



## NORTHEAST OHIO AREAWIDE COORDINATING AGENCY

### MEMORANDUM

**TO:** NOACA Board of Directors

**FROM:** Grace Gallucci, Executive Director

**DATE:** December 9, 2016

**RE:** Resolution 2016 – 034 NOACA Public Participation Plan

#### **ACTION REQUESTED**

The Board of Directors is asked to approve the proposed Public Participation Plan (draft attached). The External Affairs Committee recommended this action.

#### **BACKGROUND**

NOACA, as an MPO, is responsible for communicating, engaging, educating and informing the stakeholders and the public through a variety of communication and engagement methods.

Public participation is a communication and public affairs activity intended to engage and inform NOACA stakeholders, interested parties and the general public on the development of policies and programs and prospectively to inform the expenditure of public dollars for transportation system and environmental management planning activities.

Pursuant to Federal Regulation in Title 23 Part 450.316, NOACA is required to update its plan for informing and soliciting comment from the general public and stakeholders on transportation planning issues from time to time. The public participation plan was last updated in 2011 and upon review, it was decided that the participation plan needed substantial updates regarding the tools and techniques used by NOACA to inform the public of policies, programs, major documents and planning initiatives of the Agency.

The revised public participation plan updates the means by which NOACA will educate and inform the public and stakeholders and provide a schedule of major activities that will be the subject of public involvement activities in an appendix. The appendix will be supplemented from time to time to add additional engagement activities as deemed appropriate by NOACA staff.

#### **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

There is no direct financial impact.

#### **CONCLUSION/NEXT STEPS**

Pending Board approval, NOACA staff will plan public engagement activities consistent with the NOACA Public Participation Plan.

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 City of Cleveland; and the areawide water quality management agency for the same region; and

**WHEREAS**, NOACA is required as a matter of federal policy, to engage the general public through a variety of means intended inform the transportation planning priorities and transportation investments in the NOACA region.

**WHEREAS**, NOACA is further required to adhere to the requirements of Federal Title VI and Environmental Justice processes in engaging the public on transportation planning matters

**WHEREAS**, NOACA has developed a public participation plan that details several methods of engaging the general public through means intended to educate, activities to illicit public comment and means to act on public comment through the metropolitan planning process

**WHEREAS**, NOACA's Executive Committee has recommended this resolution for adoption.

**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 Public Participation Plan (Exhibit 1) is hereby endorsed.

**Section 2.** 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  
Governing Board of the Northeast Ohio Areawide  
Coordinating Agency adopted this 16th day of  
December 2016.

Secretary: 

Date Signed: 12.16.16