) to design the middle piece of the Brent Spence bridge in Ohio. Design is to begin in the fall of 2021 and construction to begin in the spring of 2025.
- Tom Arnold reported on the Eastern Corridor. The project took a new direction in 2015 when ODOT decided to focus on improving the existing roadway network in the Eastern Corridor area. They revisited the traffic and crash data reports on Segments II and III and obtained new public input. They followed a new ODOT process called Performance Based Project Development to focus on specific problems in the area. They are creating an interactive map that will highlight all the recommendations for Segment I and Segment IV and IV(A). The link to the Eastern Corridor site is <https://easterncorridor.org/>
- Tom Arnold reported there is funding remaining from Segments II and III. They have been working with local partners to advance design on high priority projects that were recommend in these segments.
- Board Member Frondorf stated with ODOT being funded by the gas tax and asked if there is expected to be a hit on construction projects due to people not driving during Covid in 2022 or 2023.
- Tom Arnold stated early in the pandemic it was anticipated revenues were going to be down. In fiscal year 2021 they did take a hit with TRAC programs specifically. Traffic across the State is down about 6% but they are taking applications in TRAC for 2022 and 2023 which is a good sign that they can get a lot of project done this year.

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Clermont County TID updates...

- Jeremy Evans reported they are helping ODOT acquire right of way for 2 phases of Segment IV(A). Specifically phase 4 Bach Buxton local road piece and phase 6 Old 74 local road portion north and south of the new interchange.

Butler, Warren County TID updates:

- No one present to update.

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.
- Board Member Beck stated they continue to work with Warren County on the Fields Ertel Corridor project. He stated there are two different Fields Ertel projects. The Warren County portion has the funding for construction and the other project, to include sidewalk is the County Engineer's project.

Western Hills Viaduct update:

- Bill Shefcik reported they are progressing with the design and right of way acquisition for the Western Hills Viaduct. Last month two grant applications were submitted. One being to TRAC and they will present the Western Hills Viaduct project on May 6, 2021.

Cincinnati Transportation Update...

- John Brazina reported construction season is starting up and asked if everyone would be mindful of the construction workers in Cincinnati.

Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber update:

- Pete Metz reported no updates.

Redevelopment Authority Project update...

- Chris Meyer reported no updates.

SORTA Update...

- Donna Adkins - Chief Administrator for Metro reported on the infrastructure funds. The call for projects was April 1, 2021 and the deadline for submitting the applications is June 30, 2021. The SORTA Board approved two firms to review and score proposals in July and August. Those projects will be presented back to the SORTA Board in September and then to the Integrating Committee in October with agreements signed by the end of year and funds available the first of 2022.
- Donna Adkins reported they have implemented the fare simplification program. They now have three basic fares, one within the County an express service and anything

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outside the County in express fare. Reinventing Metro is rolling out Phase I starting Sunday May 30, 2021.

- Donna Adkins thanked ODOT for their funding, they have been running free service on weekends for vaccinations and running the Access vans for passengers who cannot walk to the Cintas Center. This program will continue through May.
- Donna Adkins stated the quarterly newsletter, Metro in Motion will be sent to the Community leaders.
- Board Member Beck asked if ridership numbers have recovered since Covid.
 - Donna Adkins stated ridership numbers currently are at 24,000 riders a day compared to 50,000 – 60,000 pre-covid.

OKI Update...

- Bob Koehler reported the OKI application cycle is open until June 3, 2021. He stated OKI has money in both the projects mentioned today and they want them to be successful.

Tri State Trails Update...

- No updates.

HCTID Supplemental Project updates...

- Board Member Beck stated the Eastern Corridor was discussed earlier in the meeting.

Old Business...

- None

New Business...

- None
- *Next Meeting Dates...*
 - Monday, May 24, 2021 @ 1:00 p.m. – Electronic participation
 - Monday, June 28, 2021 @ 1:00 p.m. – Electronic participation

Adjournment of Meeting...

- ***Board Member Beck made the motion to adjourn the HCTID meeting at 1:35 p.m.; seconded by Board Member Brazina 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

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Update of ODOT Major Projects in the Downtown Cincinnati Area June 28, 2021

ODOT District 8 Multi-Year Work Plan:

ODOT has recently completed an update of our Multi-Year Work Plan (FY22-FY27). Please visit the following link for an interactive map that includes project details.

<https://gis3.dot.state.oh.us/d08/MultiYearWorkPlan/>

This spring, we will also update our MYWP narrative document that provides more detail related to this effort. This document will be posed on the following site:

<http://www.dot.state.oh.us/districts/DO8/Pages/District-8-Multi-Year-Work-Plan.aspx>

KYTC - Brent Spence Bridge - I-71/75 Southbound/Northbound (191.3 - 191.8 marker): A maintenance project to clean and paint the Brent Spence Bridge started March 1. The project requires various lane and ramp closures that provide access to the bridge. Currently, traffic is reduced to two lanes in each direction on the bridge. The project is expected to be complete by Nov. 15, 2021.

ODOT is moving forward with design on two improvements related to the Brent Spence Bridge:

- **PID 113361**
 - Description
 - Reconstruct and widen I-75 from just north of the Linn Street overpass to the northern limits of the bridge over Findlay Street.
 - Replace the Linn St. overpass with 1-75 and reconstruct Gest Street from Freeman Avenue to US 50. The reconstruction of Gest Street will eliminate the roadway connection from Gest St. to Linn St. The pedestrian access from Gest to Linn St. shall be replaced.
 - Replace the Ezzard Charles Drive overpass over I-75, reconstruct portions of Western Ave., cul-de-sac West Court St., and construct new I-75 ramps to and from Freeman Ave., Western Ave., and Ninth St.
 - Status/Schedule
 - Funding has been secured for design and construction
 - ODOT is working to select a consultant on the May 2021 programmatic selection.

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- Design is anticipated to begin in the fall of 2021
- Construction is scheduled to begin in the spring of 2025
- **PID 114161**
 - Description
 - Reconstruction of I-75 from Findlay St. to just south of Marshall Ave. This is the northern end of the Brent Spence Bridge Corridor Project. Project includes the construction of a new interchange on I-75 to connect to the new Western Hills Viaduct (WHV). The WHV project is being developed by the City of Cincinnati.
 - Status/Schedule
 - ODOT funding has been secured for preliminary engineering only at this time
 - ODOT is working to select a consultant on the May 2021 programmatic selection
 - Design is anticipated to begin in the fall of 2021
 - Construction is scheduled to begin in the spring of 2025

I-71 resurfacing from the RR bridge north of SR 562 to south of I-275 (PID 91826):

Repaving and bridge deck replacement of Stewart Bridge and rehab of other bridges from RR bridge north of SR 562/Norwood Lateral to SR 126/Ronald Reagan Cross County Highway (approximately 5.5 miles). Also includes widening to three continuous through lanes between the SR 562/Norwood Lateral interchange and Red Bank Expressway, removes the northbound Ridge exit and adds a NB I71 exit to Kennedy.

Traffic is now in Phase 4, switching north I-71 work to the inside lanes from just north of Kennedy to Red Bank and pushes traffic from Red Bank to Stewart to the outside lanes. Ph. 4 also includes adding a northbound contraflow on I-71. Construction includes bridge work on I-71 at Stewart and Red Bank and paving on both I-71 NB and SB. Scheduled work, all contingent upon weather:

- On April 10, the NB contraflow lane was closed, and three lanes of traffic are open on the mainline in the NB direction; SB I-71 is in its final configuration.
- On April 26, the Kennedy Avenue ramp to I-71 North was closed for up to 90 days for paving work. The closure is in effect through mid-July, and motorists are detoured via Duck Creek Road and Red Bank Expressway to I-71 North.
- On April 26, the ramp from I-71 North to Ridge Avenue was closed permanently. This permanent closure is part of planned upgrades to the Ridge/Kennedy Avenue interchange. Motorists will be routed by way of Exit 8A.

Began: Spring 2018 – Completion: Aug. 13, 2021. Construction Cost: \$36 million.

I-75 widening – Phase 5A of Mill Creek Expressway (PID 104667): Widen I-75 to four lanes connecting the improvements from Hopple and Mitchell projects. Additional improvements to the connection of EB I-74 to I-75.

- The new bridge from EB I-74 to NB I-75 is open.
- Phase 2 of the replacement of the bridge decks and approach slabs on EB I-74 over Beekman and Elmore is complete; crews are working on the parapet walls.

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- Work has begun on Phase 3 of the I-74 EB to I-75 SB bridge deck.
- Work on the new structure for I-75 over I-74 WB is continuing, and work on the new southbound structure has begun. Southbound traffic is been moved into a contraflow configuration onto the new northbound structure.
- Earthwork and pipe work on I-75 is ongoing.
- Three lanes of I-75 South are shifted into a contraflow pattern until the end of summer.
- Widening work on the outside of I-75 South and North is complete. Currently working on full depth reconstruction of south I-75 from Ludlow to Monmouth overpasses and median of I-75 north of Ludlow overpass.
 - Began: Fall 2018 – Completion: Sept. 2022. Cost: \$87 million.

Thru the Valley (7 phases): I-75 lane addition, resurfacing and interchange work from SR 126/Ronald Reagan Cross County Highway to just south of I-275 (approximately 8 miles). ○ Began: spring 2017 – Completion: TBD – Cost: \$500 million to \$600 million.

- ODOT is moving forward with a study of a new alternative that could save tens of millions of dollars (**PID 113687**) compared to current plan for Phases 4, 5, and 6:
 - Description
 - Evaluate an alternative that would place both I-75 NB and SB on the existing SB I-75 alignment
 - Status/Schedule
 - ODOT has selected a consultant team that will be led by Mead and Hunt
 - Scoping is underway and design is slated to begin early in 2021
 - Public involvement is anticipated to occur in the summer of 2021
 - At that time, ODOT will decide between moving forward with this alternative vs. proceeding with the originally planned phases of 4, 5, and 6.
- Phase 8 (**PID 76256**) was recently moved back into FY2021 and is slated to begin construction in the spring of 2021.

For the latest information, visit ODOT’s website at <https://www.transportation.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/odot/projects/mega-projects/megaprojects/75-valley>

- Phases 1 and 2 (I-75, Shepherd/Glendale-Milford) (PID 82288):** ○ Began: spring 2017 – Completion: late-June/mid-July 2021 – Construction cost: \$96 million
- Phase 1: I-75 widening and resurfacing between Shepherd and Glendale Milford, redesign Shepherd interchange, remove collector distributor system, and improve the Glendale Milford interchange.
 - Phase 2: Construct local connection between Shepherd and Glendale Milford thru GE (Neumann Way).

Contractor(s) will return in spring 2021 to finish the following remaining work

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- I-75 SB asphalt surface course placement
- Complete the remaining sealing of concrete surfaces
- Complete bridge painting
- Remaining signal and ITS work and testing requirements
- Final pavement markings I-75 SB (Thermo – Raised Pavement Markings - Rumbel Strips)
- Corrective work on all concrete interstate ramps and as needed

S.R. 32 Little Miami Scenic Trail/Beechmont Bridge Connector (PID 107295)

- Began: spring 2021 – Completion: fall 2022 – Construction cost: \$7.9 million

Construction of a new segment of the Little Miami Scenic Trail started last week at state Route 32 and Beechmont Avenue. Known as the Beechmont Bridge Connector, the project includes constructing a new, half-mile segment of the Little Miami Scenic Trail from the existing trail along S.R. 32 north of Beechmont Avenue to Lunken Trail, west of the Little Miami River.

As part of the Great Parks of Hamilton County's Little Miami Scene Trail, this is the final extension of the trail, and it will allow trail users to safely travel from the Little Miami Scenic Trail to the Ohio River Trail for the first time.

Currently, a temporary traffic signal located on the SR 32 ramp to WB 125, and on WB 125, is active and will remain in place until the conclusion of the project in August of 2022. Traffic has been shifted over and portable barrier is installed on EB 125 on the bridge. In addition, the prime contractor is completing abutment construction for the bridge expansion and building the new embankments necessary for the bridge expansion. Later this summer and in early fall, the contractor will install a box culvert under the SR 32 ramp to WB 125, this will close the ramp for a few weeks. Also, the contractor will begin to push out into the river to begin construction of the piers.

I-75/I-74 Interchange Reconstruction (PID 104668): This is Phase 5B of the Mill Creek Expressway I-75 corridor projects. This phase addresses work on I-74 as part of the I-74/75 interchange reconstruction from just west of the Colerain Avenue interchange with I-74 to I-75. In addition, the project will improve the I-75 ramps to I-74 WB. The TRAC approved funding November 6, 2019, and we are currently working through the two-step design build process. The teams have been shortlisted, and the project is scheduled to be sold in July 2021 (date is delayed from original May 2021 date).

Eastern Corridor: ODOT is currently working to update the current project website at <http://www.easterncorridor.org/> as well as the ODOT site https://www.transportation.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/odot/projects/mega-projects/mega-projects/easter_n-corridor.

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Hamilton County Transportation Improvement District – Tri-State Trails Update June 28, 2021

CROWN (Cincinnati Riding Or Walking Network)

- Tri-State Trails has partnered with Wasson Way and Ohio River Way to coordinate a private fundraising effort for CROWN. Our team recently announced that we've raised \$6 million towards our \$8 million goal. Funds raised will be leveraged with state and federal grants to build out 10 critical proposed trail miles in the 34-mile loop plan. Learn more at crowncincinnati.org.

Wasson Way

- Construction of Phases 4 and 5 of Wasson Way began construction this spring and will be complete by the end of 2021. This connection will run from Marburg Avenue through Ault Park to the Murray Path on Red Bank Road. Phases 3, 4, 5, and 6A of Wasson Way were funded through a \$6 million Surface Transportation Block Grant awarded by OKI in 2019.
- In October 2020, the City of Cincinnati secured \$3.76 million in Surface Transportation Block Grant funding from OKI for Phase 7 of Wasson Way. Next year, Wasson Way will extend from Montgomery Road west to Blair Court in Avondale. The following year, the trail will extend from Blair Court to the Uptown Innovation Corridor at the intersection of MLK Drive and Reading Road. Tri-State Trails is working with Xavier University to coordinate funding for the segment of trail running through their campus.

Murray Path

- The Murray Path is currently under construction from Settle Street to Plainville Road in the Village of Mariemont. ODOT is currently working with the Village of Mariemont, Columbia Township, and Great Parks of Hamilton County to plan a connection for the trail from Plainville Road to the Little Miami Scenic Trail behind Fifty West.

Little Miami Scenic Trail

- Beechmont Bridge: Construction began in spring 2021 with project completion estimated for fall 2022.
- Columbia Connector/50 West: Phases 1 and 2, which include 1,000 feet of paved trail from the Little Miami Scenic Trail to Walton Creek and abutments for the future bridge, are complete. ODOT will fund design of Phase 3 for the section through Mariemont Landing, McDonalds, and Kroger to the US 50 intersection. Preliminary design began in spring 2021 and is estimated to be complete by summer 2022. ODOT has also assumed responsibility to complete the study from this intersection to the Mariemont Public Library and intersection of Pocahontas/US 50.



Tri-State Trails is an alliance of community advocates advancing a vision to connect and expand our region's trail network. We connect people and places with walkable and bikeable trails to enhance the vibrancy, equity and health of our communities. Our mission is aligned with Green Umbrella's founding organization and Greater Cincinnati's regional sustainability alliance.

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* Ohio River Trail East

- The 2.2 mile Salem Road to Sutton Road connection in the Ohio River Trail was completed this past spring. A ribbon cutting was held on May 8, 2021.
- City of Cincinnati, SORTA, IORY and Great Parks of Hamilton County have signed a binding term sheet to allow for the Ohio River Trail to be constructed along the Oasis rail line from Lunken Airport to Downtown.

Mill Creek Greenway and Mill Creek Triangle Trail

- The Connecting Active Communities Coalition (CCAC), Great Parks of Hamilton County, Tri-State Trails, Mill Creek Alliance, Hamilton County Planning and Development, Village of Evendale, and City of Sharonville are in the final stages of negotiations to acquire property adjacent to Sharon Creek that will connect the Mill Creek corridor of the Triangle Trail to Sharon Woods. Grant funding has been secured for land purchase.
- The Canoes and Conversation event will be held July 17 at 9 AM at Salway Park. This event will promote the value of the Mill Creek and Greenway Trail expansion to Cincinnati City Councilmembers, State Legislators, County Commissioners, and community leaders. Elected officials will take part in canoeing, biking, or walking along the Mill Creek Greenway Trail. The Mill Creek Greenway south of the Mill Creek Road is a high priority corridor in the CROWN vision.
- Mill Creek Alliance, River-West, Tri-State Trails and South Fairmont Community Council are working with Cincinnati DOTE on design objectives for the shared use path that will be part of the new Western Hills Viaduct. Our goal is to maximize use of the SUP as a transportation alternative by safely connecting it to Lick Run Greenway and Canal Bikeway (Central Parkway).

Ohio River Trail West

- River-West continues to make on-the-ground progress on the Ohio River Trail West. Following dedication of the Lower Price Hill segment from Evans Recreation Area to State Avenue in August 2020, Cincinnati DOTE will soon finish construction of the segment from Delhi Avenue in Sedamsville to Gilday Recreation Area in Riverside. This segment will connect with the Gilday segment completed by Cincinnati Recreation Commission in 2019.
- Only a one mile gap between State Avenue and Delhi Avenue will remain in the four mile portion of the ORTW from Lower Price Hill into Riverside. River-West is working with DOTE as they prepare a corridor study to evaluate options for this gap segment. The goal is to lay out alternative alignments for evaluation based on cost and feasibility, which will be the basis for funding design and construction.

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- Tri-State Trails is working with Lower Price Hill and West End Community Councils to prioritize an on road connection along 8th Street Viaduct and Linn Street from the existing 0.6 mile trail in Lower Price Hill to downtown.

Glenwood Gardens to Winton Woods Trail

- Great Parks of Hamilton County is currently designing this trail connection. Preliminary engineering and environmental assessment is anticipated to be complete in the fall 2021. Anticipated construction document completion will be in late 2021. Phase 1 pedestrian improvements at Springfield Pike and Glendale-Milford Road intersection have been approved for Transportation Alternative (TA) funding.

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