#### Southwestern Pennsylvania Corporation Board of Directors and Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission Executive Committee

April 27, 2020 – 3:45 p.m. Zoom Webinar Video – Chorus Call Audio

#### Instructions are as follows:

Meeting Video: https://zoom.us/j/94498095094

Meeting ID: 944 9809 5094

Password: 594637

#### **Conference Call Audio:**

Dial 1 800 882-3610 a recording will prompt you with instructions.

• Enter the passcode: 4345957, followed by the # key

• If you receive an invalid passcode response, disconnect and dial again. If you continue to receive an invalid passcode response, dial 1 800 967-4633 for operator assistance.

#### <u>AGENDA</u>

- 1. Call to Order
  - a. Quorum
  - b. Any Conflict of Interest Declarations on Action Items
- 2. Action on Minutes of the March 30th Corporation Board of Directors and Commission Executive Committee Meeting
- 3. Public Comment
- 4. Transportation Report Andy Waple
- 5. Planning and Development Report Jenn Lasser
- 6. Review Commission Agenda
- 7. Other Business/Announcements Jim Hassinger Next Meeting Date – May 18, 2020
- 8. New Business
- 9. Adjourn

#### Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission

ALLEGHENY · ARMSTRONG · BEAVER · BUTLER · FAYETTE · GREENE · INDIANA · LAWRENCE · PITTSBURGH · WASHINGTON · WESTMORELAND



# Commission Executive Committee Corporation Board of Directors

April 27, 2020

## Welcome

#### Please call in for audio:

- 1-800-882-3610
- Passcode: 4345957 #

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## Call to Order

- a. Quorum
- b. Conflict of Interest Declarations

**Corporation Board of Directors Commission Executive Committee** 

April 27, 2020 Agenda Item No. 2

# **Action**

Meeting Minutes March 30, 2020 **Corporation Board of Directors Commission Executive Committee** 

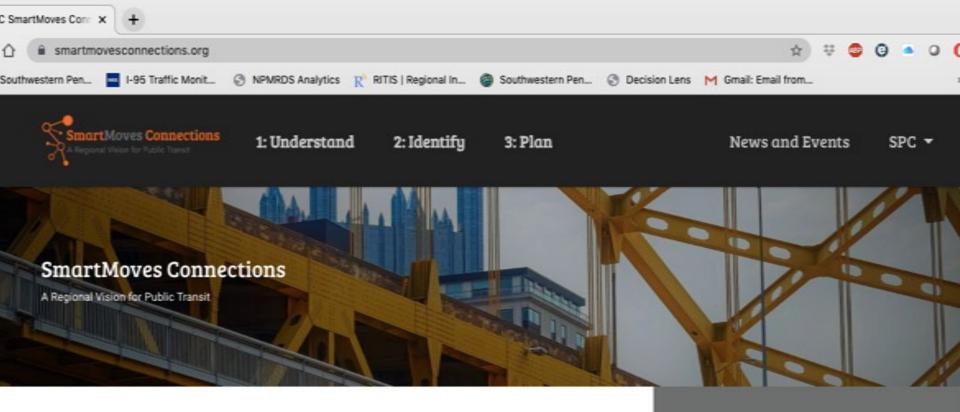
April 27, 2020 Agenda Item No. 3

# Public Comment

April 27, 2020 Agenda Item No. 4

## **Transportation Report**

Andy Waple, SPC



**Smart Moves Connections** provides a comprehensive regional vision for public transit in Southwestern Pennsylvania.



The Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission (SPC) is working to produce a comprehensive regional vision for public transit through a project titled SmartMoves Connections (SMC). This project builds on the recently updated Long Range Transportation Plan & Economic Development Strategy, SmartMoves for a Changing Region (SmartMoves).

Key strategies and actions from the SmartMoves for a Changing Region project included:

#### Upcoming Events

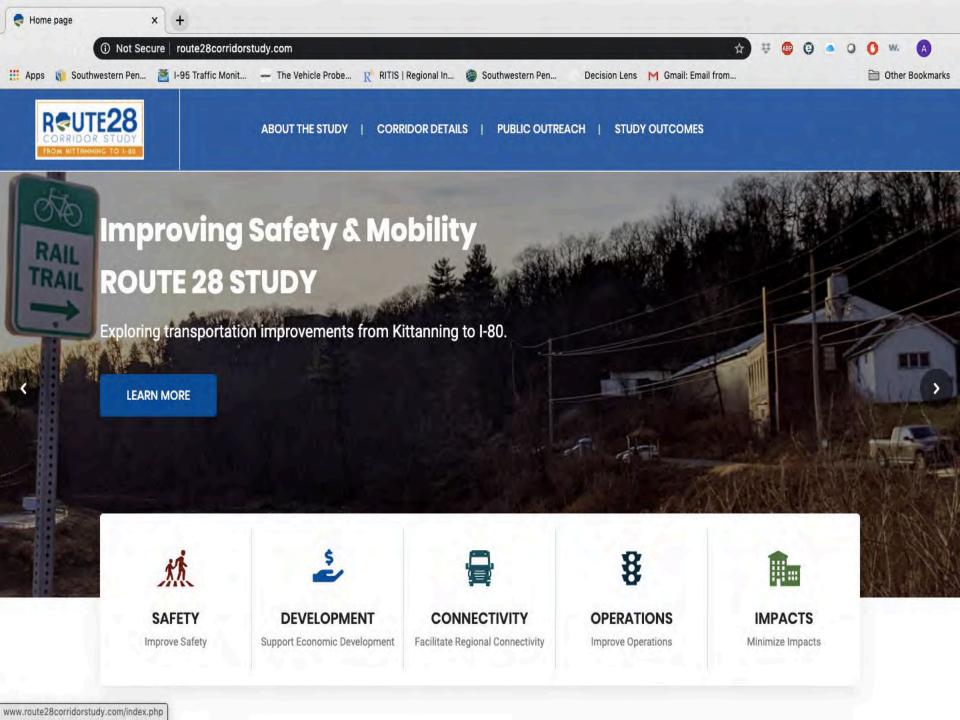


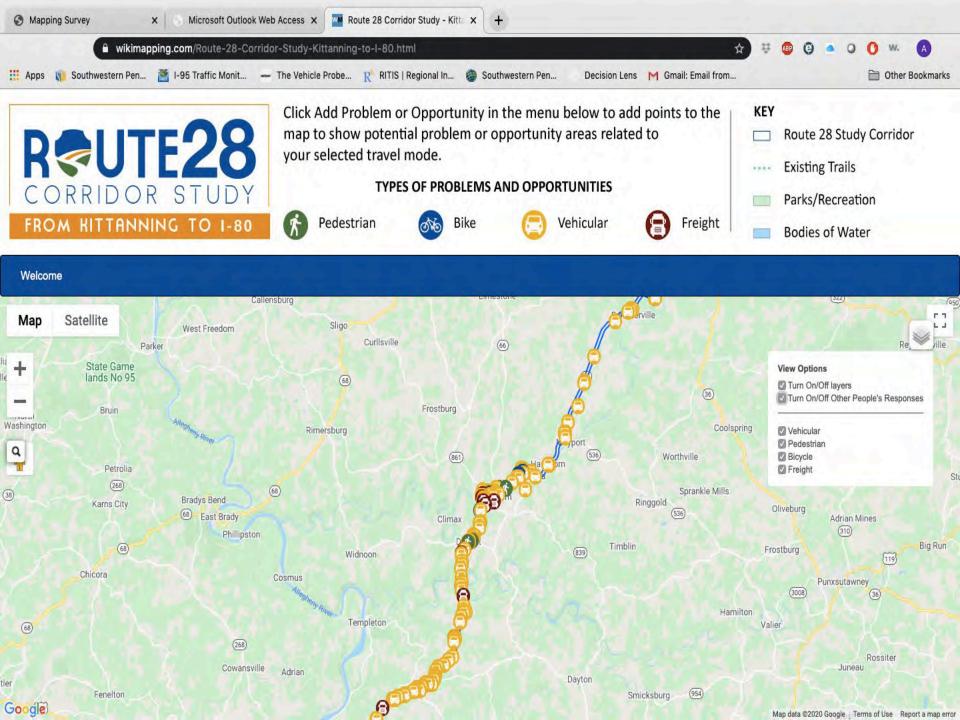
Stakeholders Workshop

#### Latest News



Helio SPC Region





#### What is the Safety Action Plan?

- Provides an overview of transportation safety for the region
- Integrates statewide planning for transportation safety
- Ensures regional collaboration
- Establishes regional....
  - Safety Goals & Objectives
  - Safety Performance Measures
  - Safety Focus Areas
  - Safety Projects & Program





April 27, 2020 Agenda Item No. <u>5</u>

# Planning & Development Report

Jenn Lasser, SPC

#### **Business Assistance**

- Export
  - 15 Companies Assisted; 24 Counseling Sessions
  - 6 Overseas Offices Work Orders Processed to 4 countries
- Government Procurement
  - 17 Companies Assisted; 26 Counseling Sessions
  - 2 Contract Awards totaling \$3,900,000
- Business Finance
  - 25 Companies Assisted; 33 Counseling Sessions; 11 PIDA COVID-19 Working Capital Access Ioan applications
  - New Business Finance Manager Steve Meredith (Feb 2020)

## Community Economic Technical Assistance

- Keystone Opportunity Zones (KOZ)
  - -2 Inquiries
  - 1 Application

 Why apply as a KOZ? - By eliminating specific state and local taxes within specific underdeveloped and underutilized areas, communities within Pennsylvania are experiencing economic growth.

#### Water Resource Center

- Moving to webinar-based trainings
- March-May Trainings are being rescheduled
- Website is complete check it out!



## Grants Applications & Meetings

#### Working on the following grants:

- LDDAP ARC POWER Applications
  - Broadband Initiative/ Entrepreneurship support
- ARC PREP Grant
- PTAC Grant

#### Meetings Held:

- Planning Director Meeting April 13<sup>th</sup>
  - Reviewed current meeting format
  - Discussed regional initiatives for focus for moving forward

### COVID-19 Business Challenges

What we are hearing from our conversation with business:

- Workforce Challenges
  - Laying off staff
  - How to get them back
- Working capital challenges
- Access to resources are temporary or inaccessible
  - Dollars available for only a few days and gone
- Feeling overwhelmed and nervous about the economic future

# What's Next Planning & Development

- Continue to serve regions businesses, community organizations and region
- Workforce connections partnerships
- Develop access to resources for capital when various loan funds no longer exist.
- More webinars vs. in-person events
- Flexibility in our offerings we provide the services needed by our businesses
- Triage and serve/connect business

#### Small Business – Testimonials

#### Testimonials from CWCA Customers

"With the advent of Covid 19, my small business was impacted and it was necessary to procure outside funding. It was reassuring to have the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission's Business Finance team work diligently to procure funding for my business. The team worked, what seemed to be around the clock, to assist me, and other southwestern PA businesses through this difficult time. The Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission's Business Finance Team is accessible, knowledgeable, and impactful for Southwestern PA businesses." - Dr. Eric J. Auslander - Mt. Lebanon Chiropractic

"During this difficult time in most small business owner's lives, it's great to find a group of people like SPC's Business Finance team. From the first point of contact until the disbursement of funds, this team has been nothing short of amazing. We really do credit our future to this wonderful team of individuals. We cannot thank them enough for everything they've done to make the process of obtaining necessary business funds reliable, easy to navigate, and most of all stress-free." Ashleigh Bell - 2XtremeMoms, LLC

April 27, 2020 Agenda Item No. 6

## Review Commission Agenda

Jim Hassinger, SPC

April 27, 2020 Agenda Item No. 7

#### Other Business/Announcements

Next Meeting Date—May 18, 2020

**Corporation Board of Directors Commission Executive Committee** 

April 27, 2020 Agenda Item No. 8

### **New Business**

**Corporation Board of Directors Commission Executive Committee** 

April 27, 2020 Agenda Item No. 9

## <u>Adjourn</u>