

Meeting Minutes for July 14, 2016
Transportation Technical Committee
Transit Operators Committee
Joint Committee Meeting
SPC Offices
Two Chatham Center, Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Attendees:

Transportation Technical Committee Voting Members

- Ann Ogoreuc, Allegheny County Department of Economic 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
- Amy McKinney, Lawrence County Planning and Community Development
- Patrick Hassett, City of Pittsburgh Public Works
- 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

Transit Operators Committee Voting Members

- David Wohlwill, Port Authority of Allegheny County
- Ray McDonald, Fayette County Transit
- Alan Blahovec, Westmoreland County Transit Authority
- Mary Jo Morandini, Beaver County Transit Authority
- Joe Thomas, Washington County Transit Authority
- Patti Lynn Baker, Town and Country Transit
- Leonard Lastoria, New Castle Transit Authority

Matt Smoker, Federal Highway Administration

Dave Hutchinson, City of Pittsburgh Office of Management and Budget

Dan Colville, Beaver County Public Works

Steve Shadle, Allegheny County Department of Public Works Consultant

Gerry Miller, Town and Country Transit

Kelley Reesman, New Castle Transit Authority

Dave Cook, PennDOT District 10-0

Robert Miskanic, PennDOT District 11-0

Bill Beaumariage, 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

Lucinda Beattie, Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership

Amy Mathieson, Airport Corridor Transportation Association

Matt Nealis, Larson Design Group

Douglas F. Smith, Larson Design Group

Jennifer deTapia, Trillium CNG

Rebecca Schank, Urban Redevelopment Authority of Pittsburgh

Scott Zeevaert, Gannett Fleming

Tim King, CDM Smith

Sara Hansel, Fisher Associates

Jim Hassinger, SPC Executive Director & CEO
Doug Smith, SPC Transportation Director
Andy Waple, SPC Staff
Darin Alviano, SPC Staff
Chuck Imbrogno, SPC Staff
Dom D'Andrea, SPC Staff
Ryan Gordon, SPC Staff
Tom Klevan, SPC Staff
Dave Totten, SPC Staff
Matt Pavlosky, SPC Staff
Kathy Stefani, SPC Staff
Lisa Kay Schweyer, SPC Staff
Sara Walfoort, SPC Staff
Leann Chaney, SPC Staff
Dan Alwine, SPC Staff
Paige Bogats, SPC Intern

- Indicates voting member

1. Call to Order

Doug Smith called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. The meeting was a joint meeting between the TTC and TOC.

2. Action on the June 16th TTC Meeting Minutes (Handout 1)

A motion was made by Jeff Leithauser and seconded by Art Cappella to accept the June 16th TTC meeting minutes as presented. The TTC approved.

3. Action on the April 13th and June 15th TOC Meeting Minutes (Handout 2)

A motion was made by Patti Lynn Baker and seconded by Alan Blohovec to accept the April 13th & June 15th TOC meeting minutes as presented. The TOC approved.

4. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

5. FHWA/PennDOT Central Office Reports

Doug Smith, Kevin McCullough, Matt Smoker, and Andy Waple presented information on the PennDOT Central Office and FHWA items.

A. CFA Multimodal Project Awards (Handout 3)

The Commonwealth Finance Authority on July 1st approved nearly \$57.8M in funding toward multimodal improvements amongst 165 sponsors through the CFA's Multimodal Program. Handout 3 contained a list of all projects and funding (\$98 million in total) throughout the state since the inception of the DCED Multimodal Fund.

PennDOT will be announcing its Multimodal program awards in the very near future.

B. FASTLANE Project Awards (Handout 4)

USDOT announced July 6th it intends to award almost \$800 million in federal "FASTLANE" grants to 18 projects around the country. USDOT received 212 applications requesting a total of \$9.8 billion. No projects in Pennsylvania were awarded funding. Handout 4 contained a list of all projects funded nationwide.

C. Statewide and Metropolitan Planning Final Rule

The final rule on Statewide and Nonmetropolitan Transportation Planning and Metropolitan Transportation Planning, published on May 27, 2016, implements changes to the planning process, including:

- requiring a performance-based approach to planning
- a new emphasis on the nonmetropolitan transportation planning process, by requiring states to have a higher level of involvement with nonmetropolitan local officials and providing a process for creating regional transportation

planning organizations

- adding a structural change to the membership of large metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) to include transit provider representation
- adding a framework for voluntary scenario planning
- implementing new authority for integrating the planning and environmental review processes as well as programmatic mitigation plans

Performance management and performance-based planning and programming is intended to increase the accountability and transparency of the federal aid program and offer a framework to support improved investment decision-making by focusing on performance outcomes for national transportation goals. State DOTs and MPOs are expected to use the updated regulations to make better-informed transportation planning and programming decisions. The new performance aspects of the federal aid program allow FHWA and FTA to better communicate a national performance story and more reliably assess the impacts of federal funding investments.

D. Notice of Proposed Rulemaking – MPO Coordination

USDOT has proposed revisions to the transportation planning regulations to promote more effective regional planning by States and MPOs. The goal of the proposed revisions is to result in unified planning for each urbanized area (UZA), even if there are multiple MPOs designated within that area. The proposed rules call for MPOs covering the same UZA to merge or to establish formal agreements to develop a single metropolitan transportation plan, a single transportation improvement program (TIP), and a jointly established set of performance targets for the entire urbanized area and contiguous area expected to become urbanized within a 20-year forecast period for the transportation plan. Comments on the NPRM are being accepted through August 26th.

6. Statewide Planning Partners Conference Recap

Doug Smith and Kevin McCullough recapped the June Statewide Planning Partners Conference. Doug discussed a new initiative from PennDOT Secretary Leslie Richards called “Planning and Engineering 360⁰”. *Planning and Engineering 360⁰* is focusing on early consideration of community needs when planning for transportation projects. Collaborations with municipalities to learn the contexts surrounding each project will help to better clarify the details unique to individual project locations prior to developing project scopes, schedules and cost estimates. PennDOT is currently formulating policy guidance associated with this effort.

7. Action on Modifications to 2015-2018 TIP (Handout 5)

A. PennDOT District 10-0

PennDOT District 10-0 had no TIP modification requests requiring TTC approval.

B. PennDOT District 11-0

Rob Miskanic of PennDOT District 11-0 reviewed the requested TIP modification. There was one administrative modification requiring TTC action (as highlighted in handout 5). The modification involved the addition of a new project “Traffic Support Services” to the TIP utilizing state funds from a regional line item. Amy McKinney made a motion to approve, which was seconded by Pat Hassett, and the TTC approved the modification as presented.

C. PennDOT District 12-0

PennDOT District 12-0 had no TIP modification requests requiring TTC approval.

D. Transit Operators

There were no TIP modification requests from any of the Transit Operators that required TOC approval.

8. Natural Gas Fueling Public-Private Partnership

Representatives from Trillium CNG, the state’s partner in the statewide natural gas transit fueling project gave the committees an update on the plan to equip transit operators with natural gas fueling facilities. The project includes facilities at 29 locations in Pennsylvania, including bus storage and maintenance as well as fueling. Some locations will also include public access for CNG fueling—mostly for school and local government fleets. Trillium is well into design on 14 facilities, with the first expected to come online in January. Trillium noted that the public-private partnership approach was able to result in a faster and less expensive project. The conversion to CNG is expected to save transit agencies \$10 million annually once the project is complete, and reduce CO2 emissions by 20 million pounds per year. Some of the features of the project that will help transit operators include chromatographs to measure the quality of the gas and alert managers or shut down the system if the fuel is not acceptable quality. The system also features fuel management upgrades allowing managers to view real-time fuel transactions.

9. Unified Planning Work Program Overview

SPC Transportation Managers Chuck Imbrogno, Tom Klevan, Dom D’Andrea, and Andy Waple provided an overview of projects within their respective groups under the new Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), which became effective July 1st.

Please click on the following link for detailed departmental planning activities

<http://www.spcregion.org/pdf/upwp/upwp.pdf>

Regional Funding Priorities for Competitive Programs (Handout 6)

Doug Smith reviewed handout 6 which contained draft guidelines on a number of regional competitive transportation programs, including: CMAQ, TAP, SMART, HSIP and MTF. The guidelines were developed by SPC staff based on feedback from regional partners at a previous TTC meeting and are not intended to narrow project eligibility for the different funding programs, but rather to establish a transparent link between policies established in the long-range plan, the planning activities conducted as part of the UPWP, and project delivery through the TIP. TTC and TOC members were encouraged to provide feedback to SPC on the draft.

10. Other

Doug Smith highlighted recent and upcoming meetings including:

- A. *June 30th – SPC Transportation Operations & Safety Committee*
- B. July 25th – Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission
Due to national events out of the region taking place in July requiring participation of many member elected officials, the July 25th Commission meeting has been cancelled.
- C. August 18th – SPC Transportation Technical Committee
- D. September 14th – Transit Operators Committee