

Meeting Minutes for December 10, 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
- Tom Swisher, Armstrong County Department of Planning and Development
- Tammy Frank, Beaver County Liquid Fuels Department
- Joel MacKay, Butler County Planning Commission
- Arthur Cappella, Fayette County Zoning, Planning and Community Development
- Jeremy Kelly, Greene County Planning Commission
- Jeff Raykes, Indiana County Department of Planning and Development
- Doniele Russell, Lawrence County Planning and Community Development
- Pat Hassett, Pittsburgh Department of Public Works
- Dave Hutchinson, City of Pittsburgh Office of Management and Budget
- Chris Bova, Westmoreland County Department of Planning and Development
- Jeffrey Leithauser, Washington County Planning Commission
- Ed Typanski, Port Authority of Allegheny County
- * 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
- Lynn Manion, Airport Corridor Transportation Association
- Lucinda Beattie, Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership
- Mary Ann Bucci, Port of Pittsburgh Commission
- Martin Kaminsky, Urban Redevelopment Authority of Pittsburgh
- Brent Lahaie, Urban Redevelopment Authority of Pittsburgh
- Doug Smith, SPC Transportation Director
- Andy Waple, SPC Staff
- Darin Alviano, SPC Staff
- Matt Pavlosky, SPC Staff
- Chuck Imbrogno, SPC Staff
- Ryan Gordon, SPC Staff
- Tom Klevan, SPC Staff
- Leann Chaney, SPC Staff
- Leann Chaney, SPC Staff
- David Totten, SPC Staff
- Dan Alwine, 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 November 12th Minutes (Handout 1)

A motion was made by Jeremy Kelly and seconded by Doniele Russell to accept the November 12th TTC meeting minutes as presented. The TTC approved

3. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

4. FHWA/PennDOT Central Office Reports

A. Transportation Reauthorization – [FAST Act Summary](#)

Kevin McCullough and Doug Smith gave a brief overview of the of the Fixing America’s Surface Transportation Act, or “FAST Act”. On December 4, 2015, President Obama signed into law the FAST Act - the first Federal law in over ten years to provide long-term funding certainty (five-year, \$305 billion) for surface transportation. Many of the objectives and core programs remain intact from MAP-21. The funding level does increase, incrementally, by about 15% over MAP-21 levels. The Statewide Financial Guidance Work Group will be holding a conference call to discuss how this increase impacts planning partners across the state.

Highlights of the Act include \$3.4 billion over the life of the bill for local projects through the Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBGP) and increases funding for the Transportation Alternatives Program (which is now a set aside of the STBGP). The FAST Act also makes significant funding available for locally owned bridges by preserving the off-system bridge set-aside and by making bridges that are not on the National Highway System eligible for funding under the National Highway Performance Program (NHPP).

It was noted that the FAST Act does not authorize funding for the TIGER Program. However, the Act does authorize funding for a new discretionary program - the National Significant Freight and Highway Projects Program.

For further information on the FAST Act please click on the following link [FAST Act Summary](#)

5. 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 was one administrative modification requiring TTC action (as highlighted within Handout 2). Jeff Raykes’ motion to approve was seconded by Joel McKay and the TTC approved the modification 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 within Handout 2). Doniele Russell’s motion to approve was seconded by Ann Ogoreuc and the TTC approved the modifications as presented.

C. PennDOT District 12-0

Angela Saunders of PennDOT District 12-0 reviewed the requested TIP modifications. There was one administrative modification requiring TTC action (as highlighted within Handout 2). Arthur Cappella’s motion to approve was seconded by Doniele Russell and the TTC approved the modification as presented.

6. 2017 TIP Update

A. Pre-Draft TIP Update Status (Handout 3)

Ryan Gordon provided a highway program update. There have been three TIP work group meetings completed in each PennDOT District, a fourth meeting is needed in District 12-0. The meeting is scheduled for December 16th. The draft TIP is fiscally constrained; however, Financial Guidance will need to be revised (slight increase expected) as a result of the passage of the FAST ACT. The draft TIP still requires CMAQ, TAP, SPIKE, and HSIP funding determinations.

B. TAP – Project Recommendations (Handout 4)

Andy Waple presented the raw and weighted scoring results for the TAP candidate projects and reviewed the project evaluation scoring criteria, which included project deliverability/readiness that was scored by TTC members as well as comments on individual projects submitted by TTC members. It was SPC staff’s recommendation to advance the following projects at the funding levels and strategies noted on the following page:

Project Name	Requested TAP Amount	Total	Notes
Butler-Freeport Community Trail Repaving/Drainage Improvements	\$300,440	\$300,440	Full Fund
Rowan Road Sidewalk Segments	\$86,407	\$86,407	Full Fund
Etna Riverfront Park and Trail Project Phase 1	\$400,000	\$400,000	Full Fund
I-579 "Cap" Urban Connector Project	\$550,000	\$0	
S. Braddock Ave. Pedestrian Improvements	\$479,500	\$479,500	Full Fund
Homewood Pedestrian/Transit Connectivity + Faison SRTS 2.0	\$1,123,197	\$500,000	Partial Fund (Apply to State TAP for Remainder). SPC staff will coordinate with sponsor.
New Castle Multi-Modal Regional Riverwalk Project	\$792,470	\$744,800	Scope reduced (construction inspection estimate appeared too low). SPC staff will coordinate with sponsor.
South Side Flats Neighborhood Street	\$600,052	\$600,052	Full Fund
University Boulevard Sidewalk - Campus DR to Beaver Grade RD	\$49,000	\$49,000	Full Fund
Wynn and Clara Tredway Trail Extension	\$327,750	\$327,750	Full Fund

The I-579 “Cap” Urban Connector project was not recommended for funding due to the uncertainty of other proposed funding sources and project schedule.

Jeff Raykes’ motion to endorse the TAP recommended list of projects for advancement was seconded by Joel McKay and the TTC unanimously approved. The Commission will take action on the TAP recommended list of projects at their January meeting.

C. CMAQ – Carryover Status and Prioritized Candidate Projects List (Handout 5)

Chuck Imbrogno and Andy Waple reviewed the CMAQ carryover status and prioritized candidate project list. As it currently stands, there is nearly \$50M in projects to be carried over into the 2017-2020 CMAQ program. This leaves less than \$20M for new projects, which does not quite cover the first three projects from the prioritized candidate project list. It was noted that SPC staff along with PennDOT Central Office and Districts are feverishly managing the current CMAQ program and hope to advance projects programmed in 2017 and 2018 in order to create more capacity for new candidate projects in the 2017-2020 CMAQ program.

TTC members expressed their concern over the number of carryover projects, many of which were added before the 2015-2018 CMAQ Program. They requested that, prior to the next meeting, SPC staff provide information on the year when each project was originally added to the CMAQ program. TTC members feel there needs to be, through this program update or next, accountability for project sponsors who have not been able to advance projects on schedule.

At the January meeting, TTC members will be asked to recommend a CMAQ program of projects to the Commission for inclusion in the Draft TIP.

D. Transit Program Report (Handout 6)

Tom Klevan provided a transit program update. The program of transit projects is being developed from PennDOT’s fiscal guidance in close consultation with the region’s transit operators and the PennDOT Bureau of Public Transportation. The transit program includes capital improvements—including significant investments in converting to natural gas fleets and maintaining the region’s state of good repair—as well as support for day-to-day service.

E. Public Participation Panels

Matt Pavlosky gave an update related to the Public Participation Panels. As of the December TTC meeting, six meetings were completed with four remaining. The four remaining include:

- Allegheny County/City of Pittsburgh – December 10th
- Westmoreland County – December 15th
- Indiana County – December 16th
- Greene County – December 17th

Turnout has been strong at many of the meetings, and Matt thanked the counties/city planning departments for their support.

7. Tableau Data Visualization

Chuck Imbrogno presented a PowerPoint demonstration highlighting a new data visualization tool (Tableau) that SPC staff has been working with. The interactive data dashboard developed by SPC staff graphically shows population trends by age and gender. Users can easily navigate the dashboard to display population pyramids for City of Pittsburgh neighborhoods, municipalities, and counties in the SPC region for 1980, 1990, 2000, and 2010. The demonstration explained the elements of population pyramid graphs, and showed the TTC how to interpret population pyramids to provide insight into changes in population distribution by age and sex over time. Following the TTC meeting, the data dashboard was posted on the SPC website's Data Library page. SPC will continue to look for ways to utilize these types of data visualization tools to help track and communicate progress on various regional performance measures.

8. Other Business/Status Reports

Doug Smith and staff highlighted recent and upcoming meetings below.

- A. November 18th - Ped/Bike Committee*
- B. November 18th - CMAQ Evaluation Committee Meeting #3*
- C. December 9th - Transit Operators' Committee*
- D. December 14th & January 25th - Corporation Board of Directors and Commission Executive Committee*
- E. December 14th & January 25th - Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission*
- F. January 14th - Transportation Technical Committee*