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## Citizens Involvement Committee

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Agency: Akron Metropolitan Area Transportation Study

Date: Jan. 18, 2024

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### Summary

- A new member was added to the Citizens Involvement Committee (CIC)
- The public will be able to make recommendations to the Active Transportation Plan (ATP) in March after an interactive map is posted.
- Multiple resurfacing projects will be funded.

### Follow-Up Questions

- How can the public make recommendations for the ATP?
- Who makes up the committee for project funding?
- Why are certain projects being funded instead of others?

### Notes

The Akron Metropolitan Area Transportation Study (AMATS) is an organization responsible for the planning and funding of transportation initiatives. The group focuses on highway preservation, building bike trails, monitoring transportation-related accidents, and land use. Citizen Involvement Committee (CIC) meetings are meant for the public to express their opinion on transportation-related matters.

This meeting's agenda can be found [here](#).

[Members](#) present:

Matt Stewart (planning administrator)

Jeff Gardner (transportation planner)

Seth Bush (GIS coordinator)

Wali Rahim (planning aide)

Curtis Baker (director)

\*Matt Mullen (new planner)

The meeting started at 6:30 p.m.

After an introduction of its members, the meeting began with a presentation of the annual regional report called “[Traffic Crashes and Safety Performance Measures.](#)”

A series of charts, graphs and images were used to illustrate the results of this report.

**Section 1** – The presenter discussed what changes the report underwent from last year. While it follows the same format, the introductory information has changed. [Here](#) is an example of the original format. The presenter then compared the Safe Streets For All ([SS4A](#)) plan and the annual crash report.

**Section 2** – Crash lists for sections and intersections. According to information, crash fatalities are well above pre-pandemic levels. Bicycle and pedestrian-related crashes have both continued to increase since 2020. Several of the top 50 high-crash intersections were included as well.

**Section 3** – Specific focus on bicycle and pedestrian crash trends. The injury rate for bicycle and pedestrian crashes is 92% and 89%, respectively.

**Section 4** – Safety performance goals and targets.

**Carbon Reduction Program ([CRP](#)), Resurfacing, Transportation Alternative Set Asides ([TASA](#)), and [TASA](#) Supplemental Selections.**

- Four CRP projects out of 17 were selected
- Twenty resurfacing projects were selected
- Three TASA projects were selected
- Six TASA supplemental projects were submitted (no current funding available)

[CRP requests](#) receive nearly \$8 million in federal funding. The CRP selected projects are:

- [Killian Road and Pickle Road](#) roundabout in Springfield Township – \$1,990,000
- [Arlington Road corridor](#) improvements in Green - \$2,000,000
- North Mantua Street improvements in Kent – \$2,000,000
- [Wooster Road Hopocan Avenue](#) roundabout in Barberton - \$1,987,852

Resurfacing requests will receive just over \$15 million in federal funding. Twenty out of 42 resurfacing applications were selected.

[They include two projects in Akron:](#)

- [South Main Street, Wilbeth Road to US 224](#) (Akron) \$800,000
- [White Pond Drive, Parkgate Avenue to Frank Boulevard](#) (Akron) \$400,000
- Munroe Falls Avenue (Cuyahoga Falls) \$855,000
- Eastwood Avenue (Tallmadge) \$582,120
- Doylestown Road (Wayne County)\$ 900,000

Three of 23 TASA applications were selected. They include:

- [Rubber City Heritage Trail](#) phase 3 (Akron) \$1,100,000
- Headwaters Trail Phase IX (Portage Parks) \$1,000,000
- Stow and Summit Street pedestrian improvements (Portage County) \$200,000

### **Active Transportation Plan Update**

This draft plan defines the current active transportation network, the goals for this plan, and various strategies for bike and pedestrian networks. The purpose is to refine these plans to promote safety and sustainability. Members are reviewing all shared-use paths and the existing bus stop network.

An interactive map should be posted in March where the public can comment about what they would like to see included on the map. An ATP discussion with public recommendations is scheduled for the March CIC meeting. Public comments continue through May with the completion of the final draft.

Officials intend to present the final plan in June. The map will include shared paths, bike lanes, a list of communities and agencies that people would like to see.

### **Public Comment**

Dave Mangold suggested that the best use of an abandoned railroad is to have battery electric locomotives providing freight service on rail corridors.

The meeting concluded at 7:19 p.m.

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**Notes to reader:** Unless quotation marks are used, all text is paraphrased. If you believe anything in these notes is inaccurate, please email us at [documenters@signalakron.org](mailto:documenters@signalakron.org) with "Correction Request" in the subject line.