

Meeting Minutes for November 21, 2019
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
- * Darin Alviano, Armstrong County Department of Planning and Development
- Joe West, Beaver County Planning Commission
- * Tammy Frank, Beaver County Liquid Fuels
- Joel MacKay, Butler County Planning Commission
- Arthur Cappella, Fayette County Zoning, Planning and Community Development
- Jeremy L. Kelly, Greene County
- Josh Krug, Indiana County Office of Planning and Development
- Amy McKinney, Lawrence County Planning Commission
- Jeffrey W. Leithauser, Washington County Planning Commission
- * Jeff Skalican, City of Pittsburgh
- Tim Disalvio, City of Pittsburgh
- Kevin McCullough, PennDOT Central Office
- Harold Swan, PennDOT District 10-0
- Rob Miskanic, PennDOT District 11-0
- Stephanie Spang, PennDOT District 11-0
- Josh Theakston, PennDOT District 12-0
- Jessica Setmire, PennDOT District 12-0
- David Wohlwill, Port Authority
- Lynn Manion, Airport Corridor Transportation Association
- Lucinda Beattie, Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership
- Nick Sagan CDR Maguire
- Joe Ruskewicz, TranSystems
- Chris Smallidge, Michael Baker
- Andy Waple, SPC Transportation Director
- Ryan Gordon, SPC Staff
- Chuck Imbrogno, SPC Staff
- Tom Klevan, SPC Staff
- John Weber, SPC Staff
- Erika Eagan, SPC Staff
- Lillian Gabreski, SPC Staff

- Indicates TTC voting member
- * Participated via telephone

1. Call to Order

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

2. Action on the October 10th TTC Meeting Minutes ([Handout 1](#))

A motion was made by Jeremy Kelly and seconded by Josh Krug to accept the October 10th TTC meeting minutes as presented. The TTC approved.

3. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

4. FHWA/PennDOT Central Office Reports (Handout 2)

Kevin McCullough noted that due to changes in staffing, FHWA will be providing an update on reassignments to the region in the near future.

Kevin noted there was a press release regarding the release of [DCED Multimodal Transportation Funds \(MTF\)](#).

Kevin stated that Safety Performance Targets were released with updated numbers. Andy Waple noted that the letter in Handout 2 states that MPOs could choose to adopt statewide targets or adopt their own. During the last round, MPOs chose to adopt state safety targets, none of which were met. This round, the 2% reduction across all categories will be reduced to 1%. SPC is running its own analysis to determine if it will support the state targets or choose its own targets. Updated Safety Performance Targets will be brought to the Commission for approval in January. Kevin McCullough added that when MPOs do not meet their targets there are ramifications including a performance plan, tightened use of HSIP funds, etc. so it is important to set realistic targets and PennDOT will be supportive of what is best for the region.

Kevin announced that the 2021 SPIKE Program was released, which mostly consisted of carryover projects. Andy went over the regional projects on the SPIKE list and noted that the investment of discretionary SPIKE funding for Southwestern Pennsylvania is minimal when compared to investments in the central and eastern areas of the Commonwealth.

5. Planning Partners Recap

Andy Waple gave a brief overview of the Planning Partners meeting that was held in October 2019. It included three days of meetings and presentations. The first day consisted of an MPO caucus – which discussed increasing collaboration and technical coordination among the MPOs statewide. FHWA gave an update regarding performance measures and targets, which were also covered by the safety division and asset management divisions. Andy and Ryan presented SPC's newly adopted Long Range Plan. Other topics of discussion included PennDOT Connects training, asset management, freight, and more.

6. Action on Modifications to 2019-2022 TIP (Handout 3)

A. PennDOT District 10-0

Harold Swan reviewed the requested TIP modifications. There were no amendments and one grouping of administrative modifications requiring TTC approval.

Arthur Cappella made a motion to approve, which was seconded by Joe West, and the TTC approved the modifications as requested by Harold.

B. PennDOT District 11-0

Rob Miskanic reviewed the requested TIP modifications. There were no amendments and three groupings of administrative modifications requiring TTC approval.

Ann Ogoreuc made a motion to approve, which was seconded by Joe West, and the TTC approved the modifications as requested by Rob.

C. PennDOT District 12-0

Josh Theakston reviewed the requested TIP modifications. There were no amendments and two groupings of administrative modifications requiring TTC approval.

Jeremy Kelly made a motion to approve the amendments and modifications, seconded by Amy McKinney, and the TTC approved the modifications as requested by Josh.

7. 2021 TIP Update

A. Schedule Overview and TIP Work Group Meetings Recap

Ryan Gordon summarized the third and fourth rounds of the TIP work group meetings. In District 10, he noted that SPC would be working with the districts to make changes based on the SPIKE list/Balls Bend project, and would send out the revised TIP via email. In District 11, another work group meeting will be held on December 9th in order to fully incorporate SPIKE funds and other projects that need to be adjusted or fit in. In District 12, the fourth work group meeting was held on November 25th.

B. PennDOT Connects

Ryan noted that efforts were underway to host PennDOT Connects meetings for new projects slotted into the pre-draft TIP, and that he attended a few meetings in District 10.

C. PPP Recap and Upcoming Meetings

Ryan stated that PPP meetings were underway and that the last meeting will be held in Armstrong County on December 5th. Andy Waple reiterated that these meetings have been local project focused and featured heavy discussion on the state funding situation. He added that new commissioners have been attending PPP meetings and are engaged in the planning process. Ryan and Andy thanked the TTC members and the county commissioners for their input and participation in the public meetings. Andy added that with the new UPWP, SPC will be looking at the structure of the PPPs, which have been in place for 15 or so years, to see if improvements can be made.

D. CMAQ

Andy noted that the third CMAQ Evaluation Committee meeting would be held directly following TTC and that deliverability scoring had been completed. The CEC will be presented with weighting scenarios in order to select a ranked project list, and will prepare a set of recommendations for inclusion in the draft TIP to be presented to the Commission in December.

8. Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Program Update (Handout 4)

Ryan Gordon went over the projects submitted for TA funding and reiterated the process for applying for and receiving TA funds. Funding for projects is released on a first-come first-serve basis, meaning any approved projects that are ready for construction may receive funding.

SPC staff reviewed eligibility with PennDOT Central Office and notified any projects that had eligibility problems so that they could resubmit their projects. The projects that were resubmitted included Mellon Terrace Layover (now Multimodal Improvements), South Hills Junction Improvements, and Canonsburg Lake Causeway Multimodal Modernization. Fernway Bicycle and Pedestrian Implementation Plan was withdrawn from consideration due to practical funding considerations.

Ryan presented a preliminary ranking of TA candidate projects but noted that it would change, as it does not include deliverability ratings or weighting. The next step in the process will be rating project deliverability, which will be conducted by voting members of TTC and a handful of PennDOT District staff. Ratings will be done in Decision Lens, Andy Waple noted that if anyone has trouble using the software they should contact SPC staff. All relevant documentation is stored on the SPC SharePoint site. Ryan noted that he would be sending out links to both sites via email, and that they should be opened in Internet Explorer.

Kevin McCullough added that applicants should be thinking about ways to incorporate deliverability information into their applications. He raised the issue of improving the process to make deliverability more impactful in how project selection is conducted.

9. 2020-2022 Draft UPWP

Andy Waple noted that the draft UPWP was submitted to PennDOT Central Office and FHWA for review. Tomorrow morning, SPC staff will be sending the draft UPWP out to TTC members for review and comment. He requested that members provide any comments so that they can be incorporated into the final draft before it is presented to the Commission in December. After this point, it will be submitted formally to FHWA and PennDOT in January.

10. SR 28 Corridor Study Update

Andy Waple announced that McCormick Taylor was selected to conduct the SR 28 Corridor Study. The kickoff meeting will be held on December 5th, 2019. The study is a collaborative effort by SPC, the North Central MPO and the Northeastern MPO, as well as Armstrong, Jefferson, and Clarion counties and PennDOT District 10-0. The study will be wrapped up by the end of June 2020. Darin Alviano thanked SPC for helping the region secure funding for this project, and that this study will be important in driving economic activity and improving connections.

11. County Transportation Planning Coordination Meetings

Andy Waple raised the concept of holding meetings in each county between the county, the PennDOT District Planner, and the municipalities, based on a planned meeting to be held in Butler County. These meetings would discuss the TIP, funding opportunities, project management, and coordination of municipal needs and opportunities for funding. Interested counties should let SPC know so that these meetings can be setup. He noted these meetings could be county specific, tailored to each county's needs and specific items for discussion. TTC members, specifically county planners, expressed support for this kind of meeting as a valuable way to engage with their municipalities.

12. Other Business / Status Reports

- A. *December 4th – Active Transportation Forum*
- B. *December 11th – Transit Operators Committee (TOC)*
- C. *December 12th – Transportation Technical Committee (TTC)*
- D. *December 16th – Commission and Executive Committee*

David Wohlwill announced that the Port Authority anticipates receiving its first two battery electric buses next month, with the plan being to operate them on the 88 Penn Route.

13. Adjourn

Ann Ogoreuc made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Joe West, and the TTC approved adjournment of the meeting at 11:15 p.m.