



Safety and Operations Council Meeting

February 20, 2026, 1:00 p.m.

NOACA Offices, 1299 Superior Ave.
Cleveland, OH 44114

RSVP to 216-241-2414 ext. 282
or boardliaison@mpo.noaca.org

NOACA will **STRENGTHEN** regional cohesion, **PRESERVE** existing infrastructure, and **BUILD** a sustainable multimodal transportation system to **SUPPORT** economic development and **ENHANCE** quality of life in Northeast Ohio.



**NORTHEAST OHIO AREAWIDE COORDINATING AGENCY
MEMORANDUM**

TO: Safety and Operations Council Members

David Bass, Major Transportation Projects Coordinator, City of Cleveland
Jason W. Boyd, County Administrator, Lake County
Angela Byington, Director of Planning & Development, City of Lakewood
Shaun Duffala, P.E., P.S., Deputy County Engineer, Lorain County
Patrick Grogan-Myers, Director of Planning and Development, City of Euclid
Andy Haupt, P.E., P.S., County Engineer, Geauga County
Gordon Holmes, Traffic Commissioner, Cleveland Division of Police
Matthew Neil, Chief, Montville Township Police, Medina County
Scott Ockunzzi, P.E., District Planning Engineer, ODOT District 3
Chris Pyanowski, Safety Service Director, Safety Services Department, City of Elyria
David Ray, P.E., P.S., County Engineer, Cuyahoga County Dept. of Public Works
Michael Schipper, Deputy General Manager, Engineering & Project Mgmt., GCRTA
Jacob VanSickle, Executive Director, Bike Cleveland
Josh Wolf, P.E., Assistant County Engineer, Medina County

FROM: James Kusner, Chair
Traffic Safety Engineer, ODOT District 12

DATE: February 13, 2026

RE: Safety and Operations Council

Attached please find materials for the Safety and Operations Council meeting on **Friday, February 20, 2026, from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. at NOACA's Offices, 1299 Superior Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio.**



Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency
Friday, February 20, 2026
1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

The public can view the meeting live at: youtube.com/live/ovASceZIL3A?feature=share

SAFETY AND OPERATIONS COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

	Page
1. Call to Order	
a. Pledge of Allegiance	
2. Minutes of November 21, 2025, Meeting	1
3. Public Comment on Agenda Items	
4. Chair's/Executive Director's Report	
5. Action (no items)	
6. Presentation/Discussion Items	
a. Transportation for Safer Communities Initiative (TSCI) Introduction	6
b. Bike & Pedestrian Count Update	8
c. Street Supplies Update	9
d. bikeNEO Bike Map Web Application Update	10
7. Reports/Updates	
8. Old Business	
9. New Business	
10. Adjourn	

Next Meeting: **Friday, May 15, 2026, at 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.**
NOACA Offices, 1299 Superior Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio



NOACA Safety and Operations Council
Meeting Minutes
November 21, 2025
NOACA Offices
1299 Superior Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio

Present: Please see the attached attendance record.

Mr. James Kusner, Vice Chair of the Safety and Operations Council, convened the meeting at 1:00 p.m.

Meeting Minutes

Mr. Lawrence Hall made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of August 15, 2025. Mr. Shaun Duffala seconded the motion. The motion passed by voice vote.

Public Comment

No one signed in to speak at this meeting.

Executive Director's Report

Director Grace Gallucci thanked members for attending today's meeting. She noted that under new business, there will be an update on the I-71 Corridor Study.

Action Items

No action items were presented at this meeting.

Presentation/Discussion Items

CY 2026 Highway Safety Performance Measure Targets

Ms. Kessa Turnball presented information on the following:

- Nonmotorized Fatalities & Serious Injuries
- CY 2026 Safety Performance Measure Target Setting
- Historic Regional Fatalities
- Historic Regional Nonmotorized Fatalities and Serious Injuries
- Nonmotorized Fatalities and Serious Injuries Per Year With VMT and Speed Comparison

Ms. Turnball stated that, pending Board approval, the Long Range Transportation Plan and Transportation Improvement Plan highway safety performance targets will be updated.

SFY 2028-2031 TIP Development – Potential Projects for NOACA Funds

Mr. Ed May presented information on the following:

- Background on Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
- TIP Components: Roadway and Transportation Alternatives Element, Transit Element, and Appendices
- Development of the SFY 2028-2031 TIP
- Funding programs in the TIP
- TIP Project Alignment
- TIP Project Evaluation Process
- TIP Project Selection and Evaluation Process
 - Step 1: Develop TIP potential project universe
 - Step 2: Screen project universe to align with weNEO2050+ plan
 - Step 3: Coordinate with regional and local sponsors
 - Step 4: Filter the top 25% of the TAM projects
 - Step 5: Evaluate qualifying projects against Regional Significance Criteria and considerations
- TIP Schedule

Mr. May said staff will prepare a report on transportation system needs and deficiencies for community and agency review, incorporating Council input. Council feedback will guide staff in evaluating projects for NOACA funding in the draft SFY 2028–2031 TIP. Funding recommendations will go to the Council in May 2026, and the final draft TIP will be presented to the Planning and Programming Committee in January 2027 and the Board of Directors in March 2027.

Mr. Shaun Duffala asked whether NOACA was dividing roadway segments by VMT.

Mr. May explained that VMT is used only to create a manageable number of segments per county, based on each county and the City of Cleveland’s share of regional vehicle miles traveled.

Mr. Duffala then asked if funding would also be allocated by VMT.

Mr. May said no. Funding will be based on each county and the City of Cleveland’s share of the urbanized population.

Mr. Hall noted that while March 27 seems far off, FHWA appreciates NOACA’s due diligence timeline and extensive public input. He emphasized that safety is a top USDOT priority and encouraged staff to further strengthen safety considerations within the five-step process, given the ambitious targets presented by Ms. Turnbull.

Mr. May agreed.

SFY 2026 TLCI Program Applications

Ms. Leah Telepak presented information on the following:

- Background on the TLCI Program
- TLCI Program Application Summary and Budget Overview
- Planning Study Applications – Total Funding Requested: \$680,000
- Implementation Applications – Total Funding Requested: \$6,280,255

Ms. Telepak said Council input will be included in staff project evaluations, with recommendations presented to the Planning and Programming Committee in January and final Board approval expected in March.

Lorain East 28th Street Corridor TLCI Study Update

Mr. Rob Uhlhorn presented information on the following:

- Project Goals
- Complete Street
- Project Study Area
- Project Phases
- Phase 1: Data Collection & Existing Condition Analysis
 - Data Collection
 - Lorain County Transit Network & Crashes
 - Bicycle Level of Traffic Stress
 - Public Meeting #1
- Phase 2: Analysis & Alternatives Development
 - Collecting Traffic Data
 - Crash Analysis Conclusions
 - Traffic Operations Analysis
 - Design Alternatives
 - Design Alternatives – Rail Bridge
 - Design Alternatives – E. 28th & Pearl

Mr. Uhlhorn stated that staff will continue updating the Council as the project progresses.

Mr. Hall noted that a Lorain County steel mill may ramp up production again, which could increase freight traffic.

Mr. Uhlhorn said this development further supports the idea of a two-way cycle track on the south side of the street, which staff had already been considering, even with limited existing freight traffic.

Reports/Updates

No reports/updates were presented at this meeting.

Old Business

No old business was presented at this meeting.

New Business

I-71 Regional Transportation Study

Director Gallucci stated that Ms. Laurie Adams, a DGL Consulting Engineering serving as NOACA's project manager for this study, is embedded with the project team and working closely with HDR and ODOT throughout the effort.

Ms. Adams presented information on the following:

- Study Overview & Schedule
 - Study Purpose and Need
 - Study Area
 - Previous Studies Along I-71
 - Project Schedule
- Crash Issues & Identified Areas of Concern
 - Crash Analysis

- Identified Areas of Concern
 - I-71/SR 82 Interchange
 - Howe Road/SR 82
 - Howe Road Corridor (Lane Drop)
 - US 42/SR 82
 - West 130th St/SR 82
 - I-71 and SR 303 Area
 - I-71 US 42 Interchange
 - W 130th St/Grafton Road
 - Grafton Road/Carpenter Road
 - Drake Road/Hunt Road
- Traffic Congestion Grading System & Findings
 - How each area was evaluated
 - Level of Service Grades
 - Existing Traffic Conditions
 - Future Traffic Conditions
 - Most Congested Area – 2050 PM Peak
- Next Steps
 - What to Expect
 - Website & Contact Information

Ms. Adams reported that the first public meeting was held on November 19 at the Strongsville Recreation Center. Based on stakeholder input, NOACA held separate meetings in Strongsville and Brunswick so each community could speak freely. Strongsville had about 150 attendees; Brunswick, in a smaller room, drew about 170, far more than expected. Both meetings generated strong comments, and some residents attended both to hear all perspectives. Public comments are open through December 19. Materials and exhibits are posted on NOACA's website, and feedback can be submitted by email. After the comment period, HDR will review input and continue stakeholder meetings as conceptual alternatives are developed. Ms. Adams noted the study begins with a clean slate, with no predetermined solutions. Another public meeting is planned for May to present and evaluate alternatives. Additional information can be found on NOACA's website. The project email is noaca@mpo.noaca.org.

Mr. Kusner asked how resident feedback on delays compares with the current capacity analysis.

Ms. Adams said the capacity analysis shows conditions slightly better than residents reported, but congestion varies by day and even by 10-minute intervals. Some residents said it is always severe, while others noted it only happens occasionally. Overall, people were willing to share and provided valuable feedback.

Adjournment

Mr. Robert Knopf made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:20 p.m. Mr. Hall seconded the motion. The motion passed by voice vote.

The Safety and Operations Council will hold its next meeting on February 20, 2026, at 1:00 p.m.

Note: Additional information on the agenda items can be found on [NOACA's website](#) and [YouTube channel](#).



NOACA

Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency

Safety and Operations Council (SOC) 2025 Attendance Record

Meeting Dates	2/21/25	5/16/25	8/15/25	11/21/25
BYINGTON , Angela (Mark Papke, Alternate)		A	A	A
DRUM , Brian (Alternate not designated)				
EXLEY , Alan (Kirk Dimmick, Alternate)	A	A	A	A
HAUPT , Andy (Katie Taylor, Alternate)		X	X	X
HOLMES , Gordon (Thomas Mandzak, Alternate)	A		A	X
KLAIBER , Bob (Shaun Duffala, Alternate)	A	A	A	A
KNECHT , Daniel (Alternate not designated)				
KUSNER , James (Tony Toth, Alternate) (Brian Blayney, Alternate on 8/15/25)	X	A	A	X
TBD - FHWA (Lawrence Hall, Alternate)	A	A	A	A
MAVEC , Rob (Rob Knopf, Alternate) (Carter Creviston, Alternate on 8/15/25)	A	A	A	A
MIELKE , Scott (Alternate not designated)				
NEIL , Matthew (Alternate not designated)				
OCKUNZZI , Scott (Julie Cichello, Alternate)	X	X	X	X
PYANOWSKI , Chris (Chris Schoenig, Alternate)	A	X	A	A
RAY , David (A.J. Stoll, Alternate)	X	X	A	X
SCHIPPER , Mike (Floun'say Caver, Alternate)	X	X	X	X
VANSICKLE , Jacob (Jenna Thomas, Alternate)	X		X	X
WOLF , Josh (Alternate not designated)				

X = Member present

A = Alternate present



**NORTHEAST OHIO AREAWIDE COORDINATING AGENCY
M E M O R A N D U M**

TO: NOACA Safety and Operations Council
FROM: Rob Uhlhorn, AICP, Interim Co-Director of Transportation Planning and Engineering
DATE: February 13, 2026
RE: **Transportation for Safer Communities Initiative (TSCI) Introduction**

ACTION REQUESTED

No action is requested. This item is for information and discussion.

BACKGROUND/JUSTIFICATION FOR CURRENT ACTION

NOACA is committed to enhancing regional transportation safety and reducing roadway fatalities and serious injuries. Last year, with extensive input from the Policy Committee, staff developed a vision for a transportation safety funding program that would serve as a bridge between planning and implementation. Staff will present changes made to the vision of the new program, and progress made on its development, since it was unveiled to the Council last May.

The Transportation for Safer Communities Initiative (TSCI) would provide technical assistance to develop specific location plans that could be eligible for ODOT safety funds and direct financial assistance for the implementation of smaller projects recommended by NOACA's [Community Safety Reports](#) (CSRs). Funding for project implementation would focus on installing low-cost safety measures. Countermeasures enhance safety, but selection requires planning and engineering studies for specific locations. The NOACA CSRs identify locations on arterial roads based on crash data and prediction models. These reports highlight candidate sites for analysis and investment to enhance road safety.

For the next stage of development of TSCI, NOACA is conducting pilot projects to inform policy development. We are proceeding with two safety planning study pilot projects in Richmond Heights and North Royalton. We are currently arranging scoping meetings between the cities' and NOACA's staff to draft RFPs for hiring a consultant team. The goal of the planning studies is for communities to be able to apply to ODOT for Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) funding, which is not only significantly larger than what NOACA can directly fund, but is one of the largest in the nation.

Additionally, a project in Parma has been identified for a later phase implementation pilot, with a second pilot implementation project to be selected that is open to any community with a need identified in the CSRs. These pilot projects will guide further development of the policy and procedure documents for Policy Committee review.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

NOACA's allocated Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) and/or Ohio Consolidated Planning Grant (OCPG) funds are proposed as funding sources and will be finalized through the appropriate funding allocation processes. A minimum allocation of \$1 million annually would be required to sustain the initiative as a program.

CONCLUSION/NEXT STEPS

NOACA will continue developing the pilot projects and the policy and procedure documents. This Council will be kept informed of the progress.

EB:RU:HS



**NORTHEAST OHIO AREAWIDE COORDINATING AGENCY
MEMORANDUM**

TO: NOACA Safety and Operations Council
FROM: Rob Uhlhorn, AICP, Interim Co-Director of Transportation Planning and Engineering
DATE: February 13, 2026
RE: **Bike & Pedestrian Count Update**

ACTION REQUESTED

No action is requested. This item is for information and discussion.

BACKGROUND/JUSTIFICATION FOR CURRENT ACTION

As a core component for accurately assessing where there is unmet demand for cycling infrastructure, NOACA conducts cyclist counts both manually with the help of volunteers and by using automated equipment permanently installed at various locations throughout the region. The methodology used to select count locations is based on five key factors: historical continuity, project status, regional coverage, resource availability, and community requests.

Twice each year, in May and September, NOACA recruits volunteers to count cyclist and pedestrian volumes. About 50 locations are typically counted each time. Most counting sites are rotated among a bank of more than 200 locations to maintain consistency. There usually are also a few new locations every counting season that are strategically chosen to help fill gaps and improve model calibration.

NOACA staff will provide a general program update, identify current and upcoming regionally significant projects that would be ideal for pre/post data collection, and discuss approaches to volunteer recruitment and site selection, for which staff will be asking the Council for feedback. NOACA aims to improve volunteer recruitment through a new outreach campaign which will begin in earnest in FY2027. The campaign will consist of a broader outreach effort which will include regional bike shops, public libraries, colleges, and senior centers. The goals of the campaign are to increase the number of volunteers, improve geographical coverage in region's outer counties, grow program awareness, and refine the location selection process to ensure the most impactful and relevant locations are being counted.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The budget for the combined Bike & Pedestrian Count and Street Supplies outreach campaign is \$21,160 for fiscal year 2027.

CONCLUSION/NEXT STEPS

NOACA staff will incorporate feedback and suggestions from the council and will provide updates on further developments. NOACA will continue to share data and analysis on bicycle counts and pedestrian traffic in the region.

EB:RU:SS



**NORTHEAST OHIO AREAWIDE COORDINATING AGENCY
MEMORANDUM**

TO: NOACA Safety and Operations Council
FROM: Rob Uhlhorn, AICP, Interim Co-Director of Transportation Planning and Engineering
DATE: February 13, 2026
RE: **Street Supplies Update**

ACTION REQUESTED

No action is requested. This item is for information and discussion.

BACKGROUND/JUSTIFICATION FOR CURRENT ACTION

NOACA's Street Supplies Program is a "library" of items that communities can use to temporarily demonstrate how a transportation project might function before it is permanently installed. The roadway materials are free for communities in the NOACA region to borrow and include items such as paint, tape, cones, signage, bike racks, street furniture, and planters.

Items from the library can be used to build "pop-up" configurations such as bike lanes, curb extensions, and roundabouts. These temporary configurations can be used to gather public input on a proposed design and evaluate the potential benefits of a project before its permanent construction while enlivening public spaces, improving safety, and encouraging multimodal transportation use. NOACA accepts project requests on a rolling basis.

NOACA staff will provide a general overview of the program including library contents and upcoming projects, before-and-after data collected from completed projects demonstrating program successes, and recent updates to the program including an increased capacity to measure the impact of future projects. Staff will introduce efforts to develop a more proactive approach to increasing program awareness and outreach to municipalities, especially those with no previous program experience, leveraging safety data to find possible candidates.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The budget for the combined Bike & Pedestrian Count and Street Supplies outreach campaign is \$21,160 for fiscal year 2027.

CONCLUSION/NEXT STEPS

NOACA will continue to share information and updates about the program with the council for awareness and input.

EB:RU:SS



**NORTHEAST OHIO AREAWIDE COORDINATING AGENCY
MEMORANDUM**

TO: NOACA Safety and Operations Council
FROM: Rob Uhlhorn, AICP, Interim Co-Director of Transportation Planning and Engineering
DATE: February 13, 2026
RE: **bikeNEO Bike Map Web Application Update**

ACTION REQUESTED

No action is requested. This item is for information and discussion.

BACKGROUND/JUSTIFICATION FOR CURRENT ACTION

NOACA has developed maps of bicycle routes for its five-county region. Currently, the maps are only available in hard-copy, or in [portable document format \(PDF\) on the NOACA website](#). The maps provide cyclists with the location of bike routes throughout the region and also include information about amenities such as points of interest, bike shops, safety tips, and other resources. In December 2024, NOACA contracted with TierraPlan to develop an interactive application that will enable users to conduct bike trip planning on a desktop computer or mobile device.

Staff will present a live demonstration of the bikeNEO Bike Map Web Application which will exhibit features such as map searching, map layers, and bike safety tips. Route assignment is currently supported through two methods: door-to-door and neighborhood-to-neighborhood. A survey link will be shared during and after the presentation requesting feedback on the routing options, as well as suggestions regarding features or points of interest respondents believe would be useful for inclusion on the map.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The contract with TierraPlan is in an amount not to exceed \$118,830.

CONCLUSION/NEXT STEPS

The project team will provide project updates as app development nears completion. Feedback from the survey will be used to refine and strengthen the application. It is scheduled to be ready for public use and feedback by late spring 2026

EB:RU:SS



TRAVEL OPTIONS FOR NOACA MEETINGS

LOCATION

NOACA is conveniently located in Cleveland's central business district at 1299 Superior Avenue, on the NW corner of Superior and E. 13th Street.

TRANSIT & BICYCLE TRAVEL TO NOACA

NOACA is accessible by transit and bike.

The NOACA office building is situated on several major and minor bus routes. You can plan your transit trip to NOACA by using trip planner tools or with information provided by the region's public transit agencies:

- [GCRTA Trip Planner](#)
- [Geauga County Transit](#)
- [Laketran Trip Planner](#)
- [Lorain County Transit service](#)
- [Medina County Transit](#)

Bikes may be stored and locked at U-racks located directly in front of the building.

PARKING (see map)

The following map shows parking facilities in the vicinity of the NOACA building. Unfortunately, we are unable to offer reimbursement for parking.

On-street, metered parking is also available for up to 2-hour periods along E. 13th Street north of Superior Avenue. Please heed parking signs and note any time restrictions. Payment can be made at these meters with credit card or by using the [ParkMobile](#) mobile device application.

Street parking is also available along Rockwell Avenue, east of E. 13th Street.

TRAVEL ASSISTANCE AND SPECIAL ACCOMMODATION

If you have further questions about parking or need assistance with travel to or special accommodation at NOACA, please contact Lindy Burt at 216-241-2414, x. 108.

