

Meeting Minutes for January 17, 2013
Transportation Technical Committee Meeting
SPC Offices
Two Chatham Center
Downtown Pittsburgh

Attendees:

- Sally Conklin Armstrong County
- Steve Shanley, Allegheny County Dept of Public Works
- James Camp, Beaver County
Tammy Frank, Beaver County
- Arthur Cappella, Fayette County
- Jeremy Kelly, Greene County
- Jeff Grim, Indiana County
- Amy McKinney, Lawrence County
- Pat Hassett, City of Pittsburgh
- Jeff Leithauser, Washington County Planning Commission
- Chris Bova, Westmoreland County Planning Department
- Kevin McCullough, PennDOT Central Office
Matt Smoker, FHWA, PA Division
Brian Allen, PennDOT District 10-0
Dave Cook, PennDOT District 10-0
Kathy Reeger, PennDOT District 10-0
Mohammed Alam PennDOT District 10-0
Dan Cessna PennDOT District 11-0
Cheryl Moon-Sirianni, PennDOT District 11-0
Rob Miskanic, PennDOT District 11-0
John Quatman, PennDOT District 11-0
Michael Zimmerman, PennDOT District 11-0
Edwin Ejikeme, PennDOT District 11-0
Jeremy Shaneyfelt, PennDOT District 12-0 (via conference call)
Lynn Manion, Airport Corridor Transportation Management Association
Amy Mathieson, Airport Corridor Transportation Management Association
Mavis Rainey, Oakland Transportation Management Area
Lachelle Birion, Oakland Transportation Management Area
Lucinda Beattie, Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership
J.D. Fogarty, Port of Pittsburgh
Darin Alviano, SPC Staff
Domenic D'Andrea, SPC Staff
Chuck DiPietro, SPC Staff
Ryan Gordon, SPC Staff
Chuck Imbrogno, SPC Staff
Matt Pavlosky, SPC Staff
Doug Smith, SPC Staff
Sara Walfoort, SPC Staff
- (Indicates Voting Member)

Chuck DiPietro called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. and reviewed the agenda for the meeting.

1. December 2012 TTC Meeting Minutes (Attachment A)

The December meeting minutes were approved with no revisions.

2. Public Comment

No comments.

3. Action to Recommend Commission Approval of Revised SPC Urban Boundary & Functional Classification per 2010 Census Outputs – Handout 1

Doug Smith recapped progress to-date on the update of SPC's urban boundary and regional functional classification as follow-up to the 2010 Census. Doug reviewed the meetings that were recently held in each of the PennDOT Districts to review the urban boundary and functional classification revisions. Doug reviewed Handout 1, which detailed the adjusted urban area in each county, a table showing the road segments that were either downgraded or upgraded in their functional class, and maps showing the functional class modifications by county. Doug requested that the TTC members review the changes for their respective areas with their SPC commissioners in preparation for the January 28th Commission meeting. Doug reviewed a few areas specifically noting why a change had been made. Art Cappella asked if there had been any changes in the urban boundary since the last county meeting. Doug noted that PennDOT District 12-0 had reviewed the boundaries, but no changes had been made.

The TTC motioned and unanimously approved and recommended the SPC urban boundary and functional classification revisions to the full Commission.

4. Action on Amendments and Modifications to the 2011 to 2014 TIP

The current administrative action and amendment procedures guidance are attached following these meeting minutes.

a.) PennDOT District 10-0 (Attachment B)

Dave Cook of PennDOT District 10-0 reviewed the requested administrative actions to the current TIP. District 10-0 had 10 amendment requests to the current TIP.

Dave Cook explained that in anticipation of new state funding, the District was adding several new projects to the current TIP for preliminary engineering. Some of the new projects were added from deobligated funds and surplus TIP funds from low bid savings.

Dave detailed the fact that these new projects were required to replenish the future inventory of construction phases and to continue to address highway and structurally deficient bridges.

The TTC motioned and unanimously approved the PennDOT District 10-0 Administrative action requests to the current TIP.

b.) PennDOT District 11-0 (Attachment C)

Rob Miskanic of PennDOT District 11-0 reviewed the requested administrative actions to the current TIP. District 11-0 had no amendment requests.

Rob noted 17 new start projects that were being started from a statewide line item with 100% state funds as additional TIP funds to the region.

The TTC motioned and unanimously approved the PennDOT District 11-0 administrative action requests to the current TIP.

c.) PennDOT District 12-0 (Attachment D)

Jeremy Shaneyfelt of PennDOT District 12-0 reviewed the requested amendment and administrative actions to the current TIP. District 12-0 had no amendment requests this month.

The TTC unanimously approved the PennDOT District 12-0 amendments and administrative action requests to the TIP.

5. 2015-2018 TIP Update Development Process (Attachment E)

a.) Development of a Procedural Framework

Chuck DiPietro reviewed some of the key developments in the preparation for the 2015 TIP. Chuck noted that development of a procedural framework for the TIP work group meetings is underway. The PennDOT District and SPC staffs are meeting to discuss an early version of the framework. The framework will be completed in advance of the first round of TIP work sessions. Chuck noted that previous TTC meetings have included presentations on the key focus areas for the TIP update and a detailed draft timeline of TIP development milestones.

b.) Schedule for Round 1 of TIP Work Sessions

Chuck reviewed the schedule for the first round of TIP meetings.

- District 10-0 – Wednesday, April 3rd 10:00 a.m.
(District 10-0 Office)
- District 11-0 – Tuesday, April 9th 10:00 a.m.
(District 11-0 Office)
- District 12-0 – Monday, April 8th 1:30 p.m.
(District 12-0 Office)

c.) January 22, 2013 PennDOT Financial Guidance Work Group

Chuck DiPietro reviewed the preliminary agenda for the upcoming PennDOT Financial Guidance Work Group. The preliminary agenda includes:

- State Revenue Future
- Federal Revenue Assumptions
- MAP-21 Transportation Alternatives Program
- HSIP Priorities

Chuck offered to be a messenger to this work group meeting on any comments/questions that the TTC may have in these areas. The Financial Guidance Work Group's primary charge is to develop the recommended statewide fund distribution for the next TIP update. Dan Cessna noted that he is one of two PennDOT District Executives that are part of the work group. Dan added that there is a possibility that some of the funding distribution formulas may be revisited, having last been revised in 2005. Dan also noted that the work group will be discussing the increase in HSIP funding and more selective criteria. Chuck added that SPC is proposing a new program in next year's UPWP with regard to safety planning and possible input to HSIP.

6. Additional Highlights from the Annual Planning Partners Conference

Chuck DiPietro reviewed two additional presentations from the October PennDOT Annual Planning Partners Meeting: "Highway Safety Manual" and "Performance and Asset-based Planning." Doug Smith noted that the highway safety manual helps to predict crash rate with certain counter measures, however it is much more difficult when several counter measures are combined in one project. Pat Hassett asked if the Highway Safety Manual is available. Doug stated that the three volume set costs \$350 and SPC has one copy.

7. Other Business

a.) FHWA/PennDOT Central Office Reports

Kevin McCullough reported that the new PE phases of projects that the TTC approved today will help to position the Districts to move the increase in state funds expected with an expected announcement from the Governor on TFAC funding in the next two months. Recently, Secretary Schoch has been openly optimistic that there will be some movement

soon on the TFAC recommendations for new transportation funding. The Governor has recently indicated that there will be a detailed proposal forthcoming on transportation infrastructure funding. Kevin characterized it as a question of when, not if. Kevin noted there are still a lot of questions on the details, such as public transit, Act 44, and project distribution. Kevin did note that the Districts are busy updating their “Decade of Investment” lists, which are expected to be eligible for the increased state revenue. Steve Shanley asked if the legislation moving through the state legislature includes an updated bridge bill. Kevin replied that he is hopeful a bridge bill/capital budget authority list will be part of a comprehensive transportation infrastructure bill that comes out of the legislature.

Matt Smoker noted that new draft regulations regarding MAP-21 implementation will be published for public comment in the next three months in the Federal Register. Once the draft regulations are released, Matt will notify Chuck and Kevin. Matt stated the final regulations are expected to be published in summer of 2014. New Federal freight data was recently released through the new FAF data, which includes 2040 projections. Matt stated that FHWA will soon be issuing guidance on the HSIP allocations. Matt stated that he is working on tentative dates for the regional Federal certification review of the region’s transportation planning process. Matt suggested that the final day of the certification review could include a concurrent session with the TTC/TOC. Chuck DiPietro stressed that the certification is a regional review including all partner agencies involved in our regional transportation planning process. Matt noted that it is an opportunity to highlight and share some best practices, including some from this region.

b.) PA Act 13 Guidance (Attachment E)

Chuck DiPietro pointed to Attachment E, which was Guidance on Act 13 that establishes a Marcellus Legacy fund allocating a portion of the Marcellus impact fee to the highway bridge improvement restricted account in the Motor License Fund. These funds are distributed to counties (proportionally based on population) and are to be used to fund the replacement or repair of locally owned (county or municipal), at risk deteriorated bridges. Kevin McCullough noted that counties should start to compile lists of potential projects in order to get these projects approved through PennDOT as eligible for Act 13 funds. If there are any further question contact SPC staff. Dave Cook asked if the funds should be listed as a local code on the fiscal constraint chart. Rob Miskanic asked if a line item should be put on the TIP and then drawn down. Kevin noted that he will work with the District Programming Units to determine how to proceed on some of these consistency questions.

Kevin emphasized that the funds are County funds, and we are simply using the TIP as the way to track where the Act 13 funds were spent. Kevin noted that a FAQs document will be developed and provided to the TTC. Jeff noted that the first payments have already gone out to Counties. Art Cappella asked how information regarding the Act 13 process will be shared with the municipalities. He suggested sharing the guidance and

FAQs at the upcoming PPP meetings. Matt Pavlosky stated that could certainly be worked into the agendas of future PPP meetings.

c.) SPC's Livability through Smart Transportation Program

Chuck DiPietro reviewed the development of the Livability through Smart Transportation Program noting that Lew Villotti, program administrator, provided a detailed PowerPoint presentation at the December TTC. Chuck noted that Lew will soon be conducting outreach to each of the member planning departments to solicit project candidates. Chris Bova asked if these projects will be listed on the 2015 TIP. Chuck stated that individual projects will be listed on the 2015 TIP, after screening of candidates and project selection.

d.) Pending Turnpike Request to Amend TIP & LRP to include Southern Beltway Extension east to I-79.

Chuck provided a brief update on the pending Turnpike request to amend the TIP/LRP to include the Southern Beltway Extension. Chuck noted that SPC staff has been coordinating with PTC representatives on both the financial plan review and the air quality conformity requirements. The public comment period is anticipated to begin in March. Commission consideration of action is tentatively scheduled for April 29th.

e.) Road Safety Audits

Doug Smith highlighted the next scheduled Road Safety Audits:

March 26-28 – SR 136 in Westmoreland County

Doug noted that this location will be much different because it is an approximately 20 miles in length.

April 9-11 – SR 954 in Indiana Borough and White Township, Indiana County

f.) The Link

Ryan Gordon reviewed Attachment F, which was a recent PennDOT newsletter on the Linking Planning and NEPA initiative. Ryan highlighted the coming upgrades in the LPN website, which will now include better mapping capabilities. Ryan also mentioned the

presentation and discussion on LPN planning for transit that took place at the December TOC.

g.) SPC Regional Freight Conference

Sara Walfoort announced the date for the SPC Regional Freight Conference is April 12, 2013. Sara noted that if any of the TTC members have a suggestion for content at this conference to please contact her. Sara noted that rail freight Public Private Partnerships is one likely topic.

h.) January 10th – CommuteInfo Partners Meeting

Chuck DiPietro highlighted the recent CommuteInfo Partners Meeting. Chuck reviewed some of the statistics associated with the growth in the regional vanpool program (vans up 29% and ridership up 67%).

i.) February 20th – TOC meeting

j.) January 28th & February 25th – Commission meetings

k.) February 14th – TTC meeting