

SCATS POLICY COMMITTEE MINUTES

January 26, 2026

POLICY COMMITTEE MEMBERS/ALTERNATES

John Highman, Chairman

Nick Loukas, City of Canton

Chris Barnes, City of Canton

Keith Bennett, SCEO

Mark Cozy, City of Canal Fulton

Dan Moeglin, Stark Parks

Brant Luther, Stark County Administrator

Lauren Phillis, ODOT

STAFF

Dan Slicker

Malia Burgasser

Spencer Gibbs

Bob Nau

OTHER

Brian Cole, SCEO

Shane Locke, Patrick Engineering

1. Opening Remarks

John Highman opened the meeting at 1:30 p.m.

2. Reports of the Nominating Committee

Bennett stated they would like to nominate John Highman, City of Canton, as committee chairman. The vice chair for the committee is Alex Pitts from the City of Massillon. Bennett moved, Cozy seconded and the motion carried.

3. Consideration of Minutes of November 24, 2025 meeting

Moeglin moved, Bennett seconded, and the motion carried to approve the minutes from November 24, 2025 meeting.

4. TIP Financial Status

Slicker gave an update to the TIP financial status. He presented two financial sheets. One showing current TIP and one showing TIP with TAC recommendations. The funding numbers haven't changed since the last meeting.

5. TAC Report

Slicker presented the TAC report and reviewed the second financial sheet containing comments, outlining several proposed TIP amendments. The primary purpose of the changes is to accommodate the movement of the West Tusc Corridor Project from Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 and to reduce the resulting carryover by shifting funds into the STBG program. As part of this effort, the Applegrove Resurfacing Project is proposed to be moved from FY 2027. Funding for the Cleveland State Roundabout is proposed to shift from Carbon Reduction to STBG, while the Main and Tremont Roundabout funding is proposed to move from CMAQ to STBG; this change was approved by the Statewide CMAQ Committee. Additionally, for the Sippo Valley Trail Bridge No. 8 project, \$374,724, is proposed to move from TA funds to STBG. The East State Street Signals Project is proposed to move from FY 2030, with funding changed from Carbon Reduction to STBG.

To further address the West Tusc Corridor Project changes, Slicker noted that the project's STBG funding is proposed to be reduced to \$2,422,435, with \$374,724 added to TA funds and \$1,249,619 added to Carbon Reduction funds. These adjustments are intended to minimize the FY 2026 carryover. An additional funding adjustment is proposed in FY 2029, where \$800,000 previously moved from CMAQ is proposed to be returned to CMAQ for the 12th and Perry Project. As a result, STBG funding for that project would be reduced to \$300,000 and CMAQ funding increased to \$800,000.

Slicker also discussed proposed changes to the Towpath Trail projects in FY 2029. Two previously separate projects, Lake to Forty Corners and Forty Corners to Cherry, are proposed to be combined into a single project under PID 124070. The combined project includes \$948,000 in CMAQ funding and \$477,000 in Carbon Reduction funds. Approximately \$80,000 was reduced from the construction amount and reallocated to FY 2027 for design costs totaling \$86,247. This amendment was reviewed and approved by the Statewide CMAQ Committee, and the project scope is limited to paving. The TAC report concluded with no questions from the committee.

6. Resolution 2026-11 Highway TIP Amendments

Loukas moved, Moeglin seconded, and the motion carried to approve the Resolution 2026-11 with the changing of the sponsor from County Engineer to the City of Canton.

7. Resolution 2026-12 Towpath TIP Amendments

Cozy moved, Luther seconded, and the motion carried to approve the Resolution 2026-12.

8. Other Business

a. Community Planning Studies

Slicker stated the Safe Routes to School studies reports are out and are now going through review and comment. Once that is complete, the plans will be approved and both Fairless and Canton City Schools will be able to apply for safe routes to school funding.

The Massillon Roundabout Study on SR 21/Lake Ave is complete and a draft report is posted to the website.

Ms consultants has been selected for Brewster Stormwater Mitigation Study. Staff is working on finalizing contracts and getting them approved at the RPC meeting in early February.

b. Safe Streets for All – Safety Action Update

Slicker stated he received a draft safety action plan from our consultant, which is Toole Design. It will be reviewed and any changes recommended.

Once a resolution has been approved the Safe Streets for All funding will be available to all entities in Stark County.

c. Loukas stated Canton did the kickoff for their Safe Streets and Roads for All plan last week. And it's OHM with Toole as a sub.

d. Bennett stated the ODOT Jobs and Commerce notified TIDs that the funding window for TID projects is the beginning of March with the closure by the end of March. RPC will be sending out notifications to all the local municipalities, townships, and cities of that opportunity. If anyone has a project that may need some additional funding that has an economic development aspect to it, feel free to reach out to him or RPC. Construction and project development can be funded with that. The cap is \$500,000. The TID funded two projects last year, which included the City of Louisville and the City of Massillon.

e. Highman noted that there are rumors that the Canton Tusc project is not going to move forward. He wanted to let everybody know that it absolutely is going to happen and there are still some different funding pieces hanging out there. So far the only change we know today is that it will be in probably August or September rather than March or April.

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

Next scheduled meeting, Monday, January 26, 2026.