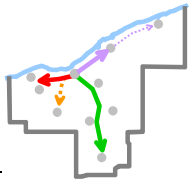


Appendix A: Commuter Rail Advisory Committee (CRAC)

- 1. CRAC Members**
- 2. Meeting Agendas: February 2000 – May 2001**
- 3. NEORail Phase II Goals and Objectives**
- 4. CRAC Final Recommendations**



Commuter Rail Advisory Committee (CRAC) Members

Ashtabula County – Hon. Robert Boggs

Cuyahoga County – Norman Krumholtz, Robert Landgraf, Edward Thellman

Geauga County – Jack Jackson

Lake County – William Snow

Lorain County – Calvin Waite (Chairman)

Medina County – R. Christopher Themes

Portage County – Hon. Christopher Smeiles

Stark County – Paul Jaeger

Summit County – Warren Woolford

City of Akron – Hon Donald Plusquellic

City of Cleveland – Hunter Morrison, Christopher Warren

GCRTA – Joseph Calabrese

LAKETRAN – Frank Polivka

METRO RTA – Robert Pfaff

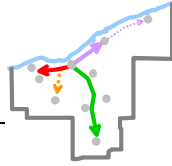
Greater Cleveland Growth Association – David Goss

Akron Regional Development Board – Robert Refner

Ohio Department of Transportation – Jerry Workman

Ohio Rail Development Commission – James Seney

*Northeast Ohio Commuter Rail
Feasibility Study Phase II*

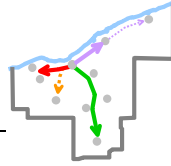


**Commuter Rail Advisory Committee
Agenda**

April 19, 2000

- ❖ **Public Participation Plan**
- ❖ **Travel Demand Forecasting Plan/Schedule**
- ❖ **Railroad Coordination**
- ❖ **Initial Technical Tasks**
 - Routes, stations
 - Costs, investment solutions
 - Operating plans
- ❖ **Phase I Recommendations**
- ❖ **Early Tiering**
- ❖ **Evaluation Criteria**
- ❖ **Next Steps**

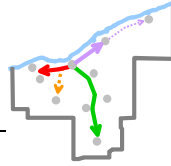
*Northeast Ohio Commuter Rail
Feasibility Study Phase II*



**Commuter Rail
Advisory Committee Agenda
May 17, 2000**

- ❖ Public / Stakeholder Involvement Plan
- ❖ Early Tiering
- ❖ Goals / Evaluation Criteria
- ❖ Travel Demand Forecasting / Stated Preference Survey
- ❖ Routes and Stations
 - ⇒ Cleveland
 - ⇒ Lake West, West
 - ⇒ Other Routes
- ❖ Transportation/ Land Use
- ❖ Tier II Routes?
- ❖ Technical Work
- ❖ June Meeting

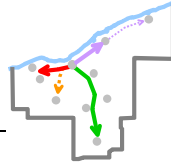
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**Commuter Rail Advisory Committee
Agenda
June 21, 2000**

- ❖ Public / Stakeholder Involvement
- ❖ Commuter-Freight Conflicts
- ❖ Capital Costs / Investment Solutions
- ❖ Operating Plans
- ❖ Railroad Coordination
- ❖ Travel Demand Forecasting

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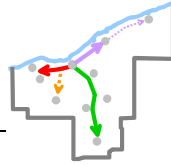
Commuter Rail Advisory

Committee Agenda

July 19, 2000

- ❖ Overview and agenda
- ❖ Stakeholder interviews
- ❖ Land use guidelines
- ❖ Railroad coordination
- ❖ Infrastructure and operation

*Northeast Ohio Commuter Rail
Feasibility Study Phase II*



**Commuter Rail Advisory
Committee Agendas**

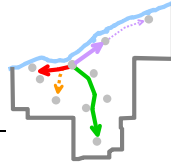
August 16, 2000

- ❖ Public Involvement: Stakeholder interviews
- ❖ Stations: locations and sites
- ❖ Tiering
- ❖ The Bridge
- ❖ Next steps

September 20, 2000

- ❖ Technical Workshop

*Northeast Ohio Commuter Rail
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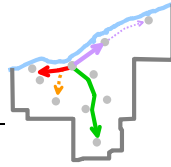


**Commuter Rail
Advisory Committee Agenda**

September 20, 2000

- ❖ Stakeholder Interviews
- ❖ Service Options: Corridors and Systems
- ❖ Capital Costs/Investment Solutions
- ❖ Workshop: Decision-Making Process
- ❖ Next steps
 - traffic impact
 - land use impact
 - railroad coordination: Phase II
 - financing
 - governance
 - MIS alternatives
- ❖ Next Meeting: October 18th

*Northeast Ohio Commuter Rail
Feasibility Study Phase II*



Commuter Rail Advisory Committee Meeting

November 15, 2000 - 1:30 pm at NOACA

AGENDA

❖ **Project Management Issues**

❖ **Travel Demand Forecasts - Status**

❖ **Operations and Engineering Review**

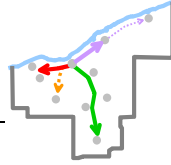
- Purpose and Context of Analysis
- Network Overview
- Service Planning Assumptions, Operations and Investment Requirements – East Side Routes
- Service Planning Assumptions, Operations and Investment Requirements – West Side Routes
- Rail Infrastructure Configurations and Engineering Solutions at Key Locations
- Route Combinations

❖ **Workshop Overview**

❖ **Next Steps**

- Reviews and Decisions
- Outreach
- Railroad Discussions
- Coordination with Other Work Efforts
- Implementation Plan

*Northeast Ohio Commuter Rail
Feasibility Study Phase II*

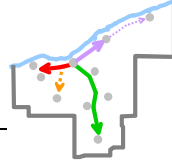


Commuter Rail Advisory Committee Meeting
December 20, 2000 - 1:30 pm at NOACA

AGENDA

- ❖ Project Schedule
- ❖ Public/Stakeholder Involvement
- ❖ Travel Demand Forecasting – Preliminary Results
- ❖ Capital and Operating Cost Estimates
- ❖ ‘Tiering’ Workshop – January 17, 2001

*Northeast Ohio Commuter Rail
Feasibility Study Phase II*



**Commuter Rail Advisory Committee
Tiering Workshop Agenda**

January 17, 2001

Pre-Meeting: Coffee, tea & treats
Team Assignments

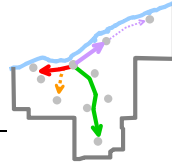
- ❖ 9:00 a.m. Workshop Introduction & Game Plan
- ❖ 9:15 Review of Data & Ratings
Questions of Clarification
- ❖ 10:00 Exercise 1: Affirmation of Ratings (Full Group)
- ❖ 10:45 Presentation of Recommended Tiering Scenarios
- ❖ 11:30 Exercise 2: Tiering Workshop (Teams)
Assess recommended tiering & develop
modifications and alternate scenarios

Working Lunch

- ❖ 1:30 p.m. Team Presentations
- ❖ 2:00 Full group discussion to reach consensus on
recommended tiering
- ❖ 3:00 Adjournment



*Northeast Ohio Commuter Rail
Feasibility Study Phase II*



Commuter Rail Advisory Committee Meeting

Agenda - February 21, 2001

❖ **Public Meetings**

- What have we heard thus far?

❖ **Station Sites**

- Route 1: Cleveland – Lorain
- Route 6: Cleveland-Aurora-Mantua

❖ **O&M Costs and Farebox Revenues**

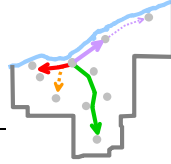
❖ **Implementation**

- Governance and Finance

** Special Request: Please bring copies of articles from your local newspapers regarding the CRAC "Tiering" recommendation and the public meetings that have been held for the study files. Thank you.



*Northeast Ohio Commuter Rail
Feasibility Study Phase II*



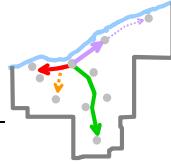
Commuter Rail Advisory Committee Meeting

March 21, 2001 - 1:30 pm at NOACA

AGENDA

- ❖ Report on Public Meetings
- ❖ Reaffirmation of the Tiering Recommendations
- ❖ Finance and Governance
- ❖ Tier 2 stations
- ❖ Lift Bridge

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Feasibility Study Phase II*

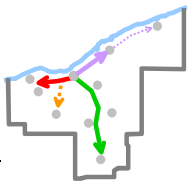


Commuter Rail Advisory Committee Meeting

April 18, 2001 - 1:30 pm at NOACA

AGENDA

- ❖ **Regional Benefits**
- ❖ **Lift Bridge**
- ❖ **Liability Insurance**
- ❖ **Follow up on Finance and Governance**
- ❖ **CRAC Recommendations**



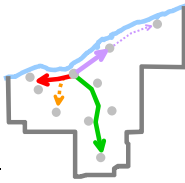
NEORAIL PHASE II GOALS & OBJECTIVES

GOALS

- Identify commuter rail corridors which are potentially feasible to implement in Northeast Ohio;
- Produce and Implementation Plan which will provide regional decision-makers with all necessary information to participate in an informed discussion on commuter rail in Northeast Ohio;
- Assess the opportunity for commuter rail service to advance regional Transportation Plans; and
- Provide information on the feasibility of commuter rail as an alternative for consideration and evaluation by the Boards of the participating Metropolitan Planning Organizations as regional Transportation Plans are updated.

OBJECTIVES

- Complete analysis of corridors identified as potentially feasible in Phase I of this Study;
- Prepare final ridership (future) demand, equipment options, station locations and associated land use considerations, least-cost solutions to major capital impediments, and other operating and cost characteristics. Address local issues identified in Phase I;
- Address all the issues related to commuter rail start-up in a comprehensive plan. The plan should contain information in sufficient detail to answer complex issues such as phased development, capital cost scheduling and resources, ownership/operation, regional fiscal capacity to provide funding of capital and continuing operating costs;
- Determine if the implementation of commuter rail service will impact the MPO's adopted Transportation Plans and programs and the goals which guide their development; and
- Conclude Phase II with a recommendation(s) as to whether commuter rail is a viable, cost-effective transportation option that should be considered for implementation through inclusion on the regions' Transportation Plans.



**Commuter Rail Advisory Committee
Final Recommendations**

Adopted May 30, 2001

As a result of the Northeast Ohio Commuter Rail Feasibility Study (*NEORail*), Phase II, the Commuter Rail Advisory Committee recommends that the Board of the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency (NOACA), the Policy Committee of the Akron Metropolitan Area Transportation Study (AMATS), and the Policy Committee of the Stark County Area Transportation Study (SCATS) take the following actions:

1. Accept the findings of the *NEORail* Phase II Study, and forward the results to the counties, townships, cities, and regional transit authorities in the nine-county study area.
2. Advance the concept of commuter rail for Northeast Ohio by endorsing further exploration of the commuter rail system recommended in the *NEORail* Phase II Final Report (see attached map) by:
 - Facilitating efforts of interested and affected public officials from the nine-county study area to continue the public dialogue on implementation of commuter rail in northeast Ohio.
 - Assisting in formation of regionally based or corridor based committees organized to oversee the following steps:
 - Review the findings in the *NEORail* Phase II Final Report and assess current conditions;
 - Evaluate and recommend funding and governance plan;
 - Obtain necessary local and regional support for commuter rail funding and operations;
 - Coordinate commuter rail planning and development with state, regional and local transportation agencies;
 - Guide continued discussion and coordination with the affected railroads as well as monitor other passenger rail initiatives for possible cost sharing and service opportunities;
 - Provide on-going policy direction until such time as a more permanent governing body is established; and
 - Secure funding for further planning including possible Alternatives Analysis studies.
3. Participate in Alternatives Analysis Study(s) of the commuter rail corridors recommended in the *NEORail* Phase II Final Report as initiated by the regional/corridor committees.
4. Create a Regional Rail Committee including membership from the *NEORail* study area, with the following responsibilities:
 - Provide regular reports to the Transportation Advisory Committees and Policy Boards/Committees of NOACA, AMATS and SCATS on passenger and freight rail issues impacting northeast Ohio
 - Monitor the status of regionally significant rail rights-of-way and provide recommendations on efforts to preserve these facilities for regional transportation options
 - Assist MPO staff in development of passenger and freight railroad policies and programs