



## NORTHEAST OHIO AREAWIDE COORDINATING AGENCY

### MEMORANDUM

**TO:** NOACA Board of Directors

**FROM:** Grace Gallucci, Executive Director

**DATE:** March 6, 2015

**RE:** Exchange of SFY Funding Between MPOs

#### **ACTION REQUESTED**

The Board of Directors is asked to approve authorization of the Executive Director to execute funding exchanges with other Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO).

#### **PREVIOUS ACTION**

The NOACA Finance and Audit Committee recommended this item for action at their February 27, 2015 meeting. The Executive Committee also reviewed and recommended this item for Board approval.

#### **BACKGROUND/JUSTIFICATION FOR CURRENT ACTION**

The Board of Directors has asked staff to explore and utilize innovative funding strategies to complete more projects. One such opportunity that staff would like to implement is the exchange of SFY funding between MPOs.

Related to this, the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) allows MPOs to exchange funding in an effort to accelerate project delivery while ensuring maximum use of all available funds. To accomplish this, MPOs that are not able to utilize all of their allocated funding in a given SFY may trade it all or a portion of it with another MPO to advance projects from the next SFY. The process is referred to as an exchange of budget. There are no costs or penalties incurred by either MPO in execution of the budget exchange. Also, there are no funding or scheduling impacts to any other projects approved in the NOACA Transportation Improvement Program. ODOT encourages the use of this process to ensure the timely expenditure of MPO allocated funds and to realize a quicker public benefit.

Amongst seven of the eight large MPOs, there is a total of approximately \$15 million in Surface Transportation Program and Transportation Alternatives Program funding that is currently projected to be carried forward from SFY 2015 to SFY 2016. Those funds could be utilized by NOACA to advance ready projects from 2016 to 2015 in accordance with the ODOT budget exchange process. In SFY 2016, NOACA's allocation would be debited for the advanced amount. This budget exchange process is administered by ODOT with approval of the Executive Director of each MPO partner.

#### **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

There is no financial impact

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

Upon Board approval, staff will coordinate with partner MPOs to execute budget exchanges and advance ready projects.

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**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**, the Board of Director's has asked staff to explore and utilize innovative funding strategies to implement more projects; and

**WHEREAS**, the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) allows Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO) to exchange funding between the current and next State Fiscal Years with the purpose of advancing projects to expend available funding; and

**WHEREAS**, participation in the MPO budget exchange process will allow NOACA to advance ready projects from the next SFY into the current SFY utilizing other MPO funding that would otherwise go unspent; and

**WHEREAS**, NOACA's budget would then be debited for the advanced amount in the next SFY when the project(s) were originally programmed; and

**WHEREAS**, ODOT encourages the use of the budget exchange process to ensure timely expenditure of MPO allocated funds to realize quicker project implementation and public benefit; and

**WHEREAS**, there are no costs or penalties incurred by NOACA or partner MPOs in execution of budget exchanges; and

**WHEREAS**, there are no funding or scheduling impacts to any other projects approved in the NOACA Transportation Improvement Program.

**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 Executive Director is hereby authorized to execute budget exchanges with partner MPOs to manage the agency's cash flow and advance ready projects.

**Section 2.** The Executive Director is hereby authorized to transmit certified copies of this resolution to the 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 13th day of March 2015.

Secretary: 

Date Signed: 3-13-15