

## **SPC Transportation Operations & Safety Committee**

**Wednesday, March 26, 2008, 10:00AM**

**Regional Enterprise Tower, 23<sup>rd</sup> Floor, A.E. Hunt Room**

### **ATTENDEES**

Amanda Broadwater, City of Pittsburgh	Lucinda Beattie, PDP
Anthony Castellone, PBS&J	Frank Cippel, PennDOT District 11-0
Dominic D'Andrea, SPC	Robb Dean, PennDOT District 12-0
Rachel Duda, PennDOT District 12-0	Jim Hunt, FHWA
Duane McKee, Cranberry Township	Carol Uminski, SPC
Tom Klevan, SPC	Paul Koza, PennDOT District 10-0
Jeff Raykes, Indiana County Planning	Dave Kundrat, GAI Consultants
Lynn Manion, Airport Corridor TMA	Brenda Murphy, PennDOT BHSTE
Liz Nahm, Oakland TMA	Chuck DiPietro, SPC
Darryl Phillips, PB	Doug Smith, SPC
Melissa McFeaters, PennDOT District 10-0	Dave Wohlwill, Port Authority of ALCO

### **MEETING SUMMARY**

- Following introductions, David Wohlwill provided an overview of the Port Authority's Transit Development Plan (TDP), which is part of their Connect '09 initiative. The TDP will study current Port Authority operations and identify potential ways to improve service and better match current demand within existing fiscal constraints. The TDP will also strive to better integrate bus service with the Port Authority's other modes and with neighboring systems. Port Authority currently has 187 different bus routes with a daily ridership of approximately 240,000-250,000. Port Authority has created a website for the TDP at: <http://tdp.portauthority.org/paac/>.
- The Committee discussed the state of current communications and ITS capabilities between transit providers and the Regional Traffic Management Center (RTMC) and amongst the different transit service providers. Coordination between Port Authority and the RTMC often occurs during major events or large incidents, but could be enhanced on a day-to-day basis. There currently is no coordinated dispatch between transit agencies. Informal discussions have taken place regarding potential communications and data sharing, but no formal studies have been completed to date. Statewide 511 and the regional "smart card" system being considered are two potential opportunities to integrate information and promote data sharing.
- Jim Hunt provided an overview presentation on FHWA's Traffic Incident Management Self-Assessment, which is updated annually for the 75 largest urban areas in the United States. Jim explained that the self-assessment is a tool that regions can use to gauge progress on incident management goals. In recent years, FHWA and PennDOT District 11-0 have worked together to complete the self-assessment for the Pittsburgh area. This year, surveys were e-mailed to a wider audience including Districts 10-0 and 12-0. Results of the survey feedback

will be discussed at a 1:00PM workshop following the Operations & Safety Committee meeting.

- Domenic D'Andrea recapped the International Municipal Signal Association (IMSA) training that was hosted by SPC in March. There were approximately 40 attendees for the Work Zone Traffic Control and Signal Technician Level I courses. Feedback from the attendees was very positive. SPC intends to host additional training courses in the near future.
- Domenic also provided an update on the regional traffic signal program, including progress on the development of an asset management framework and a proposed program structure for SPC to assist municipalities with retiming and minor signal upgrade projects.
- The Committee discussed various aspects of the proposed program including how to provide incentive to municipalities to participate without penalizing municipalities that are investing their own funds and doing a good job of maintaining their signal systems. A suggestion was made that perhaps a system of "operations credits" could be established that would give a higher priority to other candidate projects in that area. The Agility Program was also suggested as a potential mechanism for developing an arrangement between PennDOT, SPC, and the local municipalities.
- Other discussion topics included the need to conduct public outreach to generate support, the need to do specialized outreach to distressed communities, the need to develop standards for consistency between signals, the need to consider various communications options for different signal systems, the fact that signals are not part of the liquid fuels funding formula, investigating ADA requirements as they relate to signal upgrades, and the need to build accountability measures in to ensure that signal investments are maintained.
- Doug Smith provided an update on the regional Congestion Management Process. Corridor data collected in the Fall 2007 cycle is currently being analyzed and will be available on SPC's website soon. The Spring 2008 data collection cycle is currently underway.
- SPC is currently working to enhance the CMP data for each corridor by adding a park-n-ride utilization summary and crash analyses, which can serve as a measure of non-recurring congestion in the corridor.
- CMP Work Group meetings are underway. The Butler County-Allegheny County North Hills meeting was held in February and the Indiana area meeting was held in March. SPC intends to hold one meeting in each of the 10 work group areas on an annual basis. The next meeting will be for the Westmoreland County-Eastern Allegheny County area. It will be held at the Monroeville Municipal Building on Thursday, April 10<sup>th</sup> at 1:00PM. The Beaver County-Lawrence County work group will meet on May 9<sup>th</sup>.
- SPC is working to schedule FHWA's Safety Considerations in Urban Streetscaping course and NHI's Road Safety Audits/Assessments course. SPC's Operations & Safety program for FY08-09 will have a heavy emphasis on safety.
- The next meeting of the regional Transportation Operations & Safety Committee is tentatively scheduled for June 24, 2008. Committee participants are encouraged to submit potential agenda topics for future meetings.