



SOUTHWESTERN PENNSYLVANIA COMMISSION

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Southwestern Pennsylvania Active Transportation Forum

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Wednesday, June 6, 2018

10:00 AM – Noon

Networking Lunch: Noon – 1 PM

North Meeting Room, 4th Floor

Two Chatham Center, 112 Washington Place

Pittsburgh, PA 15219

MEETING SUMMARY

Attendance

First	Last	Organization
Adrienne	Tolentino	Goodwill SWPA
Allison	Robinson	UPMC
Andrea	Elcock	Port Authority
Ann	Ogoreuc	Allegheny County Economic Development
Bill	Lesterick	PennDOT D-11
Brad	Marstellar	Johnson, Mirmirman & Thompson
Bryanna	McDaniel	Allegheny County Health Dept. / Safety Education Project
Carol	Reichbaum	University of Pittsburgh/WalkWorks
Chris	Ziegler	Allegheny Valley Land Trust/Butler Freeport Community Trail
Daniel	Carpenter	Westmoreland County
David	White	Pittsburgh Bike Share / Healthy Ride
Doniele	Russell	Lawrence County (by phone)
Donna	Green	Regional Trail Corporation
Evan	Zavoda	Jacobs Creek Watershed Association
Hannah	Hardy	Allegheny County Health Department (Live Well Allegheny)
Jason	Theakston	Washington County
Jeb	Feldman	McKees Rocks CDC
Jerry	Green	Northside Bike-Ped Committee
Joe	Rusiewicz	Transystems
John	Turack	Penn State Extension / Smart Growth
Josh	Grimm	PennDOT D-11
Josh	Krug	Indiana County
Josh	Theakston	PennDOT D-12
Joy	Ruff	Johnson, Mirmirman & Thompson
Judy	Bishop	TransAssociates
Kathryn	Schlesinger	Pittsburgh Community Reinvestment Group

Kim	Nutter	PennDOT D-11
Laurie	Lafontaine	Indiana County, C & I Trail Council
Linda	Gwinn	Blairsville Community Development Authority (BCDA)
Liz	Gamelier	TransAssociates
Mark	Magalotti	University of Pittsburgh
Mary	Shaw	Trail Volunteer Fund, Free Wheeling Easy
Mike	Zizan	Skelly and Loy
Paige	Anderson	Department of Mobility & Infrastructure (DOMI)
Robert	Genter	Mackin Engineering
Ron	Steffey	Armstrong Trail
Roy	Weil	Trail Volunteer Fund, Free Wheeling Easy
Ruth	McCeland	PennDOT D-11
Sabina	Deitrick	University of Pittsburgh
Steve	Wiedemer	AD Marble
Terry	Fercana	Environmental Design Group

SPC Staff

First	Last	Title
Chuck	Imbrogno	Models & Data Analysis Manager
David	Totten	Transit Planner
Domenic	D'Andrea	Manager, Operations + Safety Program
Kathy	Stefani	ATWIC Program Manager
Leann	Chaney	Transportation Planner

1. Welcome & Introductions

Leann opened the meeting and asked for introductions from those in attendance.

2. Planning

Road Safety Audit/Blairsville SR 217; Domenic D'Andrea, SPC

Domenic provided a presentation on the Road Safety Audit (RSA) that SPC facilitated/conducted on State Route 217, in Burrell Township and Blairsville Borough (Indiana County). He began by explaining that an RSA is formal safety performance examination of an existing or future road or intersection by an independent, multi-disciplinary team. Teams usually consist of 4-6 people and include SPC operations/safety staff, other staff, such as multimodal staff, PennDOT safety engineers (usually from another district other than the one where the audit is being conducted) and consultant support staff. He also shared that an audit is typically requested by the roadway owner and the audit is between SPC and the roadway owner. It is not publically distributed. Distribution is up to the roadway owner.

Domenic then presented on the specific RSA that was conducted on SR 217, which is known as Walnut Street in Blairsville Borough. Major themes that were identified were truck traffic/routing, curve delineation and vehicle speeds. He reviewed safety successes, such as edge lines on Walnut Street from Johnson Avenue to the 217 bridge; geometric improvements at Newport Road and “Slow” pavement markings and warning signs at curves. Domenic concluded with detailed observations and corresponding short and long-term suggestions made by the team to improve safety at specific locations along the corridor.

Evaluating Bicycle, Pedestrian, Transit and Economic Data Collection Needs and Measures of Effectiveness in Pennsylvania: Dr. Mark Magalotti, University of Pittsburgh

Dr. Magalotti and his team conducted a research project to evaluate current data collection procedures for bicycle and pedestrian projects utilized by PennDOT, MPOs and RPOs and to assess whether additional data collection could support Measures of Effectiveness (MOEs) for planning and design activities. He went over literature research, current data collection methods and utilization in PA, survey results and case study findings. He concluded by reviewing recommendations to improve the project development process, project programming and PennDOT and MPO system performance. The report was released by PennDOT and can also be viewed at

https://ucsur.pitt.edu/files/center/Bicycle_Pedestrian_Transit_PA_2018.pdf

3. Capacity building

Pedestrian

Walkability Action Institute /Team AC; Hannah Hardy, Allegheny County Health Department

As shared at the March Active Transportation Forum, Team AC (Allegheny County) was one of nine teams across the country that was selected to attend this multi-day walkability training course, which was held in Decatur, GA in April 2018. Hannah provided background on the Walkability Action Institute, which is sponsored by the National Association of Chronic Disease Directors, discussed why improving walkability is important and explained the importance of interdisciplinary teams. Team AC members are listed below.

Team AC members:

- Allegheny County Economic Development Department – Ann Ogoreuc
- Allegheny County Health Department – Hannah Hardy
- SPC – Leann Chaney
- WalkWorks – Carol Reichbaum
- Wilkinsburg Borough – Mayor Marita Garrett

Bonus Team Members:

- American Public Health Association – Jason Coates, Katherine Robb

Hannah identified the course instructors and elaborated on the topics and activities that all attendees participated in, by day. She also highlighted the vision and goals that Team AC established during the workshop and reviewed the actions steps, key questions and concerns/barriers that the group felt they would encounter as they move forward with implementation.

Team AC Vision

Team AC will increase walkability in Southwestern PA by building the capacity of local jurisdictions and government officials (elected and staff) to make their communities more walkable and bikeable for all residents through the implementation of Policy, Systems and Environment (PSE) changes.

Team AC Goals

Goal #1: By December 2019 Team AC will develop the Southwestern PA Walkability Audit for Action Program for the Southwestern PA Commission 10 county region and work with at least one jurisdiction in Allegheny County to implement the program.

Goal #2: By 2019 Team AC will research and develop best practices for zoning ordinances that will encourage walkability and promote equity in local communities and share with all municipalities in Allegheny County to facilitate adoption.

Goal #3: By the end of 2019 Team AC will facilitate the adoption and implementation of complete streets policies in the SPC region.

4. Education & Advocacy

Roundtable updates

Roundtable updates included:

- News that a WalkWorks funding announcement will be coming up for funding toward development of 8-9 Active Transportation Plans statewide.
- Butler-Freeport Community Trail held a ribbon-cutting on the opening of the Climax Tunnel and has applied for funding to rehabilitate and open the Brady Tunnel.
- Efforts to connect Hazelwood to Oakland are moving forward.
- Indiana County recently held their 2nd decathlon.
- Allegheny County applied for funding to conduct a feasibility study to connect Trafford to the GAP.
- Penn State Extension / Smart Growth is working with those interested in extending the Westmoreland Heritage Trail into downtown and connecting with the GAP – Delmont is interested, too.