

Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission
Minutes of the Meeting
April 27, 2020 – 4:30 p.m.
Zoom Webinar Video – Chorus Call Audio

The one hundred fortieth meeting of the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission was called to order by Chairman Rich Fitzgerald.

Members present: Brian Allen, Darin Alviano, Tony Amadio, Mike Belding, Kevin Boozel, Morgan Boyd, Scott Bricker, Tom Ceraso, Gina Cerilli, Mike Coonley, Scott Dunn, Pat Fabian, Rich Fitzgerald, Jim Gagliano, Kim Geyer, Sheila Gombita, Mark Gordon, Joe Grata, Dick Hadley, Lynn Heckman, Sherene Hess, Diana Irey Vaughan, Fred Junko, Katharine Kelleman, Sean Kertes, Clifford Levine, Bob Macey, Larry Maggi, Jack Manning, Betsy McClure, Kevin McCullough, Cheryl Moon-Sirianni, Leslie Osche, Johnna Pro, Mavis Rainey, Bob Regola, Aurora Sharrard, Nick Sherman, Larry Shifflet, Byron Stauffer, Jr., Vince Vicites, Jessica Walls-Lavelle, Christopher Wheat and Blair Zimmerman.

Others present: Ann Ogoreuc, Allegheny County Department of Economic Development and Jason Rigone, Westmoreland County Planning and Development

Staff: Jim Hassinger, Kirk Brethauer, Leann Chaney, Linda Duffy, Chuck Imbrogno, Tom Klevan, Jenn Lasser, Vince Massaro, Shannon O’Connell, Jeremy Papay, Kay Tomko, and Andy Waple.

1. Chairman Fitzgerald called to order the April 27, 2020 meeting of the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission
 - a. Quorum – There being a quorum present the meeting proceeded
 - b. Any Conflict of Interest Declarations on Action Items – None
2. Action on Minutes of the January 27, 2020 Meeting

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the January 27, 2020 meeting by Commissioner Larry Maggi which was seconded by Commissioner Tony Amadio. The affirmative vote was unanimous.

3. Public Comment – None
4. Financial Report – Vince Massaro

Mr. Massaro reported on the financials for the fiscal period July 1, 2019 to February 29, 2020. Total project related revenues actual and encumbered to date are \$9,224,838 compared to the adopted annual budget of \$13,603,991. This reflects about 68% of the budget recognized.

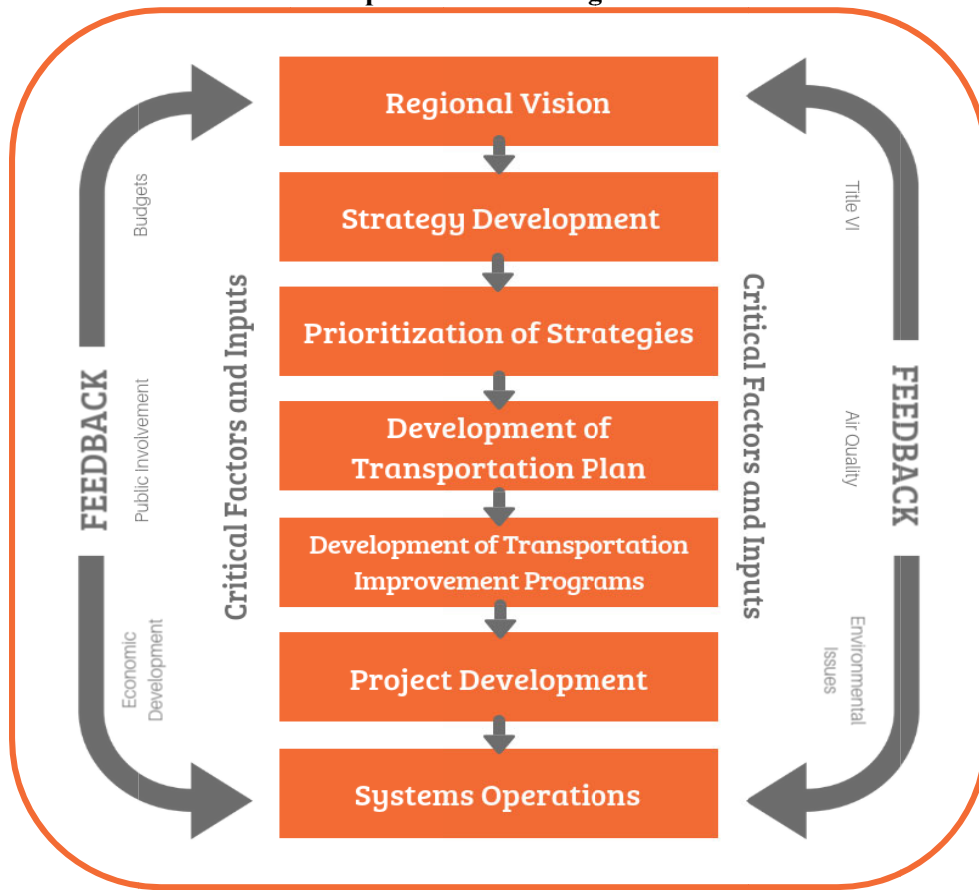
Mr. Massaro said we don’t anticipate any grant or funding issues. Payments are timely and cash is flowing.

The financial report was accepted as presented.

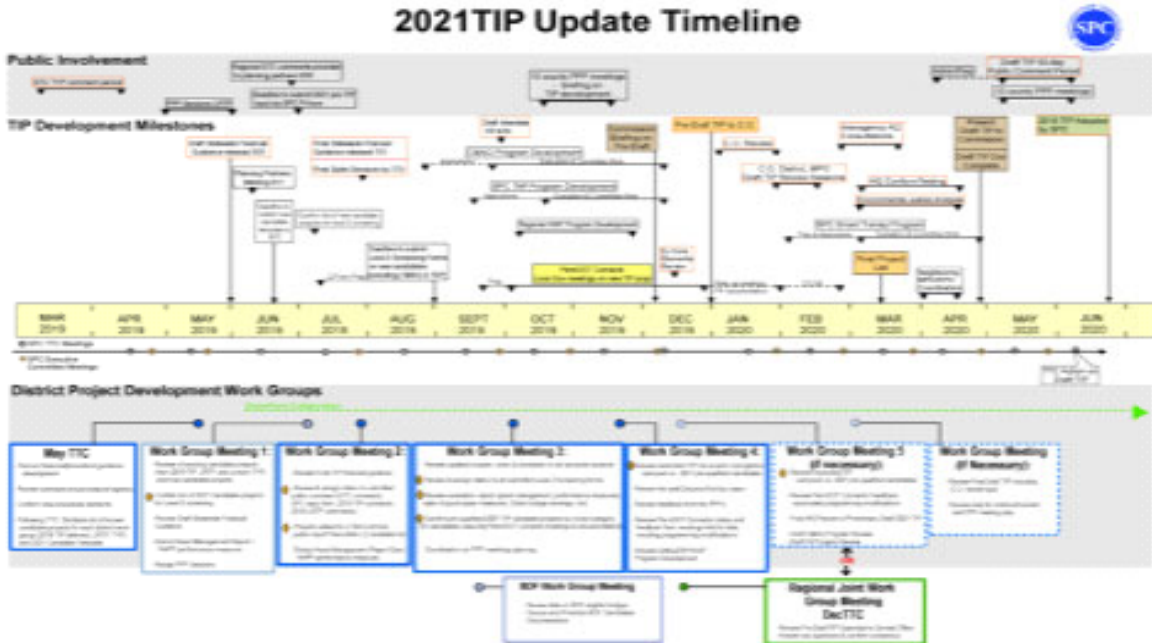
5. 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Update – Andy Waple

Andy mentioned that these next few slides are for the benefit of our new Commissioners. He reminded everyone of the overall planning process and the steps involved.

Transportation Planning Process

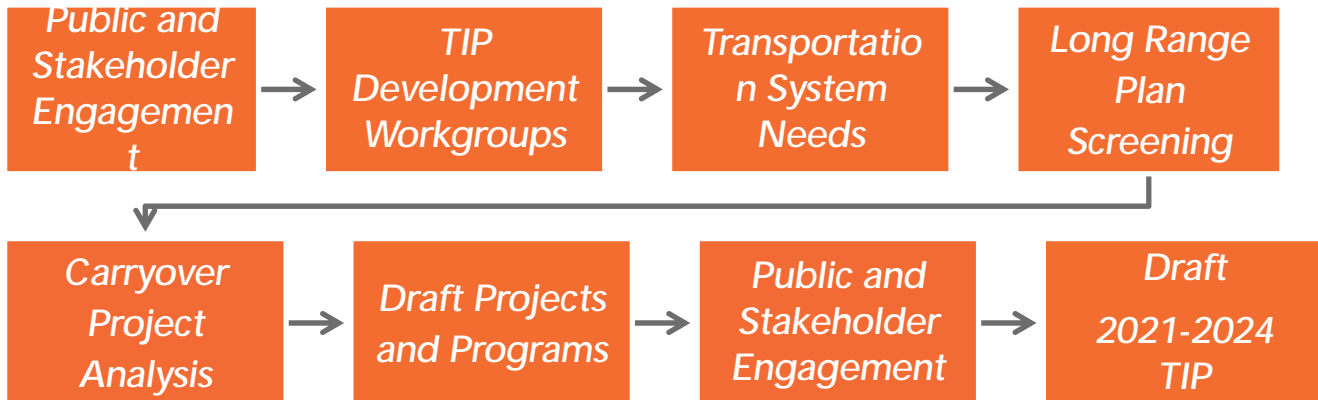


2021 TIP Update Timeline



Andy said you can see there are many moving parts and points of coordination with our members and partners.

Project Development Process



Andy explained that during the TIP work group process, the three Counties and District 11-0 submitted candidates for consideration to include in the TIP update. Public Comments were reviewed and considered for candidate project inclusion. After discussions at the first two TIP work group meetings, the candidate list was shortened to 96 projects. Given the amount of projects that are being carried over from the current TIP to the 2019 TIP, it is likely that only a small number of new projects will be added. Most of the new projects that get added to the TIP will be focused on asset management and safety.

Long-Range Plan Screening

Once projects are grouped into investment categories, they are evaluated for consistency with *SmartMoves* by utilizing the Strategy and Investment Matrix that can be found in Appendix III of *SmartMoves*

Highway and Bridge Program Investment

We discussed priority projects that are advancing at the December Commission Meeting. This is an overall look at our investment categories. There will be negative effects on both state and federal revenues as a result of COVID-19. We will not know the magnitude of the effects for some time and we'll adjust the program as the effects become known.

- Bridges (Asset Management) - \$576M
- Roads (Asset Management) - \$310M
- Operations and Safety - \$199M
- Multimodal / Active Transportation – \$36M
- Reconstruction / New Capacity - \$128M
- Environmental (Stormwater) - \$6M
- Transit Flex - \$35M

\$1.29 Billion Total (base \$1.25 + local matching funds), down from \$1.577B: 20%). Highway program is near pre-Act 89 levels.

Public Transit Investment

- Buses / Passenger Vehicles - \$121M

- Equipment / Facility Improvements - \$358M
- Multimodal Facilities - \$6M
- New Capacity (Downtown to Oakland BRT) - \$120M
- Operating / Maintenance - \$1.6B

\$2.23 Billion Total This does not include the \$162M for transit that came into the region from the CARES Act.

Federal - \$397,729,058

State - \$1,586,617,453

Local - \$217,492,048

State Managed, Discretionary & PA Turnpike

- Interstate Maintenance Program - \$437M
- State Managed Programs (HSIP, TA, RRX) - \$19.1M
- PennDOT District Maintenance - \$266M
- State Economic Development - \$2M
- Spike Discretionary Program - \$65M (Parkway East, Highland Park/28 and Balls Bend, Greene County Local Bridges)
- Federal ATCMTD (City of Pittsburgh Smart Spines) - \$14M (Advanced Transportation and Congestion Management Technologies Deployment)
- PA Turnpike Mainline Improvements - \$281M
- PA Turnpike Expansion Program - \$988M (MFE \$543M; SB \$445M)

\$2.08 Billion Total

Public Engagement to Date

- SPC Committees, Speaking Engagements, PPPs, Social Media
- State Transportation Commission 12-Year Plan (600+ comments)
- Input from *SmartMoves* Long Range Plan

Virtual Public Engagement

- Draft TIP documents available for review on SPC's website and member/partner websites
- Virtual public meeting(s) (to be recorded and available on SPC YouTube channel)
- Online mapping of projects and commenting
- Geographically targeted social media promotion

These actions are going to be facilitated through a new, state of the practice, online public engagement platform that we will be piloting for the TIP public comment period. **www.PublicInput.com**

Features of the software include:

Online/Offline Engagement Hub

- Set up surveys and websites
- Support traditional meetings with presentation and polling tools

- Host Virtual Public Meetings
- Manage all forms of engagement
- Collect Title VI demographic info and compare with census data

Communications Cloud

- Engage in two-way email, SMS, and social media conversations
- Geo-enabled subscriber database
- Drag-and-Drop email builder
- Automate replies or messages
- Optimize campaign performance with open rates and tracking

Resident Database

- Automatic Integration throughout
- Sync participants across channels
- Build momentum with each interaction
- Manage your contacts, groups, and relationships

Remaining TIP Development Schedule

- Complete Air Quality Conformity & Environmental Justice Analysis
- Draft Document Preparation
- **May 11 –June 12, 2020:** Formal 30 Day Public Comment Period with Virtual Public Engagement
- **June 29, 2020:** Commission Adopt 2021-2024 TIP

Questions: Johnna Pro asked if we should include something for those who don't have access to the Internet. Do they know how to participate? Is there a hard survey? Shannon O'Connell responded that it will be advertized in the local papers showing who will carry the documents for public viewing. They can also call in or mail in their comments.

6. Action on Resolution 5-20 to Proclaim May, 2020 as "National Bike Month" in Southwestern Pennsylvania – Leann Chaney

WHEREAS, the bicycle is an economical, healthy and environmentally sound form of active transportation for many work, school, utilitarian, recreational and social trips in southwestern Pennsylvania;

WHEREAS, there is an increasing interest in healthy, sustainable and economic transportation options;

WHEREAS, improving conditions for bicycling has been shown to improve safety and encourage healthy lifestyles, to have a positive impact on the region's economy and tourism industry, to support local businesses and to reduce air pollution and traffic congestion;

WHEREAS, the League of American Bicyclists has declared May as National Bike Month for the past 63 years and has done so again in 2020, although this National Bike Month will necessarily be different due to the pandemic. There will be less focus on biking to work and a greater focus on riding "there" whether "there" is to the grocer for essentials or to a trail for a social distancing ride.

WHEREAS, the League of American Bicyclists has postponed National Bike Week 2020 to September 21-27, 2020 with Bike to Work Day coinciding with Car Free Day on September 22, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission and other groups across this region are finding unique ways to celebrate their diverse bike cultures and community pride during the month of May 2020 and moving

towards a holistic approach to integrating bicycling into many aspects of our daily lives.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission encourages the citizens of this region to participate in National Bike Month activities and offers support for this annual celebration of bicycling by declaring May 2020 as “National Bike Month” in southwestern Pennsylvania.

Dick Hadley moved to accept Resolution 5-20 and Joe Grata seconded. The affirmative vote was unanimous.

7. Committee Reports – None
8. Other Business/Announcements – Jim Hassinger
Next Meeting Date – June 29, 2020
9. New Business – None.
10. Adjourn

Bob Macey moved to adjourn the meeting of the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission and Lynn Heckman seconded. The affirmative vote was unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Leslie Osche
Secretary-Treasurer