

TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT MEETING MINUTES
AND SUPPLEMENTAL PROJECT REPORTS

Regular Board Meeting
June 27, 2022

Chair Frondorf called the meeting to order and welcomed attendees to the Hamilton County Transportation Improvement District (HCTID) Board Meeting at 1:00 p.m.

Board Members Present: Henry Frondorf, John Brazina, Eric Beck, Christie Kuhns, William Seitz

Board Members absent: Jack Pflum

Also in attendance: Charlene Vollhardt, Lisa Doerger, Todd Gadbury – Hamilton County Engineers; Rusty Schuermann – Kegler, Brown, Hill & Ritter; Bill Shefcik-City of Cincinnati; Tom Arnold – ODOT; Chris Meyer – Cincinnati Port; Pete Metz – Cincinnati Regional Chamber; Nathan Alley – Sierra Club; Rob Hans – MBaker; Wade Johnston – Tri-State Trails; Jen Kunz – Geotechnology; Shawn Mason – Prime Engineering; Ursula Miller – City of Cincinnati; Joe Vogel – WSP USA; Cheri Reko – City of Cincinnati; Andy Fluegemann – Lawhon & Associates; Patricia Newberry – Cincinnati Enquirer; Tara Campbell - Fishbeck

Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence...

Approval of Minutes...

- Chairman Frondorf entertained a motion to approve the minutes from April 25, 2022...
- ***Board Member Brazina made the motion to approve the HCTID Board Meeting Minutes from April 25, 2022; seconded by Board Member Beck and the motion carried with each Member present voting yes.***

Resolution by the Hamilton County Transportation Improvement District authorizing payment of Local Match Share Funding for ORT Salem to Sutton Project (PID No. 94491) and authorizing related amendment of Budget 2021-2022...

- Rusty Schuermann discussed the Resolution authorizing payment of Local Match Share funding for ORT Salem to Sutton and authorizing related amendment of the Budget 2021-2022. He stated this is in follow up to an action taken by the TID Board in 2017 when the TID, Anderson Township and the City of Cincinnati coordinated on an arrangement to provide for the Local Match Share to match OKI funding for the Ohio River Trail East. Since the action by this Board and the resulting intergovernmental agreement with the City of Cincinnati, Anderson Township and the TID, the project has been completed. In the intergovernmental agreement there were proportional shares of the Local Match share required from the City, Township and the TID. The TID amount was not to exceed \$300,000.00 and based on the actual construction cost., ended up being in the amount of \$233,027.11. to the resolution before the Board is for approval of that payment and to amend the budget accordingly.
- ***Board Member Beck made the motion to approve the Resolution by the Hamilton County Transportation Improvement District authorizing payment of Local Match Share Funding of ORT Salem to Sutton Project (PID No. 94491) and authorizing related amendment of Budget 2021-2022 as presented; seconded by Board Member***

Kuhns and the motion carried with roll call vote: Henry Frondorf – yes, John Brazina – yes, Eric Beck – yes, Christie Kuhns – yes.

*Transportation issues...
Regional Partner Reports*

ODOT update:

- Tom Arnold reported in detail on 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 on the Brent Spence Bridge project. On May 23, 2022, Ohio Governor Mike DeWine and Kentucky Governor Andy Beshear jointly applied requesting nearly \$2 billion in federal funding to make improvements to the Brent Spence Bridge Corridor that runs through Northern Kentucky and the City of Cincinnati. They are hoping to hear of the success of the application in early fall.
- Tom Arnold stated they have created a bipartisan infrastructure law website at ODOT. It gives all the latest information about grants that are available through FHWA. There is an interactive site where you can request a support letter from ODOT.
- Tom Arnold stated there is a Safety Funding Program available through ODOT. They are calling for applications to be received by the beginning of August to the District for review before they are submitted to the Central Office on August 31, 2022.
- Board Member Beck asked for follow-up or update on the point person for the State on the bipartisan infrastructure law funding.
 - Tom Arnold reported that Andrew Shepler is the contact from Central Office for the grant programs. Information is located on website www.transportation.ohio.gov/bil

Clermont County TID updates:

- Board Member Beck reported Route 32 projects are moving forward.

Butler, Warren County TID updates:

- Board Member Beck reported Hamilton County continues to work with Warren County on the Fields Ertel with the Warren County TID.

TID Corridors of Opportunity...

- Board Member Beck reported they applied for Jobs and Commerce funding for the Dry Fork Corridor project. He received notification that there were 43 applications received requesting over \$14.7 million. We were awarded \$250,000 for development of the Dry Fork Road Corridor projects.

Western Hills Viaduct update:

- Bill Shefcik reported they submitted a grant application to DOT for the INFRA MEGA Program. They appreciated the letter of support provided by the TID.
- Bill Shefcik reported that the USDOT announced they have another program called the Bridge Investment Program which would be a good fit for the Western Hills Viaduct. Applications are due August 9, 2022.
- ***Board Member Beck made a motion that the TID prepare a letter of support for the Bridge Investment Program application; seconded by Board Member Kuhns and the motion carried unanimously.***
- Bill Shefcik reported they are looking to hire a Construction Manager at Risk to perform various construction activities.

Cincinnati Transportation Update...

- Board Member Brazina reported City Council passed their Budget and in that Budget was a onetime Transportation Infrastructure item in the amount of \$ 12 million. There was \$ 4 million that went towards Pedestrian Safety and \$ 8 million towards street rehabilitation.

Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber update:

- Pete Metz remarked on a report that indicates that across the buckets of funds coming to the State, the Cincinnati region is expected to see a 24% increase in federal formula funds.

Redevelopment Authority Project update...

- Chris Meyer reported no updates.

SORTA Update...

- John Ravasio reported the Access Service for the disabled community will be receiving three electric vehicles this fall. Zero emission electric powered vehicles will be onsite mid-September.
- John Ravasio reported they are introducing Mobility on Demand by calendar year end. This is an Uber type service in Springdale, parts of Sharonville, Glendale, and Northgate areas and Mt. Healthy.
- John Ravasio commented they received a \$341,000 grant to explore locations to develop a transit center in Walnut Hills. They received a \$780,000 grant to continue plans for bus traffic transit routes.
- John Ravasio stated the deadline for Infrastructure projects to be submitted is June 30, 2022 by 2:00 pm.

OKI Update...

- No updates.

Tri State Trails Update...

- Wade Johnson commented on the CROWN (Cincinnati Ride Or Walking Network) is making significant progress. Wasson Way from Montgomery Road to Old Red Bank Road was completed in December. The City has funding through OKI to extend the trail west within the next two years to extend to the intersection of Martin Luther King and Reading Road. They received a State Capitol Budget grant of \$350,000 for safe crossing improvements at Montgomery Road and Dana Avenue.
- Wade Johnson reported they submitted two grants this year, one with OKI and the other with ODNR for \$2.8 million to close the gap between downtown Mariemont and 50 West.

Status Review of the Infrastructure Investment & Jobs Act...

- Board Member Beck reported no updates.
- Board Member Seitz reported there have been proposals in the State House to suspend the State gas tax which have not been acted upon. He stated that suspending the gas tax would deleteriously affect the major projects discussed in this meeting, such as the Western Hills Viaduct and the Brent Spence Bridge. The General Assembly will not be back in session until after the November 8, 2022 election.

HCTID Supplemental Project updates...

- Board Member Brazina reported on the Eastern Corridor Oasis Rail stating that the City of Cincinnati, Great Parks and SORTA are diligently working on an agreement with the Railroad.
- Board Member Seitz commented on Cincinnati to Cleveland Rail. He thought the administration and legislature would be open to looking at the idea depending on the State commitment and if acceptable operating speeds, but he is not aware of any proposed Legislation.

Old Business...

- None to report

New Business...

- *Next Meeting Dates...*
 - Monday, July 25, 2022 @ 1:00 p.m. – Springfield Township Arts Center
 - Monday, August 22, 2022 @ 1:00 pm – Springfield Township Arts Center

Adjournment of Meeting...

- ***Board Member Beck made the motion to adjourn the HCTID meeting at 1:25 p.m.; seconded by Board Member Brazina and the motion carried unanimously...***

Respectfully submitted,

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