



Southwestern Pennsylvania Active Transportation Forum

Wednesday, June 5, 2019

10:00 AM – Noon

North Meeting Room, 4th Floor

Two Chatham Center, 112 Washington Place

Pittsburgh, PA 15219

MEETING SUMMARY

Attendance

First	Last	Organization
Aidan	Merer	PennDOT D-11
Allison	Robinson	UPMC
Andrea	Elcock	Port Authority
Ann	Ogoreuc	Allegheny County Economic Development
Beth	Lively	Buhler Engineering
Betsy	Zang	McCormick Taylor
Bill	Lesterick	PennDOT D-11
Chloe	Guy	PennDOT D-11
Courtney	Mahronich Vita	Friends of the Riverfront
Darin	Alviano	Armstrong County
Doniele	Russell	Lawrence County
Eric	Boerer	BikePGH
Jarrett	Crowell	Oakland Planning & Development Corporation
Jeb	Feldman	McKees Rocks CDC
Joel	Mackay	Butler County
Josh	Krug	Indiana County
Laurie	Lafontaine	C & I Trail Council, Indiana County Parks & Trails
Linda	Gwinn	Blairsville Community Development Authority (BCDA)
Mark	Magalotti	University of Pittsburgh
Martell	Covington	Senator Costa's Office
Mary	Shaw	Trail Volunteer Fund, Free Wheeling Easy
Mavis	Rainey	Oakland Transportation Management Agency (OTMA)
Mike	Zizan	Skelly and Loy
Paige	Anderson	Department of Mobility & Infrastructure (DOMI)
Rich	Fender	Westmoreland County
Richard	Feder	University of Pittsburgh, Squirrel Hill Urban Coalition

Ron	Steffey	Steffey Trail Connections
Roy	Weil	Trail Volunteer Fund, Free Wheeling Easy
Sara	Khalil	Pittsburgh Bike Share / Healthy Ride

SPC Staff

First	Last	Title
Andy	Waple	Director, Transportation Planning
Belachew	Ayele	Data Analyst
Caitlin	Huang	Data Intern
Kim	Beaver	Grant Manager
Leann	Chaney	Transportation Planner
Tom	Klevan	Manager, Multimodal Planning

1. Welcome & Introductions

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

2. Presentations

SPC Active Transportation Planning –update: Leann shared that the *Regional Active Transportation for Southwestern Pennsylvania* was adopted by the SPC Commission on April 29, 2019. She also stated that work on updating the active transportation profiles for each county has been started and requested that attendees let her know of any updates in their counties. Leann provided a brief update of other active transportation planning activities that are underway. These include Communities of Concern mapping; bike counting for 2019; development of a guide for understanding bike symbols, signs and pavement markings; bicycle level of traffic stress mapping; and GIS work on a regional sidewalk inventory. She asked that anyone interested in volunteering to conduct validation counts at bicycle count locations let her know. She also requested photos of on-street bicycle facilities for use in the guide.

Erie to Pittsburgh Trail: Ron Steffey, Steffey Trail Connections and Courtney Mahronich Vita, Friends of the Riverfront provided an update on trail development activities for the Erie to Pittsburgh Trail. Courtney presented background information on the formation of the Erie to Pittsburgh Trail Alliance (EPTA) in 2005, and the EPTA Strategic Plan and Gap Committee. She shared that, as of the end of 2018, trail development is about 66% complete. Ron reviewed specific examples of trail gaps and also discussed the “Spectrum of Allies” as it relates to trail development, stating that as you get everyone to move over one step on the spectrum and bring more people on board, active opposition becomes alienated. Courtney discussed trail development taking place in Brackenridge Borough, Springdale Borough, Harmar Township, and O’Hara Township and shared that they are making progress and celebrating openings.

Evaluating the Air Quality Benefits of the Healthy Ride Bikeshare System: Dr. Mark Magalotti presented findings from research conducted to evaluate the air quality benefits of the Healthy Ride Bikeshare System in the Pittsburgh Region and the Oakland section of Pittsburgh, as well as the methodology for predicting benefits. He reviewed data collection efforts which involved conducting a survey of Healthy Ride users, the steps involved in

data analysis and key findings. The report is available on the OTMA website and will also be available on SPC's Active Transportation Resource Center (atrc-spc.org tabs: Evaluation + Planning, TDM).

WalkWorks Data Collection Guide to Measure Walking Activity: Dr. Mark Magalotti and Elisabeth Lively (former student researcher) provided a presentation on the WalkWorks Data Collection Guide to Measure Walking Activity, which was developed for use in PA. Dr. Magalotti shared that the goal of the data collection guide is to measure changes due to improved walking infrastructure or establishment of recreational walking routes. The guide provides information on methods to collect the data and provides factors to adjust the collected data to compare activity levels over time. Factors are provided for two types of walking environments - a business district and a residential area. The guide will be available on SPC's Active Transportation Resource Center.

3. Education & Advocacy

Roundtable updates included mention of upcoming events; the Escape to the Lake (MS 150 ride), Lawrence County's Donut Ride, Pittsburgh's Open Streets events, and a Ghost Town Trail event celebrating 25 years. Other highlights included BikePGH supporting the push to change the PA Vehicle Code to allow parking protected bike lanes on state-owned roads under House Bill 792 which is coming up for a vote; Trail Volunteer Fund reminder that the *Freewheeling Easy in and Around Western Pennsylvania, NE* guide book is available and that it provides a wealth of information on trails; announcement of public meetings for DOMI's *Strip District Mobility + Parking Management Plan*; a reminder that public comments for the RT 885 Study are due June 7 and that the last public meeting for the study will be held in July, with the project wrapping up in September; Armstrong County shared that they are working on two trail extension projects; UPMC shared that they are engaging in a parking app, Venture Outdoors, provided information about Erie 2030 District's effort to promote active transportation as a means to reduce environmental impact of autos in Erie and stated that according to Pittsburgh's Make My Trip Count survey, active transportation is increasing; C + I Trail Council suggested that we have Roy Gothie present on the statewide bike/ped plan and also stated that a study on paint/pavement materials for bike facilities is needed; Indiana County shared that Burrell Township denied the SALDO application for the Route 22 ped bridge project, but stated that that project and their multimodal project are both moving forward; announcement that SPC's TDM Action Plan is nearing completion and the draft plan will be available in the coming weeks.

4. Upcoming Events

OpenStreets Pittsburgh: June 30th, July 28th

5. Future meeting dates (tentative)

September 4, 2019

December 4, 2019

March 4, 2020

June 3, 2020

6. Networking Lunch