

**Meeting Minutes for May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2018**  
**Transportation Technical Committee**  
**SPC Conference Center**  
**Two Chatham Center, Pittsburgh PA 15219**

Attendees:

- Stephen Shanley, Allegheny County Department of Public Works
- Tammy Frank, Beaver County Liquid Fuels
- Kevin Gray, Butler County Planning Commission
- Arthur Cappella, Fayette County Zoning, Planning and Community Development
- Jeremy Kelly, Greene County Planning Commission
- Dr. Jeff Raykes, Indiana County Office of Planning and Development
- Dan Grenarro, Indiana County Office of Planning and Development
- Amy McKinney, Lawrence County Department of Planning and Community Development
- Jeffery Leithauser, Washington County Planning Commission
- Daniel Carpenter, Westmoreland County Department of Planning and Development
- Kevin McCullough, PennDOT Central Office
- Dave Cook, PennDOT District 10-0
- Rob Miskanic, PennDOT District 11-0
- Gary Barber, PennDOT District 12-0 \*
- Angela Saunders, PennDOT District 12-0 \*
- Josh Theakston, PennDOT District 12-0 \*
- Amy Mathieson, Airport Corridor Transportation Association
- Matt Pavlosky, Port of Pittsburgh Commission
- David Beachy, GHD, Inc
- Steve Shadle, CDRM
- Andy Waple, SPC Transportation Director
- Dom D'Andrea, SPC Staff
- Ryan Gordon, SPC Staff
- Chuck Imbrogno, SPC Staff
- Dan Alwine, SPC Staff
- Josh Spano, SPC Staff
  
- Indicates voting member
- \* Participated via telephone

## **1. Call to Order**

Andy Waple called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.

## **2. Action on the April 19<sup>th</sup> TTC Meeting Minutes (Handout 1)**

A motion was made by Art Cappella and seconded by Jeff Leithauser to accept the April 19<sup>th</sup> TTC meeting minutes as presented. The TTC approved.

## **3. Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

## **4. FHWA/PennDOT Central Office Reports**

Kevin McCullough and SPC staff provided updates on the following items:

### *A. Air Quality Conformity - DC Circuit Court Decision*

The DC Circuit Court of Appeals ruled in the case "South Coast Air Quality Management District vs EPA", which was decided on February 16, 2018, that EPA erred in the way it revoked the 1997 8-hour ozone air quality standard. In 2012, EPA implemented the 2008 8-hour ozone standard and, at the same time revoked the 1997 standard and determined that conformity assessments were not required for attainment areas under the 2008 standards. This EPA action meant that SPC no longer had to demonstrate conformity to the ozone air quality standard for Greene and Indiana counties since the 1997 standard no longer applied and both counties are attainment areas under the 2008 standard

For the SPC region the court ruling means that we once again have to include Greene and Indiana counties in the demonstration of conformity to the ozone air quality standards. Both counties are maintenance areas under the 1997 standards. It also means that SPC has to demonstrate conformity to the old (1997) ozone standard for the Pittsburgh-Beaver Valley ozone nonattainment area (Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Butler, Fayette, Washington, Westmoreland counties) in addition to the newer (2008) ozone standard.

This resulted in a lot of extra work (for SPC, the PennDOT Program Center, and other MPOs across Pennsylvania and the country) to re-create the files needed for the emissions modeling under the 1997 ozone standard. And then to run the emissions

models for the three (reinstated) areas for five analysis years. SPC did not have to change the draft TIP. But did have to do some extra emissions model runs (approximately 30hrs of additional computer processing time)

*B. [BUILD Funding Program](#)(Handout 2)*

The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) on April 25<sup>th</sup> published a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) to apply for \$1.5 billion in discretionary grant funding through the Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Transportation Discretionary Grants program.

BUILD Transportation grants replace the pre-existing Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grant program. FY 2018 BUILD Transportation grants are for investments in surface transportation infrastructure and are to be awarded on a competitive basis for projects that will have a significant local or regional impact. BUILD funding can support roads, bridges, transit, rail, ports or intermodal transportation.

The deadline to submit an application for the FY 2018 BUILD Transportation Discretionary Grants program is July 19, 2018.

*C. [ATCMD Funding Program](#)(Handout 3)*

Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) on April 18<sup>th</sup> published a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for states, cities and other agencies to compete for \$60 million in Advanced Transportation and Congestion Management Technologies Deployment Program (ATCMTD) grants to fund new technologies that improve transportation efficiency and safety.

The deadline to submit an application for the ATCMTD Grants program is June 18, 2018.

*D. [Surface Transportation Block Grant Program \(STBGP\) Increase](#)*

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) has apportioned the \$1.98 billion in additional funding provided through the Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBGP) in the fiscal year 2018 appropriations bill passed earlier this year. These funds are suballocated in the same manner as they were in the FAST Act authorization bill. Pennsylvania received \$82M. PennDOT Central Office intends to

utilize the funds to resolve some cash flow issues the Districts had encountered when working with planning partners in developing regional TIPs. These totals are above and beyond any STBGP funds provided through the FAST Act itself.

*E. TSMO Funding Program (Handout 4)*

PennDOT announced a new Transportation Systems Management and Operations (TSMO) Capital Funding Initiative. As part of the draft FFY 2019 Program update, PennDOT Secretary Richards, set-a-side \$5 Million dollars of SPIKE funds per FFY for this initiative.

The TSMO Capital Funding Initiative will help to promote and support the implementation of TSMO strategies to resolve key mobility and safety issues. The initiative has been designed to double the individual efforts of interested Metropolitan and Rural Planning Organizations to improve TSMO within Pennsylvania.

Planning Partners can submit applications for candidate projects from April 30th to August 3rd 2018 for the FFY 2019 and FFY 2020 funding.

*F. State TAP Awards (Attachment 5)*

Governor Tom Wolf and PennDOT Secretary Leslie S. Richards announced on May 8<sup>th</sup> the approval of funding for 82 projects across the Commonwealth totaling \$66.8M through the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP).

Below are the seven selected projects in the SWPA region; these will be added the region’s TIP in October 2018.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Sponsor</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>TA \$</b>	<b>Description</b>
Critical Sidewalk Gap Improvements	City of Pittsburgh	Allegheny	\$980,000	Enhance pedestrian safety and access by constructing sidewalks within critical gaps throughout the city.
Safe Routes to School Coordinator and Programming	City of Pittsburgh	Allegheny	\$464,011	Hire a full-time Safe Route to School coordinator to increase safe walking and bicycling opportunities for city students, purchase and distribute safety items (helmets, lights, reflectors) and expand the after school bike program.
D-10 CTSP Bicycling and Walking Safety Education	Indiana University of Pennsylvania	Indiana	\$56,647	To purchase materials to educate and encourage children in kindergarten through the eighth grade to safely walk or bicycle to school.

Eisenhower Safe Sidewalks	Indiana Borough	Indiana	\$355,880	To install 2,500 feet of five-foot-wide sidewalks, 30 ADA accessible ramps and crosswalks, and appropriate signage within a two block area surrounding the Dwight D. Eisenhower Elementary School.
Hoodlebug Trail Resurfacing	Indiana County	Indiana	\$310,495	For trail surface, base and drainage improvements to the Hoodlebug Trail from Saylor Park to north of Homer City.
North Country Trail Safety Upgrade	Shenango Township	Lawrence	\$920,000	To construct a dedicated trail lane for North Country Trail users along Sankey Hill Road.
Loyalhanna Creek Trail Segments 5 & 6	Derry Township Municipal Authority	Westmoreland	\$1,000,000	To construct a trail that will extend from Keystone State Park in Derry Township to the New Alexandria Borough Municipal Park.

PennDOT evaluated the applications and made selections based on such criteria as safety benefits, reasonableness of cost, readiness for implementation, statewide or regional significance, integration of land use and transportation decision making, collaboration with stakeholders, and leverage of other projects or funding.

## 5. Action on Modifications to 2017-2020 TIP (Handout 6)

### A. PennDOT District 10-0

Dave Cook reviewed the requested TIP modification. There was one administrative modification requiring TTC action (as highlighted in Handout 6).

Jeff Raykes made a motion to approve, which was seconded by Kevin Gray, and the TTC approved the administrative modification as presented.

### B. PennDOT District 11-0

Rob Miskanic reviewed the requested TIP modifications. There were four groupings of modifications requiring TTC approval; one amendment and three administrative (as highlighted in Handout 2).

The amendment action involved a cost increase to the “PA 837/33<sup>rd</sup> Street to Smithfield Street” project in FFY 2018 in the amount of \$9.8M (100% federal) for additional scope of work items. This project will address congestion and safety issues for pedestrian, bike and motor vehicles, signal upgrades, signing updates, and milling and resurfacing.

Tammy Frank made a motion to approve, which was seconded by Amy McKinney, and the TTC approved the modifications as requested.

### C. PennDOT District 12-0

Angela Saunders reviewed the requested TIP modification. There were seven groupings of administrative modifications requiring TTC approval (as highlighted in Handout 6).

Jeff Leithauser made a motion to approve, which was seconded by Jeremy Kelly, and the TTC approved the modifications as presented.

## 6. 2019 TIP Development

### A. *Interagency Coordination Group Review*

Chuck Imbrogno highlighted the efforts and coordination that have occurred to ensure proper descriptions, schedules, and geographic limits are being given to projects on the draft TIP. These items assist in properly identifying the air quality codes that need to be attached to projects. A completed draft list of projects was submitted to the Pennsylvania Interagency Coordination Group (ICG). The group consists of EPA, DEP, FHWA and FTA. The ICG provided comments to SPC. SPC staff addressed all comments and resubmitted to the ICG for their concurrence.

### B. *PPP Schedule Update (Handout 7)*

Andy Waple stated that the Public Comment period has changed as a result of the DC Circuit Court Decision. The Public Comment period will now run from May 14th until June 13th. The Allegheny County and the City of Pittsburgh public meeting is rescheduled for June 7th.

### C. *TIP Summary Story Map*

Ryan Gordon demonstrated an interactive explanatory series of maps for the 2019 TIP. The series of interactive maps explains the development process of the 2019 TIP and includes nine interactive maps and eight charts that explain the 2019 TIP. Following the TTC meeting a link will be sent out to TTC members via e-mail. The application is being used at the Draft TIP Public Meetings and a link is posted with the SPC draft TIP public involvement web page.

### D. *Smart Program Update*

Andy Waple informed TTC members that the schedule needs to be adjusted. Recommendation on the program of projects will be pushed back a month due to a new candidate project being submitted by Butler County in substitute for their previous candidate project submission; in addition, the City of Beaver Falls has been

working with District 11-0 on a betterment project in the community. Some Smart transportation items were identified at the PennDOT Connects meeting and the District and the City will be drafting an application for those Smart transportation improvements. The TTC did not have any issues with the schedule adjustment associated with the new candidate projects.

#### *E. TIP Process Debrief*

Ryan Gordon noted SPC staff's intent to conduct a survey for the TIP work group participants to assess the 2019 TIP update process. The survey will help to evaluate the TIP update process and identify areas for enhancements in the 2021 TIP update process.

### **7. Federal Transportation Performance Management Update (PM3)**

Chuck Imbrogno provided an overview of the federal transportation performance measures. He explained that five separate rulemakings by USDOT (FHWA and FTA) in 2016 and 2017 defined a set of 21 transportation performance measures and established a performance-based transportation planning process for State DOTs, MPOs, and Transit agencies to calculate baseline measures, set performance target, monitor and measure progress toward targets, report to USDOT, and revise and update targets on a regular basis. Target setting for the 5 Safety measures was completed by Pennsylvania and its MPOs in accord with FHWA's schedule last summer and fall. SPC adopted its targets (endorsed the states targets) on December 12.

Targets for 6 bridge and pavement condition measures, 3 system reliability measures, and 3 CMAQ Program measures are due by May 20. PennDOT is on course to submit them on time. After the state targets are set, MPOs have 180 days (until November 16) to set their targets for these measures.

The transit agency targets are due on October 1 with the corresponding MPO targets due by March 29, 2019.

In addition, MPOs need to prepare a CMAQ Performance Plan by October 1. It should include the 2 and 4 year targets for the CMAQ Measures, the baseline traffic congestion targets, emissions reductions expected from the programmed CMAQ projects, descriptions of how the CMAQ projects and how they will contribute toward the emission reduction targets. The CMAQ Performance Plans are to be updated every 2 years with a conditions report, an assessment of progress toward the targets, and, as applicable, updated 4 year targets.

Amendments to the federal Transportation Planning Regulations were also made by USDOT to include processes for carrying out the performance-based transportation planning process. The amended planning regulations set the overall process and schedule, requires new (or updated) MOUs among MPOs, State DOTs and transit operators to set local roles and responsibilities and requires that new TIPs and Long Range Plans include discussion of the local targets, and the monitoring and reporting process.

## **8. Long-Range Plan Update**

Andy Waple discussed the status of the Long Range Plan Update. The scenario planning approach will focus on five broad “Forces of Change” categories. These categories include Social/Demographics, Technology, Environment, Economics and Public Policy/Financing. SPC is developing expert panels (invitations have been sent out) that will discuss and develop reports on current trends in these categories and work to develop scenarios on where these forces are likely to trend over the next 25-30 years. These scenarios will then be used to develop policies and strategies so that the region is prepared for likely outcomes and able to be nimble in response to unexpected outcomes. These policies and strategies will be the foundation of the SPC’s next Long-Range Plan.

## **9. Other Business / Status Reports**

Andy Waple highlighted past and upcoming meetings/events listed below:

- A. *May 3<sup>rd</sup> – Alliance for Transportation Working in Communities*
- B. *May 10<sup>th</sup> – CommuteInfo Partners*
- C. *May 17<sup>th</sup> – Transportation Technical Committee*
- D. *June 6<sup>th</sup> – Active Transportation Forum*
- E. *June 12<sup>th</sup> – Long-Range Plan Expert Panel Work Group #1*
- F. *June 20<sup>th</sup> – Transit Operators Committee*
- G. *June 21<sup>st</sup> – Transportation Technical Committee*
- H. *June 25<sup>th</sup> – SPC Executive Committee and Commission*
- I. *June 28<sup>th</sup> – Transportation Operations and Safety Forum*
- J. *July 25<sup>th</sup> – Long-Range Plan Expert Panel Work Group #2*

## **10. Adjourn**

Jeff Leithauser made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Amy McKinney and the TTC approved adjournment of the meeting at 12 pm.