

**APPENDIX H
TUSCARAWAS COUNTY
PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT MEETING
April 28, 2015**

Cindi Kerschbaumer

From: Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association
Sent: Thursday, April 16, 2015 4:53 PM
To: cindik@omegadistrict.org
Subject: Calling all transportation comments for Tuscarawas County



CALLING ALL COMMENTS . . .

Do you have a comment about Transportation in Tuscarawas County that you would like to share??? Here is your opportunity!

The Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association (OMEGA) will be hosting a Public Involvement meeting on Tuesday, April 28th at 6:30 p.m. at the Tuscarawas County Public Library located at 121 Fair Avenue NW in New Philadelphia. OMEGA will provide an overview of the transportation systems in Tuscarawas County and the region, but more importantly, OMEGA is interested in your comments on transportation needs and improvements in Tuscarawas County.

OMEGA is participating in a Regional Transportation Planning Organization Pilot Program. The primary objectives of this program are: development of a transportation plan, interagency consultation, stakeholder outreach, and development of regional transportation planning expertise. By improving our transportation systems, we will

develop a more sustainable economy and improve the quality of life of our residents. Included among the potential benefits of this program are: expanding regional transportation planning coverage area, strengthening existing partnerships, establishing framework for future data collection and project selection efforts, linking transportation planning with existing economic/community development programs, and robust statewide databases.

The Regional Transportation Plan includes Carroll, Columbiana, Coshocton, Guernsey, Harrison, Holmes, Muskingum, and Tuscarawas Counties.

Please join OMEGA in planning for the future transportation needs of Tuscarawas County and the region. Everyone is welcome to attend this meeting.

PLEASE SHARE THIS MEETING INFORMATION WITH EVERYONE YOU FEEL MAY BE INTERESTED. WE WOULD LIKE COMMENTS FROM EVERY CITY, VILLAGE, TOWNSHIP, ETC . . .

WE WOULD APPRECIATE A POST ON YOUR WEBSITE!

If you have questions about the meeting, please call Ken Shonkwiler, OMEGA Transportation Planner at (740) 439-4471, ext. 210.

[Forward this email](#)

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Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association | 326 Highland Avenue | Suite B | Cambridge | OH | 43725

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By Staff Reports

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April 20, 2015 2:30PM

Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association to host public involvement meeting

The Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association will host a public involvement meeting.

The Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association will host a public involvement meeting at 6:30 p.m. April 28 at the Tuscarawas County Public Library, 121 Fair Ave. NW, New Philadelphia.

OMEGA will provide an overview of the transportation systems in Tuscarawas County, and the public can offer comments on transportation needs and improvements.

OMEGA also is participating in a Regional Transportation Planning Organization Pilot Program with primary objectives including the development of a transportation plan, interagency consultation, stakeholder outreach and the development of regional transportation planning expertise.

For more information, call 740-439-4471.

Source: Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association

<http://www.timesreporter.com/article/20150420/NEWS/150429967>

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Public Involvement Meeting

April 28, 2015

Tuscarawas Public Library – New Philadelphia, Ohio

On April 21, 2015, Ms. Jeannette Wierzbicki, P.E. Assistant Executive Director, Transportation/Grants Manager and Mr. Ken Shonkwiler, Transportation Planner/GIS Coordinator from the Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association (OMEGA) conducted a public meeting in Tuscarawas County to discuss the Regional Transportation Plan being developed for the region. A copy of the attendance list is attached and a copy of the presentation will be provided on OMEGA's website and in the appendices to the Regional Transportation Plan.

Ms. Wierzbicki provided a brief overview of OMEGA and the Regional Transportation Plan. Following introductions and the overview, the breakout session occurred. Attendees were invited to discuss current issues regarding transportation in their county and also to outline these issues in a participatory mapping exercise. Public transit was a major concern for the attendees. Ms. Michelle Lucas, a representative of HARCATUS, discussed the current problems involving public transit in Tuscarawas County. Currently there is only one taxi service and it has one taxi for the entire service area. Attendees from Jobs and Family Services and the local homeless shelter also commented that the lack of public transit is a huge concern for many of their clients. They said that their clients are inherently immobile due to this lack of transit; jobs and other opportunities outside of city limits may not be accessible for their clients. These agencies typically provide transportation for the first two weeks that clients begin a job, but after that, clients are severely challenged by this lack of transit. Transporting clients also ties up many of their employees. High rents caused by influxes of oil and gas workers have caused many low-income people to be unable to afford rent within the city. They are then forced to move outside of city limits, thereby further distancing themselves from possible transit options. They also commented on the lack of bicycle lanes in the county, claiming that since many of their clients rely on bike travel through their agencies they often have a difficult time accessing parts of the county that are not bicycle friendly.

Safety concerns on US 250 east of New Philadelphia and Exit 83 on I-77 to SR 39 were discussed by many attendees as well. US 250 from Dennison to Tappan Lake was cited as being heavily congested and adding additional lanes was one suggestion. Additionally, a bypass around Strasburg would be beneficial to reduce drive times for residents and alleviate congestion. Finally, the group indicated that reassessing the Columbus to Pittsburgh Corridor project was of interest to them.

Mr. Shonkwiler then reviewed both regional and Tuscarawas County transportation data; including areas of concern, congestion, specific transportation needs, and potential projects. Additionally, transportation surveys were provided and completed by the attendees. Meeting attendees were encouraged to submit comments to Mr. Shonkwiler by May 28, 2015 at kens@omegadistrict.org or at 326 Highland Avenue, Suite B, Cambridge, OH 43725.

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm.



PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT MEETING

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION
TUSCARAWAS COUNTY
April 28, 2015

AGENDA

- Introductions
- Overview of OMEGA
- Regional Transportation Planning
- Goals and Objectives
- Needs
- Potential Projects
- Schedule
- Survey
- Questions and Contact

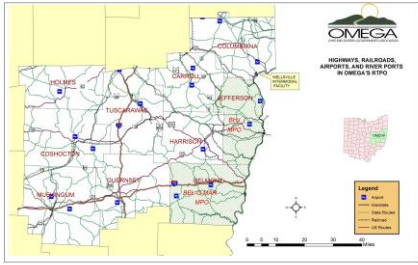
OMEGA: Who Are We?

- Local Development District
- Council of Governments
- Ten County Governments

Belmont*	Harrison
Carroll	Holmes
Harrison	Jefferson*
Coshocton	Muskingum
Guernsey	Tuscarawas
- Eleven City Governments
Cambridge, Coshocton, Dover, East Liverpool, Martins Ferry, New Philadelphia, Salem, Steubenville, Toronto, Uhrichsville, and Zanesville

*Not included in RTPO

SERVICE AREA



OMEGA'S SERVICES

- Research Potential Funding Sources
- Provide Planning Assistance to Local Governments
- Provide Funding Administrative Services
- Facilitate ARC/GOA Program
- Administer Revolving Loan Fund Program
- Administer a District-Wide Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy
- Promotes Collaboration among our Members, other Governmental Agencies, Corporations, or agencies
- Serve as District Liaison for the District 14 Natural Resource Advisory Council (Clean Ohio)
- **REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION**



REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION (RTPO)

- Develop Regional Transportation Plan
- Regional Liaison with ODOT
- Facilitate Public Outreach
- Develop Transportation Expertise

RTPO PARTNERS



TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY
COMMITTEE

EXECUTIVE (POLICY)
BOARD

CITIZENS ADVISORY
BOARD

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN

- Goals and Objectives
- Inventory of Existing Conditions
- Projection of Future Conditions
- Needs Analysis
- Fiscal Analysis
- Public Participation
- Plan Recommendations
- **Five-Year** Planning Period

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

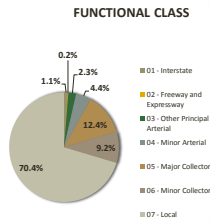
1. Maintain and Improve Existing Transportation Systems
2. Address Safety and Congestion Issues
3. Facilitate Economic and Community Development
4. Improve Quality of Life
5. Develop a Fiscally Responsible Regional Transportation Plan

BREAK OUT SESSION



MAINTAIN AND IMPROVE EXISTING TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS: **ROADS**

- 10,350 center lane miles
- 70% Local roads
- I-77 and I-70
- Statewide Primary Corridors: US 30, US 22, US 36, SR 7, SR 16, US 250
- Tuscarawas County: 1,603.9 center lane miles



MAINTAIN AND IMPROVE EXISTING TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS: **BRIDGES**

	<u>RTPO</u>	<u>TUSCARAWAS COUNTY</u>
State	1,163	198
Local	1,801	201
Total	2,964	399
General Appraisal <4	7%	3%



MAINTAIN AND IMPROVE EXISTING TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS: AIRPORTS

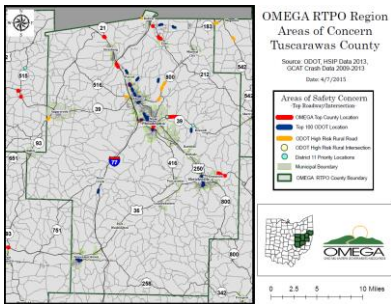
- Airports
 - 8 General Aviation Airports
 - \$31 Million Runway Maintenance
- Harry Clever Field
 - Level 2
 - 3,951 Ft Runway
 - \$4,101,000 in Runway Maintenance and Upgrades



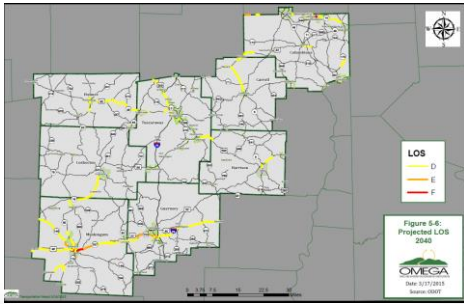
ADDRESS SAFETY AND CONGESTION: SAFETY

	<u>RTPO</u>	<u>TUSCARAWAS COUNTY</u>
• Total Accidents	30,113	7,046
• Fatal Accidents	171 (0.6%)	26 (0.4%)
• Injury Accidents	7,502 (25%)	1,675 (24%)

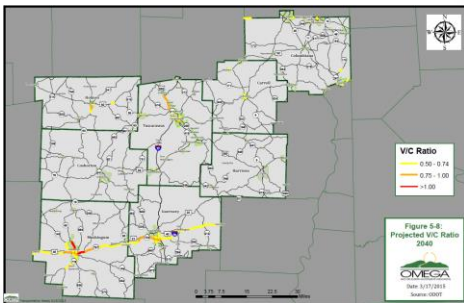
ADDRESS SAFETY AND CONGESTION: SAFETY



ADDRESS SAFETY AND CONGESTION: CONGESTION

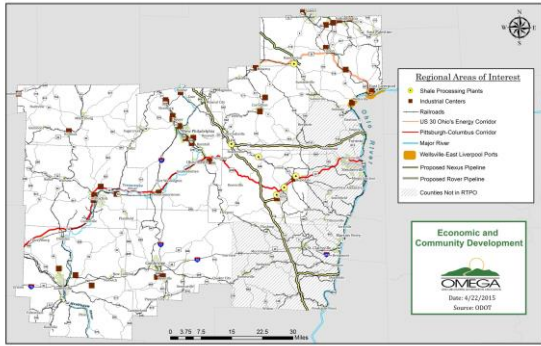


ADDRESS SAFETY AND CONGESTION: CONGESTION



FACILITATE ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

- Shale Development
- Improve Access to Industrial Centers
- US 30 Ohio's Energy Corridor
- Columbus to Pittsburgh Corridor
- Increase River (Commercial and Recreation) and Port Use
- Increase Rail Use



IMPROVE QUALITY OF LIFE: TRANSIT

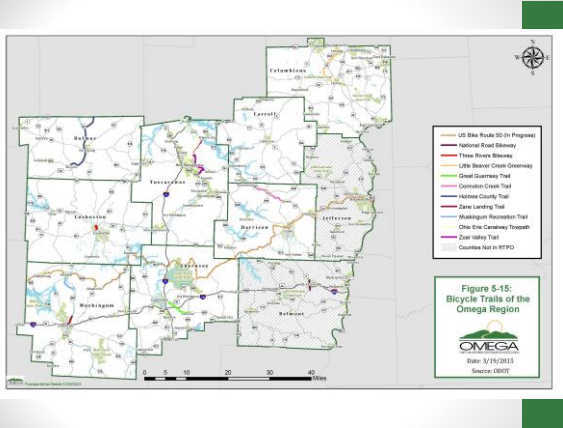
- 4 Transit Agencies
- 2 Coordinated Transportation Agencies
- Tuscarawas Coordinated Public Transportation
 - 66,137 Yearly Users
 - 90% Elderly/Disabled



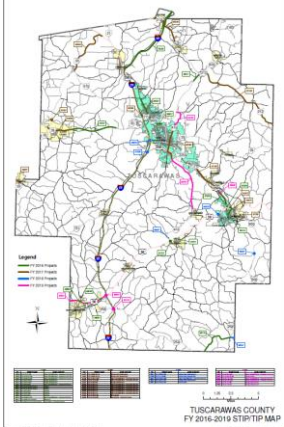
IMPROVE QUALITY OF LIFE

- Pedestrian Access
 - South Coshocton Sidewalk Project
 - Dennison Sidewalk Improvements
- Bicycle Trails
 - 10 in Region
 - Plans for Additions
 - Regional Mapping





ODOT STIP 2016 to 2019



- ### POTENTIAL PROJECTS
- #### TUSCARAWAS COUNTY
1. US 250 between Dennison and Harrison County Line.
 2. Improve University Drive in New Philadelphia.
 3. Improve traffic flow at I-77/US 250 interchange at Strasburg (exit 87).
 4. Improve access within Newcomertown Industrial Park.
 5. Widening/safety improvements on CR 21 between Stonecreek and New Philadelphia.
 6. Longer runway for Clever Airport, or new airport at alternate location.
 7. Funding for the three local 501 (3) C Agencies that provide transportation services.

POTENTIAL PROJECTS

TUSCARAWAS COUNTY

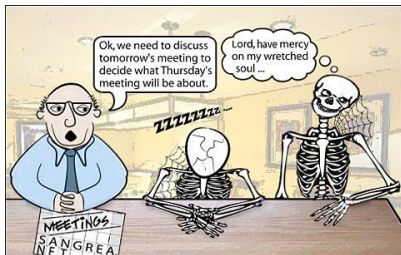
8. Improve traffic flow at I-77/SR 39 interchange at New Philadelphia (exit 81).
9. Improve traffic flow at I-77/SR 39 interchange at Dover (exit 83).
10. Improve sight distance at SR 93/CR 75 intersection.
11. Integrated plan for road and bridge maintenance
12. Widen North Wooster Avenue in Dover from Third Street to northerly city limits.
13. Uhrichsville: North Water Street (5th to Trenton Avenue) into Downtown.
14. Uhrichsville: Eastport Avenue Improvements including storm sewers, curb, sidewalk, and pavement.
15. Study on use of rail for oil and gas industry.

LONG TERM PROJECTS

OMEGA REGION

- US 30 Ohio's Energy Corridor from Stark County to SR 11
- Columbus to Pittsburgh Corridor to include US 250 through Harrison County
- Improve US 36 Corridor between Newcomerstown and Dennison
- Improve US 250 Corridor through Strasburg
- Provide for an elevated road for access to the Wilkshire Hills area of Lawrence Township
- SR 250 West Bound directly to I-77 Southbound
- Access improvements to Eastpointe Business Park, Muskingum County

SURVEY



SCHEDULE:

- Finalize Transportation Plan: May 31, 2015

- **Adopt Transportation Plan: June 30, 2015**

NEXT STEPS: 2016 to 2017

- **Management Duties**
 - Transportation Improvement Plan 2018 to 2021
 - Statewide Planning
 - Technical Assistance
 - Transportation Expertise
 - Public Involvement
- **Asset Management**
- **Grant Writing**
- **Plan Implementation**
 - Corridor Studies
 - Safety Studies
 - Transit Work Group
 - Regional Bicycle Trail Map

TRANSPORTATION PLAN

- <http://www.omegadistrict.org/transportation>



QUESTIONS/COMMENTS



Contact: Ken Shonkwiler
Transportation Planner/ GIS Coordinator
Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association
326 Highland Avenue
Cambridge, OH 43275
(740) 439-4471, ext. 210
kens@omegadistrict.org

*Please submit comments by May 28th



ATTENDANCE LIST
PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT MEETING
TUSCARAWAS COUNTY
APRIL 28, 2015

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Joe Bachman	Tusc. Co.	330-339-6648	teejoe@yahoo.com
Nate Quicksall	WEQA	330-339-6676	NWQ@WEQUICKSALL.COM
Calvin White	Friends of the Homeless	330-602-6100	calvinwhitefoh@gmail.com
Michelle Swanson	HARCATUS	330-343-8770	mlucas@harcatus.com
Adam Wilson	Job + Family Service	330-339-7791	adam.wilson@JFS.OHIO.GOV