

Meeting Minutes for May 19, 2016
Transportation Technical Committee Meeting
SPC Offices
Two Chatham Center, Pittsburgh, PA 15219

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
- 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
- Amy McKinney, Lawrence County Planning and Community Development
- Patrick Hassett, City of Pittsburgh Department of Public Works
- Chris Bova, Westmoreland County Department of Planning and Development
- Jeffrey Leithauser, Washington County Planning Commission
- David Wohlwill, Port Authority of Allegheny County
- Kevin McCullough, PennDOT Central Office
- * Matt Smoker, Federal Highway Administration
- Dave Cook, PennDOT District 10-0
- Doug Dupnock, PennDOT District 10-0
- Robert Miskanic, PennDOT District 11-0
- Stephanie Spang, PennDOT District 11-0
- Chris Wilson, PennDOT District 11-0
- 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
- Frank Kempf, Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission
- Mike Brinza, Port of Pittsburgh Commission
- Jim Hassinger, SPC Executive Director and CEO
- Doug Smith, SPC Transportation Director
- Andy Waple, SPC Staff
- Darin Alviano, SPC Staff
- Chuck Imbrogno, SPC Staff
- Ryan Gordon, SPC Staff
- Tom Klevan, SPC Staff
- Dave Totten, SPC Staff
- Matt Pavlosky, SPC Staff
- Dan Bernazzoli, SPC Staff
- Cort McCombs, SPC Staff
- Josh Spano, SPC Staff

- Indicates voting member
- * Participated via telephone

1. Call to Order

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

2. Action on the April 14th Meeting Minutes (Handout 1)

A motion was made Amy McKinney by and seconded by Jeff Leithauser to accept the April 14th TTC meeting minutes as presented. The TTC approved.

3. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

4. FHWA/PennDOT Central Office Reports

Kevin McCullough, Doug Smith and Matt Smoker provided updates on the below items.

A. CMAQ Funding Eligibility & Revocation of the 1997 Ozone Standards

Since the passage of the FAST Act, several MPOs, RPOs, PennDOT staff, and FHWA – PA Division staff have asked if the FAST Act changed anything regarding CMAQ eligibility for counties that were nonattainment/maintenance under the 1997 Ozone standards, which were revoked on July 20, 2013, and now in attainment for all NAAQS pollutants.

FHWA- PA Division verified with FHWA Headquarters that those counties are eligible under the FAST Act to receive and obligate CMAQ funding.

All counties, except for Lawrence, within the SPC region are eligible for CMAQ funding under the FAST Act.

B. New Environmental Web Mapping Tool www.projects.penndot.gov/environmental

The new Pennsylvania Environmental Layers mobile web application contains over thirty environmental layers from various state and federal agencies. It will serve as a tool for use during planning, project screening and project scoping by district environmental units, planning partners and business partners.

C. Automated Red Light Enforcement Program

www.penndot.gov/Pages/all-news-details.aspx?newsid=225#.VzyJkPkrKUK

PennDOT will distribute nearly \$5.5 million in ARLE funding to 18 municipalities statewide to fund 23 safety projects.

Projects were selected by an eight-member committee based on criteria such as benefits and effectiveness, cost, local and regional impact, and cost sharing.

Following is a list of ARLE funding recipients in the SPC region:

Allegheny County: City of Pittsburgh – \$295,000 to replace the existing traffic signal at the intersection of Centre Avenue and Bigelow Boulevard and to install ADA curb ramps and curb extensions.

Butler County: Cranberry Township – \$286,199 to provide pedestrian upgrades at the intersection of North Boundary Road and Marshall Road by improving pedestrian connections and new sections of sidewalk.

D. Green Light-Go Program www.governor.pa.gov/governor-wolf-announces-12-million-in-green-light-go-traffic-signal-improvement-funding/

PennDOT will distribute \$12 million to 109 municipalities to underwrite the costs of upgrading traffic signals under PennDOT’s “Green Light-Go” program.

Following is a list of those communities in the SPC region that will get a share of the funds:

Allegheny County

- Monroeville Borough - \$38,602 to replace vehicular and pedestrian indications with LED modules at twenty-five intersections throughout the municipality
- North Versailles Township - \$17,953 to improve one intersection by installing an advanced overhead”signal ahead” warning sign.
- Plum Borough - \$30,000 to replace traffic signal controllers at four intersections.
- Sewickley Borough - \$206,969 to upgrade and install an adaptive traffic signal system that adjusts signal timing based on traffic conditions at three intersections along Route 65
- South Fayette Township - \$381,391 to upgrade and install an adaptive traffic signal system that adjusts signal timing based on traffic conditions at the eight intersections along Route 50.
- Stowe Township - \$97,500 to update the traffic signal at one intersection

Beaver County

- Ambridge Borough - \$1,632 to replace LEDs at one intersection

Butler County

- Butler Township - \$43,880 to improve traffic signals at multiple intersections.
- Cranberry Township - \$50,000 to install adaptive traffic signal system software that adjusts signal timing based on traffic conditions multiple intersections on Route 19.

Washington County

- North Strabane Township - \$70,900 to install Emergency Vehicle Protection (EVP) with ancillary equipment upgrades as necessary at multiple intersections.

- Peters Township - \$121,500 to improve the existing traffic signals

Westmoreland County

- Hempfield Township - \$17,790 to replace LED modules at multiple intersections and to install a radar detector system and update the power supply at one intersection.
- Penn Township - \$93,733 to install LED conversion kits and to upgrade one intersection

E. Rail Transportation Assistance Program & Rail Freight Assistance Program

www.penndot.gov/Pages/all-news-details.aspx?newsid=224#.VzsJOqPD-71

The State Transportation Commission approved \$36 million for 15 projects through the Rail Transportation Assistance Program (RTAP) and 16 projects through the Rail Freight Assistance Program (RFAP). RTAP is a capital budget grant program funded with bonds and RFAP is underwritten through the new Multimodal Fund, created by Act 89.

Following is a list of approved rail freight projects in the SPC region:

RTAP Projects:

Allegheny County:

- CSX Transportation Inc.- \$3 million to construct new main lead track, crossovers, turnouts, and derails to allow intermodal trains to pull off the McKees Rocks mainline to serve the Pittsburgh Intermodal Terminal.
- Pittsburgh and Ohio Central Railroad - \$420,000 to install 2,650 feet of track and one new turnout in the Scully Yard.
- Union Railroad Company - \$3.4 million to repair and rehabilitate the East Pittsburgh Viaduct, including concrete repairs, structure drainage corrections, a 1,600-foot passing siding and adding a new walkway and handrails.

Allegheny and Washington Counties: Wheeling & Lake Erie Railway Co. -- \$1.2 million to install nearly 20 track miles of continuous welded rail on the railway's Pittsburgh subdivision.

Butler County: Buffalo & Pittsburgh Railroad Inc. - \$3.6 million to improve the Butler Yard and shop tracks as well as yard tracks the company leases, as well as restoring a crossover connection and repairing eight bridge structures on its northern subdivision.

Fayette County:

- D&I Silica -- \$1.3 million to extend the switching lead track and two unloading pit yard tracks, replace track and relocate a turnout to create a yard for operational flexibility.

- Southwest Pennsylvania Railroad Company - \$2 million to install five yard tracks, and a runaround track to improve Bowest Yard.

Westmoreland County: Westmoreland County Industrial Development Corporation – Nearly \$1.1 million to replace existing rail and steel components on the Radebaugh Subdivision Rail Relay.

RFAP Projects:

Allegheny County: Leetsdale Industrial Corporation -- \$299,862 to construct two new spurs and raise, line and surface track.

Beaver County:

- Middleton Properties West LLC - \$633,711 to rehabilitate 4,800 feet of track and construct 2,700 feet of new track.
- Pennsylvania Southwestern Railroad - \$535,610 to rehabilitate five tracks, a pit track and a turnout.

Westmoreland County: Three Rivers Marine Rail Terminal LP - \$133,945 to rehabilitate mainline track including replacing crossties, bolts and bridge timber, surfacing and installing ballast.

5. Action on Modification Requests 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 two administrative modifications requiring TTC action (as highlighted in handout 3). Tom Swisher made a motion to approve, which was seconded by Jeff Raykes, 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 four administrative modifications requiring TTC action (as highlighted in handout 3). Amy McKinney made a motion to approve, which was seconded by Jeff Leithauser, and the TTC approved the modifications as presented.

C. PennDOT District 12-0

There were no modification requests in District 12-0 requiring TTC action.

6. 2017 TIP Update

A. Public Meetings

Matt Pavlosky shared with TTC members an update on the Draft 2017 TIP public meetings. Five public meetings have been conducted thus far. A sixth meeting will be held today at SPC. After today, there will be five more public meetings. All meetings are an open house format with a brief SPC staff presentation. All TIP

documents are available and there is large visual map displays on-hand. Also, there is opportunity at the meetings for all interested in submitting public comment. TIP Public Comment period will run through June 3rd.

B. Self Certification Checklist (Handout 3)

Andy Waple reviewed the completed Self Certification Checklist. Every two years when the regional TIP is submitted to FHWA and FTA the SPC is required to provide a resolution certifying that it is meeting all the federally mandated requirements. SPC staff developed and completed this checklist to ensure all federally mandated planning requirements are being fulfilled.

C. Smart Transportation Program Update

Andy Waple summarized the SPC Livability through Smart Transportation program final project applications. SPC received eleven project applications; three were in District 10-0, five in District 11-0, and three in District 12-0. Total Smart funds requested equaled \$3.97M. The total available for the program is \$3.5M. Andy revealed the scoring results for the Smart Transportation Themes and Ancillary factors. The TTC members will be responsible for the scoring of the Project Deliverability and Readiness. SPC staff will email TTC members a scoring matrix with instructions. At their June meeting, TTC members will approve a recommended list of projects for advancement through the SPC Livability Through Smart Transportation program. The recommended list will then be present to the Commission at their June meeting for approval.

7. Mon/Fayette Expressway Update – Frank Kempf, PA Turnpike Commission

Frank Kempf provided an update on the PTC's Mon/Fayette Expressway. The PA Route 51 to I-376 project will extend the current Mon/Fayette Expressway system 14-miles north from PA Route 51 in Jefferson Hills through West Mifflin, Dravosburg, Duquesne, North Versailles, Turtle Creek and Wilkins before connecting to the Parkway East, I-376, near Thompson Run Road in Monroeville.

Originally, the proposed PA Route 51 to I-376 Project included a leg that would extend the expressway from East Pittsburgh to Bates Street in Oakland. The Oakland option has since been dropped because of financial constraints as well as the required number of residential and business displacements and the numerous environmental impacts. A reevaluation of the Environmental Impact Statement is required because of this proposed change. The reevaluation started in January 2016 and final design also resumed in January 2016 after a seven-year suspension due to lack of funding.

The environmental reevaluation is scheduled for completion by mid-2017. Right-of-way acquisition is scheduled to begin in 2017, but because of the large number of properties involved, will take three years to complete. Construction is scheduled to

begin in 2022.

Act 89 of 2013 has provided the necessary funding to advance the project through design, right-of-way acquisition and construction.

During the engineering design process and through construction, the PTC will make every effort to make project information available through an extensive public outreach effort.

8. Highway Performance Monitoring System (HPMS) – Cort McCombs, SPC

Cort McCombs gave a presentation on the Highway Performance Monitoring System (HPMS) program. It is a national level highway information system that includes data on the extent, condition, performance, use and operating characteristics of the nation's highways. The HPMS program consists of two parts: Roadway Inventory and Traffic Counting.

Roadway Inventory

Conducted from August-December of each year, the roadway inventory includes the measurement and/or classification of shoulders, lanes and medians as well as noting the number of traffic signals, stop signs and widening obstacles along our regions roadways. SPC collected data on 552 sections of roadway throughout the region in 2015. Also in 2015, SPC's roadway inventory data collection efforts were recognized by PennDOT's Bureau of Planning and Research for outstanding achievement for 100% data accuracy.

Traffic Counting

Conducted from March-November of each year, SPC completes approximately 350 traffic counts per year in the 10-county region. There are 3 ways SPC collects the count data:

- **Machine Volume-** 24 hour volume count via a machine counter with a tube across the road collecting traffic volumes. This is the most common type.
- **Machine Class-** 24 hour classification count via a machine counter with multiple tubes across the road. This type of count classifies the type of vehicle into 13 different classes based on the distance between their axles.
- **Manual Class-** 6 hour (12pm-6pm) vehicle classification count via field observations. This type of count classifies vehicles into 16 different classes based on their type.

9. Other

A. TTC Member Updates

TTC members shared with one another current initiatives that they are undertaking. Multiple counties are or will be updating their County Comprehensive Plans and will be looking to SPC to assist them with transportation related elements.

Doug Smith highlighted recent and upcoming meetings including:

- B. May 11th – SPC Active Transportation Forum
- C. June 15th – Transit Operators Committee
- D. June 16th – Transportation Technical Committee
- E. June 27th – Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission Executive Committee
- F. June 27th – Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission