

**Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission  
Transportation Technical Committee (TTC)  
Meeting Minutes via Webex  
June 13, 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
- Jeremy L. Kelly, Greene County Planning and Community Development
- Josh Krug, Indiana County Office of Planning and Development
- Nathan Clair, Westmoreland County Planning
- Stephen Shanley, Allegheny County Public Works
- Jeff Skalican, City of Pittsburgh
- Amy Mathieson, Airport Corridor Transportation Association
- Mavis Rainey, Oakland Transportation Management Association
- Tosh Chambers, Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership
- Jaclyn Karolski, Allegheny County Department of Economic Development
- Jason Rigone, Westmoreland County Planning
- Brendan Coticchia, City of Pittsburgh
- Matt Pavlosky, Port of Pittsburgh
- Brandon Leach, PennDOT Central Office
- Julia Cornell, PennDOT Central Office
- Ronique Bishop, FHWA
- Kelly Gray, Widmer Engineering
- Matthew Kelley, CDR Maguire
- Daniel Laird, GAI Consultants
- Andy Waple, AECOM
- Harold Swan, PennDOT District 10-0
- Domenic DeFazio, PennDOT District 10-0
- Alice Hammond, PennDOT District 10-0
- Dave Hollahan, PennDOT District 11-0
- Stephanie Ma, PennDOT District 11-0
- John Quatman, PennDOT District 11-0
- Doug Seeley, PennDOT District 11-0
- Jessica Setmire, PennDOT District 12-0
- Josh Theakston, PennDOT District 12-0
- Domenic D'Andrea, SPC Transportation Director
- Ryan Gordon, SPC Staff
- Anthony Hickton, SPC Staff
- Belachew Ayele, SPC Staff
- Dan Bernazzoli, SPC Staff
- Ronda Craig, SPC Staff
- John Weber, SPC Staff

- **Indicates TTC voting member**

1. **Call to Order**

Domenic D'Andrea called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. with a roll call for the TTC members.

2. **Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

3. **Action on May 9<sup>th</sup> TTC Meeting Minutes**

A motion was made by Josh Krug and seconded by Nathan Clair to approve the minutes of the May 9<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 Shambert, FHWA**

Brandon Leach began with an update to the Electric Vehicle Charger Reliability and Accessibility Accelerator (EVCRAA) program, which PennDOT announced program details of at the end of May. This new program was created by the Federal Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, and is focused on repairing and replacing broken or non-operational electric vehicle chargers and improving the reliability of existing EV charging infrastructure across Pennsylvania. The program is similar to the NEVI program, which has been talked about at several past meetings, and is dedicated to installing new EV chargers across the alternative fuel corridors throughout the State. The EVCRAA program will be primarily focused on repairing existing chargers, or upgrading outdated chargers. The online proposal period will open on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of July, and will close on August 14<sup>th</sup>. Brandon mentioned that there is a list of 174 locations in the State that are eligible for these funds, and a map of these locations will be sent around after the meeting. He also mentioned the current open round of the NEVI program, entitled Round 1B. Speaking of the alternative fuel corridors, a new corridor has been identified, between Breezewood and the Maryland border, and while it is not located in the SPC region, it may impact funding for any program using alternative fuel corridors. Applications for the next NEVI round are due on July 10<sup>th</sup>, except in that new alternative fuel corridor, which will remain open until August 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Ronnie Bishop gave an update on FHWA federal discretionary programs, beginning with the charging and fueling infrastructure grant program. This is open for newly submitted applications, as well as for previously received applications that have not been awarded in the past. The new applications are due by August 28<sup>th</sup>, and notices requesting reconsiderations of past applications are due by July 1<sup>st</sup>. FHWA will host informational webinars on the program on July 6<sup>th</sup> and July 11<sup>th</sup>. Next, Ronnie spoke on the Safe Streets and Roads for All program, of which the deadline for planning and demonstration grants will be due on August 29<sup>th</sup>. Ronnie asked a question on whether SPC has implemented any of its complete street activities from their 2022-2024 UPWP, which Domenic responded that SPC has developed our regional complete streets policy, and is currently being reviewed by stakeholders and will be discussed at the regional policy committee meeting at the end of the month before full endorsement by the commission. Implementation will occur through programs such as the SPC CMAQ program, Carbon Reduction program, and the Transportation Alternatives program. For safety related activities, SPC worked on their first pedestrian and bicycle safety audit and are currently writing up a report on those findings.

## 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 safety improvement project, including applying high friction surface treatment along various routes in various municipalities in Armstrong, Butler, and Indiana Counties. The district requests to remove a portion of construction funds in FFY 2024 due to low bid savings, with the funding being placed into the SPC Regional Safety Line Item. The second administrative action was for a bridge preservation project, which carries US 422 over the Allegheny River in North Buffalo and Manor Townships, Armstrong County. The district requests to increase final design and add \$109,000 (80% Federal and 20% State) in FFY 2024 due to an increase in project scope, with the source coming from the SPC District 10 Highway/Bridge Line Item. The third administrative action was for a bridge rehabilitation project, which carries US 422 eastbound and westbound over Two Lick Creek in White Township, Indiana County. The district requests to increase construction and add \$179,202 (100% Federal utilizing toll credits) in FFY 2024 for final invoices for project closeout. The source will be the SPC District 10 Highway/Bridge Line Item.

Joel MacKay 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 one amendment and nine administrative actions for PennDOT District 11-0. The first amendment was for a bridge preservation project, located on Old Bower Hill Road over POHC and W&KE Railroad in Scott Township, Allegheny County. The district requests to add a planning and engineering phase by \$500,000 (BOF) to current TIP in FFY 2024 to initiate design, with the source of funding coming from the Bridge-Allegheny County line item. The first administrative action was for landslide repairs with tangent caissons within existing Right-of-Way, drainage upgrades and reconstructed pavement, located on SR 3081 (Montour Street Extension) between Intersections of Rosedale Ave/ Woodcrest Ave and Grace Street in Coraopolis Borough, Allegheny County. The district requests to add a planning and engineering phase by \$250,000 (581) in FFY 2024 to initiate design on the project, with the source of funding coming from the Betterment Reserve Allegheny line item. The second administrative action was for a mill and overlay project, located on SR 4003, McKnight Road, from East Street to Babcock Boulevard in McCandless Township and the City of Pittsburgh, Allegheny County. The district requests to increase the construction phase by \$760,000 (NHPP) in FFY 2025 for drainage and other work, with the source of funding coming from the construction phase of I-376-A51 project (now funded through MEGA) and the SPC CMAQ line item.

The third administrative action was for a slide remediation project, located on SR 48 (Long Run Road) in the City of McKeesport, Allegheny County. The district requests to add a planning and engineering phase for \$250,000 (581) in FFY 2026 to TIP to initiate design, with the source of funding coming from the Betterment Reserve line item. The fourth administrative action was for an interchange improvement project, located on I-79 at SR 910 Interchange in Marshall Township, Allegheny County. The district requests to decrease the construction phase by \$2,600,000 (CAQ) in FFY 2024 for current project schedule, of which the funds will be placed back into the SPC CMAQ line item. The fifth administrative action was for Bus shelters and mobility

hubs, located within the City of Pittsburgh, Allegheny County. The district requests to decrease the construction phase by \$1,040,000 (CAQ) in FFY 2024 for current project schedule, with the funds being placed back into the SPC CMAQ line item. The sixth administrative action was for interchange improvements, including the construction of a ramp and bridge, and extension of ramp construction, located on I-376 from the Parkway Center Interchange (SR 8091) to the Fort Pitt Tunnel, as well as US 19 (Banksville Road), US 19/PA 51 at Woodville ramps and Banksville Interchange Ramps (SR 8075), in the City of Pittsburgh, Allegheny County. The district requests to decrease the utilities and right-of-way phases by \$1,301,464 (CAQ) in FFY 2024 for current project schedule, with the funds being placed back into the SPC CMAQ line item.

The seventh administrative action was for a safety improvement project, located on SR 3003, Washington Pike between SR 3006 (Boyce Road) and Alpine Road in South Fayette Township, Allegheny County. The district requests to decrease the utilities phase by \$400,000 (CAQ) and the right-of-way phase by \$600,000 (CAQ) in FFY 2024 to defer phases to 2025 for current project schedule, with the funding being placed into the SPC CMAQ line item. The eighth administrative action was for programming and outreach, located in multiple Municipalities throughout Allegheny County. The district requests to increase the planning phase by \$630,727 (CAQ) in FFY 2024 to capture available CMAQ deobligation, with the source of funding coming from available deobligations. The ninth administrative action was for a safety improvement project, located from Lawrenceville to Highland Park in the City of Pittsburgh, Allegheny County. The district requests to decrease the right-of-way phase by \$20,000 (LOC) in FFY 2025 and increase the right-of-way phase by \$80,000 (CAQ) and \$20,000 (LOC) in FFY 2026 to allow City of Pittsburgh to process an RA. The district also requests to remove the construction phase by \$440,000 (PRIV) in FFY 2026 as funding is no longer anticipated, and the funding will come from the removed construction phase of the project.

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

#### C. PennDOT District 12-0

Josh Theakston went over the one amendment and four administrative actions for PennDOT District 12-0. The first amendment was for a pavement preservation project on US 40/US 119 from the Hopwood Interchange in South Union Township, Fayette County, north to the end of the Uniontown Bypass, and continuing north on US 119 to the Fayette County Fairgrounds, located in North Union and South Union Townships, Fayette County. The district requests to add a construction phase to FFY 2023 TIP in FFY 2024 and 2025, where the source of Federal NHPP and STP funding will come from the D12 Highway/Bridge Line Item (MPMS# 76508). The first administrative action was for the replacement of the structure carrying PA 88 (Dilliner Point Marion Road) over Whiteley Creek, located in Monongahela Township, Greene County. The district requests to add a utility phase to the FFY 2023 TIP in FFY 2026 to complete URMS requirements, with the source of State A-185 funding coming from the D12 Highway/Bridge Line Item (MPMS# 76508). The second administrative action was for improvements to the structure carrying PA 218 (Smith Creek Road) over a branch of Smith Creek, located in Franklin Township, Greene County. The district requests to add a planning and engineering phase to the FFY 2023 TIP in FFY 2024, with the source of State A-581 funding coming from the D12 Highway/Bridge Line Item (MPMS# 76508). The third administrative action was for the rehabilitation of Penn Weir Road Bridge (Harmon Creek #7) over Harmon Creek, located in Hanover

Township, Washington County. The district requests to add a construction phase to the FFY 2023 TIP in FFY 2024 so the county can utilize Act 13 funds.

Angela Baker went over the fourth administrative action, which was for safety improvements to the western section of the US 30 Corridor Safety Improvement Study Area from the intersection of US 30/PA 48 to Malts Lane, located in North Versailles Township, Allegheny County, and North Huntingdon Township, Westmoreland County. Both District 11-0 and District 12-0 are requesting to advance funds on District 11 and District 12's TIPs to accommodate an increase to the utility and right-of-way phases; this action is a coordinated effort between the two districts to cover additional utility and right-of-way costs for the project. The Federal NHPP and 581 funds being removed will be returned to their respective line items (District 11 – D11 Line Item MPMS# 75341; District 12 – Highway/Bridge Line Item MPMS# 76508), and the CMAQ funds needed for the increases will be drawn from the SPC CMAQ Line Item (MPMS# 84079).

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

#### D. Transit TIP Actions

Tom Klevan went over four administrative actions from the Transit TIP, starting with the Lawrence County allied coordinated transportation system, the Lawrence County shared ride provider, who is adding capital funding for the purchase and replacement of small vehicles for \$92,000 of State funding. Secondly, Washington County's shared ride program added \$140,000 of State funding for the purchase and replacement of their vehicles as well. Next, Westmoreland County transit authority added around \$200,000 of State funding for small vehicle purchase. Lastly, Tom mentioned that the deobligation of funds of the TDM project for District 11-0 was also passed, which will also be flexed into the transit side of the TIP and SPC can utilize over \$600,000 on other transit projects.

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

Ryan Gordon gave an update on the 2025 TIP, beginning with mentioning that SPC has been working on the 2025 TIP for almost two years, with monthly updates being given since March 2023. Public involvement activities have been completed, in which 11 public meetings were held and a public comment period which ended on June 7<sup>th</sup>. Over the course of these meetings, we received 54 comments back from the public on the plan, and currently SPC staff is coordinating with PennDOT, city, county, and transit agency staff to craft responses to all the draft TIP comments. Ryan gave a quick milestone update on the development of the TIP, beginning with the first updates from March 2023. The STC pre-TIP comment period ended in April of 2023, with over 900 comments received. In May 2023, the call for TIP candidate projects was announced, with the opening of the TIP competitive project application period opening in June 2023. The first work group meetings were held in July of 2023 for the TIP, in which a total of seven were held between July and February 2024. The competitive program deadline was in September 2023, and during the fall 11 public participation panels were held, as well as meetings with regional transit operators on Transit TIP development, as well as an additional three meetings for the SPC competitive program. In December 2023, projects were selected through the SPC competitive program, and the preliminary TIP was submitted to PennDOT central office at the end of the year.

In January 2024 the STLC program guidance was released, with the application period opening in February. In March, TTC advanced the Draft TIP and the LRTP highway/bridge project lists to public involvement and air quality conformity, as well as TOC advancing the Transit project lists. In April, project lists were submitted to the interagency coordination group for air quality reviews. In May, the STLC projects were selected at TTC, with the Draft TIP comment period also running from May 8<sup>th</sup> to June 7<sup>th</sup>, including 11 public meetings, one in each county and one for the City of Pittsburgh. Ryan discussed the final steps for the TIP update, starting with at today's meeting we will be looking for TTC recommendation to the commission to adopt the 2025 Draft TIP. After commission adoption, there will be preparation and submittal of the final 2025 TIP documents through July, with the Draft TIP becoming the current TIP starting in October of 2025.

Ronda Craig gave an overview of the TIP public comments that were received in the public comment period. SPC received 54 comments during the TIP update, with the most public comments being about safety, with 15 comments. There were 13 comments on active transportation, 6 public comments on transit and 6 on roadway conditions. There were three public comments on Amtrak and passenger rail, three comments on bridge conditions, three comments on efficiency and operations, two comments on general issues, one comment on new capacity, one comment on livability, and one comment on environmental justice. Ronda also mentioned that there were 490 views of the Draft TIP story map, as well as 60 shares of TIP public meetings across SPCs social media with an engagement rate of 10.4% across all social media.

Ryan Gordon asked for a motion to recommend the Draft TIP for commission adoption. Ann Ogoreuc made a motion to recommend the 2025 Draft TIP for commission adoption, which was seconded by Jeff Skalican. The motion was approved unanimously.

**7. Future Meetings FY2025**

Domenic D'Andrea gave an update for future TTC meetings, mentioning that the next meeting on July 11<sup>th</sup> will be our joint TTC/TOC meeting. Domenic mentioned that although we have switched from a full virtual meeting to a hybrid meeting, there still has been low attendance to our TTC meetings in-person. Domenic asked that as many people, if possible, could attend this joint meeting in-person, as it would be good at least once a year to get everybody together in the same room to discuss the meeting topics. Domenic mentioned there will be discussion about the hybrid option at the next meeting, on whether it will continue due to low attendance, or what next steps will be in that regard. Domenic also asked for any topics of discussion for the TTC/TOC meeting to be sent to him before the next meeting. Next, Domenic spoke on the 2024/2025 calendar of meetings, which was a handout in the final packet sent out. That calendar contains all committee meetings, including TTC, for the upcoming fiscal year, and if you have any feedback on the calendar, please send an email to Domenic.

**8. Other Business/Status Reports**

There was no other business to report.

**9. Adjourn**

A motion to adjourn was made by Jeff Skalican and seconded by Nathan Clair. The motion was passed unanimously and Domenic D'Andrea called for the adjournment of the meeting at 11:07 AM.