

RESOLUTION

**EASTGATE REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
APPROVAL OF THE FINAL YOUNGSTOWN, OH-PA
URBANIZED AREA COORDINATED PUBLIC TRANSIT - HUMAN
SERVICES TRANSPORTATION PLAN MANDATED BY THE
SAFE, ACCOUNTABLE, FLEXIBLE, EFFICIENT
TRANSPORTATION EQUITY ACT: A LEGACY FOR USERS
(SAFETEA-LU)**

WHEREAS, the Eastgate Regional Council of Governments is the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for transportation planning in the Youngstown Metropolitan Area which include in its study area Mahoning and Trumbull Counties; and

WHEREAS, the biennial FY2008 through FY2011 MPO TIP became effective concurrent with U.S. DOT approval of the FY2008 through FY2011 Ohio State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), on July 1, 2007; and

WHEREAS, it has been necessary in the past to amend the TIP and Annual Element based on revised priorities and the need to periodically add or modify projects; and

WHEREAS, the 2007 Overall Transportation Work Program, which identifies the development of this plan within the Transit Exclusive Element, was prepared in conformance with joint regulations, Part 450, Planning Assistance and Standards, of the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration, and is consistent with local, state, and federal objectives and policies; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the 2000 Census, the Sharon, PA Small Urbanized Area was merged into the Youngstown, OH-PA Urbanized Area which incorporates Mahoning and Trumbull Counties, and a portion of Mercer County, PA; and

WHEREAS, on August 10, 2005, President Bush signed SAFETEA-LU into law; and

WHEREAS, starting in FY 2007, projects funded through three programs included in SAFETEA-LU Job Access Reverse Commute (JARC) (Section 5316), New Freedom (Section 5317) and the Formula Program for Elderly Individuals and Individuals with Disabilities (Section 5310) – are required to be derived from a locally developed, coordinated public transit-human services transportation plan; and

WHEREAS, the Study Area for this project will be Mahoning and Trumbull Counties in Ohio and a portion of Mercer County in Pennsylvania, which encompasses the 2000 Youngstown OH-PA Urbanized Area; and

WHEREAS, in order to comply with this requirement, Eastgate, in cooperation with the Western Reserve Transit Authority (WRTA), Niles-Trumbull Transit System (NiTTS), the Shenango Valley Shuttle Service (SVSS), the Mercer County Regional Council of Governments (MCRCOG), and the Mercer County Regional Planning Commission (MCRPC), will coordinate its efforts to conduct this study, and

WHEREAS, through the “3C” (Comprehensive, Coordinated, and Continuous) planning process, a ongoing Regional Comprehensive Transportation Planning Agreement between Eastgate and the Mercer County Regional Planning Commission remains in affect and is reaffirmed; and

WHEREAS, through GPB Resolution #052-2006 authorized Eastgate’s Executive Director and General Policy Board Chairman to sign a Memorandum of Understanding supporting various planning mandates of the newly enacted SAFETEA-LU; and

WHEREAS, the following project addition as identified in this resolution is within financial constraint, is exempt (E) or has been analyzed (A) for air quality conformity determination, and is in conformance with the goals and objectives of the 2030 Long Range Transportation Plan Update and is consistent with transit planning and expansion services activities; and

WHEREAS, the Eastgate Regional Council of Governments, with the concurrence of the Western Reserve Transit Authority (WRTA), the Niles-Trumbull Transit System (NiTTS), and with the support of the Pennsylvania Regional Planning Agencies within the OH-PA Urbanized Area – the Shenango Valley Shuttle Service (SVSS), the Mercer County Regional Council of Governments (MCRCOG), and the Mercer County Regional Planning Commission (MCRPC), the following project has been included in both the FY2006 through FY2009, and FY2008 through FY2011 TIPs with Project PID #82475; and

WHEREAS, the development of the Coordinated Public Transit -Human Services Transportation Plan (CPT-HSTP) was prepared by a Quality-Based Selected consultant that identifies the transportation needs of the target populations, evaluate services, service gaps, strategies and priorities, document overlapping transportation needs and strategies for the Youngstown, OH-PA Urbanized area; and

WHEREAS, the final CPT-HSTP comprised of two “independent utility” components, one for Ohio and one for Pennsylvania, which will demonstrate priorities and actions for the Youngstown, OH-PA Urbanized Area which has been presented and reviewed by Eastgate’s Technical Advisory Committee and Citizen Advisory Board; and

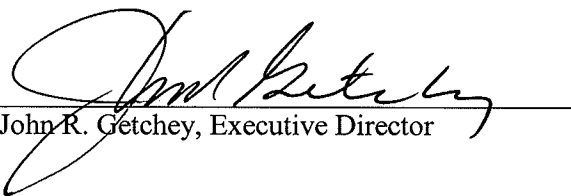
WHEREAS, the plan recommendations must adhere to each state’s respective protocol regarding project applications and time lines, programming, project advancement and any public participation activities; and


WHEREAS, coordination across state boundaries will be especially necessary, in serving target populations to meet unmet needs, to ensure effective transportation services across state lines;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the General Policy Board of the Eastgate Regional Council of Governments, State of Ohio, hereby approves the Final CPT-HSTP for the Youngstown, OH-PA Urbanized area as shown on this resolution;

Passed this 22nd day of May, 2008.

ATTEST:


John R. Getchey, Executive Director


Frederick Hanley, Chairman