

Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission
Minutes of the Meeting
January 27, 2020 – 4:30 p.m.
Two Chatham Center • Suite 400 • 112 Washington Place • Pittsburgh, PA 15219

The one hundred thirty-ninth meeting of the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission was called to order by Chairman Larry Maggi.

Members present: Brian Allen, Darin Alviano, Tony Amadio, Mike Belding, Kevin Boozel, Morgan Boyd, Scott Bricker, Tom Ceraso, Gina Cerilli, Scott Dunn, Pat Fabian, Rich Fitzgerald, Kimberly Geyer, Mark Gordon, Robin A. Gorman, Joe Grata, Kelly Gray, Dick Hadley, Lynn Heckman, Sherene Hess, Diana Irey Vaughan, Charles Jones, Fred Junko, R. Michael Keith, Katharine Kelleman, Sean Kertes, Clifford Levine, Dave Lohr, Bob Macey, Larry Maggi, Jeff Marshall, Kevin McCullough, Amy McKinney, Cheryl Moon-Sirianni, Don Myers, Leslie Osche, Johnna Pro, Mavis Rainey, Bob Regola, Aurora Sharrard, Nick Sherman, Larry Shifflet, Loretta Spielvogel, Byron Stauffer, Jr., Jessica Walls-Lavelle, and Blair Zimmerman.

Others present: Darin Hettich, GPI; Harry Johnson, Robbie Matesic and Grace Nelson, Senator Bob Casey's Office; Jack Manning, Beaver County Commissioner; Ann Ogoreuc, Allegheny County Economic Development; Jason Rigone, Westmoreland County Industrial Development Corporation; and Ned Williams, Montour Trail.

Staff: Jim Hassinger, Erin Kepple Adams, Jared Bedekovich, Kirk Brethauer, Ronda Craig, Dom D'Andrea, Linda Duffy, Ryan Gordon, Chuck Imbrogno, Claire Jordy, Tom Klevan, Jenn Lasser, Vince Massaro, Shannon O'Connell, Jeremy Papay, Kay Tomko, Sara Walfoort, and Andy Waple.

1. Chairman Maggi called to order the January 27, 2020 meeting of the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission
 - a. Quorum – There being a quorum present the meeting proceeded
 - b. Any Conflict of Interest Declarations on Action Items – None.

Chairman Maggi welcomed everyone and introductions were made.

2. Action on Minutes of the December 16, 2019 Meeting

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the December 16, 2019 meeting by Rich Fitzgerald which was seconded by Commissioner Blair Zimmerman. The affirmative vote was unanimous.

3. Public Comment – None

4. Presentation of 2019 Annual Report – Jim Hassinger / Shannon O'Connell

Shannon O'Connell, Director of Public Engagement & Outreach, encouraged everyone to read through the Annual Report. Not only does it reflect all the accomplishments that SPC staff has made over the past year, but our accomplishments are also your accomplishments. There are a number of very important projects and activities that benefit your constituents.

Shannon introduced Jeremy Papay. He is our Multimedia Developer and is responsible for all of the photography and all of the videos you see each month along with our brand new website. She then introduced Jared Bedekovich. He is our Public Involvement Specialist and is involved in reaching out to your staff, residents, and communities to get their feedback and get their involvement in all of our activities. She also mentioned that Rachael Diehl is SPC's graphic designer and she put most of this report together. A short video of the Annual Report was presented.

Dr. Hassinger mentioned that one of our significant accomplishments this year was putting together a new website. Ms. O’Connell said that one of the biggest projects we did over this past year was to have a complete redesign and redevelopment of SPC’s website. As is the challenge with the Annual Report, this agency does so much, that it’s hard to organize it sometimes and make it accessible. So we really wanted to make it focused on the user. When you look through the website, you’ll see that we streamlined navigation. We have a lot of things organized as tools and resources that will get you directly to the information you want. We are also featuring a lot of news and events. We have a meeting calendar that includes maps.

Ms. O’Connell also mentioned that exciting things are still to come. We are developing a specialized data navigation tool. That will be available later this year. She credited Jeremy Papay with being a really good leader of our website redevelopment project.

Dr. Hassinger thanked Shannon and Jeremy and the rest of the staff. It’s been an extraordinary year. He mentioned that we did a workshop for developing *SmartMoves for a Changing Region* with 300 people in person as well as live streaming the event on YouTube. He thought that was the first time in the country that live streaming via YouTube was used in the development of the long range plan for transportation.

5. Financial Report – Vince Massaro

Mr. Massaro reported on the financials for the fiscal period July 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019. Total project related revenues actual and encumbered to date are \$7,072,969 compared to the adopted annual budget of \$12,688,666. This reflects about 56% of the budget recognized.

Expenditures recorded and encumbered to date total \$7,072,969 versus the adopted annual budget of \$12,688,666 or 56% of the budget expended and encumbered to date.

The planning projects continue to move forward as budgeted. Our grant funding agreements have all been signed, sealed, and delivered. Our cost invoices or payment requests that we send out to funding agencies for reimbursements, have all been coming in on a timely basis, so our cash flow is good. On the expenditure side, project expenditures are set as the signed agreements that we have in place, and signed purchase orders that encumber those expenditures and funds from our funding agencies.

Commissioner Bob Macey moved to accept the financial report and Commissioner Tom Ceraso seconded. The financial report was accepted as presented.

6. Action on Resolution 1-20 to Authorize Submission of the 2020-2022 Unified Planning Work Program to the Appropriate Funding Agencies – Andy Waple

Andy Waple said this resolution will authorize staff to submit the Draft 2020-2022 Unified Planning Work Program to our appropriate funding agencies which are PennDOT, Federal Highway Administration, and the Federal Transit Administration.

2-year contract between PennDOT and SPC

The contract is for all the good work that we will perform with PennDOT along with transit providers as well as your staff at the counties and City of Pittsburgh.

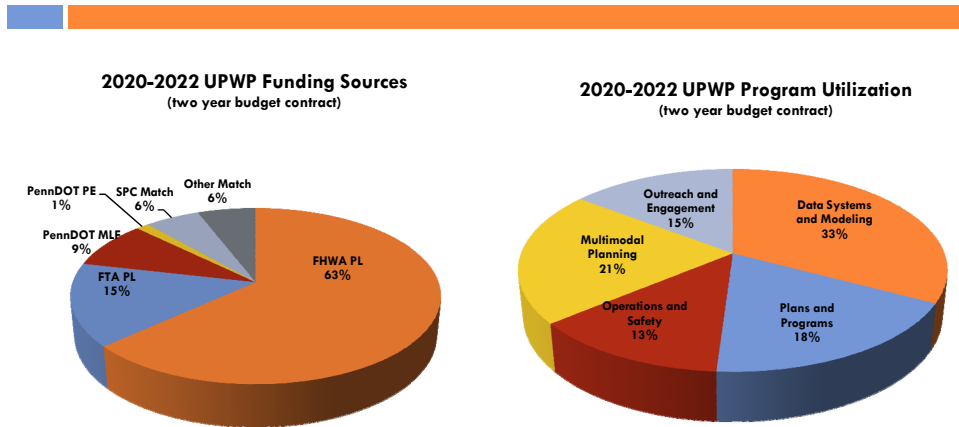
Focused yet Flexible

It is focused in that it addresses all of our reciprocal requirements such as TIP Updates, Long Range Plan Updates, UPWP Updates, Regional Safety Action Plan Updates, but is also very flexible in that we recognize

there is change at the leadership level at the Commission as well as at the staff level with our incoming CEO and Executive Director.

- **5 Functional Program Areas:**
 - Plans and Programs
 - Multimodal Planning
 - Operations & Safety
 - Data & Modeling
 - Outreach & Engagement

UPWP: July 2020 – June 2022



This is a breakdown showing the funding sources for the Work Program. About 78% comes from the federal government by way of the Federal Highway & Federal Transit Administrations. The remainder is matched to those federal funds with your local dues that your county and city planning pay, PennDOT state funds, as well as the other matches, basically in-kind services that we do here and for all the people that attend meetings, your staff and others throughout the region contribute as in-kind services.

The budget breakdown between the four transportation departments and Outreach & Engagement equates to about \$6.5M per year.

UPWP: July 2020 – June 2022



Andy reminded everyone that the current Long Range Plan, *SmartMoves for a Changing Region*, which this body adopted about six months ago, a lot of the work and tasks have come right out of the strategies, goals, and visions of *SmartMoves* you'll see highlighted here. This is by no means all of them contained in the presentation, but these are just some of the highlights of what we do here.

Department Priorities and Initiatives

These are department wide priorities. Things that no single group is going to focus on, but as a department these are things that we all assist in implementing, not just the transportation department but the planning side and IT side as well.

- Performance Based Planning and Programming
- Technical assistance and education to local governments
- Adapt planning and programming to address the impacts of extreme weather and greenhouse gas emissions
- Improve infrastructure efficiency through technology
- Consider every mode and user when planning for transportation infrastructure and services
- Utilize the PennDOT Connects process to ensure context based project development and holistic planning

The following are examples of work contained in the program, broken down by each functional team in the Transportation Department. Also depicted are the *Smart Moves* Strategies they work to implement

<p>Plans & Programs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Corridor Master Planning <input type="checkbox"/> Resiliency and Environmental Planning <input type="checkbox"/> Innovative Finance and New Funding Opportunities <input type="checkbox"/> County and Municipal Assistance <input type="checkbox"/> 2023 TIP Update <input type="checkbox"/> Asset Management Forecasting Tools 	<p>Smart Moves Strategies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Collaboration • Sustainable Funding • Coordinated Investment • Reinvest in our Communities • Holistic Planning • Apply New and Best Practices • Value our Natural Resources • Modernize Infrastructure • Prioritize and Streamline
<p>Multimodal Planning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Transit Operator Technical Assistance – <i>Smart Moves</i> Connections Implementation <input type="checkbox"/> Active Transportation Plan Implementation <input type="checkbox"/> Travel Demand Management (TDM) Outreach and Expansion <input type="checkbox"/> Regional Truck Parking Study <input type="checkbox"/> Human Services Transportation Coordination 	<p>Smart Moves Strategies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Collaboration • Mobility for All • Reinvest in our Communities • Holistic Planning • Apply New and Best Practices • Seamless Transit Linkages • Modernize Infrastructure • Equitable Transportation Services
<p>Operations & Safety</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Regional Traffic Signal Program Cycle 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Road Safety Audits & Corridor Operations Planning Studies <input type="checkbox"/> Traffic Incident Management (TIM) Program <input type="checkbox"/> Safety Action Plan Update <input type="checkbox"/> Strategic ITS Deployment Plan 	<p>Smart Moves Strategies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Collaboration • Mobility for All • Reinvest in our Communities • Apply New and Best Practices • Facilitate Seamless Linkages • Modernize Infrastructure • Prioritize and Streamline • Offset Potential CAV Impacts
<p>Data & Modeling</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Next Generation Travel Demand & Economic Modeling <input type="checkbox"/> Big Data Utilization and Sharing (Inrix, Streetlight, etc) <input type="checkbox"/> Performance Metric Tracking and Reporting Dashboards <input type="checkbox"/> Process, Summarize and Distribute 2020 Census Data 	<p>Smart Moves Strategies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Collaboration • Apply New and Best Practices • Smart Data Systems • Modernize Infrastructure • Employ Emerging Technologies
<p>Outreach & Engagement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Public Participation Plan Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Title VI Plan ◆ Limited English Proficiency Plan <input type="checkbox"/> Public Participation Panels <input type="checkbox"/> Innovative Public Engagement <input type="checkbox"/> Website Enhancements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Interactive Mapping ◆ Resource Center 	<p>Smart Moves Strategies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Collaboration • Equity in Transportation • Apply New and Best Practices • Increase Public Awareness

This work program was developed collaboratively between SPC staff, PennDOT staff, staff from your county planning departments, as well as the transit providers across the region. We have been working continuously with our Transportation Technical Committee and Transit Operators Committee over the last few months. The program was unanimously recommended for submission to PennDOT by the TTC at its January meeting.

A motion was made to approve Resolution 1-20 to Authorize Submission of the 2020-2022 Unified Planning Work Program to the Appropriate Funding Agencies by Amy McKinney which was seconded by Commissioner Osche. The affirmative vote was unanimous.

7. Nominating Committee Report and Action on Resolutions 2-20 and 3-20 to Elect Officers of the Commission for years 2020 and 2021 – Lynn Heckman and Scott Putnam, Nominating Committee Co-Chairs

2020-2021 Executive Committee

- Allegheny County, Rich Fitzgerald
- City of Pittsburgh, William Peduto
- Armstrong County, Pat Fabian
- Beaver County, Tony Amadio
- Butler County, Leslie Osche
- Fayette County, Vincent Vicites
- Greene County, Mike Belding
- Indiana County, Sherene Hess
- Lawrence County, Morgan Boyd
- Washington County, Diana Irey Vaughan
- Westmoreland County, Sean Kertes
- At-Large, Gina Cerilli
- At-Large, Lynn Heckman
- At-Large, Larry Maggi
- PennDOT, Larry Shifflet
- Governor's Appointee, Jessica Walls Lavelle
- DCED, Johnna Pro
- SPC President and CEO, James Hassinger, ex officio

A motion was made to approve Resolution 2-20 to Elect an Executive Committee of the Commission by Fred Junko which was seconded by Commissioner Zimmerman. The affirmative vote was unanimous.

2020-2021 Commission Officers

- Rich Fitzgerald, Chairman
- Tony Amadio, Vice Chairman
- Leslie Osche, Secretary-Treasurer

A motion was made to approve Resolution 3-20 to Elect Officers of the Commission by Johnna Pro which was seconded by Commissioner Ceraso. The affirmative vote was unanimous.

Outgoing Chairman, Larry Maggi, congratulated newly elected Chairman, Rich Fitzgerald, Allegheny County Executive, and wished him the best in the next couple years.

Chairman Fitzgerald said Commissioner Maggi has been very active and it's been a great program because we're going to have a lot of challenges moving forward. He thanked Larry Maggi for his great welcome. I have served on this board for a number of years with some really good chairs, Larry Maggi, Chuck Anderson, Rod Ruddock, and Steve Craig. People have served here because, as Larry said, this is really, really important work that we do on board at the Commission.

Chairman Fitzgerald thanked and welcomed all the new members. He said as we learned a month or so ago during the last meeting, PennDOT threw cold water on our face. We know at both the federal level and the state level there have been some significant cuts in transportation. So one of the first things I'm going to be doing is form a working group and ask each Commissioner in the 10 counties, as well as the city of Pittsburgh, to appoint somebody to that working group. I'm going to start literally within the next couple of weeks because we have a lot of work to do. We're going to have to prioritize exactly what we want to fund and what's important to this region for economic growth for the 2.5M people that we all represent. How can this southwestern Pennsylvania region grow? And transportation's going to be one of the biggest and important parts of finding that out. We don't have Act 89 and Act 44 and we don't know what the funding level is going to be. The sun's setting pretty soon, so we're going to have to make some real life decisions. Again, what we prioritize and how we're going to support paying for those priorities. I'm looking for lots of folks to make some trips to Harrisburg and to Washington to meet with all the delegation both at the federal and state level. We have some great representatives in the state House and state Senate, the Congress people there to U.S. Senators that we'll be working with. So we have a big challenge.

8. Committee Reports – None

9. Action on Resolution 4-20 to Honor the Services of Outgoing Chairman Larry Maggi – Jim Hassinger / Rich Fitzgerald

Chairman Fitzgerald said Larry really did some exemplary work these last couple of years and even before that on the Executive Committee. He does a lot of great work. His fellow Commissioners are here from Washington County who really want to support this resolution with the SPC.

WHEREAS, Larry Maggi has served ably as Chairman of the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission since January 2018;

WHEREAS, he has had a long and active association with SPC having been a Washington County representative since 2003;

WHEREAS, he will continue to serve as a member of the Commission's Executive Committee and its Regional Policy Advisory Committee;

WHEREAS, he also Chaired and served on the Board of Directors of the Southwestern Pennsylvania Corporation and its Audit Committee;

WHEREAS, he brought his skills, experience and enthusiasm to the deliberations of the Commission;

WHEREAS, he guided the update of SmartMoves for a Changing Region adopted by the Commission on June 24, 2019;

WHEREAS, he has fostered public involvement in planning efforts and accommodated differing views to reach balanced decisions;

WHEREAS, his inclusive style of leadership has been influential in shaping agreeable decisions on difficult issues; and

WHEREAS, he gives generously of his time to the residents of Washington County and to the southwestern Pennsylvania region.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Officers, Members and Staff of the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission offer their appreciation for his years of service and anticipate his continuing interest in the work of the agency in the years ahead.

A motion was made to approve Resolution 4-20 by Commissioner Zimmerman which was seconded by Commissioner Irey Vaughan. The affirmative vote was unanimous. Jim Hassinger said some original photography that was done for SPC, one of which is the Washington County Courthouse, was presented to Commissioner Larry Maggi.

10. Other Business/Announcements – Jim Hassinger

Commissioner Maggi reminded the Commission that Jim will be retiring sometime this year and thought it would be appropriate to recognize his 18 years of service at SPC. Jim has done just a great job. Commissioner Maggi said he's been involved with SPC since 2003 and Jim is always very knowledgeable and very well respected in his field. On behalf of all the Commissioners, Commissioner Maggi presented Jim with a token of their appreciation for his service and his dedication to SPC.

Jim said he appreciates this so much from the Commission. He said he would be here a little longer. It's been a really invigorating and rewarding time for me. It's been a real privilege.

Chairman Fitzgerald said he seconds those words that Commissioner Maggi made about Jim. He's been a great worker for all of us for the entire region during his tenure and he's been very, very helpful as we start to make this transition and go through search. He's been absolutely tremendous to work with.

The next meeting will be April 27, 2020

11. Certificates of Appreciation to Honor the Services of PennDOT representative Joseph Dubovi and Greene County Representative Robbie Matesic

Jim mentioned that Joe Dubovi was not in attendance. He presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Robbie Matesic for her service as Greene County representative and her service on the Public Participation Panel and for all the work she's done for planning and decision making.

Chairman Fitzgerald mentioned that Robbie will be going to work for Senator Casey. She has represented her community very well in Greene County and with what they continue to do.

New Business – None.

12. Adjourn

Commissioner Maggi moved to adjourn the meeting of the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission and Commissioner Amadio seconded. The affirmative vote was unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted

Tony Amadio
Secretary-Treasurer