

Meeting Minutes for June 19th, 2014
Transportation Technical Committee Meeting
SPC Offices
Two Chatham Center, Pittsburgh

Attendees:

- Ann Ogoreuc, Allegheny County Dept. of Economic Development
- Steve Shanley, Allegheny County Dept. of Public Works
- Chris Jaros, Armstrong County Dept. of Planning and Development
- Joel MacKay, Butler County Planning Commission
- Arthur Cappella, Fayette County Zoning, Planning and Community Development
- Jeremy Kelly, Greene County Planning Commission
- Crystal Simmons, Geene County Economic Development
- *Jeff Raykes, Indiana County Planning and Economic Development
- Amy McKinney, Lawrence County Dept. of Planning
- *Pat Hassett, City of Pittsburgh Dept. of Public Works
- Patrick Roberts, City of Pittsburgh Dept. of Planning
- Chris Bova, Westmoreland County Dept. of Planning and Development
- David Wohlwill, Port Authority
- Kevin McCullough, PennDOT Central Office
- Matt Smoker, Federal Highway Administration
- Dave Cook, PennDOT District 10-0
- Doug Dupnock, PennDOT District 10-0
- Kelsey Jones, PennDOT District 10-0
- Don Knieriem, PennDOT District 10-0
- Dan Cessna, PennDOT District 11-0
- Cheryl Moon-Sirianni, PennDOT District 11-0
- Stephanie Spang, PennDOT District 11-0
- John Quatman, PennDOT District 11-0
- Rachel Duda, PennDOT District 12-0
- Joshua Theakston, PennDOT District 12-0
- Angela, PennDOT District 12-0
- Mavis Rainey, Oakland Transportation Management Association
- Lynn Manion, Airport Corridor Transportation Association
- JD Fogarty, Port of Pittsburgh Commission
- Justin Wasser, Representative Erin Molchany Staff
- Chuck DiPietro, SPC Staff
- Sara Walfoort, SPC Staff
- Tom Klevan, SPC Staff
- Darin Alviano, SPC Staff
- Matt Pavlosky, SPC Staff
- Ryan Gordon, SPC Staff
- Doug Smith, SPC Staff
- Dominic D'Andrea, SPC Staff

- Indicates Voting Member
- * Participated by telephone

Chuck DiPietro called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. He notified attendees of changes to the preliminary agenda, which included: an addition of item 3b.vi. "Title 23 US Code Section 150 – National Goals and Performance Management Measures"; revisions to Districts 10-0 and 12-0 FCCs and Narratives; addition of TAP handout; and addition of item 7.i. "Northern Transportation & Air Quality Summit". It was announced that the meeting was being recorded for minute taking purposes only.

1. Action on June 19th Minutes (Attachment A)

Motion was made by Ann Ogoreuc and second by Amy McKinney to accept the May meeting minutes with no revisions. TTC approved.

2. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

3. FHWA/Central Office Reports

a. State Updates

Kevin McCullough and Chuck DiPietro shared updates on the below topics.

i. Senate Capital Budget Bills

The Senate has passed two bills, one for bridges and one for highways. The bills will require approval from the State Transportation Committee. It is recommended that Planning Departments work with their respective legislators to request any project of importance to be added to the Capital Budget list that is not currently listed. Planning Partners can verify already listed projects with their respective PennDOT District. Without having Capital Budget approval, projects cannot proceed. It was noted that the House still has to pass their version of the bills.

ii. Statewide 2015 TIP Rail-Highway Grade Crossing Program

The Rail-Highway Grade Crossing Program is a state managed program administered by PennDOT Central Office. Central Office with input from the Districts has developed a draft Statewide Program of Rail-Highway grade crossing projects for the 2015-18 STIP, consisting of carryover and new candidate projects. The draft list is currently being reviewed. Once a final list is approved, projects will be added to respective MPO/RPO TIPs.

iii. Act 26 Funding

Act 26 provides state funds to financially distressed counties to cover the local match required for transportation projects. As of July 1st, no further Act 26 allocation will be available. The balance of Act 26 funds that remain will be spent down to a zero balance. PennDOT will do its best to honor current agreements in place that identify Act 26 as a funding source. It was noted that in the final two years of the draft TIP all Act 26 funds were removed and replaced with other funds not yet identified. PennDOT and SPC will

work with those counties affected to resolve any funding issues.

In addition, Act 44 funds were discussed. Counties will no longer receive individual Act 44 funds for bridge maintenance activities. It is anticipated that county liquid fuels funds are to increase through Act 89 to replace the Act 44 funds. At this time. However, it is unknown which individual county liquid fuels allocations will be equal to, less than, or greater than the Act 44 funds that they were previously receiving. Future updates will be provided.

iv. **2013 SPC Performance Measures Annual Reports (Attachment B)**

PennDOT annual progress report for the SPC region was shared. The report measures performance of the highway system. Measures look at pavement and bridge conditions. Moving forward, it is anticipated this report will assist in establishing performance targets for the region, as required under MAP-21.

v. **[New 511PA Mobile Application](#)**

People traveling through Pennsylvania can now get better traffic information before and during a trip with PennDOT's new, free 511PA mobile application. The application, available for iPhone and Android devices, provides hands-free and eyes-free travel alerts for the nearly 40,000 miles of road that PennDOT maintains, the Pennsylvania Turnpike and select New Jersey and West Virginia roadways. Users can also check the application before they travel to view traffic speeds, cameras and travel alerts.

b. Federal Updates

Matt Smoker and Chuck DiPietro shared updates on the below topics.

i. **Transportation Reauthorization**

Congress and the Administration need to sign off on three pieces of legislation by October 1st. First being a Transportation Reauthorization Bill. The Administration came out with the Grow America Act. The Senate Public Works came out with their version of the bill, while the House is starting to take up some measures. Second being a FY15 Appropriations Bill which is needed to spend down money in the HTF. There is a House proposed THUD bill which the Administration has opposed, while the Senate has not taken up any measures. Lastly, the Highway Trust Fund (HTF) is due to go into the red late July early August. When the HTF hits a certain dollar amount US DOT will slow down reimbursements due to the states, possibly to once a month.

ii. **[Highway Trust Fund Ticker](#)**

Both the Highway Account and the Mass Transit Account of the Highway Trust Fund are nearing insolvency. With the Highway Account expected to become insolvent, the Department of Transportation will implement a cash management plan beginning August 1st to manage the flow of federal dollars. Under this plan, reimbursements to

states for infrastructure work will be limited to the available cash in the Trust Fund.

iii. [MAP-21 Planning NPRM & Policy Guidance for MPO Representation](#)

The FHWA and the FTA are jointly issuing for public comment through September 2nd this NPRM that proposes revisions to the regulations governing the development of metropolitan transportation plans and programs for urbanized areas, State transportation plans and programs, and the congestion management process.

Also, The FTA and FHWA are jointly issuing this guidance on implementation of provisions of the MAP-21, that require representation by providers of public transportation in each MPO that serves a transportation management area (TMA) no later than October 1, 2014.

iv. Draft Earmark Rescission Bill (Attachment C)

A draft earmark rescission bill has been introduced in Congress that would rescind unobligated dollars for any earmark that has more than 90% of the funds unobligated at the end of the 9th fiscal year following the year during which the earmark was made available. PennDOT has worked up a quick analysis of all earmarks that fit the 90% unobligated category. Right now, there are only a handful of projects that would fit the proposed bill, but remaining earmarks awarded under SAFETEA-LU would hit the 9 year mark on October 1st.

v. [EPA's Clean Power Plan Proposed Rule](#)

On June 2nd the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, under President Obama's Climate Action Plan, proposed a plan to cut carbon pollution from power plants. Nationwide, by 2030, the Clean Power Plan would cut carbon emissions from the power sector by 30 percent from 2005 levels, while starting to make progress toward meaningful reductions in 2020.

vi. Title 23 US Code Section 150 –National Goals and Performance Management Measures (Handout 1)

A handout was distributed and reviewed for Title 23 US Code Section 150 – National Goals and Performance Management Measures.

It was also noted that US DOT has finalized and distributed its final report: Certification Review of the Pittsburgh Metropolitan Area Planning Process. The Regions planning process continues to stand out not only within the state but also within the nation. A PowerPoint highlighting the final report is anticipated at a future TTC.

4. Action on Amendments & Modifications to 2013-2016 TIP by District

a. District 10-0 (Attachment D, Handout 2)

Dave Cook of PennDOT District 10-0 reviewed the requested administrative actions to the current TIP. Joel McKay's motion was seconded by Chris Jaros and TTC approved the administrative actions requiring TTC approval, as presented.

[District 10-0 June TIP Modifications](#)

b. District 11-0 (Attachment E)

John Quatman of PennDOT District 11-0 reviewed the requested administration actions requiring TTC approval to the current TIP. Amy McKinney's motion was seconded by Chris Bova and TTC approved the administrative actions requiring TTC approval, as presented.

[District 11-0 June TIP Modifications](#)

c. District 12-0 (Attachment F, Handout 3)

Angela Saunders of PennDOT District 12-0 reviewed the requested administration actions requiring TTC approval to the current TIP. Chris Bova's motion was second by Arthur Cappella and TTC approved the administrative actions requiring TTC approval, as presented.

[District 12-0 June TIP Modifications](#)

5. Advance 2015-2018 TIP Update

SPC staff presented updates on the draft 2015-2018 TIP

a. Schedule Highlights through end of July request for Commission Adoption

- June 18/July 18 – Public Comment Period
- June 30th Commission Meeting – Present draft TIP that is out to Public Comment
- By July 24th – All Public Comments received distributed to all Commission Members
- July 28th Commission Meeting – Request TIP adoption
- October 1st – TIP effective start Date

b. Draft TIP Document Structure

- [Summary Report](#)
- [Appendix 1: Transportation Process Self-Certification Resolution](#)
- [Appendix 2: TIP Development Process Flow Diagram](#)
- [Appendix 3: TIP Modification Procedures](#)
- [Appendix 4: TIP Financial Summary](#)
- [Appendix 5: Transit Financial Capacity Documentation](#)
- [Appendix 6: Highway Program Project Lists](#)
- [Appendix 7: Public Transportation Program Project Lists](#)
- [Appendix 8: Project Lists for State Managed Programs](#)
- [Appendix 9: Other Discretionary Programs](#)

- [Appendix 10: Planning References](#)
- [Appendix 11: Changes to the 2015-2018 TIP/Response to Public Comments](#)

c. Public Comment Period/PPP Meetings Coordination (Attachment G)

Members of the public are invited to attend any of the following public meetings to learn more about the draft documents. These will be open house style meetings with opportunities to look at maps, talk to representatives from SPC, PennDOT, transit operators, and planning departments, ask questions, and submit their comments.

Meeting dates and times are as follows:

- **June 19, 5:00 p.m., Westmoreland County Courthouse**, Commissioners Meeting Room, 2 North Main Street, Greensburg
- **June 24, 5:00 p.m., Washington County Courthouse**, Courthouse Square, Room 104,100 West Beau Street, Washington
- **June 25, 6:30 p.m., Armstrong County Courthouse**, Commissioners Conference Room, 450 Market Street, Kittanning
- **July 2, 5:30 pm., Greene County**, Waynesburg University, Third Floor, Stover Hall, Waynesburg
- **July 8, 5:00 p.m., Beaver County**, Penn State Beaver Campus, Laboratory Classroom Building, Room 121,100 University Drive, Monaca
- **July 9, 5:00 p.m., Lawrence County**, Gettings Annex Building, 439 Countyline Street, New Castle
- **July 10, 5:00 p.m., Fayette County** Chamber of Commerce, 65 West Main Street, Uniontown
- **July 14, 6:00 p.m., Allegheny County/City of Pittsburgh**, SPC Conference Center, 4th Floor, Two Chatham Center, 112 Washington Place, Downtown Pittsburgh
- **July 15, 6:00 p.m., CareerLink of Indiana County**, Conference Room, 300 Indian Springs Road, Indiana
- **July 16, 6:00 p.m., Butler County** Government Center, 1st Floor, Public Meeting Room, 124 West Diamond Street, Butler

6. TAP Update: Technical Review Committee Recommendations (Handout 4)

25 project applications were received by PennDOT from the SPC region, requesting more than \$16 million in TAP funds PennDOT found 3 applications to be ineligible. Evaluation Committee reviewed 22 projects requesting \$14.75 million in TAP funding Applications were received from all Districts (D10=7; D-11=10; and D-12=5). There were no applications from Beaver or Greene Counties. David Wohlwill of the Port Authority stated that the City of Pittsburgh's bicycle facility program did not identify the locations for the proposed bicycle lanes and raised concerns about potential impacts on transit operations and service. He requested that the City of Pittsburgh coordinate with Port Authority and transit riders early in the project. Pat Hassett noted that he shares the Port Authority's concerns and supports early coordination efforts between the City and the Port Authority and transit riders in regards to this project. Chris Bova's motion was second by Chris Jaros and TTC approved the below recommendation.

Recommendations for
2014 Regional TAP Funding
Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission Transportation Technical Committee (TTC)

25 project applications were received by PennDOT from the SPC region, requesting more than \$16 million in TAP funds

PennDOT found 3 applications to be ineligible. Evaluation Committee reviewed 22 projects requesting \$14.75 million in TAP funding

Applications were received from all Districts (D10=7; D-11=10; and D-12=5). There were no applications from Beaver or Greene Counties.

Projects recommended for funding from the Regional TAP Allocation (Sub-Allocation = \$3,458,523)

Number	Project	Location/Sponsor	County	Cmte Rank	\$ Request	Cumulative TAP
03-1000-2014	Jacob St. Paving and Ped Improve	Boro of Kittanning	Armstrong	1	\$217,297	\$ 217,297
02-1004-2014	Etna Green Streetscape, PH 2	Boro of Etna	Allegheny	2	\$350,000	\$ 567,297
02-100502914	Pittsburgh Faison SRTS	Pgh Public Works	ALCO/Pgh	8	\$250,000	\$ 817,297
32-1000-2014	Main St. Enhancement (sidewalks)	Boro of Homer City	Indiana	10	\$502,344	\$1,319,641
10-1002-2014	Zelienople Revital/Econ.Devel	Boro of Zelienople	Butler	12	\$480,000	\$1,799,641*
64-1002-2014	Pennsylvania Ave Curb/Sidewalk	Boro of Irwin	Westmoreland	17	\$221,900	\$2,021,541
02-1002-2014	Mayview Road Sidewalk	Twp of Upper St. Clair	Allegheny	18	\$334,605	\$2,356,146
02-1003-2014	Pittsburgh Bicycle Facilities Prog	City of Pittsburgh	ALCO/Pgh	3	\$350,000	\$2,706,146
64-1001-2014	Turtle Creek Rail Trail	Westmoreland Co	Westmoreland	6	\$750,000	\$ 3,456,146**

* Burial of utilities for aesthetic purposes not an eligible cost; some reduction in scope/costs presumed;

** SPC region requests that State consider "split funding" this important regional project as per State TAP funding recommendations below.

Proposed Regional Allocation of TAP funds

D-10 = (3 projects, \$1.2 million) D-11= (4 projects, \$1.29 million) D-12= (2 projects, \$ 971,900) Reserve \$: \$2,377 +

Projects recommended for funding from Statewide TAP Allocation:**

Number	Project	Location/Sponsor	County	Cmte Rank	\$ Request	State TAP Req
64-1001-2014	Turtle Creek Rail Trail	Westmoreland Co	Westmoreland	6	\$ 250,000	\$ 250,000 (1)
02-1011-2014	Rivertowns Bike-Ped Trail Infra	Boro of Sharpsurg	Allegheny	2	\$ 383,781	\$ 633,781 (2)
02-1009-2014	Joncaire Street Steps	Pittsburgh Pub Works	Allegheny	9	\$ 384,000	\$1,017,781 (3)
02-1010-2014	Lower Hill District Infrastructure	Sports/Ex Authority	Allegheny	5	\$946,680	\$1,964,461 (4)

**** (First priority would be to split fund the Turtle Creek Rail Trail Project with the Region. Next priority would be to fund the two projects recommended by the TAP Evaluation Committee for regional funding, but for which the Regional TAP Sub-Allocation is insufficient. The remaining project is of regional significance.)**

- (1) Turtle Creek Rail Trail was the top 1-2 rated project in District 12 and Westmoreland County, and is supported by adjoining Allegheny County. Project ranked 6th in regional assessment by Evaluation Committee, however original funding request was in excess of soft cap. Project takes advantage of DCNR partnership (they are providing partial funding for ROW acquisition.) Sponsor has a deliverable project with independent utility that can be completed for \$1,000,000. SPC proposes split funding this project at \$1,000,000, with \$750,000 from regional TAP sub-allocation, and \$250,000 from State TAP allocation. (State is welcome to consider providing \$1.1 million to this project to fund the entire (original) project, of course.)
- (2) Project was originally recommended for funding from Regional TAP allocation, but was removed to Statewide recommended list to make room for partial funding of Turtle Creek Rail Trail project. This was 4th highest ranked project in region by the TAP Evaluation Cmte.
- (3) This is an important project in the City’s Oakland neighborhood. The City of Pittsburgh and PennDOT District 11 continue to review and assess the feasibility of using federal funds on steps project from ADA perspective. (Improvements to ADA compliant alternative route – a more roundabout sidewalk - are included in the proposed project. City not yet able to agree on ADA “infeasibility determination” process/standards/relevance.) If this issue is resolved in time for Statewide consideration, we would encourage funding of this project. This project was on the recommended for regional funding list, but was removed to make room for partial funding of the Turtle Creek Rail Trail Project. This would constitute the third TAP award to the City of Pittsburgh in this round of TAP funding.
- (4) This project ranked in the top 5 in the region, and was recommended for funding from Statewide TAP Allocation. However, it is a high cost project, and hard to fit within the regional TAP allocation.

Lower Ranked Projects for Statewide Funding Consideration

Number	Project	Sponsor	County	Cmte Rank	\$ Request	Comments
10-1001-2014	Kiester Road Safety	Slippery Rock	BUCO	13	\$661,250	Community trying to implement new SALDO/devel standards
10-1003-2014	Butler Freeport Tr	Buffalo Twp	BUCO	15	\$426,800	Maintenance or Cap Maint?
37-1000-2014	Fifth Str Ped Underpass	Ellwood City	LACO	16	\$717,000	Cost/Rank, RR role in maint? Community agreed to maintain underpass per agreement with RR
32-1001-2014	Rte 22 Ped Bridge	Blairsville	INCO	14	\$1,900,000	Over cost cap, readiness ?
64-1002-2014	PH 1 Curb/Sidewalk	North Irwin	WECO	19	\$525,400	TAP \$ to higher ranked projects
10-1000-2014	Saxonburg Trans Enhanc	Saxonburg	BUCO	20	\$908,546	TAP \$ to higher ranked projects
02-1001-2014	Bower Hill Stormwater	Scott Twp	ALCO	22	\$464,500	TAP \$ to higher ranked projects
02-1007-2014	Moon Twp Riverfront	Moon Twp	ALCO	7	\$803,780	DOT Design/Readiness Concerns; SRTS
62-1000-2014	Wash. Dwnntn Revital	Wash City	WACO	11	\$1,000,000	TE turnback (2013) for failure to deliver
26-1000-2014	Geo. C. Marshall Plan II	Uniontown Redevel. Auth	FACO	21	\$999,350	TE turnback (2013) for failure to deliver

7. Other Business/Status Reports

SPC staff highlighted both recent and upcoming meetings listed below.

- a. May 21 – SPC Annual Freight Conference at Station Square*
- b. June 10 – PA Safety Symposium (Attachment H)*
- c. June 18 – Transit Operators Committee*
- d. June 23 – SHRPII National TIM Responder Training - Forest Hills*
- e. July 17 – SHRPP National TIM Responder Training - Ross Township*
- f. June 30 & July 28 – Commission Meetings*
- g. July 17 – next TTC Meeting*
- h. July 30 – Operations & Safety Committee*
- i. August 19 & 20 – Northern Transportation & Air Quality Summit (Handout 5)*
- j. October 15 – Joint OH/WV/PA TIM Conference – Wintersville, Ohio*