

Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission

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**Commission Executive Committee
Corporation Board of Directors**

May 18, 2020

Welcome

Meeting Video:

https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUrcOmrrDwpHtex0T39Ipl8_dEPnomua19c

- Please MUTE yourself when you are not speaking

Call to Order

- a. Quorum
- b. Conflict of Interest Declarations

Action

**Meeting Minutes
April 27, 2020**

**Corporation Board of Directors
Commission Executive Committee**

May 18, 2020

Agenda Item No. 3

Public Comment

Planning & Development Report

Jenn Lasser, SPC

Business Assistance – April 2020

- Export
 - 7 Companies Assisted; 7 Counseling Sessions
- Government Procurement
 - The position of Program Manager, Government Contract Procurement is Vacant – Hire Date Expected June 2020
- Business Finance
 - 33 Companies Assisted; 45 Counseling Sessions
 - 17 additional companies assisted with CWCA Applications, but window closed before submission – over 470+ inquiries
 - 9 PIDA COVID-19 Working Capital Access loan applications for a total of \$864,500 were closed (multiple in pipeline)

Community Economic Technical Assistance – April 2020

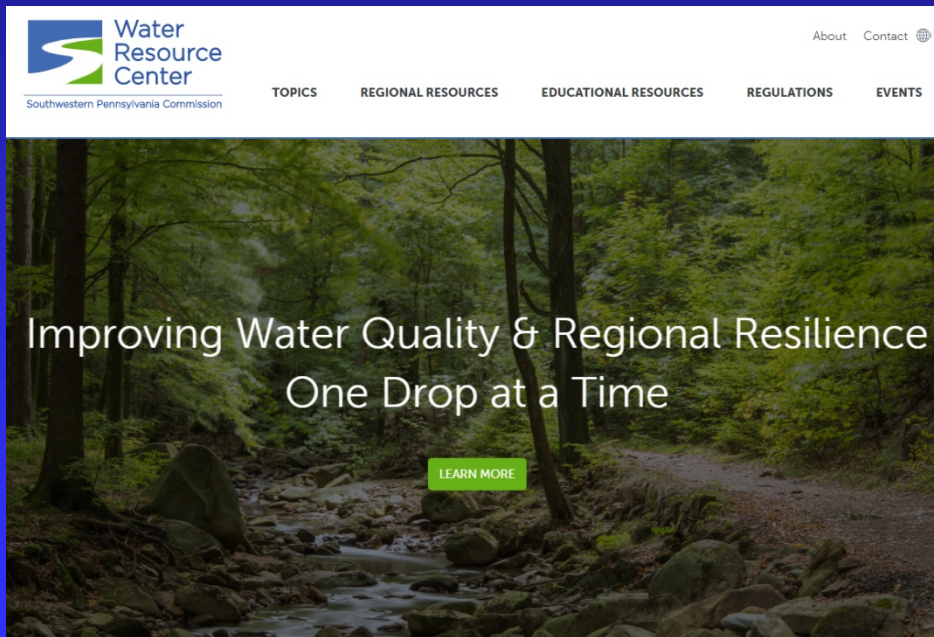
- Keystone Opportunity Zone (KOZs)
 - 1 Inquiry
- Why apply as a KOZ? - By eliminating specific state and local taxes within specific underdeveloped and underutilized areas, communities within Pennsylvania are experiencing economic growth.

Applications & Reports

- Grant/Program Applications in Progress
 - Regional Export Network
 - ARC PREP Grant FY20-21
 - EDA Year 2 Grant
- Reports
 - ARC PREP 3rd Qtr (January-March) FY19-20
 - EDA Semi-Annual (October-March) FY19-20

Water Resource Center

- New website launched April 1st
 - SPCWATER.ORG
- Second newsletter sent out April 2nd



The screenshot shows the homepage of the Water Resource Center website. At the top left is the logo for the Water Resource Center, which includes a stylized green and blue 'S' shape. To the right of the logo is the text 'Water Resource Center' and 'Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission'. In the top right corner, there are links for 'About' and 'Contact'. Below the header is a navigation menu with the following items: 'TOPICS', 'REGIONAL RESOURCES', 'EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES', 'REGULATIONS', and 'EVENTS'. The main content area features a large background image of a forest stream. Overlaid on this image is the text 'Improving Water Quality & Regional Resilience One Drop at a Time' in white. Below this text is a green button with the text 'LEARN MORE'.



The screenshot shows the cover of the WRC Newsletter for Spring 2020. At the top left is the Water Resource Center logo. To the right of the logo is the text 'Water Resource Center' and 'Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission'. In the top right corner, the text 'WRC Newsletter' is displayed in large white letters, with 'Spring 2020' below it. Below the header is a large image of a yellow flower with a bee on it. Below the image is a blue banner with the text 'WRC NEWS'. Below the banner is a section titled '*NEW* WEBSITE FOR THE WATER RESOURCE CENTER'. This section includes a small thumbnail of the website homepage and a text block that reads: 'The Water Resource Center has a new website! Check out spcwater.org to find information on various water topics relevant to southwestern Pennsylvania. If you have any feedback on the site, please reach out to us at wrc@spcregion.org.' Below this section is another section titled '*NEW* SPC OPEN DATA PORTAL'. This section includes a small thumbnail of the GIS portal and a text block that reads: 'SPC has a new Open Data portal through ArcGIS Online HUB. The

WRC Workshops

Upcoming Workshops:

- Workshops have been cancelled due to COVID-19
- Working with consultants to offer workshops in virtual format
- Dates for educational virtual sessions being sent out as organized.
- Plan future educational events in Summer/Early Fall

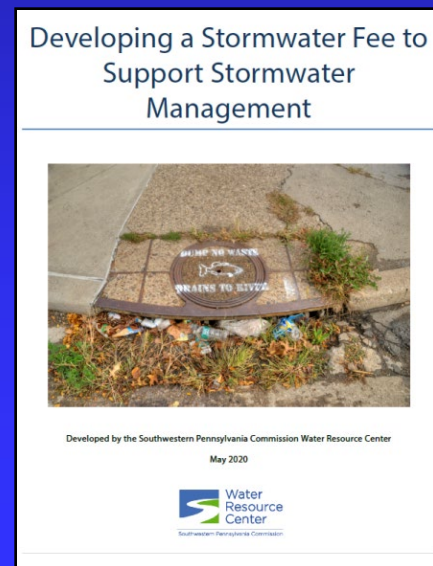
WRC: Other News

Virtual Meetings:

- April 6th – Participated in DEP virtual meeting with EPA, ORSANCO and other partners to collaborate on a 2021 conference for the Ohio Basin focusing on integrated source water protection (drinking water).
- April 13th – Attended planning directors meeting
- April 23rd – Attended 3RWW MS4 committee meeting

Educational Materials:

- Developing new resources on stormwater & flooding

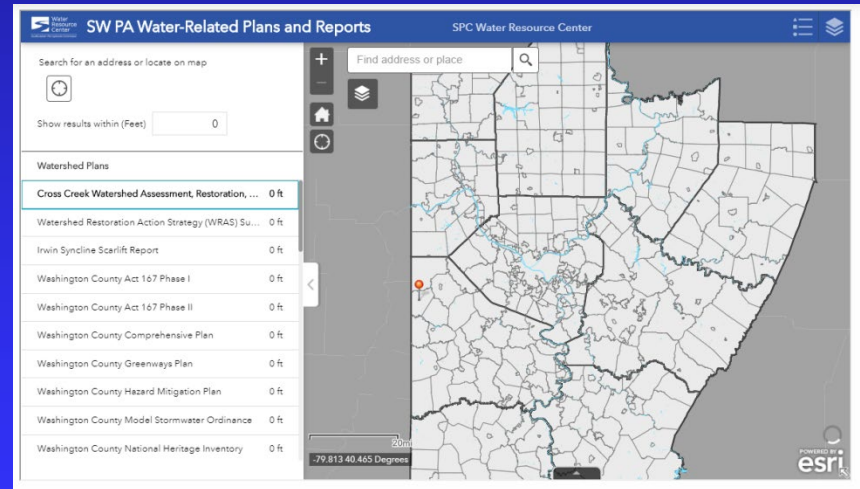
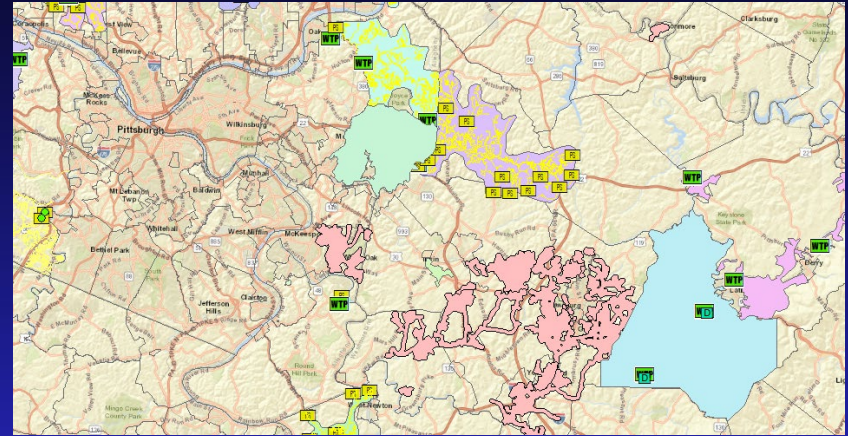


Stormwater Management Planning

- Request from Fayette County for Assistance: What are the requirements & process to conduct an update to Act 167 plan
- Currently no existing written guidance from DEP on how to conduct updates
- Discussions between WRC and DEP are on-going. SW DEP Watershed Manager agreed to coordinate w/ other regional offices to streamline the process
 - Harrisburg contacted about developing guidance.
 - WRC Recommended that DEP conduct training for the state and region on how to complete updates.
 - Waiting on DEP response to decide if training will be conducted. Dialogue continues w/ DEP as to what updated plans may look like.
 - Moving forward with discussions with a local consulting firm to develop virtual training on this topic upon further clarification from DEP.

WRC: Other News

- Sewer Inventory
 - Reminders sent out
 - 46 complete, 9 partial responses
- Integrated Planning Tool: Map of Existing Water Plans/Reports
 - Expanding to include headwaters of watersheds in SPC region



COVID-19 Updates & Feedback

What we are hearing from our businesses:

- Access to working capital still a challenge
- How/when to open with staff – follow CDC
- Returning employees and finding new ones
- Being a bit overwhelmed with information and resources (email-fatigue)
- Yellow Phase = hope
- Immediate access to a human for questions has been greatly appreciated

Corporation Board of Directors
Commission Executive Committee

May 18, 2020
Agenda Item No. 5

Transportation Report

Andy Waple, SPC

SMART Program

- 11 candidate projects requesting \$7.3 million (\$6 million available)
- Project evaluation process began Friday (complete by June 5th)
 - SPC evaluating SMART Factors
 - TTC evaluating project deliverability
- TTC will make recommendations for projects to receive funding in June
- Executive Committee briefing in July

Senate Transportation Committee Hearing

PennDOT Highlights

- Revenue expected to be down by 30% for remainder of 2020 and into 2021
 - \$800 million less for construction and maintenance
 - \$100 million less for multimodal initiatives
 - \$50 million less in Liquid Fuels distribution to municipalities
- Core maintenance activities being redefined for remainder of 2020 and into 2021
 - Roadway resurfacing reduced to patching, crack sealing and seal coating
 - Bridge replacements shifted to lower cost preservation activities

Senate Transportation Committee Hearing

PA Turnpike Highlights

- Toll revenue down by \$118 million for Fiscal Year 2020
- Cumulative decline in traffic of 50% since first week of March (20 million fewer vehicles)
- PTC is reevaluating 10-year capital plan to focus on mission-critical maintenance projects
- FY19-21 (pre COVID-19) capital plan already reduced by 24% (\$606.7M to \$459.7M)
- PTC is seeking to revise FY21 Act 44 annual obligation of \$450M to PennDOT (April 30 payment made, July payment granted an extension)

Impacts to SPC Region

- Additional projects delayed (PennDOT and Turnpike)
- Reduced maintenance activities/lower level treatments (i.e. tar and chipping on more roads)
- More landslides go unrepaired
- Less Liquid Fuels funding to maintain municipal owned roads
- Approved PennDOT/DCED Multimodal funded projects that aren't already under contract could be delayed
- Negative impacts to transit service and capital programs

Status Report

2021-2024 TIP

Andy Waple, SPC

An aerial photograph of a city, likely Knoxville, Tennessee, featuring a train on elevated tracks, a river, and various urban buildings under a cloudy sky. The image is semi-transparent, serving as a background for the text.

2021-2024 TIP Update

SPC Executive Committee
May 18, 2020

Remaining Schedule

- **May 11 –June 12, 2020:** Formal 30 day public comment period with virtual public engagement
- **June 29, 2020:** 2021-2024 TIP adoption by Commission
- **October 1, 2020:** 2021-2024 TIP takes effect

Virtual Public Engagement

- Draft TIP documents available for review on SPC website
- Virtual public meetings (to be recorded and available on SPC YouTube channel)
- Online mapping of projects and commenting
- Comments also taken in writing (mail), by email and online (website, social media)
- Geographically targeted social media promotion

Virtual Public Meetings

Wednesday, May 20, 2020

6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

PennDOT District 10 (Armstrong, Butler, Indiana Counties)

Access Meeting: www.spcregion.org

Thursday, May 28, 2020

6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

PennDOT District 12 (Fayette, Greene, Washington, Westmoreland Counties)

Access Meeting: www.spcregion.org

Tuesday, June 2, 2020

6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

PennDOT District 11 (Allegheny, Beaver, Lawrence Counties and the City of Pittsburgh)

Access Meeting: www.spcregion.org

Virtual Public Meetings and Online Mapping

[https://publicinput.com/21-24 TIP Update](https://publicinput.com/21-24_TIP_Update)

Corporation Board of Directors
Commission Executive Committee

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Agenda Item No. 7

Legislative Update

Chuck Kolling, BIR

Action

Executive Committee Resolution 2-20 Support Federal Infrastructure Stimulus

2020-2021 Draft Meeting
Schedule

Jim Hassinger, SPC

Other Business/Announcements

- Next Meeting Date—May 18, 2020

**Corporation Board of Directors
Commission Executive Committee**

May 18, 2020

Agenda Item No. 11

New Business

**Corporation Board of Directors
Commission Executive Committee**

May 18, 2020

Agenda Item No. 12

Adjourn