



NORTHEAST OHIO AREA WIDE COORDINATING AGENCY

MEMORANDUM

TO: NOACA Board of Directors

FROM: Grace Gallucci, Executive Director

DATE: September 2, 2016

RE: **Resolution 2016-031 Functional Classification and National Highway System Amendment Modifications**

ACTION REQUESTED

The Board of Directors is asked to approve the Functional Classification and National Highway System (NHS) modifications.

The Transportation Subcommittee and Planning and Programming Committee have recommended these items.

BACKGROUND/JUSTIFICATION FOR CURRENT ACTION

In 1991, with the Dwight D. Eisenhower System of Interstate and Defense Highways essentially complete, the Congress, the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), State and local officials, and the highway community turned their attention to shaping the Nation's post-Interstate surface transportation policy for the 21st century. The National Highway System (NHS) emerged from this review and was authorized by the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (ISTEA).

The purpose of the National Highway System is to provide an interconnected system of principal arterial routes which will serve major population centers, international border crossings, ports, airports, public transportation facilities, other intermodal transportation facilities and other major travel destinations; meet defense requirements; and serve interstate and interregional travel.

On October 1, 2012, Section 1104 of MAP-21 added to the NHS those roads that were at that time functionally classified as principal arterials but not yet part of the System. The NHS was expanded to about 230,000 total miles with these additions.

At the January 2016 Planning and Programming Committee meeting, information was presented concerning ODOT's request to remove 268 miles from the NHS to reduce redundancy in the system and to create a closed network of roads. After careful consideration of the guidelines and criteria, NOACA concurred with the reduction of 76 miles of the NHS in the NOACA region from

839 miles to 763 miles. After further review and discussion, ODOT also agreed to NOACA's recommendation, thus achieving consensus between the two agencies.

However, one point of difference did exist in Lake County on US Route 20 – Mentor Avenue. ODOT had suggested removing the segment of this road east of Center Street – State Route 615 based on a lack of connectivity with State Route 44 and the desire to maintain a closed network with no stubs. Mentor Avenue has a traffic count of 13,400-19,860 ADT as of 2014, including 890-1,320 trucks, a preponderance of commercial zoning, and is engineered with wide lanes to accommodate this volume and land use. As such, NOACA recommends Mentor Avenue be included on the NHS along with Fern Drive and a segment of Jackson Street, which provide connectivity with State Route 44. ODOT's Office of Program Management concurs with this recommendation, but must bring it before their Functional Classification Committee for final approval. This recommendation will also require the segment of Mentor east of Heisley Rd. to be elevated from a minor arterial to a principal arterial, and Fern Drive and the segment of Jackson Street from Fern Drive to the northbound on-ramp to SR 44 will also need to be upgraded to principal arterials.

These recommendations were presented to the Planning and Programming Committee at its July 2016 meeting. They agreed with the recommendation with the exception of the removal of Baumhart Road and US 6 (Erie Avenue) in Lorain County from the NHS. This action represents eliminating Baumhart Rd. and US 6 from the NHS reduction. This action recommends the reduction of the NHS in the NOACA region from 839 miles to 773 miles.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

No financial impact, but the inclusion of roadways on the NHS does affect potential funding sources. NHS routes are eligible for National Highway Performance Program (NHPP) funds. Under the NHPP, an "eligible facility" includes only those facilities located on the National Highway System (NHS), as defined in 23 U.S.C. 103. Also, In the FAST Act, NHS routes are eligible for Nationally Significant Freight and Highway Projects (NSFHP) (Section 1105): The bill establishes a competitive discretionary grant program for large projects on the National Highway Freight Network, highway or bridge projects on the National Highway System, intermodal projects on the National Multimodal Freight Network, or rail highway grade crossing and separation projects. Local governments and Metropolitan Planning Organizations are eligible to apply directly for grants, which provides \$800 million in FY 2016, increasing \$50 million each year to \$1 billion in FY 2020. In other words, while no funding would be taken away by removal of roads from the NHS, additional potential funding through the NHPP and NSFHP would not be possible.

CONCLUSION/NEXT STEPS

With Board approval, these recommendations will be forwarded to ODOT and FHWA for further review and implementation.

GG/lh/2926c

Proposed ODOT/NOACA NHS Revisions

Route		Old FC	New FC	From	To	Add/Remove	
SR	SR/CR						Roadway Name
Cuyahoga County							
SR 91		SOM Center Road	3	3	US 422	US 322	Remove
SR 8		Northfield Road	3	3	CR 121 - Alexander Road	SR 14 - Broadway	Remove
SR 87		Woodland Ave/Buckeye Rd/Shaker Blvd	3	3	US 422 - Woodland Avenue @ E 55th St.	CR 776 - Van Aiken Boulevard	Remove
US 322		Mayfield Road	3	3	SR 91 - Som Center Road	Geauga County Line	Remove
	CR 39	Pleasant Valley Road	3	3	IR 77 NB Ramp	SR 21	Remove
	CR 121	Alexander Road	3	3	SR 21 - Brecksville Road	SR 8 - Northfield Rd	Remove
	CR 252	W 117th Street	3	3	IR 90 WB Ramps	US 6 - Clifton Boulevard	Extends Intermodal Connector from Madison to Clifton
	CR 287	Stokes Blvd	3	3	US 322 - Chester Avenue	US 20 - Euclid Avenue	Remove
	CR 406	MLK Boulevard	3	3	SR 87 - Shaker Boulevard	CR 287 - Fairhill Road	Remove
	CR 253	Noble Road	3	3	CR 362 - E 152nd Street	US 6/US 20 - Euclid Avenue	Remove
	CR 8	Lee Road	3	3	IR 480	US 6/US 20 - Euclid Avenue	Remove
		Opportunity Corridor	3	3	East 55th Street	Quincy Avenue	Add
Geauga County							
SR 306		Chillicothe Road	3	3	Portage County Line	Lake County Line	Remove
US 322		Mayfield Road	3	3	Cuyahoga County Line	CR 306 - Chillicothe Road	Remove
Lake County							
SR 306		Chillicothe Rd/Broadmoore Rd	3	3	Geauga County Line	SR 2 Mainline	Remove
US 20		Mentor Ave	3	4	SR 615 - Center Street	SR 44 - Fern Road	Add
	CR 227	Vrooman Rd	3	4	I-90	CR 123P - Proposed Lane Rd realignment	Remove
	CR 123P	Proposed Lane Road realignment	3	4	CR 227 - Vrooman Road	CR 123 - Lane Road @ SR 84 - S Ridge Rd	Remove
	CR 123	Lane Road	3	4	CR 123P - proposed Lane Road realignment @ SR 84 - S Ridge Rd	US 20 - N Ridge Road	Remove
	CR 645	Fern Road	5	5	US 20- Mentor Ave	CR 304 W Jackson Street	Add
	CR 304	W Jackson Street	5	5	CR 645 - Fern Road	SR 44 - North on Ramp	Add
Lorain County							
SR 57		Lorain Blvd, Grove Ave	4	3	IR 90 EB Ramps	IR 90 WB ramps	New Intermodal Connector
SR 57		Grove Avenue	4	4	IR 90 WB ramps	SR 57 - E 28th Street	New Intermodal Connector
SR 57		E 28th Street	4	4	SR 57 - Grove Avenue	SR 57 - Broadway Ave	New Intermodal Connector
	CR 616	Colorado Avenue	3	3	SR 611 - Henderson Drive	US 6 - Erie Avenue	Remove
Medina County							
SR 57		Wadsworth Rd Wadsworth)	3	4	Wadsworth 2000 UAB @ TR 145 - Wall Rd	I-76 WB Ramps	Remove

**RESOLUTION 2016-031
(FUNCTIONAL CLASSIFICATION
AND NATIONAL HIGHWAY SYSTEM
MODIFICATIONS)**

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE
NORTHEAST OHIO AREAWIDE COORDINATING AGENCY**

WHEREAS, the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency (NOACA) is the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the counties of Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain and Medina, and the areawide water quality management agency for the same region; and

WHEREAS, NOACA is committed to developing meaningful planning tools to support transportation planning in the region, where such tools may be utilized by NOACA staff, community officials, and members of the public in furtherance of sound planning for the region; and

WHEREAS, The purpose of the National Highway System (NHS) is to provide an interconnected system of principal arterial routes which will serve major population centers, international border crossings, ports, airports, public transportation facilities, other intermodal transportation facilities and other major travel destinations; meet defense requirements; and serve interstate and interregional travel; and

WHEREAS, On October 1, 2012, Section 1104 of MAP-21 added to the NHS those roads that were at that time functionally classified as principal arterials but not yet part of the System. The NHS was expanded to about 230,000 total miles with these additions; and

WHEREAS, After careful consideration of the guidelines and criteria, NOACA concurred with the reduction of 66 miles of the NHS in the NOACA region from 839 miles to 773 miles; and

WHEREAS, this NHS modification includes adding Mentor Avenue along with Fern Drive and a segment of Jackson Street to provide connectivity with State Route 44 in Lake County, Opportunity Corridor in Cuyahoga County and Baumhart Road and US 6 (Erie Avenue) in Lorain County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency, consisting of 45 principal officials serving general purpose local governments throughout and within the counties of Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain, and Medina that:

Section 1. The National Highway System modifications contained in attachment 1 are approved.

Section 2. The Executive Director is authorized to submit the National Highway System modifications to the Ohio Department of Transportation.

Section 3. The Executive Director is authorized to transmit certified copies of this resolution to appropriate federal, state, and local agencies.

Certified to be a true copy of a Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency adopted this 9th day of September 2016.

Secretary: _____

Date Signed: _____

Rich Schuler
SEP 9, 2016

