

2.0 GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

In conjunction with the Transportation Advisory Committee and the Executive (Policy) Board, OMEGA has established the following goals and objectives for the Regional Transportation Plan. Although this plan will initially focus on a five year planning horizon, these goals and objectives will also provide the framework for more long term planning in the future.

These goals and objectives have also been developed to address the eight planning factors that need to be considered under federal law:

1. Support the economic vitality of the region, especially by enabling global competitiveness, productivity, and efficiency.
2. Increase the safety of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users.
3. Increase the security of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users.
4. Increase accessibility and mobility of people and freight.
5. Protect and enhance the environment, promote energy conservation, improve the quality of life and promote consistency between transportation improvements and state and local planned growth and economic development patterns.
6. Enhance the integration and connectivity of the transportation system across and between modes, people, and freight.
7. Promote efficient system management and operation.
8. Emphasize the preservation of the existing transportation system.

Goal 1: Preserve, Maintain and Improve Existing Transportation Systems

Objectives

- 1.1. Identify the existing conditions of roads, bridges, rail, airports, and ports.
- 1.2. Develop a prioritized list of improvements based upon current condition and use.
- 1.3. Develop a plan for implementation of the recommended improvements.
- 1.4. Consider Complete Streets (ODOT Policy No. 20-012 (P)), where appropriate, in the planning, design, construction, maintenance and operation of new and rehabilitated transportation facilities within the public rights of way.

Goal 2: Address Safety and Congestion Issues

Objectives

- 2.1. Obtain and analyze traffic data including supplemental information from local officials and the public.
- 2.2. Assess performance based upon level of service criteria and strive to maintain an acceptable level of service.
- 2.3. Facilitate operational improvements such as signal optimization to improve traffic flow and level of service.
- 2.4. Facilitate the development of projects (such as turn lanes, channelization, intersection modifications, road widening, additional lanes, signalization improvements, etc.) to reduce congestion and improve safety.
- 2.5. Obtain and analyze crash data.
- 2.6. Identify high hazard areas.
- 2.7. Facilitate the development of projects (such as signage, sight distance improvements, re-alignment of horizontal and vertical curves, etc.) to improve safety and reduce the frequency and severity of crashes.
- 2.8. Develop a financial strategy for projects that can be implemented within the next five years that will address safety and congestion issues.

Goal 3: Facilitate Economic and Community Development

Objectives

- 3.1. Identify the transportation systems needed to fully support the shale development in the region especially as related to sustainability and importance to the state, national, and international demand for energy and petroleum-based products.
- 3.2. Identify current and planned industrial/business parks and clusters and the transportation system improvements (roads, rail, freight, and river) needed to facilitate development and/or to improve existing operations of these industrial/business parks.
- 3.3. Identify the transportation systems needed to fully support planned development in the region.
- 3.4. Identify corridors that will promote economic development and connectivity.
- 3.5. Advocate for the development of these corridors, such as, US 30 Ohio's Energy Corridor or the Columbus to Pittsburgh corridor.
- 3.6. Identify projects that will promote the development and use of intermodal facilities including the port at Wellsville.
- 3.7. Identify current and planned commercial centers and the transportation system improvements needed to facilitate the development of these centers and to improve public access.

Goal 4: Improve Quality of Life

Objectives

- 4.1. Identify the service areas of the public and human services transit agencies.
- 4.2. Assess the need to improve and/or expand existing transit services in order to increase usage, accessibility, and mobility.
- 4.3. Develop a plan to implement the recommended transit system improvements.
- 4.4. Identify existing trails and pedestrian/bicycle routes for non-recreational (those who use bicycles as primary mode of transportation) and recreational users.
- 4.5. Assess the need to expand or improve pedestrian/bicycle access to encourage linkage to regional, state, and national trail systems and heritage corridors for recreational and non-recreational users.
- 4.6. Develop a plan to implement the recommended pedestrian/bicycle improvements for recreational and non-recreational users.

Goal 5: Develop a Financial Responsible Regional Transportation Plan

- 5.1. Develop a prioritized list of projects that will best meet the needs of the region which can be implemented during the five-year planning period between 2016 and 2020.
- 5.2. Develop an implementation schedule that is based upon the region's fair share of federal and state economic resources and importance to the state and national economy especially as related to the region's energy resources and other developments.