



SOUTHWESTERN PENNSYLVANIA COMMISSION

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MINUTES TRANSIT OPERATORS COMMITTEE MEETING

Date: April 17, 2021
Location: **Meeting was held by online video/teleconference**

Attendance:

Members: Sheila Gombita, WASH (Chairperson)
Ed Typanski, PAAC
Anthony Hickton, CommuteInfo
Mary Jo Morandini, BCTA
Ashley Seman, MMVTA
Alan Blahovec, WCTA
Lynn Manion, ACTA
Kathryn Schlesinger, PDP
Lori Groover-Smith, FACT
John Paul, BTA
Mavis Rainey, OTMA

Guests/Staff: Chris Sandvig, Mobilify
Kevin McCullough, PennDOT
Sam Plocinski, PennDOT
Lynda Conway, Delta Development (HCI)
Darryl Phillips
Brandon Leach
Matthew Crea
Nugent Laing
Lucinda Beattie, WPPR
Maureen Rooney, Market Space
David Huffaker, PAAC
David Wohlwill, PAAC

SPC Staff: Tom Klevan
David Totten
Kathy Stefani
Ronda Craig
Chuck Imbrogno
Erika Eagen
Dan Bernazzoli
Kristin Baum
Stephanie Kambic
Sara Walfort

This meeting of the TOC was called to order at 10:00 A.M.

1. Welcome and Introductions

2. Public Comment –

- a. *There was no public comment.*

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes for previous Transit Operators Committee meetings

- *The Committee approved the minutes for the February 17, 2021 TOC meeting on a motion by John Paul and a second by Mary Jo Morandini.*

4. FTA/PennDOT Updates

- SPC Staff updated the Committee about the process for submitting federal earmark requests to Congress for discretionary funding. Staff are ready to help with any technical assistance that might be needed. BCTA reported that Rep. Lamb had called to ask for any requests, but BCTA did not submit anything.
- SPC staff noted the release of the RAISE grant Notice of Funding Availability. This replaces the previous BUILD and TIGER program. See the USDOT page for details.

5. Meeting Participant Updates

- PAAC—Port Authority reported that the agency has received a grant from Allegheny County for a wayfinding and signage project. SPC also reported that PAAC is holding a series of public meetings on planning for T station improvements at Station Square, South Hills Junction and Dormont Junction. In addition, the City of Pittsburgh has initiated a process to use the state’s Transit Revitalization Improvement District legislation to plan for transit and community projects in the Manchester neighborhood on Pittsburgh’s north side.

There were no other meeting participant updates.

6. Amendments and Administrative Actions to the FFY2019-2022 TIP

- *Port Authority of Allegheny County (PAAC) requested amendments to list four projects that are currently listed on the Title I (highway & bridge) TIP on the Title III (transit) TIP, as well, to satisfy a requirement by FTA. These projects are funded through CMAQ that has been flexed to Section 5307 transit funding. “South Hills Junction Imps” (MPMS# 115479) with \$1,000,000 in federal 5307, \$166,453 in Other State, and \$5547 in local funding in FFY2021; “Allegheny Station Bike Locker” (MPMS# 115480) with \$60,000 in federal 5307 and \$15,000 in local funding in FFY2021; “Carnegie PNR Final Design” (MPMS# 106594) with \$1,440,000 in federal 5307, \$348,390 in Other State and \$1,800,000 in local funding in FFY2021; and “Ross PNR Construction” (MPMS# 100307) with \$7,328,000 in federal 5307, \$1,772,918 in Other State, and \$59,082 in local funding in FFY2021. **TOTAL CHANGE: \$14,073,390***
- *Action: This action was unanimously approved and the appropriate changes were made to the region’s FFY2021-2024 TIP by the TOC on a motion by John Paul and a second by Ashley Seman. Staff will transmit this project information to the PennDOT Program Center within one week of this action.*
- *Butler Transit Authority (BCTA) requested an administrative adjustment to the FFY2021-2024 TIP project “Multi-Modal Design & Construction” (MPMS# 114531) to add funding to increase the budget in response to bids received for design and construction, adding \$535,745 in federal 5311, \$542,911 in state 339, and \$32,065 in local funding in FFY2021. **TOTAL CHANGE: \$1,110,721***
- *Action: This action was unanimously approved and the appropriate changes were made to the region’s FFY2021-2024 TIP by the TOC on a motion by Mary Jo Morandini and a second by Ashley Seman. Staff will transmit this project information to the PennDOT Program Center within one week of this action.*
- *Beaver County Transit Authority (BCTA) requested an administrative adjustment to the*

FFY2021-2024 TIP project “ETC Renovations” (MPMS# 94985) to add funding in FFY2021 for a replacement HVAC system, resulting in \$688,000 in federal 5307, \$166,453 Other State, and \$5,547 in local funding in 2021, and to move funding for further renovations of the Expressway Travel Center to FFY 2023, resulting in \$1,440,000 in federal 5307, \$348,390 in Other State and \$11,610 in local funding in 2023. **TOTAL CHANGE: \$860,000**

- **Action:** *This action was unanimously approved and the appropriate changes were made to the region’s FFY2021-2024 TIP by the TOC on a motion by Alan Blahovec and a second by Mary Jo Morandini. Staff will transmit this project information to the PennDOT Program Center within one week of this action.*

There were no TIP adjustments requested.

7. US Census Update: Proposed Urban Area Criteria

- SPC staff reviewed the new criteria for delineating urban and rural territories for the 2020 Census. Final regulations will be released in the fall. These delineations will likely be used for federal funding purposes starting in FFY2023. Staff demonstrated how boundaries had shifted slightly between 2000 and 2010. Staff reviewed the methods being used to create the new maps. These maps will be used by transit operators to apportion federal formula funding to the region.

8. SPC Mobility Index Project

- SPC staff led an interactive exercise to talk with the TOC about the new planning project that takes information learned from the “CommuteInfo Re-Imagined” strategic plan and applies it to assessing opportunities for improved mobility in the region. Initial research included investigating several questions that needed to be addressed for CommuteInfo to become a mobility agent for all trip purposes: Why are people traveling? Where are people going? What is the actual demand for the different types of trips? How will we assess the level and efficacy of people’s mobility in a single community or across our entire ten-county region? Staff are using planning and analysis tools to develop a mobility index unique to the SPC region. At the meeting, TOC participants gave feedback through guided polling and discussions that will help move this analysis forward.

9. Joint Transit Marketing

- SPC staff reviewed plans for regional transit marketing through SPC’s contract with the firm, Market Space. Staff proposed bringing Market Space to the TOC for a 90-minute workshop to develop a joint marketing strategy.

Action: *The TOC unanimously requested that SPC host a joint transit marketing workshop on a motion by Ashley Seman and a second by Mary Jo Morandini*

10. Other Business

- *The next meeting of the TOC is scheduled for 10 a.m. **Wednesday, June 16, 2021.** This meeting will be held with online/phone participation ONLY. See details at www.spcregion.org*

Action: *The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Ashley Seman and a second by Mary Jo Morandini.*