

**Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission  
Transportation Technical Committee (TTC)  
Meeting Minutes via Webex  
October 12, 2023, 10:00 a.m.**

## Attendees:

- Ann Ogoreuc, Allegheny County Department of Economic Development
  - Darin Alviano, Armstrong County Planning Commission
  - Dan Distler, Beaver County Planning Commission
  - Joel MacKay, Butler County Planning Commission
  - Arthur Cappella, Fayette County Zoning, Planning, and Community Development
  - Jeremy L. Kelly, Greene County Planning and Community Development
  - Jason Theakston, Washington County Planning
  - Daniel Carpenter, Westmoreland County Planning
  - Stephen Shanley, Allegheny County Public Works
  - Jeff Skalican, City of Pittsburgh
  - Mavis Rainey, Oakland Transportation Management Association
  - Brendan Coticchia, City of Pittsburgh
  - Jaclyn Karolski, Allegheny County Department of Economic Development
  - Kyle Lamb, Greene County Planning and Community Development
  - Nathan Clair, Westmoreland County Planning
  - Austin McDaniel, Washington County Planning
  - Craig Toocheck, Pittsburgh Regional Transit
  - Ed Typanski, Pittsburgh Regional Transit
  - Aaron Sukenik, Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership
  - Christopher Sandvig, Mobilify
  - Vanessa Shamberg, FHWA
  - Brandon Leach, PennDOT Central Office
  - Julia Cornell, PennDOT Central Office
  - Matthew Crea, PennDOT Central Office
  - Harold Swan, PennDOT District 10-0
  - Domenic DeFazio, PennDOT District 10-0
  - Jordan Bergamasco, PennDOT District 11-0
  - Dave Hollahan, PennDOT District 11-0
  - Stephanie Ma, PennDOT District 11-0
  - John Quatman, PennDOT District 11-0
  - Doug Seeley, PennDOT District 11-0
  - Jason Zang, PennDOT District 11-0
  - Josh Theakston, PennDOT District 12-0
  - Daniel Laird, Bowman Consulting
  - Rania Asbahan, CDR Maguire
  - Domenic D'Andrea, SPC Transportation Director
  - Chuck Imbrogno, SPC Staff
  - Ryan Gordon, SPC Staff
  - Lillian Gabreski, SPC Staff
  - Anthony Hickton, SPC Staff
  - Tom Klevan, SPC Staff
  - Josh Spano, SPC Staff
- **Indicates TTC voting member**

## Attendees Cont'd:

Dan Bernazzoli, SPC Staff  
 Ronda Craig, SPC Staff  
 Greg Shermeto, SPC Staff  
 John Weber, SPC Staff

1. **Call to Order**  
 Domenic D'Andrea called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. with a roll call for the TTC members.
2. **Public Comment**  
 There was no public comment.
3. **Action on September 21<sup>st</sup> TTC Meeting Minutes**  
 A motion was made by Dan Carpenter and seconded by Jeff Skalican to approve the minutes of the September 21<sup>st</sup> TTC meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.
4. **FHWA/PennDOT Central Office, Program Center Report from Brandon Leach, PennDOT Central Office and Vanessa Shamberg, FHWA**  
 Brandon Leach first gave an update on August Redistribution, which is a yearly exercise which many states utilize across the United States. This gives additional available obligation funds to regions which have the ability to utilize more obligation. This does not give additional funding to the TIP, just the ability to utilize the cash flow from future years into an earlier fiscal year. Brandon mentioned that the districts will be reviewing their August Redistribution during the Action on Modifications section of the TTC. Next, Brandon discussed the PennDOT Multimodal Transportation Fund, which provides funding for priority investments for any mode of transportation through the statewide competitive funding program. It also provides grants to ensure that safe and reliable transportation is available to residents in the commonwealth and is intended to provide financial assistance to municipalities, council of governments, economic development organizations, public transportation agencies, ports, and rail/freight entities. The application period opened on September 25<sup>th</sup> and closes on November 13<sup>th</sup>, and Brandon provided a link to the program. Lastly, Brandon discussed the NEVI community sessions, which are in person being held across the state to discuss the NEVI program. There will be one session held in Pittsburgh, on November 8<sup>th</sup> from 6pm to 8pm and will be held at the SPC building, and Brandon provided the link to the meeting registration.

Next, Vanessa Shamberg provided an update on current federal discretionary grant programs, beginning with the Bridge Investment Program. Federal Highways announced \$9.6 billion in funding for the program through 2026, which is for large bridge projects (costing \$100 million or more). Minimum grant awards is for \$50 million, and applicants can apply for up to 50% of the total project costs. Applications are currently open and will close on November 27<sup>th</sup>, but will open again in August of 2024 for a second round of funding. There will also be another NOFO for smaller bridges (under \$100 Million) but that timeframe is still to be determined.

## 5. Action on Modifications to the 2021-2024 TIP

### A. PennDOT District 10-0

Harold Swan went over two administrative actions for PennDOT District 10-0. The first administrative action was for a preventive maintenance project which includes roadway resurfacing with milling of existing bituminous material, minor drainage, transverse and longitudinal joint repair, and paving of bituminous leveling and wearing courses along US 422 from the Butler County line east to 0.37 mile west of the East Franklin Township line in West Franklin and East Franklin Townships and Worthington Borough, Armstrong County. The project also includes emergency bridge work on US 422 over SR 4005 eastbound in Muddy Creek Township, Butler County. The district requests to add final design and program \$100,000 (80% Federal and 20% State) in FFY 2024, with the source of funding coming from the SPC District 10 Highway/Bridge Line Item. The second administrative action was for a bridge preservation project which carries PA 8 over Connoquenessing Creek, Quarry Street, and railroads in Butler City, Butler County. The district requests to remove \$50,000 (100% Federal utilizing toll credits) from the preliminary engineering phase in FFY 2023 due to a revised estimate, with the funds placed into the construction phase of Fagley Run Bridge #2 project in FFY 2023.

Jeff Skalican made a motion to approve the administrative actions from PennDOT District 10-0, which was seconded by Joel MacKay. The motion was approved unanimously.

### B. PennDOT District 11-0

John Quatman went over the one amendment and nine administrative actions for PennDOT District 11-0. The first amendment was for a bridge joint replacement, located on SR 2085 (Birmingham Bridge) in the city of Pittsburgh, Allegheny County. The district requests to add a construction phase by \$2,500,000 (NHPP) to TIP in FFY 2024 for a scheduled April 2024 project letting, with the source of funds coming from the Betterment Reserve line item. The first administrative action was for a bridge replacement project, located on Carries Steffens Hill Bridge over Walnut Bottom Run in Beaver Falls, Beaver County. The district requests to increase the planning and engineering phase by \$25,000 (581) and the right-of-way phase by \$150,000 (581) in FFY 2023 for work done to complete plan upgrade, with the source of funding coming from the Betterment Reserve line item. The second administrative action was for and ADA curb ramps update, located at various locations in Allegheny, Beaver and Lawrence Counties. The district requests to add a final design phase by \$100,000 (STP) and a utilities phase by \$30,000 (STP) in FFY 2024 to cover final design tasks and utility impacts, with the source of funding coming from the Betterment Reserve Allegheny County line item. The third administrative action was for a bridge replacement project, located on SR 1037, Reno Street over small stream in Rochester Township, Beaver County. The district requests to add a utilities phase by \$25,000 (185) to TIP in FFY 2024 to cover one pole relocation and add a right-of-way phase by \$100,000 (185) in FFY 2024 for impact effecting three parcels, with the source of funding coming from the Bridge-Allegheny County line item.

The fourth administrative action was for a bridge rehabilitation project, located on SR 4068, Bakerstown Road over CSX Railroad in Richland Township, Allegheny County. The district requests to add a utility phase by \$100,000 (185) and a right-of-way phase by \$100,000 (185) to TIP in FFY 2025 for anticipated utility

impacts and right of way tasks, with the source of funding coming from the Bridge-Allegheny County line item. The fifth administrative action was for a mill and resurfacing project, located on SR 3069, West Liberty Ave from McFarland Road to Dawn Ave, in Dormont and City of Pittsburgh, Allegheny County. The district requests to add a utility phase by \$10,000 (STU) and a right-of-way phase by \$10,000 (STU) in FFY 2024 for upcoming tasks and impacts, with the source of funding coming from the Betterment Reserve line item. The sixth administrative action was for a safety improvement project, located on SR 51, Clairton Blvd, from Peters Creek Road to Provost Road in the City of Pittsburgh, Baldwin, Brentwood, Jefferson, Pleasant Hills and Whitehall Boroughs, all within Allegheny County. The district requests to increase the construction phase by \$1,416,000 (CAQ) in FFY 2024 for updated estimate, with the source of funding coming from the SPC CMAQ Line Item.

The seventh administrative action was for a signal improvement project, located along Penn Avenue, between 17th Street and 32nd Street, in the Strip District Neighborhood of the City of Pittsburgh, Allegheny County. The district requests to increase the planning and engineering phase by \$184,000 (CAQ) and \$46,000 (LOC) in FFY 2024 to cover consultant supplement, with the source of funding coming from the SPC CMAQ line item. The eighth administrative action was for diesel emissions reductions and alternative fuel technologies, located in multiple Municipalities throughout the SPC Region. The district requests to advance the construction phase by CON \$2,171,408 (CAQ) from FFY 2026 and adjust to \$1,216,408 (CRPU) and by \$955,000 (CRP) in FFY 2023. The source of funding will be the D11 Carbon Reduction Program and SPC Regional CRP/CRPU line items in 2023, and funding will be placed into the SPC CMAQ line item in 2026. The ninth administrative action was for intersection improvements including widening and addition of turn lanes, located at the intersection for State Route 8 (William Flynn Highway) and State Route 4070 (Wildwood Road) in Hampton Township, Allegheny County. The district requests to add the planning and engineering phase by \$500,000 (LOC) funds in FFY 2024 to initiate design, with the source of funding coming from Local funds.

Ann Ogoreuc made a motion to approve the amendments and administrative actions from PennDOT District 11-0, which was seconded by Jeff Skalican. The motion was approved unanimously.

#### C. August Redistribution

Harold Swan went over the August Redistribution for District 10-0. The first project advancing funds was the Margaret Road Intersection project, which will be advancing \$15,777,407 in STP funds to FY2023 from FY2025 and FY2025, with those funds returning to the STP reserve line item. The second project advancing funds was the Three Degree Road Intersection project, which will be advancing \$4,031,173 in NHPP funds to FY 2023 from FY2024, FY2025, and FY2026. Those funds will return to the SPC D-10 Highway/Bridge line item. The final project advancing funds was the PA 68 Corridor improvements project, which will be advancing \$2,084,586 in CAQ funds to FY2023 from FY2024, with those funds returning to the SPC CMAQ line item.

John Quatman went over the August Redistribution for District 11-0. On the Interstate TIP, the first project advancing funds was the I-376 ITS Installation project in Beaver County, which will be advancing \$2,492,573 in NHPP funds to FY2023 from FY2024. The second project was the I-79-Moon Run to Neville Island project, which will be advancing \$17,902,913 to FY2023 from FY2025 and FY2026. The third project was the I-79

Butler County to Mercer County, which will be advancing \$5,841,420 to FY 2023 from FY 2024. All the future funding will be returned to the Interstate line item. On the Highway/Bridge TIP, the first project advancing funds was the 2048 William Penn Highway/I-376 Ramp to PA 48, which will be advancing \$7,289,639 to FY2023 from FY2024. The other project advancing funds was the Kenmawr Avenue Ramp, which is advancing \$1,800,000 to FY2023 from FY2024. Both projects will return the FY2024 funds to the Betterment Reserve Allegheny line item.

Josh Theakston went over the August Redistribution for District 12-0. On the Interstate TIP, the one project advancing funds was the I-70/PA 51 Interchange, which will be advancing \$27,907,193 to FY2023 from FY2024 and FY2025. The funds will be returned to the Interstate Contingency line item. On the Highway/Bridge TIP, the one project advancing funds was the PA 136 Pavement Preservation project, which will be advancing \$3,625,000 to FY2023 from FY 2024. The funds will be returned to the District 12-0 Highway/Bridge Line Item.

#### 6. **2025 TIP Update**

Ryan Gordon gave an update on the 2025 TIP, beginning with an overview of the work group meetings. In September, there was the third round of work group meetings, with one being held in each district. These meetings were focused on performance measures, and the status of those measures within the SPC region. There was also discussion on asset management and safety in each district. Another set of work group meetings will be held in October, with District 12-0's work group meeting happening later in the day. District 10-0's work group meeting will be held on October 25<sup>th</sup> at 10am, and District 11-0's work group meeting will be held on October 20<sup>th</sup> at 10am. These work group meetings will focus on output from the candidate project screenings and evaluation., as well as a project carryover analysis.

Next, Ryan discussed the SPC competitive programs, which includes the CMAQ, carbon reduction, and transportation alternative programs. Currently, SPC is in the initial stages of reviewing the candidate projects, and getting back to applicants on any additional information needed for their projects. Ryan noted that SPC is also preparing for the first competitive program selection committee meeting, which is made up of representatives from every County, every PennDOT district, and numerous other transportation representatives, including transit. That meeting will be on October 19<sup>th</sup>, and a preliminary agenda will be sent out next week. These meetings will be virtual, and the first meeting will be focused on background information and the process in which we are conducting reviews of projects, as well as an overview in candidate projects for each of the three programs.

Last, Ryan spoke about the fall Public Participation meetings, which will provide each County and the City of Pittsburgh a panel to provide updates on the 2025 TIP update. They will all be in person, and give a presentation and show mapping for the current TIP and draft 2025 TIP. It will also include discussions of funding, including inflation and cost estimate increases, and review of these draft projects for the upcoming TIP. Ronda Craig is currently discussing dates and times for these meetings with each County, and a schedule of these dates and times should be available shortly.

#### 7. **Revised Urbanized Areas Presentation**

Chuck Imbrogno gave a presentation on the revised SPC urbanized areas, beginning with showing the 2010 census urban boundaries, showing the main Pittsburgh urban area, as well as several scattered smaller urban areas across the SPC region. These urban areas are important for funding allocation

formulas, project eligibility, and considerations for functional class of roads. Chuck then showed a map which highlighted the new 2020 urbanized areas overtop of the 2010 urbanized areas, highlighting the areas which have been added or removed from the regions. Over the past few months, SPC has analyzed the new urban areas for complete accuracy in the regions added and dropped, as well as being smoothed for better ability to designate the functional class of roadways in the Pittsburgh urban area and other smaller surrounding urban areas. Counties were asked for input on the process over the summer, and those comments SPC received back were helpful in making decisions on areas to smooth to create a final boundary.

8. **Other Business/Status Reports**

Domenic D'Andrea mentioned that SPC received an email from PennDOT to begin work on the new Unified Planning Work Program, or UPWP. This is what SPC will commit to working on for the upcoming year, as well as deliverables that will come out of the work program. This will be a one-year UPWP, which is different than the usual two-year UPWP, and will be in effect from July 2024 to June 2025. If any counties or towns have any priorities or planning activities/studies that you would like SPC to help on, please let Dominic or any of the managers at SPC know via email or other message in order to incorporate into the UPWP. Highlights of this upcoming UPWP will be highlighted during the November TTC meeting.

9. **Adjourn**

A motion to adjourn was made by Jeff Skalican and seconded by Arthur Cappella. The motion was passed unanimously and Domenic D'Andrea called for the adjournment of the meeting at 10:50 AM.