

**Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission  
Transportation Technical Committee (TTC)  
Meeting Minutes via Webex  
March 14, 2024, 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
- Josh Krug, Indiana County Office of Planning and 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
- Amy Mathieson, Airport Corridor Transportation Association
- Tosh Chambers, Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership
- Brendan Coticchia, City of Pittsburgh
- Jaclyn Karolski, Allegheny County Department of Economic Development
- Tyler Zeh, Greene County Planning and Community Development
- Kegan Stiles, Indiana County Office of Planning and Development
- Nathan Clair, Westmoreland County Planning
- Craig Toocheck, Pittsburgh Regional Transit
- Vanessa Shamberg, FHWA
- Brandon Leach, PennDOT Central Office
- Scott Ellis, HDR Inc.
- Andy Waple, AECOM
- Matthew Kelley, CDR Maguire
- Lucinda Beattie, Western Pennsylvanians for Passenger Rail
- Alison Keating, Pittsburghers for Public Transit
- 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
- Jessica Setmire, PennDOT District 12-0
- Josh Theakston, PennDOT District 12-0
- Domenic D'Andrea, SPC Transportation Director
- Chuck Imbrogno, SPC Staff
- Ryan Gordon, SPC Staff
- Anthony Hickton, SPC Staff
- Tom Klevan, SPC Staff

- **Indicates TTC voting member**

## Attendees Cont'd:

Belachew Ayele, SPC Staff  
 Dan Bernazzoli, SPC Staff  
 Leanne Chaney, SPC Staff  
 Erica Eagan, SPC Staff  
 Lillian Gabreski, SPC Staff  
 Chris Jaros, SPC Staff  
 Greg Shermeto, SPC Staff  
 Sara Walfoort, 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 February 15<sup>th</sup> TTC Meeting Minutes**

A motion was made by Arthur Cappella and seconded by Josh Krug to approve the minutes of the February 15<sup>th</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 began the program center report by discussing the PennDOT connects municipal outreach sessions, which are held between March and May across Pennsylvania. These sessions are open to anyone involved in the transportation and community planning fields, as well as the public. Each district will have either a hybrid or fully virtual meeting, with the first being held in District 12-0 on March 27<sup>th</sup> from 1pm to 3pm. This will be held at the Uniontown District office, and will be a hybrid meeting. The District 11-0 meeting will be held on March 28<sup>th</sup> from 1pm to 3 pm, and will be virtual only. The District 10-0 meeting will be on May 29<sup>th</sup> from 1pm to 3pm and will be a hybrid meeting held in the Indiana district office. There are registration links to each meeting in the packet that was sent out for the meeting, and there will be a variety of different topics discussed at the meeting, including funding support through grant opportunities, success stories from different communities with projects awarded through the Connects process, and interactive activities to share ideas and develop visions for community needs and the future of transportation.

Next, Brandon spoke on the work zone speed safety camera program announcement, which came out of the automated work zone speed camera enforcement pilot program from a few years ago. This program set up vehicles with cameras which would tell people driving into work zones that their speed would be enforced by camera, and would initiate fines based on speeding in work settings. This was passed as a permanent fixture by Pennsylvania House Bill 284, as the 5-year pilot project showed that there was a 38% reduction in speeding in work zones where it was enforced and a 48% reduction in excessive speeding (more than 10 mph over), as well as a 50% reduction in work zone crashes. Harold Swan asked the question if HSIP funding could be used to fund the work zone enforcement cameras, which Brandon mentioned he was unsure of, but would get back to Harold with an answer on. Vanessa Shamberg discussed Federal discretionary programs, specifically mentioning the announcement of \$1.25 billion in funding for Safe

Streets and Roads for All. This round of funding has recently opened up for fiscal year 2024, and is open for planning and demonstration grant applications, which will be due on April 4th, another due date on May 16<sup>th</sup>, and then another on August 29th for different types of projects. There are also implementation and construction grants, which are due on May 16<sup>th</sup>. Vanessa also mentioned that today would be her last TTC meeting, and thanked everyone at SPC and TTC for their work while she was representing the region.

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

### A. PennDOT District 10-0

Harold Swan went over the three administrative actions for PennDOT District 10-0. The first administrative action was for a bridge replacement project, which project carries US 119 over Pine Run in East Mahoning Township, Indiana County. The district requests to increase preliminary engineering and add \$10,000 (100% State) in FFY 2024 for railroad engineering activities, 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 US 19 over the CSX Railroad and Connoquenessing Creek in Zelienople Borough, Butler County. The district requests to increase preliminary engineering and add \$22,110 (100% State) in FFY 2024 for railroad engineering activities, with the source of funding coming from the SPC District 10 Highway/Bridge Line Item. The third administrative action was for a bridge replacement project, which carries US 119 northbound and southbound over SR 8001 in White Township, Indiana County. The District requests to increase final design and add \$407,600 (100% Federal utilizing toll credits) in FFY 2024 due to in-house geotechnical drilling and associated reviews, as well as an expanded project scope. The sources for this project will come from multiple project deobligations, including Poverty Hill Bridge (\$17,811), Harrisville Bridge #1 (\$113,642), Cranberry North Resurfacing (\$325), Mentch Bridge Eastbound/Westbound (\$9,918), US 119 Three Bridges (\$730), Philadelphia Street Bridges Group (\$306), and Claypoole Heights Bridge (\$163,947 and \$100,921 from the deobligation of surplus construction funds).

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

### B. PennDOT District 11-0

John Quatman went over the five amendments and five administrative actions for PennDOT District 11-0. The first amendment was for a bridge rehabilitation project, located on Homestead Grays Bridge over Monongahela River and parking lot parallel to CSX Railroad in Homestead Borough, Allegheny County. The district requests to add a planning and engineering phase by \$1,600,000 (BRIP), \$300,000 (183), and \$100,000 (LOC) in FFY 2024 to initiate design on project, with the source of funding coming from the Bridge-Allegheny County line item. The second amendment was for a bridge rehabilitation project, located between Liberty Avenue and Bigelow Boulevard in City of Pittsburgh, Allegheny County. The district requests to add a planning and engineering phase by \$1,200,000 (BRIP) to TIP in FFY 2024 to initiate design on the project, with the source of funding coming from the City of Pittsburgh's Bridge Preservation line item. The project is being added late in the current FY and if obligations do not occur in FY 2024, the projects will continue to reside in the TYP/candidate status since they are not programmed on the Draft 2025 TIP. The third amendment was for a bridge rehabilitation project, located on the P.J. McArdle Roadway over East Sycamore Street in the City of Pittsburgh, Allegheny County. The district requests to add a

planning and engineering phase by \$600,000 (BRIP) in FFY 2024 to initiate design on the project, with the source of funding coming from the City of Pittsburgh's Bridge Preservation line item. The project is being added late in the current FY and if obligations do not occur in FY 2024, the projects will continue to reside in the TYP/candidate status since they are not programmed on the Draft 2025 TIP.

The fourth amendment was for a bridge rehabilitation project, located on P.J. McArdle Roadway northwest of the Wabash Tunnel in the city of Pittsburgh, Allegheny County. The district requests to add a planning and engineering phase by \$750,000 (BRIP) in FFY 2024 to initiate design on the project, with the source of funding coming from the Bridge-Allegheny County line item. The project is being added late in the current FY and if obligations do not occur in FY 2024, the projects will continue to reside in the TYP/candidate status since they are not programmed on the Draft 2025 TIP. The fifth amendment was for a bridge preservation project, located on East Sycamore Street west of the intersection with Arlington Avenue in the city of Pittsburgh, Allegheny County. The district requests to add a planning and engineering phase by \$600,000 (BOF) in FFY 2024 to initiate design on the project, with the source of funding coming from the City of Pittsburgh's Bridge Preservation line item. The project is being added late in the current FY and if obligations do not occur in FY 2024, the projects will continue to reside in the TYP/candidate status since they are not programmed on the Draft 2025 TIP.

The first administrative action was for a bridge rehabilitation/replacement project, located on SR 3015 (Cochran Mills Road) over Lick Run Creek in Jefferson Hills Borough, Allegheny County. The district requests to add a planning and engineering phase by \$300,000 (185) in FFY 2024 for additional design consultant costs, with the source of funding coming from the Bridge-Allegheny County line item. The second administrative action was for congestion and safety issues for pedestrian, bike and motor vehicle, signal upgrade, signing updated and milling and resurfacing, located on SR 837 from Station Square to Steelers Practice Field (UPMC Sports Performance Complex, after South 33rd Street) in the City of Pittsburgh, Allegheny County. The district requests to increase the construction phase by \$230,000 (CAQ) in FFY 2024 to cover additional costs, with the source of funding coming from the SPC CMAQ line item. The third administrative action was for a bridge replacement, located on Wastesta Acc Road over Pine Creek in Hampton Township, Allegheny County. The district requests to add all phases to the current TIP per ACT 13 guidance, with the source of funding coming from ACT 13 funding. The fourth administrative action was for lane widening and signal upgrades, located on SR 50 (Washington Pike) from Thoms Run Road to Mayer Street in Collier Township, Allegheny County. The district requests to increase the construction phase by \$250,000 (NHPP) in FFY 2024 for miscellaneous construction item increases, with the source of funding coming from the Betterment Reserve Line Item. The fifth administrative action was for a bridge replacement, located on PA 136, Monongahela Road over Becketts Run intersection with State Route 2013, in Forward Township, Allegheny County. The district requests to swap out BRIP funding with State 185 funding due to structure not eligible for BRIP funding. The source of funding will come from the Bridge-Allegheny County line item.

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. PennDOT District 12-0

Josh Theakston went over the three amendments and three administrative actions for PennDOT District 12-0. The first amendment was for the reconstruction of the existing pavement on US 22 from the PA Turnpike Interchange to the Allegheny County line, located in Robinson Township, Washington County. The district requests to reduce funding for the CON phase in FFY 2024, as the project will not be ready for bid on the FFY 2023 SPC TIP. The funds will be added to the construction phase of MPMS# 31058 I-79: North Junction to Race Track Road. The second amendment was for the resurfacing and concrete rehabilitation of Interstate 79 from the North Junction of Interstates 70 and 79 to the Race Track Road exit, located in Chartiers and South Strabane Townships, Washington County. The district requests to add the construction phase to the 2023 TIP in FFY 2024, with the source of funding coming from the MPMS# 117444 US 22 Concrete Repair project. The third amendment was for the replacement of the structure carrying SR 1039 (Johnson Road) over Chartiers Creek, located in Chartiers and South Strabane Townships, Washington County. The district requests to add a final design, utilities, and right-of-way phases to the FFY 2023 TIP in FFY 2024. The source of funding will come from the D12 Highway/Bridge Line Item (MPMS# 76508).

The first administrative action was for preservation activities of various structures throughout the district in various locations. The district requests to add a final design phase to the FFY 2023 TIP in FFY 2024, with the source of funding coming from the D12 Highway/Bridge Line Item (MPMS# 76508). The second administrative action was for bridge improvements to the structure carrying SR 7207 (Ullom Road) over Chartiers Creek Tributary, located in Chartiers Township, Washington County. The district requests to add the final design phase to the FFY 2023 TIP in FFY 2025, with the source of funding coming from the D12 Highway/Bridge Line Item (MPMS# 76508). The third administrative action was for installing High Friction Surface (HFS) at various locations and municipalities in the district in various locations. The district is requesting to add a construction phase to the FFY 2023 TIP in FFY 2025, with the source of funding coming from the D12 Highway/Bridge Line Item (MPMS# 76508).

Jeff Skalican made a motion to approve the amendments and administrative actions from PennDOT District 12-0, which was seconded by Daniel Carpenter. The motion was approved unanimously.

### D. Transit TIP Amendment Summary

Tom Klevan gave a summary of the Transit TIP actions from the TOC meeting, beginning with four administrative actions on behalf of Washington County Transit Authority. The first action was on a previously programmed shelter project, which moved \$350,000 of Federal formula funding and matching State and Local funds from FY 2023 to FY 2024. The second action was for fare collection equipment, moving \$147,326 of Federal funds and State and Local matching funds from FY 2023 to FY 2024. The third action was to add funding to a previously programmed project for construction of a maintenance facility. The project in total will be around a \$48 million project, and was granted funding through the State by the 5339 Bus Facilities discretionary program. Funding to the Washington Transit Authority will be adding \$4.2 million, with \$3.5 million of 5339 funding and a State and Local match. Currently that project has around \$15 million in funding, and Washington County is working hard to find the rest of the funding for the project. Last, a project was added with State funds to upgrade ITS equipment across all of Pennsylvania for transit operators, known as the Fritz program, which has been going on throughout the last few years. SPC added \$100,000 from this program to the Washington County Transit Authority for FY 2024.

## 6. **2025 TIP Update**

Ryan Gordon gave an update on the 2025 TIP, of which the preliminary draft review has now been completed by Central Office and the Statewide program is attached to the TTC packet. Ryan passed it over to Brandon Leach to review the recently released Interstate TIP. On March 5<sup>th</sup>, the formal announcement went out on behalf of the interstate steering committee that the draft 2025 interstate management 12-year program TYP was attached to the MPMS system and funding was programmed appropriately. This includes primarily carryover interstate management project from the 2023 interstate management TIP, as well as additional projects from the 2025 draft TIP. This interstate TIP is not a part of the SPC TIP, it is considered to be a part of the interstate program, which has projects which overlap all of the Pennsylvania planning partners across the State. A list of projects in the SPC region can be found in the TTC packet provided for the meeting, and any questions on the interstate TIP can be answered by emailing Ryan or Brandon. Ryan mentioned that in February SPC finished their final round of work group meetings on the TIP, which included calibration of the 2025 long range transportation plan with the 2025 TYP. Public Involvement efforts are now underway, with the public comment period beginning on May 8<sup>th</sup> for the 2025 TIP. Eleven public meetings are being scheduled, one in every county and one for the City of Pittsburgh. A schedule will be presented to TTC once all of those meetings have been scheduled.

Ryan discussed that there will be a TTC action needing to be taken for the following project lists, once for the 2025 Draft TIP and one for the 2025 Draft LRTP. Once these project lists are approved, next and final steps for the 2025 TIP will be the Air Quality conformity, Environmental Justice analysis, and document preparations in March and April. The Smart Transportation for Livable Communities (STLC) program applications are due on April 8<sup>th</sup>, and review and project selection will take place in April/May. Lastly, public comment period and public meetings being held in May/June, with the final 2025 TIP being presented and adopted by the end of June 2024. The process to develop the project lists in the TIP 4-year program and the LRTP began in May of 2023. It is the result of twenty meetings of the District TIP work groups, with input from over 90 professional executives, planners, and engineers. This includes projects funded with a wide array for Federal, State, and Local sources of funding. Ryan then asked for a motion to approve the project lists. Jeff Skalican made the motion to recommend for approval the 2025 TIP and LRTP project lists, which was seconded by Jason Theakston. The motion was passed unanimously and will be advanced to air quality conformity and public involvement activities.

Ryan next moved on to discussing the Draft TIP modifications memorandum of understanding (MOU), which is the guidelines that govern how SPC processes TIP modifications. SPC staff reviewed the STIP MOI and made additions to the regional MOU for consistency. SPC staff then met with district planning and programming managers, as well as transit TIP administrators, to review the new language and review the existing MOU. From these meetings, no significant changes were made to the TIP modification processing procedure, with the only noticeable change being a strengthening of the language involving air quality conformity. Ryan also discussed the draft self-certification, which was added to the packet for TTCs information, and as a resolution, will be passed along to the commission to show conformance to ensure the TIP is adopted. Last, Ryan gave an update to the STLC program, which is currently in the final application period. On March 8<sup>th</sup>, the pre-application period ended, with a total of 13 pre-applications received. There were seven pre-applications from Counties (Allegheny, Armstrong, Butler, Fayette, Lawrence, and Westmoreland (2)), and 6 from PennDOT districts (one from District 10-0, three from District 11-0, and two from District 12-0). Only one project is allowed from

each county, with an additional project per county allowed to be submitted by the Districts. The final applications will be due on April 8<sup>th</sup>, with evaluations taking place after. The evaluation criteria guidance, which was distributed to TTC members previously, includes changes to the criteria this year, including the addition of Justice 40 disadvantaged census tracts, moving the safety evaluation to the Smart Themes technical evaluation, inclusion of the vulnerable user high risk areas as a bonus point, and inclusion of DCNR PA Priority trail gaps as a bonus point. Projects will be evaluated for a final selection, which will be presented at the May TTC meeting.

7. **Other Business/Status Reports**

Harold Swan made a comment on the community project funding solicitation process, which is currently underway. The due dates for this process were originally on March 15<sup>th</sup>, but have been extended to March 29<sup>th</sup>. More information can be found on Senator Fetterman or Senator Casey's websites. Lillian Gabreski mentioned that they have followed up with Congressman Kelly's office on the same matter, and they are still awaiting guidance on when to open up their round of funding as well, but it should be coming soon. Ryan Gordon said that SPC has looked at the TIP and highlighted some projects which could use additional funding, and have provided these projects to the districts as beneficial projects for the region. This funding would replace already programmed funds with earmark funds, opening up additional funds for other projects in the SPC region. Lillian said she would send a list of these projects to the Counties in order to keep them in the loop for what projects may be receiving earmarks on the future.

8. **Adjourn**

A motion to adjourn was made by Jeff Skalican and seconded by Jason Theakston. The motion was passed unanimously and Domenic D'Andrea called for the adjournment of the meeting at 11:10 AM.