

SPC Transportation Operations & Safety Subcommittee (TOSS)

Tuesday, May 23, 2006, 10AM
Regional Enterprise Tower, 23rd Floor, O'Neill Room

ATTENDEES

Amy McKinney, Lawrence County Planning	Doug Smith, SPC
Doniele Andrus, Butler County Planning	Kirk Brethauer, SPC
Paul Koza, PennDOT District 10-0	Chuck DiPietro, SPC
Dave Tomaswick, PennDOT District 10-0	Ken Flack, SPC
Todd Kravits, PennDOT District 11-0	Brian Keeler, DMJM+Harris
Dominic Munizza, PennDOT District 11-0	Steve Schillero, DMJM+Harris
Brenda Murphy, PennDOT BHSTE	Jim Hunt, FHWA
Randy Brink, PennDOT District 1-0	Joel Ticatch, PB Farradyne
John Rudiak, PennDOT District 11-0	Mike Harris, PB Farradyne
Jeff Leithauser, Washington County Planning	Prue Larson, SPC
Bobby Burdette, Washington County Planning	Scott Thompson-Graves, WR&A
Rachel Duda, PennDOT District 12-0	Bob Dudash, URS
Robb Dean, PennDOT District 12-0	Lisa Kay Schweyer, SPC
David Gault, PennDOT District 12-0	Lynn Manion, ACTA
Bernie Rossman, Allegheny County Public Works	Rich Feder, Port Authority
Kevin McCullough, PennDOT Program Center	John Kraynik, Cranberry Twp
Jeff Raykes, Indiana County Planning	Bill Laubach, PennDOT BHSTE
Sidney Kaikai, City of Pittsburgh Planning	David Ginns, Sustainable Pitts.
Fred Fisher, City of Pittsburgh Public Works	Tom Straw, SPC

MEETING SUMMARY

- Following introductions, Doug Smith began the meeting with a brief explanation of the purpose of this new subcommittee and a summary of the benefits that are expected to be realized from integrating regional ITS, safety, and congestion management efforts.
- Brenda Murphy discussed the goals and priorities established in PennDOT's Transportation Systems Operations Plan (TSOP) and provided an update on implementation initiatives that have begun as a result of TSOP. Eight of the nineteen projects identified in TSOP are underway and work on the Interstate Incident Management Program will begin soon. Brenda also discussed plans for developing Regional Operations Plans (ROPs). The ROPs will extend TSOP to the regional level and will define the strategic transportation operations program for the region. ROPs will be tailored to meet regional needs and will specify and prioritize regional operations projects. The target date for having ROPs developed and adopted is July 31, 2007, so ROP output can be used in developing the 2009 TIP. The ROP will be updated every two years after that. PennDOT resources are available to support development of the ROP.
- Prue Larson presented information related to the recently adopted 2005 Congestion Management Process (CMP) report. This report outlines the

methodology used in SPC's regional CMP and presents strategies for managing congestion on over 100 corridors throughout the region. It also discusses CMP's implications for Single Occupancy Vehicle Capacity Adding Projects (SOVCAPs). The report is available in .pdf form on the Congestion Management page of SPC's website at http://www.spcregion.org/trans_cong.shtml.

- Doug Smith provided a demonstration of SPC's web-based regional CMP reporting system, which is currently under development. This effort will expand the Congestion Management portion of SPC's web site to include the information that has typically been part of bound paper CMP reports. The site is being developed in six layers that include an Introduction (definition of the program, how it works, and what it is used for), System Definition (identify the CMP network, how it was established & its evolution over time), Performance Measures (explain how SPC measures congestion and the pros & cons of various measures), Performance Monitoring / Data (corridor-level data that has been collected, analysis & regional rankings of congested corridors), Congestion Management Strategies (identify & evaluate CM strategies for each corridor), and Monitoring Strategy Effectiveness. The initial focus of development is on the first four layers of the site. SPC will continue to seek input on the design of the site, particularly the final two layers, at future meetings of the TOSS. The site is expected to be launched in the next two months. The Congestion Management Strategies and Monitoring Strategy Effectiveness layers will be shown as "Under Construction" when the site is first launched.
- Andy Markunas from PennDOT's Bureau of Highway Safety & Traffic Engineering could not attend, but provided some presentation materials related to PennDOT's efforts to develop and implement a statewide strategic highway safety plan, which is required by SAFETEA-LU legislation. An overall goal of reducing fatalities to 1.0 per 100 million vehicle-miles of travel by 2008 is a key driving factor in planning efforts, which include projects as well as programs. Some of the safety focus areas that have been identified include reducing aggressive driving, increasing seatbelt usage, reducing the number and severity of roadway departure and intersection collisions, reducing impaired driving (DUI), improving the crash records system, and improving pedestrian safety. A Multi-Agency Safety Team (MAST) has been established to track implementation of the Comprehensive Strategic Highway Safety Improvement Plan (CSHSIP). Dave Tomaswick also provided a brief discussion of recent District-level safety planning efforts. SPC and the TOSS look forward to getting more involved in regional safety planning as these initiatives progress.
- Kirk Brethauer discussed the possibility of establishing a regional GIS layer(s) for ITS field devices. The GIS layer(s) could help improve awareness of ITS deployments that have already taken place in the region and could provide a mechanism for the TOSS to discuss areas that are desirable for future ITS system expansion. Dominic Munizza indicated that PennDOT has information readily available that could be used to establish this regional GIS layer.
- Doug Smith provided an outline of SPC's proposed regional traffic signal program. This pilot project will include developing outreach materials to explain the benefits of traffic signal maintenance and operations, developing a regional

technical assistance program to help municipalities identify traffic signal needs and opportunities, and designing a regional capital improvement program that would designate a portion of transportation funds for traffic signal improvement projects. This pilot program is part of SPC's proposed Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) for FY 2006-07. SPC will be developing the RFP and scope of work for this project soon and is looking for input and feedback from the TOSS.

- The next meeting of the TOSS is tentatively scheduled for late July - early August. Possible topics for discussion include modifications to the regional CMP network, finalizing the scope and timeline for the regional traffic signal program, identifying and mapping desirable locations for future ITS system expansion, establishing a regional safety review initiative program, and development of a Regional Operations Plan. Subsequent meetings of the TOSS are anticipated to be held quarterly.

ACTION ITEMS

- SPC will contact PennDOT regarding initiation of the ROP.
- PennDOT Districts will provide information (type of device, latitude, longitude) to SPC related to existing ITS deployments.
- SPC will continue to develop the CMP web site toward an anticipated launch date in June-July 2006.
- SPC will develop RFP and scope of work for regional traffic signal program.
- TOSS participants will provide feedback/input to SPC related to the CMP web site design, regional traffic signal program scope of work, and future discussion topics and focus areas for the TOSS.