

**Meeting Minutes for September 21, 2017**  
**Transportation Technical Committee**  
**SPC Conference Center**  
**Two Chatham Center, Pittsburgh PA 15219**

## Attendees:

- Stephen Shanley, Allegheny County Department of Public Works
- Tom Swisher, Armstrong County Department of Planning and Development
- Mark Gordon, Butler County Planning Commission  
Joel MacKay, Butler County Planning Commission
- Arthur Cappella, Fayette County Zoning, Planning and Community Development
- Jeremy Kelly, Greene County Planning Commission
- Josh Krug, Indiana County Office of Planning and Development
- Jeff Skalican, City of Pittsburgh Department of Mobility & Infrastructure  
Mike Behun, City of Pittsburgh Department of Mobility & Infrastructure
- Daniel Carpenter, Westmoreland County Department of Planning and Development  
Seth Koons, Westmoreland County Department of Planning and Development
- Jeffrey Leithauer, Washington County Planning Commission
- Ed Typanski, Port Authority of Allegheny County
- Kevin McCullough, PennDOT Central Office  
Gavin Gray, PennDOT Central Office \*
- Matt Smoker, Federal Highway Administration  
Dave Cook, PennDOT District 10-0  
Rob Miskanic, PennDOT District 11-0  
Angela Saunders, PennDOT District 12-0  
Josh Theakston, PennDOT District 12-0  
Lynn Manion, Airport Corridor Transportation Association  
Lucinda Beattie, Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership  
Mavis Rainey, Oakland Transportation Management Association  
Steve Shadle, CDR Maguire  
Vico Innocenti, Fischer Associates  
David Beechy, GHD  
Dr. James Hassinger, SPC President & Chief Executive Officer  
Doug Smith, SPC Transportation Director  
Andy Waple, SPC Staff  
Darin Alviano, SPC Staff  
Tom Klevan, SPC Staff  
Ryan Gordon, SPC Staff  
Dom D'Andrea, SPC Staff  
Dan Alwine, SPC Staff  
Josh Spano, SPC Staff  
Abby Stark, SPC Staff  
Kristin Baum, SPC Staff  
Dan Bernazzoli, SPC Staff
- Indicates voting member
- \* Participated via phone

**1. Call to Order**

Doug Smith called the meeting to order at 10 am.

**2. Action on the August 17<sup>th</sup> Meeting Minutes (Handout 1)**

A motion was made by Jeremy Kelly and second by Jeff Leithauser to accept the August 17<sup>th</sup> TTC meeting minutes as presented. The TTC approved.

**3. Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**4. FHWA/PennDOT Central Office Reports**

*A. August Redistribution – Federal-Aid Highway Program Obligation Limitation*

Kevin McCullough noted that Pennsylvania received approximately \$154 million in federal funding redistribution. The SPC region received approximately \$34.9M. The funding is from what the Federal Highway Administration calls its "August redistribution," an annual budgeting practice under which the agency shifts federal funding authority out of accounts that are not on course to use up their allotted "obligation limitation" for the year and redirects it to where state recipients are ready to use it.

*B. FFY Spending Level Extension and Impact on FAST Act Increase*

<https://news.transportation.org/Pages/090817extend.aspx>

Kevin McCullough noted that President Trump and congressional leaders from both political parties agreed to extend current fiscal 2017 spending levels past Sept. 30 to Dec. 8, avoiding a government shutdown over agency funding but delaying at least until that time the scheduled fiscal 2018 increase in federal highway funding.

*C. Local Bridge Bundling Program (Handout 2)*

Kevin McCullough highlighted the Frequently Asked Questions for the Local Bridge Bundling Program. If anybody has any further questions they can contact Kevin.

*D. FHWA Performance Measures (Handout 3)*

<https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/tpm/>

Matt Smoker discussed performance measures. He highlighted the handout that was provided that summarizes the federal performance priorities, measures, criteria, thresholds, and penalties.

**5. Action on Modifications to 2017-2020 TIP (Handout 4)**

*A. PennDOT District 10-0*

Dave Cook reviewed the requested TIP modifications. There was one amendment and four administrative actions requiring TTC action (as highlighted in Handout 4).

The amendment request was to add to the TIP the "Lockvale Bridge" replacement project for PE in the amount of \$250K (100% Federal utilizing toll credits). The funds

to cover this request are available from the following sources:

- **SPC District 10 Highway/Bridge Line Item: \$53,383**
- **Newport Road Bridge #3: \$129,600 from low bid savings**
- **SR 4012 Group Bridges: \$42,480 from the utility phase; no utility funding is needed on this project**
- **Indiana Local Bridge Line Item: \$24,537**

Subsequent phases are to be added to the Draft 2019-2022 TIP.

Tom Swisher made a motion to approve the “Lockvale Bridge” replacement project amendment request along with the four administrative actions. Jeff Leithauser seconded the motion, 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 five administrative modifications requiring TTC action (as highlighted in Handout 4). Arthur Cappella made a motion to approve, which was seconded by Jeremy Kelly, and the TTC approved the modifications as presented.

#### *C. PennDOT District 12-0*

Angela Saunders reviewed the requested TIP modifications. There were two administrative actions requiring TTC action (as highlighted in Handout 4). Jeff Leithauser made a motion to approve, which was seconded by Art Cappella, and the TTC approved the modifications as presented.

### **6. Amendment Requests to LRP and TIP**

Doug Smith informed everyone that the Commission will be taking action at their upcoming meeting on September 25<sup>th</sup> concerning the Downtown-Uptown-Oakland-East End Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Project and Smart Spines (ATCMTD) Project TIP and LRP amendment requests.

### **7. TIGER Program – Notice of Funding Opportunity**

<https://www.transportation.gov/tiger>

Doug Smith highlighted the current funding opportunity through TIGER. \$500M in discretionary grant funding is available this round. Doug has been reaching out to gather information on any applications from within the region that may be submitted this round. Westmoreland County and PennDOT District 12-0 have indicated an interest in pursuing funding through the program for the Laurel Valley project. There is a short application period. Applications are due on October 16<sup>th</sup>.

### **8. 2019 TIP Development**

#### *A. Highway TIP Work Groups Schedule*

- October 5<sup>th</sup> , November 6<sup>th</sup> – District 10-0

- October 11<sup>th</sup> , November 14<sup>th</sup> – District 12-0
- October 27<sup>th</sup> , November 29<sup>th</sup> – District 11-0

#### *B. Highway TIP Work Group Meeting Recaps & Previews*

Ryan Gordon discussed TIP update activities and reviewed key milestones for this TIP update. Ryan previewed items for the October TIP Work Group meetings which include:

- District Programming Unit carryover project cost/scope updates and analysis
- Review Central Office Investment Plan Guidance
- Review and Select Prequalified Candidate Projects

#### *C. CMAQ Program*

Andy Waple noted that the first meeting of the CMAQ Evaluation Committee (CEC) occurred on September 14<sup>th</sup>. The CMAQ program application period closed on September 8<sup>th</sup> and SPC received twenty-seven new candidate projects totaling \$134M in requests. Five projects were submitted within PennDOT District 10's area, nineteen projects within PennDOT District 11, and three projects within PennDOT District 12's area. Currently, SPC staff is coordinating with project sponsors to obtain additional information and/or clarify items contained within the applications. Also, scoring on air quality and ancillary selection factors has begun. The next meeting of the CEC is scheduled for October 19<sup>th</sup>, at 1PM, after TTC. At the meeting, the draft air quality and ancillary scores will be presented, and initiation of the project deliverability review will occur. The CEC will be responsible for reviewing and commenting on the deliverability of the candidate projects.

#### *D. TAP Program*

Andy Waple reminded all that the TAP application period closes tomorrow, September 22<sup>nd</sup>. For this TAP round SPC's program was rolled out in conjunction with PennDOT's, which is being administered through PennDOT's SharePoint site. Applicants must fill out both the PennDOT application and SPC's application within SharePoint. SPC has approximately \$3.6M available of TAP funds, while PennDOT has approximated \$55M. As of now there are seventeen applications from the SPC region in the TAP SharePoint site with a few more expected.

Darin Alviano gave an update on TAP projects and SMART projects currently on the TIP. Between the two programs there are twenty-four projects programmed. For the current year (FFY 2017), thirteen projects have funds programmed with eleven projects being fully obligated. These eleven projects, from a TIP programming perspective, were successfully delivered. The two projects that did not have funds

obligated may require programmatic changes due to unforeseen scheduling issues. Darin thanked the PennDOT District Program Managers for their cooperation and assistance in making sure local enhancement projects continue to advance through the TIP by making the necessary TIP modifications where warranted. Darin proceeded by quickly highlighting three successfully completed local enhancement projects.

#### *E. Local Project Delivery Workshops Recap*

Andy Waple highlighted the recent local project delivery workshops. Four workshops were held throughout the region, with at least one being held in each PennDOT District area. Workshop Topics Included:

- Project Sponsor Responsibilities
- Project Application Elements: Scope, Schedule, and Budget
- Tips for Navigating a Competitive Funding Environment
- State and Federal Program Application Periods; Procedures; Local Match Requirements; Sponsor Eligibility; and Project Eligibility

All workshops were well attended. SPC staff had encouraged potential TAP applicants to attend, which many did. SPC staff and PennDOT staff assisted local project sponsors with completing a PennDOT Connects Project Initiation Form for their TAP projects.

#### *F. Public Participation Panel Meetings (Handout 5)*

Doug Smith noted that the fall PPP meetings are a good opportunity for the public to hear about TIP Development progress. Meetings will be in a workshop format beginning with an informational presentation. The public will have opportunities to look at maps, ask questions, and talk to representatives from SPC, PennDOT, transit operators, and planning departments.

Meetings are schedule as follows:

- **October 24, 3:00 p.m., Armstrong County** Commissioners Conference Room
- **October 25, 3:00 p.m., Butler County** Government Center, 1st Floor, Public Meeting Room
- **October 30, 5:00 p.m., Westmoreland County** Courthouse, Commissioners Meeting Room
- **November 1, 3:30 p.m., Fayette County** Chamber of Commerce, Uniontown
- **November 6, 3:00 p.m., Indiana County PA CareerLink, 300 Indian Springs Road, Indiana**
- **November 7, 2:00 p.m., Greene County,** Greene County Office Building
- **November 8, 9:00 a.m., Lawrence County,** Gettings Annex, New Castle
- **November 9, 3:00 p.m., Washington County,** Courthouse Square Building, Room 103
- **November 13, 3:00 p.m., Allegheny County/City of Pittsburgh,** SPC Conference Center
- **November 15, 3:00 p.m., Beaver County** Courthouse, Commissioners Meeting Room,

## **9. PennDOT Central Office Safety Initiatives**

Gavin Gray of PennDOT Central Office gave an overview of PennDOT's safety initiatives which include:

- PA Strategic Highway Safety Plan

- Performance Management
- Highway Safety Improvement Program
- Safety Systems and Tools

PA Strategic Highway Safety Plan -This plan serves as a blueprint to reduce fatalities and serious injuries on Pennsylvania roadways and targets priority Safety Focus Areas (SFAs) that have the most influence on improving highway safety throughout the state. For each SFA, strategies and action items have been identified and apply to all public roads. Highway safety is a diverse and complex field. Motor vehicle crashes generally involve multiple contributing factors (human, roadway, environmental or vehicle), which means the approach to preventing crashes must be multidisciplinary in nature. Implementing strategies pertaining to the following seven categories throughout our Highway Safety Programs will have a high impact on reducing crashes:

- Engineering (highway planning, design, construction, operations, and maintenance)
- Education (driver training, citizen advocacy groups, educators, prevention specialists)
- Enforcement (high-visibility enforcement, state and local police agencies, targeted enforcement programs)
- Emergency Medical Services (first responders, paramedics, fire and rescue)
- Legislation\* (special interest committees, legislative representatives and staff, new/proposed safety laws)
- Marketing (communication, public outreach, media events, marketing campaigns)
- Technology (cutting edge vehicle technology, specialized equipment, tech-based solutions, ITS)

Performance Management - As part of the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21) a federal rule making (23 CFR 924) was established to enact new performance management requirements to ensure that State DOTs and Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO) choose the most efficient investments for Federal transportation funds. To address this, five performance measures to assess performance and carry out the Highway Safety Improvement Program were established:

- Number of fatalities
- Rate of fatalities per VMT
- Number of serious injuries
- Rate of serious injuries per VMT
- Number of combined non-motorized fatalities and non-motorized serious injuries

Highway Safety Improvement Program - The HSIP is a Federally-funded, State-administered program. Its goal is to achieve a significant reduction in fatalities and serious injuries on all public roads.

Safety Systems and Tools – PennDOT Crash Information Tool - Crash data and partnerships with law enforcement and other safety partners allows PennDOT to utilize enforcement, engineering and education to make Pennsylvania highways safer. Crash data involving drivers, passengers, and motor vehicles allows PennDOT to identify highway safety focus areas.

#### **10. Other Business / Status Reports**

Doug Smith provided a quick review/preview for previous and upcoming meetings.

- A. *September 25th – Southwestern PA Commission Executive Committee*
- B. *September 25th – Southwestern PA Commission*
- C. *October 19th – Transportation Technical Committee*
- D. *October 26th – Transportation Operations & Safety Forum*