

MID-OHIO VALLEY REGIONAL COUNCIL



MOVRC Monthly Newsletter
<http://www.movrc.org/>
304-422-4993

August 2021

SCP Update

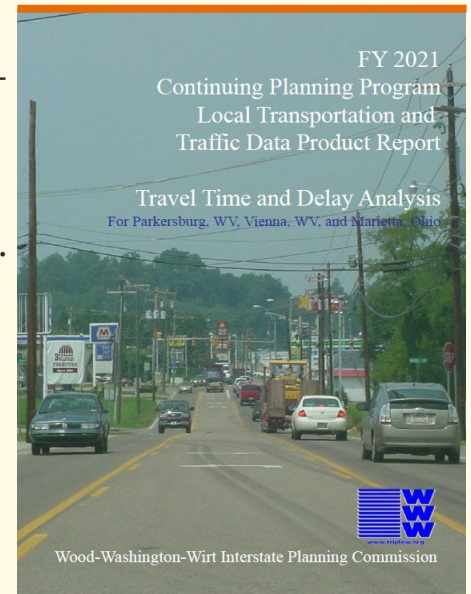
Volunteers make the Senior Companion Program possible. We enjoy celebrating our volunteers and thanking them for all they do for the program. We started holding volunteer recognitions in July and will continue through August. This year in light of the recent pandemic, smaller more personal recognitions are being held. Roane County SCP Volunteers are pictured below.



Continuing Planning Program Local Transportation and Traffic Data Product Report Travel Time and Delay Analysis – FY 2021

WWW finalized the **Continuing Planning Program Local Transportation and Traffic Data Product Report – Travel Time and Delay Analysis FY 2021** to fulfill work element 605 Continuing Planning, 605.1 Local Transportation and Traffic Data for the FY 2021 Unified Work Program. The Study was a physical and statistical measure of travel time and delay on 3 corridors in Wood County, WV and Washington County, OH. They included WV 14 Murdoch Avenue/Grand Central Avenue, WV 14 Blizzard Drive/Pike Street in Parkersburg, WV, and Greene Street/Pike Street in Marietta, OH. This Study was conducted annually from FY 2000 to FY 2021. Future data will be offered by request and utilize Streetlight Insight software for analyses and data resources.

The Study findings were submitted to stakeholders in digital format and published on WWW's website on July 12, 2021.



Study Support

- Staff efforts included oversight from the program director. Field work was conducted by the transportation specialist and bicycle/pedestrian coordinator and the GIS specialist.
- The draft report and study analyses were prepared by the transportation specialist and bicycle/pedestrian coordinator with graphical support from the GIS specialist.
- Work activity spanned from July 2020 to June 2021.
- WWW.triplew.org

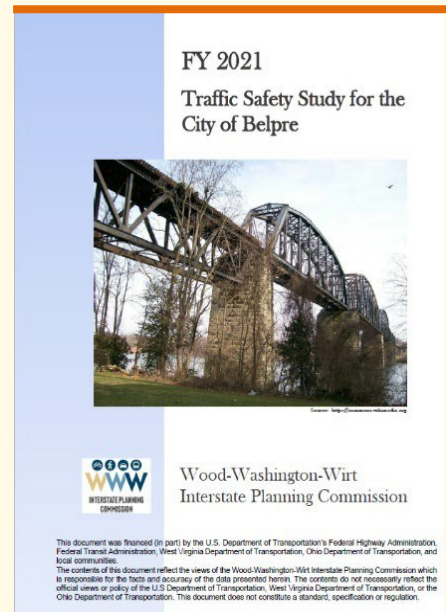


Traffic Safety Study for the City of Belpre—FY 2021

WWW finalized the **Traffic Safety Study for the City of Belpre FY 2021** to fulfill work element 601 Short Range Planning, 601.1 Traffic Operations, Safety and Systems Planning in the FY 2021 Unified Work Program. The Study evaluated motor vehicle related crashes from 2017-2019. This Study was conducted once every 3 years for the City of Belpre through this fiscal year. Future studies will be conducted for all of Washington County on a four-year cycle.

Study findings resulted in the identification and prioritization of 5 intersections in Belpre with safety needs. This Study concludes with countermeasures and recommendations to improve safety at those locations. The draft document was submitted to stakeholders for comment and review in June of 2021. Comments were addressed and incorporated in the Final Report. The Final Traffic

Intersection	Overall Rank	Previous Rank**
Lee Street and Washington Boulevard	1	2008 (#4), 2012 (#4), 2015 (#1), 2018 (#1)
Main Street, Memorial Bridge, and SR 7	2	2008 (#1), 2012 (#1), 2015 (LL), 2018 (LL)
Farson Street and SR 7	3	2008 (LL), 2012 (LL), 2015 (LL), 2018 (#2)
Main Street, Parkersburg-Belpre Bridge, and Washington Boulevard	4	2008 (#3), 2012 (#2), 2015 (LL)
Sycamore Street and Washington Boulevard	5	



Study Support

- Staff efforts included oversight from the program director, Study preparation and evaluation by the transportation specialist and bicycle/pedestrian coordinator, and graphical support from the GIS specialist.
- Work activity spanned from July 2020 to June 2021.
- WWW.triplew.org



Acme Street/Jefferson Street Complete Street Project CMAQ Justification PID111436-FY 2021

Acme Street/Jefferson Complete Street Project
Congestion Mitigation Air Quality Project Justification
PID 111436

Project Name: Preliminary Engineering on Acme Street (SR 26) and Jefferson Street
Project Location: Marietta, Ohio

CMAQ Federal Funds Required: \$90,000 (Cost estimate for preliminary engineering. Official request for funding will be made once project justification is approved.)

Project Description: This justification for Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) eligibility has been prepared by WWW to fund a complete street type project on Acme Street (SR 26) from Greene Street to Pike Street (SR 7) and Jefferson Street from Pike Street (SR 7) to 8th Street and the Marietta River Trail. This justification is intended to qualify all phases of the project from preliminary engineering to final construction in the near and not so distant future depending on project timelines and funding availability. This project will be open for use by vehicular traffic, bicyclists, and pedestrians and connect several low income and minority neighborhoods to a local school, commercial developments, and supports a connection to the Marietta River Trail.

Preliminary engineering will focus on incorporating a complete street footprint on Acme Street and Jefferson Street (a length of 0.8 miles) to connect residential areas to commercial areas and the alternative transportation system provided by the Marietta River Trail. The new cross section would incorporate bicycle lanes into the footprint of the street, advance connectivity between pedestrian accommodations, and improve travel lanes for motorists. Future project development will be based on the outcome of the preliminary engineering phase while maintaining the goals which would contribute to the reduction of single occupancy vehicle miles traveled as established by this application.

Improvements to this corridor will provide bicycle and pedestrian access to the attractions and destinations immediately adjacent to Acme Street and Jefferson Street. In addition, the project connects to the Marietta River Trail and thus the primary artery of the bicycle and pedestrian network in the City with reach beyond the project extents. The Marietta River Trail provides a safe mode of transportation for commuters, walkers, runners, bicyclists, rollerbladers, skateboarders, wheelchairs, scooters, and baby carriages. The River Trail directly and indirectly connects city parks, museums, Marietta College, major retail outlets, grocery stores, government facilities, residences, environmental justice neighborhoods, lodging, a senior activity center, the cinema, restaurants, a community garden, recreational facilities, the city of Williamstown, WV, and other schools.

WWW has examined the Acme Street, Pike Street, and Jefferson Street intersection in traffic safety studies for the last decade. Additionally, Acme Street was identified in the 2017 and 2020 Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Studies conducted by WWW. This project is consistent with WWW's Multimodal Long Range Transportation Plan. A map of this area can be found in and attached to Figure 1.

Emissions Reduction: According to the 2000 US Census data there were 6129 workers in the City of Marietta. Of those, 13 persons or 0.2% of this population reported commuting by bicycle and 473

WWW prepared a Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) eligibility justification request for **Preliminary Engineering on Acme Street (SR 26) and Jefferson Street in Marietta, OH.** The City of Marietta requested the use of WWW's sub-allocated CMAQ funds from the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) to supplement the cost of an existing programmed project (PID 111436).

WWW prepares these justifications on request as part of work element 605 Continuing Planning, 605.1 Local Transportation and Traffic Data. The request includes an air quality analysis to quantify the reduction in pollutant emissions when a project results in reduced vehicular traffic and/or congestion.

Active transportation facilities qualify for CMAQ funding as long as the benefit can be proven, and a 20% local match can be made.

The justification was drafted to request ODOT's approval to program WWW's CMAQ sub-allocated funds for a complete street type project on Acme Street (SR 26) from Greene Street to Pike Street (SR 7) and Jefferson Street from Pike Street (SR 7) to 8th Street and the Marietta River Trail (a length of 0.8 miles). This justification was intended to qualify all phases of the project from preliminary engineering to final construction. The new cross section would incorporate bicycle lanes into the footprint of the street, advance connectivity between pedestrian accommodations, and improve travel lanes for motorists.

Work Element Components

- The CMAQ Justification Request, meeting attendance and Coordination was completed by the transportation specialist and bicycle/pedestrian coordinator.
- Work activity took place from May 2021 to June 2021



Acme Street/Jefferson Street Complete Street Project CMAQ Justification PID111436-FY 2021

The approval request was sent to ODOT via email on 5-25-2021. A subsequent meeting with stakeholders from the City, ODOT, and WVV was held to clarify the project parameters on June 2, 2021. ODOT returned an eligibility approval via email on June 6, 2021.



RSVP Update

This past month, the RSVP volunteers are slowly beginning to see a return to their previously closed stations. There are many changes and precautions being put into place, but the seniors are just elated to be moving towards some sense of normalcy. We are continuing to see more volunteers at Food Pantries and distribution locations each month with many seniors still needing additional food. This past month we have added 7 new volunteers in this area. We have also made plans for our annual Recognitions Luncheon at Cedar Lakes that we normally hold in May. This year we are looking at October 20th and the volunteers are quite excited. We hope that we continue on our current path of reopening slowly and safely for our volunteers. This is always our top priority.



Lead with Experience



FGP Updates



The AmeriCorps Seniors Foster Grandparents partnered with the Roane County Drug Coalition in the Back-to-School Bash. Foster Grandparents assisted with packing the backpacks, as well as giving the backpacks out to students who will be returning to the classroom. The Foster Grandparents enjoy being part of giving back to the community.



The **AmeriCorps Seniors Foster Grandparents** were recognized for the invaluable service to the schools and communities they serve. Their patience, guidance, and giving hearts make a huge impact in the lives of the students they mentor to. Jeanette Anderson-Roane County, Karen Baker-Tyler County, Janet French-Jackson County, and Nelda Rardin-Jackson County were recognized for 25 years of service.



Jackson County Foster Grandparents



Pleasants County Foster Grandparents



Roane County Foster Grandparents



Tyler County Foster Grandparents

Community Development Updates

The U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) recently announced six programs, collectively called Investing in America's Communities, that the EDA will execute to equitably invest the \$3 billion it received from President Biden's American Rescue Plan (ARPA). This EDA investment is the largest economic development initiative from the Department of Commerce in decades and will help communities across the country build back better. Of note for the MOVRC area, funding under the Economic Adjustment Assistance Program will include a competitive \$200 million carve-out for Coal Communities and the Build Back Better Regional Challenge has a "rolling application process" Coal Communities carve-out of \$100 million. The Travel, Tourism, and Outdoor Recreation Program offers \$240 million in competitive grants for travel/tourism areas hit hard by the pandemic; applications for refurbishing infrastructure or building new infrastructure are eligible. Additionally, the state is eligible to receive a Travel/Tourism/Outdoor Recreation block grant for about \$50 million. The use of these funds will be decided at the state level.

The Town of Grantsville is scheduled to award a contract for the Water Treatment Plant Improvements project on Thursday, August 12th to Orders Construction. The total project cost is \$4,774,000 with funding coming from the Appalachian Regional Council and the USDA Rural Development. The Town of Grantsville water plant is the sole provider of public water service to Calhoun County and to the Smithville and Beatrice areas in Ritchie County.

The City of Pennsboro Water project is now closed, and IJDC has accepted the closing to move forward. On Thursday, August 5 a pre-construction and award meeting with Tribute Contracting was held. The project will use 100% IJDC funding, including \$2.8 million IJDC loan, \$1 million IJDC Grant, and an additional \$165,000 overrun grant.

Luke Peters, Senior Project Coordinator of the Community Development Program at the Mid-Ohio Valley Regional Council, has recently completed the Year 2 Class of the 35th annual Community Development Institute (CDI) at the University of Central Arkansas on August 6, 2021.

CDI trains community leaders and economic development professionals on how to strengthen their local economies and build communities. This is achieved by developing the ability of participants to identify community assets, set goals, encourage collaboration and partnerships with stakeholders, and bring communities, organizations, and businesses together to respond to a broad range of economic and quality of life issues.

The complete institute experience is a three-year program, with one week of training per year. Participants move through the program curriculum in cohorts and are exposed to a comprehensive, applied approach to the field of community and economic development.

UCA is the birthplace for the Community Development Institute, which started in 1987 in partnership with Entergy, Southwestern Bell, and ARKLA. Since that time, CDIs have been established in Texas, Idaho, Alabama, and Illinois, and a national governing and certification body, the Community Development Council, has been created.

More information about CDI can be found at www.uca.edu/cdi.

