

Meeting Minutes for October 8, 2015
Transportation Technical Committee Meeting
SPC Offices

Two Chatham Center, Pittsburgh

Attendees:

- Ann Ogoreuc, Allegheny County Department of Economic Development
Steve Shanley, Allegheny Department of Public Works
Steve Shadle, Allegheny Department of Public Works / Consultant (McGwire Group)
- Tom Swisher, Armstrong County Department of Planning and Development
- Arthur Cappella, Fayette County Zoning, Planning and Community Development
- Jeremy Kelly, Greene County Planning Commission
- Jeff Raykes, Indiana County Department of Planning and Development
- Amy McKinney, Lawrence County Planning and Community Development
- Pat Hassett, Pittsburgh Department of Public Works
- Chris Bova, Westmoreland County Department of Planning and Development
- Jeffrey Leithauser, Washington County Planning Commission
- * Kevin McCullough, PennDOT Central Office
Matt Smoker, Federal Highway Administration
* Dave Cook, PennDOT District 10-0
* Kathy Reeger, PennDOT District 10-0
* Cheryl Moon-Sirianni, PennDOT District 11-0
* Robert Miskanic, PennDOT District 11-0
* Stephanie Spang, PennDOT District 11-0
* John Quatman, PennDOT District 11-0
* Rachel Duda, PennDOT District 12-0
* Angela Saunders, PennDOT District 12-0
* Josh Theakston, PennDOT District 12-0
Mavis Rainey, Oakland Transportation Management Association
Jina O'Neil, Oakland Transportation Management Association
Joan Stein, Oakland For All / Stein Consulting
Amy Mathieson, Airport Corridor Transportation Association
Lucinda Beattie, Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership
Sara Hansel, Fisher Associates
Martin Kaminsky, Urban Redevelopment Authority of Pittsburgh
Jim Hassinger, SPC Executive Director
Doug Smith, SPC Transportation Director
Andy Waple, SPC Staff
Darin Alviano, SPC Staff
Matt Pavlosky, SPC Staff
Dominic D'Andrea, SPC Staff
Chuck Imbrogno, SPC Staff
Ryan Gordon, SPC Staff
Tom Klevan, SPC Staff
Leann Chaney, SPC Staff
- Indicates voting member
- * Participated via phone

1. Call to Order

Doug Smith called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

2. Action on the September 17th Minutes (Handout 1)

A motion was made by Art Cappella and seconded by Tom Swisher to accept the September 17th TTC meeting minutes as presented. The TTC approved.

3. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

4. FHWA/PennDOT Central Office Reports

Matt Smoker, Kevin McCullough and Doug Smith informed TTC members of FHWA and Central Office activities.

As a result of not having an approved state budget for the year, the Statewide Fall Planning Partners Conference to be held in State College on October 14-16 was cancelled. PennDOT staff has travel restrictions allowing them only to travel for critical issues. A statewide Financial Guidance conference call is to be held on Thursday, October 15 in place of the conference.

The PennDOT Office of Public-Private Partnerships will be accepting unsolicited proposals for transportation projects from the private sector through October 31. The submission period applies to PennDOT-owned projects and infrastructure. During this period, the private sector can submit proposals offering innovative ways to deliver transportation projects across a variety of modes including roads, bridges, rail, aviation and ports. Proposals can also include more efficient models to manage existing transportation-related services and programs

PennDOT will be accepting applications on October 3, 2015, for funding transportation improvement projects under the Multimodal Transportation Fund. PennDOT will evaluate the applications and make selections based on criteria such as safety benefits, regional economic conditions, the technical and financial feasibility, job creation, energy efficiency, and operational sustainability. PennDOT has \$40 million in grants available for fiscal year 2016-17. Applications are due by December 18, 2015. PennDOT expects to announce grant recipients early next year for the funding that becomes available in July 2016.

Congress averted a government shutdown by passing a continuing resolution the day before appropriations ran out. The short-term continuing resolution will fund the government until December 11th. Lawmakers now have about nine weeks to negotiate a longer-term budget solution to prevent another potential shutdown crisis in December.

There is a continuing resolution for MAP-21 until October 29th. FHWA expects another short-term resolution extending MAP-21 through the current budget which ends December 11th. There is no anticipation of the House moving forward with a

long-term bill. The Senate has passed the Drive Act which is a six-year policy bill and provides funding for three years.

US DOT is working with other Federal Agencies regarding MAP-21 Rule Making on Performance Measures. Final Rules will possibly come out in December.

5. Mapping the Future at www.spcregion.org/2040

Doug Smith informed the group that a video has been added to the SPC website highlighting the region's Long Range Plan "Mapping the Future: The Southwestern PA Plan". The video can be viewed at the above link.

Mr. Smith also added clarification to questions SPC has received concerning the Regional Transportation Alliance (RTA) and how it relates to the region's Long Range Plan. Doug stated that the RTA's development of a list of long range transportation projects is separate from SPC and the MPO process. The region's Long Range Transportation Plan, "Mapping the Future: The Southwestern PA Plan," outlines identified transportation projects that fit within fiscal constraint requirements of federal and state planning guidelines. In addition, there are approximately sixty additional projects identified in the plan that are consistent with the plan but do not currently have funding identified. The plan suggests that additional regional conversation will be needed about how to fund these projects so they may be included within fiscal constraints. The RTA effort is being led by the Allegheny Conference and is expected to investigate alternatives for raising additional revenue for transportation.

6. Action on Modifications to 2015-2018 TIP (Handout 2)

A. PennDOT District 10-0

Dave Cook of PennDOT District 10-0 reviewed the requested TIP modifications. There were three administrative actions requiring TTC action (as highlighted within Handout 3). Jeff Raykes' motion to approve was seconded by Tom Swisher and the TTC approved the modifications as presented.

B. PennDOT District 11-0

Rob Miskanic of PennDOT District 11-0 reviewed the requested TIP modifications. There were two amendments requiring TTC action (as highlighted within Handout 3). Ann Ogoreuc's motion to approve was seconded by Art Cappella and the TTC approved the modifications as presented.

C. PennDOT District 12-0

District 12-0 had no TIP modification requests that required TTC action

7. 2017 TIP Update

A. Upcoming TIP Work Group Meetings

Round 2 Work Groups are scheduled as follows:

- Fayette, Greene, Washington, & Westmoreland – October 22nd at District 12-0
- Armstrong, Butler, & Indiana – October 27th at District 10-0
- Allegheny, City of Pittsburgh, Beaver, & Lawrence – TBD
 - Work Group meeting was originally scheduled for October 29th at SPC but due to PennDOT travel restrictions the meeting will need to be rescheduled for a different date at PennDOT District 11-0

B. Financial Guidance

Doug Smith provided an update on TIP financial guidance, which has not been finalized. There was a conference call yesterday and another is scheduled for next week; financial guidance is expected to be finalized at that time. The statewide conference call next week is in lieu of the meeting that was supposed to take place at the statewide Planning Partners conference. Total regional highway and bridge funding for the 2017 TIP is expected to be down by approximately \$130M.

Revenues from Act 89 are not as high as originally projected. In addition, the amount being taken off the top for state police greatly increases over the four-year TIP period.

C. TAP Update (Handout 3)

Andy Waple provided a status update for SPC's TAP program. The application period is open until October 19th. Handout 3 identified a list of potential deliverability issues that the CMAQ Evaluation Committee is using to assess deliverability of CMAQ projects. SPC intends to use the same list for evaluating the deliverability of TAP projects. At the last TTC meeting it was decided that the TTC voting membership, in consultation with PennDOT and the TMAs, will score the TAP projects for deliverability rather than establishing a separate subcommittee. Prior to the November TTC a Survey Monkey link will be sent out so voting members can rate applications based on project deliverability.

D. CMAQ Update

Andy Waple provided a status update for the CMAQ program. Staff is currently scoring applications. SPC received thirty-four applications requesting \$96M. Applications included one Pedestrian/Bicycle project, three Transportation Demand Management projects, and thirty Traffic Flow projects. The next CMAQ Evaluation Committee (CEC) meeting is scheduled for October 21st. At that time the CEC will be reviewing the preliminary Air Quality and Ancillary Factor scores for the candidate projects, as well as discussing the methodology that will be used for scoring project deliverability.

8. Oakland For All – Mavis Rainey, OTMA

Mavis Rainey provided a history and overview of Oakland For All – Beyond Accessible. Back in the Spring of 2014 a group called Accessible Oakland made

unfavorable posts to Facebook highlighting challenges of getting into a number of local businesses in Oakland and how no changes have been made over the past twenty years. The Oakland Business Improvement District engaged OTMA and others to discuss this matter. In response the Oakland For All – Beyond Accessible was created.

Initiatives for the Oakland For All program include:

- Be an advocate for the creation of user-friendly buildings, commercial establishments, public spaces and communities
- Raise the public’s awareness of accessibility in our society – thinking ADA and beyond
- Help improve the quality of lives for people with disabilities
- Eliminate barriers faced by people with disabilities at Oakland’s business establishments
- Transform Oakland into a model community that can be replicated in the greater Pittsburgh area and potentially throughout the country

Mavis mentioned as a kick off to the Oakland For All – Beyond Accessible initiative, a Ramp Crawl event was organized in May and coincided with the National Council on Disability’s annual meeting in Pittsburgh. The purpose of the Ramp Crawl was to educate business owners about how to welcome all who live, work, and visit Oakland.

A. ADA Accessibility – Joan Stein

Mavis Rainey introduced Joan Stein, President of Stein Consulting LLC. She has twenty-five years of ADA consultant experience and has been a member of Oakland For All since its inception. Joan shared her expertise and experiences she has had with local businesses in the Oakland area and ADA compliance.

9. SR 68 / SR 528 Operations & Safety Assessment

Dom D’Andrea discussed the SR 68 / SR 528 OSA that was completed this past summer.

General info about OSA's:

- SPC’s OSA’s are a hybrid between traditional corridor studies and the Road Safety Audit process
- SPC intends to complete these along regionally significant/high growth corridors identified during the Regional Operations Plan (ROP) process
- Holistic approach without a lot of computer analyses or modeling that looks at how operations and safety impact one another along a corridor
- Identified improvements are geared toward both short term and long term alternatives that can be incorporated into the LRTP, TIP, and maintenance activities

SR 68/SR 528 OSA:

- Safety successes were identified
- Short and medium term suggestions were made related to signage, pavement markings, signals, sight distance, rail crossing improvements, passing zones, etc.
- Longer term suggestions were made related to:
 - SR 68/SR 356 intersection alignment and capacity
 - SR 68/SR 528 intersection capacity
 - Access management and new internal roadway connections from Butler Township to Connoquenessing
 - New typical roadway sections that include widening and multi-modal accommodation
 - Collaboration among all stakeholders to create a vision for the corridor

10. Other Business/Status Reports

Doug Smith and staff highlighted recent and upcoming meetings below.

A. October 14 – Transit Operators Committee

Highlights from TOC Meeting:

- Washington County Transportation Authority – “Freedom Transit” - New Facility and Consolidation of Washington County Transportation Authority and Washington City Transit
- Town and Country Transit Technical Assistance
- Freight Plan
- Active Transportation Plan
- Final FFY2015 Sub-Allocation of FTA Urban Area Formula (Section 5307) Funds for the Pittsburgh, Monessen and Uniontown Urbanized Areas
- Recent information on the use of GIS in transit planning including accessibility analysis, asset management and safety and security planning applications

I. Port Authority ConnectCard Implementation Status

Status of Each Participant

- **Fayette Area Coordinated Transportation** – Full launch in November
- **Mid Mon Valley Transit Authority** – Full launch possibly after first of the year
- **Butler Transit Authority** – Not quite ready for full launch – still working on reporting, and interface with PAAC “back office”
- **Westmoreland County Transit Authority** – Launch scheduled for late spring
- **Washington City Transit**– The sales and probing/back office equipment still needs installed in the new location.

Port Authority of Allegheny County has distributed approximately 456,000 Connectcards so far.

- B. October 14-16 – Statewide Planning Partners Conference – Cancelled*
- C. October 18-20 – PA Chapter of the APA 2015 Annual Conference*
- D. October 21 – CMAQ Evaluation Committee Meeting #2*
- E. October 29 – Transportation Operations and Safety Committee*
- F. November 12 – Transportation Technical Committee Meeting*