

Meeting Minutes for June 15, 2017
Transportation Technical Committee
SPC Conference Center
Two Chatham Center, Pittsburgh PA 15219

Attendees:

- Ann Ogoreuc, Allegheny County Department of Economic Development
Stephen Shanley, Allegheny County Department of Public Works
- Tom Swisher, Armstrong County Department of Planning and Development
- Mark Gordon, Butler County Planning Commission
- Arthur Cappella, Fayette County Zoning, Planning and Community Development
- Jeremy Kelly, Greene County Planning Commission
- Jeff Raykes, 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 *
- Jeffrey Leithauser, Washington County Planning Commission
- Kevin McCullough, PennDOT Central Office
Matt Smoker, Federal Highway Administration
Khan Mitchell, Federal Highway Administration
Corey Donahue, Federal Highway Administration
Camille Bonham, Federal Highway Administration
Ralph Volpe, Federal Highway Administration
Tim Lidiak, Federal Transit Administration *
Gregory Becoat, Environmental Protection Agency
Dave Cook, PennDOT District 10-0
Brent Barran, PennDOT District 10-0
Rebecca Stas, PennDOT District 10-0
Stephanie Spang, PennDOT District 11-0 *
John Quatman, PennDOT District 11-0 *
Rachael Duda, PennDOT District 12-0
Angela Saunders, PennDOT District 12-0
Josh Theakston, PennDOT District 12-0
Lynn Manion, Airport Corridor Transportation Association
Mavis Rainey, Oakland Transportation Management Association
Jina O'Neill, Oakland Transportation Management Association
Lucinda Beattie, Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership
Vico Innocenti, Fischer Associates
Sara Hansel, Fischer Associates
Dr. James Hassinger, SPC Executive Director
Shannon O'Connell, SPC Communications Director
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
Cody Nolen, SPC Staff
Sara Walfoort, SPC Staff
Chuck Imbrogno, SPC Staff
Kristin Baum, SPC Staff
Leann Chaney, SPC Staff
Malie Yoon, SPC Intern
Shakir Mahmud, SPC Intern
- Indicates voting member
- * Participated via phone

1. Call to Order

Doug Smith called the meeting to order at 10am.

2. Action on the May 18th Meeting Minutes (Handout 1)

A motion was made by Art Cappella and seconded by Jeff Leithauser to accept the May 18th meeting minutes as presented. The TTC approved.

3. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

4. FHWA - HQs, Resource Center & PA Division Updates / PennDOT CO Reports

A. US DOT Certification Review (Handout 2)

Matt Smoker stated that every four years, FHWA and FTA, as part of the USDOT review team, come to SPC to certify that the region is carrying out the metropolitan planning process in adherence with federal statutes and regulations. For this review, the team is interested in hearing what perspectives TTC members have regarding the transportation planning process within the region.

i. Open Discussion with TTC

- Perspectives regarding County Comp Plans into SPC's LRTP
- Are the Counties' activities and involvement in the MPO Planning Process documented in the Metropolitan Planning Agreements?

Jeff Raykes stated that SPC serves as an excellent technical adviser to Indiana County for transportation and land use planning. Steve Shanley stated that he would like to see counties have more ability to have input on the higher level policy decisions that are being made from Harrisburg and Washington, D.C. He also complemented SPC staff on keeping members informed on processes and steps involved with program updates. Ann Ogoreuc commended SPC on the handling of discretionary programs. She stated that the evaluation processes for the CMAQ and TAP project applications has vastly improved. Dan Carpenter stated that SPC has been very helpful to Westmoreland County in development of their county comprehensive plan. SPC staff sits on the county's comprehensive plan advisory committee and has also helped facilitate one of their public outreach meetings. Jeff Leithauser gave praise to the outreach meetings SPC staff conducted on local project delivery, especially the challenges that come with a federally funded project. He believes overall education on transportation planning and programming would be very beneficial to new county employees. Doug Smith stated the SPC has educational materials that are provided to both new Commissioners and Public Participation Panel members and that these materials could be useful in designing something for new county planning/City employees. Dave Cook mentioned that PennDOT Districts offer up

their services to meet with new county commissioners and planners to discuss transportation planning and programming from a PennDOT perspective. Mark Gordon, new to Butler County planning, complemented SPC staff for their assistance and commended the recent SPC Freight Forum for being very informative and well done. He stated that Butler County internally has no documentation related to transportation planning for new employees. Art Cappella applauded SPC for their assistance to Fayette County. He also mentioned that he found the educational presentations Kevin McCullough conducted a few years back at TTC on transportation planning and programming very informative. Art then praised PennDOT District 12-0 for meeting with Fayette County's new commissioners to bring them up to speed on PennDOT activities in the county. Tom Swisher appreciated District 10-0 for meeting with him when he first started with Armstrong County. He remembered Dave giving him a list of acronyms that he found very helpful. He likes the idea of SPC staff meeting in conjunction with PennDOT to brief new county employees. Overall, Tom finds the SPC staff to be extremely helpful.

5. Action on Modifications to 2017-2020 TIP (Handout 3)

A. PennDOT District 10-0

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

B. PennDOT District 11-0

District 11-0 had no TIP modification requests requiring TTC action.

C. PennDOT District 12-0

Angela Saunders reviewed the one modification request requiring TTC action. The request was an amendment to add all project phases of the "Chartiers Creek #53" Washington County owned bridge to the TIP in the amount of \$1.65M. Funding for the addition of this project was made available through the removal of the Washington County owned bridge "Ten Mile Creek #40" from the TIP. Jeff Leithauser made a motion to approve, which was seconded by Arthur Cappella, and the TTC approved the amendment as presented.

6. Update on Status of Long Range Plan Amendments

Doug Smith provided an update on the status of the Mon-Fayette Expressway, I-79 Widening, and the PA 28 Russelton to Butler County Line TIP/LRP amendment requests. Doug reviewed the recent timeline and activities related to the Mon-Fayette Expressway project. All three amendment requests will be brought to the Commission for action at their June 26th meeting.

7. 2019 TIP Development

A. TIP Work Groups Schedule

- June 9th & August 1st – District 10-0
- June 12th & August 3rd – District 12-0
- June 19th & August 7th – District 11-0

B. Work Group Meeting Recaps & Previews

Ryan Gordon recapped the first round of TIP work group meetings in District 10-0 and 12-0. Discussion included: TIP Timeline, Financial Guidance, General & Procedural Guidance, \$5 Vehicle Registration Fee and County Bridge Bundling, District Asset Management Outlook, Candidate Projects from 2017 TIP update, and newly identified TIP candidate projects. Ryan provided a status update on the development of the candidate project list for the 2019 TIP in both Districts 10 and 12. Ryan previewed the upcoming first TIP work group meeting in District 11, noting that all meeting materials were being posted to the SPC TIP SharePoint site. Ryan noted the August TIP work group meetings will be reviewing all pre-TIP public comment received via SPC online input form, Public Participation Panels, and the State Transportation Commission.

8. SR 18 Lawrence County Corridor Study

Dom D’Andrea presented on the State Route 18 Corridor Planning Study in Lawrence County. He indicated that SPC has developed a corridor study approach that focuses on operations and safety collectively, instead of independently, and is a hybrid between traditional corridor studies and the charrette-style Road Safety Audit process. The improvements identified in these assessments are geared toward both short-term (1-5 years) and long-term (5+ years) alternatives that can be incorporated into the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), and partner maintenance and development activities. SPC completed its first study of this type for State Route 68/528 in Butler County. Many of the suggestions made in State Route 68/528 study are being incorporated into current and future projects.

State Route 18 between North Liberty Street and Mitchell Road through the City of New Castle and Neshannock Township was analyzed to identify potential transportation operations and safety improvements. Elements and themes of the SR 18 Corridor Planning Study that were reviewed included:

- operational and safety data
- local planning documents
- potential impacts of Shell Cracker Plant
- access management

- stormwater management/resiliency
- pedestrian access to transit
- freight accessibility
- left turn signalization
- intersection capacity and future development growth

This particular corridor was identified as a high priority corridor and a growth area in the recently completed Lawrence County Comprehensive Plan. Study requests can be made to SPC by State and County planning partners.

**9. Turner-Fairbank Innovative Designs – Cory Donahue , FHWA PA Division
Transportation Engineer**

Cory Donahue gave a presentation on Intersection and Interchange Geometrics (IIG) and New Technology. IIG is an Every Day Counts (EDC) initiative of the Federal Highway Administration. IIG is the application of techniques/designs that can accommodate traffic volumes more efficiently while improving the safety of motorists, pedestrians, and bicyclists. The most popular designs promoted with this EDC initiative include: Diverging Diamond Interchanges (DDI), Displaced Left-Turn (DLT) Intersections, U-Turn Intersections, and Modern Roundabouts. Corey's presentation provided a history of how these unique designs were initially developed and also provided a glimpse into potential future IIG designs.

10. Other Business / Status Reports

Doug Smith reviewed the TTC meeting schedule for the upcoming year and provided a quick review/preview of previous and upcoming meetings.

- A. *SPC 2017-2018 Meeting Schedule (Handout 4)*
- B. *June 7th – Active Transportation Forum*
- C. *Jun 14th – Transit Operators Committee*
- D. *June 26th – Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission Executive Committee*
- E. *June 26th – Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission*
- F. *June 29th – Transportation Operations & Safety Committee*