

TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT MEETING MINUTES
AND SUPPLEMENTAL PROJECT REPORTS

Regular Board Meeting
January 23, 2023

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. at the Todd Portune Center for County Government, BOCC Room 610, 138 E. Court Street, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

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

- ***Roll call vote – Henry Frondorf- present, John Brazina – present, Eric Beck – present, Christie Kuhns - present.***

Board Members absent: William Seitz, Jack Pflum

Also in attendance: Charlene Vollhardt, Lisa Doerger– Hamilton County Engineers; Rusty Schuermann – Kegler, Brown, Hill & Ritter; Camden Bentley – County Admin.; Tara Campbell – Fishbeck; Jen Kunz - Geotechnology; Shawn Mason – Structure Point Eng.; Joe Mellman – LJB Engineering; Anne Rahall – TEC Engineering; Joe Vogel – WSP USA Engineering; Jeff Wallace – CT Consultants; Brad Bowers – Tri State Trails; Darryl Haley – SORTA; Brenda Wehmer - Dinsmore

Pledge of Allegiance...

Election of Officers...

- Board Member Beck presented the 2023 TID Proposed Officers to the Board for approval.
- ***Following discussion, Board Member Beck made the motion to elect as the 2023 TID Board Officers: Henry Frondorf - Chair; John Brazina - Vice-Chair; and Eric Beck - Secretary-Treasurer; seconded by Board Member Kuhns and the motion carried by roll call vote; Henry Frondorf – yes, John Brazina – yes, Eric Beck – yes, Christie Kuhns – yes.***

Approval of Minutes...

- Chairman Frondorf entertained a motion to approve the minutes from November 28, 2022.
- ***Board Member Beck made the motion to approve the HCTID Board Meeting Minutes from November 28, 2022 as presented; seconded by Board Member Kuhns and the motion carried by roll call vote; Henry Frondorf – yes, John Brazina – yes, Eric Beck – yes, Christie Kuhns – yes.***

Transportation issues...

Regional Partner Reports

ODOT update:

- Tom Arnold was absent from the meeting. He previously submitted the detailed report 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.

- Board Member Beck reported the Brent Spence Bridge Corridor project received a \$1.385 billion dollar grant from the Bridge Investment Program. The project team was also informally notified it will receive a \$250 million dollar grant from the National Infrastructure Project Assistance (MEGA) program for a total of \$1.635 billion awarded to the project.
- Board Member Beck reported there will be shifting of personnel on the Brent Spence Bridge project. Tommy Arnold will be the Project Manager for the Brent Spence Bridge. Tommy will remain as the ODOT Representative for the TID.

Clermont County TID updates:

- No updates.

Butler, Warren County TID updates:

- Dan Corey was unable to attend due to a conflict. Rusty Schuermann reported that Butler County is continuing work on the North Hamilton Crossing.

TID Corridors of Opportunity...

- Board Member Beck reported the County Engineer’s Office is continuing to work with the City of Harrison on the Dry Fork Road interchange project.

Western Hills Viaduct update:

- Board Member Beck reported for Bill Shefcik. On the Western Hills Viaduct, they have received 3 proposals from Contractors interested in becoming the Construction Manager at Risk. Proposals are currently under evaluation with an expectation of selecting the Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR) and awarding the contract by May 2023.

Selection for an Independent Cost Estimator will be issued by the City early next month. There is currently an open invitation posted to bid for the next building demolition located at 2261 Spring Grove Avenue which will be the new location for the Duke Energy Substation. Bids are due by March 26, 2023.

Cincinnati Transportation Update...

- Board Member Brazina reported there is a Department of Economic Inclusion Outreach meeting on January 25, 2023 for the Brent Spence Bridge presented by ODOT.

Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber update:

- Pete Metz reported in detail on the Infrastructure Investment Jobs Act report with HDR that will be finalized within the next 2 weeks.

Redevelopment Authority Project update...

- No updates.

SORTA Update...

- Darryl Haley reported that SORTA is celebrating their 50th Anniversary. They were just rewarded a \$1.9 million grant to green their fleet. Their strategy for zero emission vehicles should be complete within the next couple of weeks. The first 2 Electric vehicles for Paratransit should be in next month.
- Darryl Haley reported on their 2 BRT Corridors, which are Reading Road and Hamilton Avenue. There will also be improvements made to Montgomery and Glenway roads to get them ready for the next BRT.
- Darryl Haley reported there were 36 projects and 25 Municipalities that received Transit and Infrastructure funds for Round 2. A call for projects for Round 3 will go out in March or April.
- Darryl Haley reported that Ohio Loves Transit week is February 5-11, 2023.
- Board Member Beck asked if SORTA had charging stations for their electric vehicles.
 - Darryl Haley stated they have charging stations at Access for the two vehicles coming in. As soon as their strategy is complete, SORTA will reach out to the City of Cincinnati and Hamilton County to come up with shared services for charging on the street.
- Board Member Beck stated the call for Infrastructure projects for this year has been moved up. This was requested to separate the timing of the SORTA Transportation grants from the OPWC grants to allow better leveraging of funding.

OKI Update...

- No updates

Tri State Trails Update...

- Brad Bowers reported in detail on the Millcreek Triangle Trail. Last year, Great Parks closed on a piece of property from the Sharon Creek Railroad, and they are hoping to initiate a feasibility study for the Millcreek Triangle Trail. They are hoping to ask the TID to help fund this study.
- Board Member Beck stated the County Commissioners placed \$500,000 in the budget for the TID to use on Trail Programs. The Trail must have a transportation component.

HCTID Supplemental Project updates...

- Rusty Schuermann commented on ODOT TID Grant Funding, stating the applications for the ODOT Jobs and Commerce funding for TID's will be accepted starting March 1st – 31st, 2023. A Resolution identifying the projects for application is typically presented to the TID Board for adoption.

- Board Member Beck stated any Communities that have qualifying projects and would like to be considered by the TID Board should have them submitted next month.

Old Business...

- None to report

New Business...

- Board Member Brazina stated the City had discussions with SORTA and the County about ways to use the \$200 million plus dollars to be received from SORTA for the Western Hills Viaduct. The City is looking at ways to get the money up front rather than on a reimbursement basis as stated on their original application. One idea would be thru a bond issue, using the revenue from those assets. There is a cost to bonding so they would not be able to use the full \$200 million for construction due to the reduced cost. They would like to request that the TID be the bond issuer.
- Rusty Schuermann commented that upon the inception of TIDs, back in 1993, TIDs have the power and authority to issue Highway Improvement Revenue bonds. He had discussion with Brenda Wehmer with Dinsmore, who has acted as Bond Counsel on other TID bond issues, and there would need to be some refinements to the Ohio Revised Code because of how the SORTA and the TID's statues are written. They would have to look closer on what the structure would look like and agreements between the interested parties.
- Board Member Kuhns inquired about the time frame of changing the Ohio Revised Code.
 - Rusty Schuermann stated the changes would likely be drafted into the 2-year Transportation Budget introduced in February.
 - Brenda Wehmer commented that with the statutory modification, the Board would decide if they would want to undertake the issue of the Bonds.

Next Meeting Dates...

- Monday, February 27, 2023 @ 1:00 pm – 138 E. Court Street, Cincinnati, Oh 45202
- Monday, March 27, 2023 @ 1:00 pm – 138 E. Court Street, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

Adjournment of Meeting...

- ***Chair Frondorf made the motion to adjourn the HCTID meeting at 1:24 p.m.; seconded by Board Member Kuhns and the motion carried unanimously...***

Respectfully submitted,

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