



* NOACA Board recessed in July.

July 2009

Six-Month Water Quality Activities:

- Participated in the completion of *The Lower Black River Ecological Restoration Master Plan*.
- Assisted in the Cuyahoga Soil and Water Conservation District's Storm Water Retrofit Analysis of three local watersheds: Euclid Creek and two Rocky River tributaries, Baldwin Creek and Abram Creek.
- Assisted with *The Upper Rocky River Balanced Growth Initiative Plan* that was endorsed by the State of Ohio.



Staff Activities/Events

- Reviewed 22 project applications for Transportation Review Advisory Council (TRAC) funding, which included 11 phases of the Cleveland Innerbelt project submitted by ODOT.
- Conducted Commuter Challenge activities to encourage commuters to try alternatives to driving alone during the week of July 18-25.
- Staffed WDOK radio's Free Lunch events once a month during July-September, reaching hundreds of people about NOACA's programs and services.
- Trained interns who collected travel time data on the region's freeways to identify areas of congestion as input to the transportation planning process.
- Responded to 130 Rideshare hotline calls and added 272 new registrants over the 2010 fiscal year.



Board Actions/Activities August

- Approved \$4.7 million in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds for seven transit projects for GCRTA, Laketrans and BTA, adding them to the Transportation Plan and the TIP.
- Approved two applications for funds from NOACA's Regional Benefit Account using local funds for regionally important studies and planning:
 - Lorain County Commissioners: \$34,600 to the Westshore Commuter Rail Alternative Analysis initiative
 - Lake County Commissioners: \$35,000 to conduct Lost Nation Airport Analysis
- Bonita Teeuwen, ODOT District 12 Deputy Director, presented an update on the Cleveland Innerbelt project.



- Conducted 19 vehicle inspections from 14 agencies funded under ODOT's Specialized Transportation Program.
- Assisted recipients of Job Access and Reverse Commute (JARC) and New Freedom Program grants, including additional funding approval for the Jewish Family Service Association of Cleveland to help purchase a van.
- Conducted public outreach at ODOT Government Day events, plus six other outreach events over the next few months.
- Facilitated two successful TLCI workshops, attended by over 80 people.
- Issued six Air Quality Advisories to inform the public about the potentially unhealthy quality of the region's air.
- Prepared several traffic forecasts for Shaker Heights locations, and Fenn Road in Medina County.



September

- Approved 22 Project Planning Reviews (PPR) and amendments to *Connections 2030* and the TIP, with \$54 million in estimated costs for proposed transportation improvements (i.e., roadway, bridge, transit, bikeway projects).
- Approved entering into a cooperative agreement for metropolitan transportation planning with the Erie County MPO for Erie County and a portion of Lorain County; agreement was signed in September.
- Opposed ODOT's funding proposal related to any reduction of federal aid funds suballocated to MPOs.
- Received an update from Federal Highway Administration/Federal Transit Administration officials on federal certification review findings.



Kamm's Corners \$2.3 million streetscape project among the 22 projects approved for federal funds

- Facilitated the completion and final report presentations to TAC for two TLCI studies: *Lorain Port Authority's Black River Landing Rail Corridor Site Access Study* and *Brooklyn's Big Creek Greenway Trail/Connectors Plan*.
- Revised the federal-aid project application consistent with the Board's *Regional Transportation Investment Policy* and posted it on NOACA's Web site.
- Prepared "NOACA at Work" county publications (August-December), highlighting work in each county and Cleveland.
- Coordinated a Regional Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) workshop with HNTB and ConSysTec.

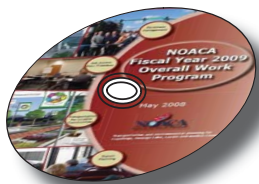


2009



Board Actions/Activities October

- Staff presented an overview on national and regional proposed passenger rail initiatives, including preliminary information on ODOT's 3C Quick Start Passenger Rail project application for ARRA funding.
- Staff provided a status update on contingency planning related to managing stimulus funds in order to spend the funds on ready projects within the eligible time period.
- Approved *NOACA's Fiscal Year 2009 Overall Work Program Completion Report* and product DVD containing completed reports, newsletters and maps prepared in FY 2009.



Staff Activities/Events

- Reviewed and scored 17 SFY 2010 TLCI applications for planning studies, working with a seven-member TLCI task force.
- Drafted a *Regional Sidewalk Inventory Technical Memorandum*, which includes mapping of sidewalk coverage in each county.
- Completed and posted online the *Cuyahoga County Traffic Count Map*, and the *Lake County Traffic Count Map*.
- Created accident databases from 2006-2008 crash data received from ODOT and the Ohio Department of Safety; plus developed a method to analyze crashes in high crash rural areas.
- Completed a draft *2008 Transit Network Guide and 2009 Park-N-Ride Survey*.
- Facilitated the completion of two final TLCI reports and posted them online: *Broadview Heights Valley Parkway Trail Alignment* and *Westlake's Columbia Road Corridor Study*.

November

- ODOT Central staff presented the 3-C Quick Start Passenger Rail Project, a proposal to provide passenger rail service between Cleveland, Columbus, Dayton and Cincinnati, with these two proposed Cleveland rail stations: Amtrak Station and GCRTA's Puritas Avenue Transit Station.
- U.S. Census Regional Director Dwight Dean presented an update on Census 2010, the decennial tally of United States residents.
- NOACA Executive Director Howard Maier updated members about the discussions between ODOT, MPOs and the region's transit agencies regarding their funding crisis.



- Presented a draft bike lane/route initiative to the TAC, which focuses on implementing cost-effective bicycle improvements, per *NOACA's Bicycle Priority Plan*.
- Conducted an interagency consultation and online public comment process for the Lake County Engineer's Crile Road Connector project in preparation for an air quality conformity determination.
- Completed the travel demand model with validation for years 2000 and 2005; plus, forecasted travel patterns over the next 30 years, for updating the long-range transportation plan.
- Completed traffic and lane capacity updates for over 2,400 road segments to finalize the *Congestion Management Process: Future Traffic Congestion Technical Memorandum*.



December

- Approved 26 Project Planning Reviews and amendments to *Connections 2030* and the TIP, with \$91 million in estimated investments in proposed transportation projects. These included two pilot projects in Cleveland and Euclid under NOACA's new Urban Core Preliminary Engineering Program.
- Approved the SFY 2010 TLCI program, providing \$777,250 to six communities and GCRTA to fund 13 planning studies, plus two projects providing NOACA technical assistance for small-scale traffic studies in Broadview Heights and North Olmsted.
- Approved the 3C Quick Start Passenger Rail Project, amending it to Tier 3 of NOACA's Transportation Plan. This action authorized moving the project to Tier 1 and the TIP if the Federal Railroad Administration funds the \$563 million application fully and a defined funding strategy is developed for future operation.

- Coordinated with transit agencies to identify mechanisms for reducing existing funding shortfalls (i.e., funding options for Lorain County Transit's brokerage program, which serves low income workers.)
- Processed 44 proposed transportation projects through intergovernmental review and consultation and provided summary of comments received.
- Presented the benefits of anti-idling legislation to the Fairview Park City Council Committee, where they will decide whether to introduce a vehicle anti-idling ordinance similar to those adopted by Cleveland, South Euclid, Maple Heights and North Olmsted.
- Completed work with project sponsors related to their ARRA project status reports that were submitted every two weeks and posted online; monitored the authorized projects via monthly coordination meetings with ODOT staff.





Board Actions/Activities

January

- Approved entering into a memorandum of understanding with three other agencies to jointly promote motor vehicle anti-idling ordinances and strategies.
- Approved a contract extension for Ohio University to continue to operate the online mapping Web page that displays hourly monitor readings and air pollution forecasts.
- Made staff presentation on NOACA's progress to address the strategies recommended in the Ozone and Fine Particle State Implementation Plans.

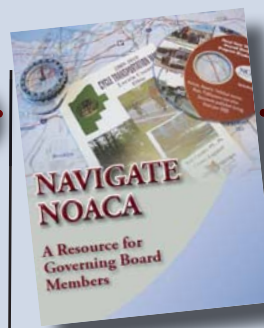


Medina County monitor

☑ Elected 2010 Board officers and five new representatives from Cuyahoga County. The Medina County Engineer also joined the Board as a result of the Code of Regulations changes. This increased Board membership from 38 to 44 members.

February

- Approved a process for selecting Board-approved projects consistent with Jobs for Main Street Act directives and deadlines. Had it become law, the Regional Transportation Investment Subcommittee (RTIS) would have directed and managed the process for the 2nd round of stimulus funding.
- Approved the Transportation Conformity for the Crile Road Connector, a new east-west roadway proposed for Auburn Road at Capital Parkway to Crile Road in Concord Township. Conformity is a federal requirement that acknowledges new roadway capacity will not hamper efforts to maintain air quality standards.



March

- Staff prepared and distributed the 2010 *Governing Board Resource Guide, Navigate NOACA*.
- Approved 23 project planning reviews (\$146 million) and amendments to the TIP and Transportation Plan to fix roads, bridges, sidewalks, and upgrade traffic signals, trails and signage.
- Approved the Ohio Department of Transportation's list of projects for possible funding under the pending Jobs for Main Street Act.
- Approved sending comments from NOACA's Air Quality Subcommittee, to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) concerning the proposed 8-hour National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) for ozone, urging realistic projections and timeframe.
- Approved the Regional Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) architecture update. To access go to: www.consystec.com/ohio/noaca/web.

Staff Activities/Events

- Completed the Fiscal Year 2010 Six-Month Overall Work Program Progress Report for ODOT, with its companion publication, *OWPnews: Six Month Accomplishments*.
- Worked with ODOT to process functional classification amendments for five roads to be affected by the Innerbelt reconstruction project.
- Worked with ODOT Districts and the Regional Transportation Investment Subcommittee to develop a draft list of projects to meet requirements for the proposed Jobs for Main Street Act, if made law.
- Facilitated completion of the *Cedar-Fairmont Transportation and Streetscape Plan* for Cleveland Heights, funded with \$75,000 from NOACA's Transportation for Livable Communities Initiative.



- Received and scored five applications from non-profit agencies under the Specialized Transportation Program (Section 5310) for transportation services for the elderly and people with disabilities.
- Launched the application cycle for Job Access and Reverse Commute (JARC) and New Freedom (NF) funding—programs that support transportation services to jobs and employment-related activities for welfare recipients and low-income individuals, plus transportation for people with disabilities.



- Completed two Road Safety Audit Reports: *Lorain and Columbia Road intersection in North Olmsted and Shaker Boulevard and East 116th Street in Cleveland*.
- Completed the *Regional Sidewalk Inventory* for NOACA's five counties. Staff analyzed over 5,205 segments of roads using aerial photos and site visits to determine the percent coverage of sidewalks.
- Completed *Truck Average Daily Traffic (ADT) Maps* using an interactive ArcGIS database and posted at <http://www.noaca.org/freightplan.html>; developed a survey to distribute to major freight stakeholders.
- Held a JARC/NF training workshop to help potential applicants understand the application and selection process.



Board Actions/Activities

April

- Approved nine project planning reviews and amendments to the TIP and Transportation Plan, sponsored by ODOT Districts 3 and 12 to be awarded June 2010. These consisted of bridge repair and deck replacements, signal updates, I-90

Euclid noise wall replacement and I-71 Medina barrier rail.

- Staff presented the draft Fiscal Year 2011 Overall Work Program containing transportation and environmental planning projects to begin in July.
- Staff updated members on the status of unobligated stimulus funds where \$1.1 million will be allocated to the Station Road resurfacing project in Columbia Township.

Staff Activities/Events

- Completed a draft *Road Safety Audit Report for two intersections at Great Northern Boulevard/Brookpark and Lorain Road/I-480 in North Olmsted*.
- Hired two interns who worked on GIS related work for bicycle maps to create a Web-based GIS interface, making the data more accessible to others.
- Staffed a NOACA OhioRideshare display in downtown Cleveland at the Bryant & Stratton Job Fair.
- Facilitated completion of the *Tremont Pedestrian and Bicycle Linkages Plan*, funded with \$36,000 NOACA's Transportation for Livable Communities Initiative.
- Completed a draft *Broadview Heights Signal Warrant Study* as part of NOACA's Transportation Links to Communities Program.

*All products in italics are available at www.noaca.org

May

- Adopted the *FY 2011 Overall Work Program (OWP)* and budget which identifies NOACA's transportation and environmental planning activities from July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011.

- Adopted support for Congress to approve federal funding and actions to address the threat posed by Asian carp to the Great Lakes.
- Supported asking Congress to fully fund the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative at \$475 million and streamline the application process for projects.
- ODOT District 12 staff updated members on the design/development phases for the new Cuyahoga River Valley Crossing bridge and the Lakefront West project and its pedestrian underpasses.

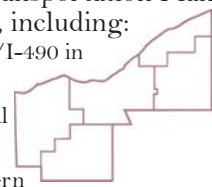
- Coordinated activities for Cleveland's 3rd Annual Bicycle to Work Week.
- Prepared an *Addendum to the Strategic Plan to Reduce Vehicle-Animal Accidents*.
- Completed the *Eastlake Road Safety Audit Report for the S.O.M. Center Road and Vine Street intersection*.



- Worked with the JARC/NF Task Force to rank, score and recommend projects from 11 applications received for federal Job Access and Reverse Commute (JARC) and New Freedom funding.
- Drafted a County Level Pavement Analysis Technical Memorandum with seven-year pavement scenarios by county.

June

- Approved 20 Project Planning Reviews (PPR) and amendments (\$59 million) to the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and Transportation Plan for proposed transportation projects, including:
 - ▶ replacing a bridge deck on I-71 over I-90/I-490 in Cleveland
 - ▶ Geauga County Transit's CY 2011 Capital and Operating Program
 - ▶ constructing the Lake Metroparks Southern Greenway Connector Trail from Ravenna Road to Girdled Road in Concord Township
 - ▶ traffic signal improvements in North Ridgeville
 - ▶ resurfacing US-42 in Harrisville and Lafayette Townships.
- Authorized NOACA to issue Request for Proposals (RFP) for the Household Travel Survey; directed the RTIS to form a task force to review the RFPs and make recommendations to the TAC and Board by September.



- Conducted NOACA's 11th annual Summit at the Renaissance Cleveland Hotel, as part of the NARC Conference. The Walter F. Ehrnfelt, Jr., Award for Outstanding Regional Contribution was presented to Chris Roynane, President, University Circle, Inc.
- Completed the *2010 Summit Report: Partner in the Region's Recovery*.
- Completed the *Hinckley Township Road Safety Audit Report for the Center Road and State Road intersection*.
- Prepared an online digital *Transportation Enhancement (TE) Application* and schedule for the TE process.



★ Provided information and services to communities, organizations and individuals during the fiscal year.