

**Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission  
Transportation Technical Committee (TTC)  
Meeting Minutes via Webex  
April 10, 2025, 10:00 a.m.**

Attendees:

- Ann Ogoreuc, Allegheny County Department of Economic Development
- Darin Alviano, Armstrong County Planning Commission
- Dan Distler, Beaver County Planning and Economic Development
- Nathan Werner, Butler County Planning and Economic Development
- Arthur Cappella, Fayette County Zoning, Planning, and Community Development
- Jeremy Kelly, Greene County Planning and Community Development
- Josh Krug, Indiana County Office of Planning and Development
- Becky Butler, Washington County Planning
- Nathan Clair, Westmoreland County Planning
- Stephen Shanley, Allegheny County Public Works
- Jeff Skalican, City of Pittsburgh
- Mollie Crowe, Airport Corridor Transportation Association
- Jaclyn Karolski, Allegheny County Department of Economic Development
- Tosh Chambers, Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership
- Kyle Lamb, Greene County Planning and Community Development
- Kevin Gray, Butler County Planning and Economic Development
- Brendan Coticchia, City of Pittsburgh
- Sam Buckley, Pittsburgh Regional Transit
- Ed Typanski, Pittsburgh Regional Transit
- Brandon Leach, PennDOT Central Office
- Julia Cornell, PennDOT Central Office
- Matthew Kelley, CDR Maguire
- Dan Laird, GAI Consultants
- Chris Sandvig, Mobilify
- Kathryn Schlesinger, Michael Baker Intl.
- Domenic DeFazio, PennDOT District 10-0
- Alicia Kavulic, PennDOT District 10-0
- Alice Hammond, 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
- Jessica Setmire, PennDOT District 12-0
- Josh Theakston, PennDOT District 12-0
- Lillian Gabreski, SPC Transportation Planning Director
- DJ Ryan, SPC Communications and Strategic Initiatives Director
- Ryan Gordon, SPC Staff
- Chuck Imbrogno, SPC Staff
- Evan Schoss, SPC Staff
- Devon White, SPC Staff

- Indicates TTC voting member

## Attendees Cont'd:

Belachew Ayele, SPC Staff  
 Melissa Brown, SPC Staff  
 Leann Chaney, SPC Staff  
 Mark Hoblitzell, SPC Staff  
 Zach Hollingshad, SPC Staff  
 Chris Jaros, SPC Staff  
 Greg Shermeto, SPC Staff  
 John Weber, SPC Staff

1. **Call to Order**

Ryan Gordon 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 March 13<sup>th</sup> TTC Meeting Minutes**

A motion was made by Jeff Skalican and seconded by Becky Butler to approve the minutes of the March 13<sup>th</sup> TTC meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.

4. **PennDOT Central Office/SPC Transportation Director Report**

Brandon Leach began the PennDOT Central Office report with discussion on the TIFIA redistribution. This was sent out by PennDOT Central Office on April 2<sup>nd</sup>, and includes additional \$74.5 million in distribution from the Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA) program. This is being allocated to different MPOs and RPOs across Pennsylvania, with a sub allocation of STP funds, as well as funds for transportation alternative set aside projects. The SPC region was allocated \$13.2 million for FY 2025, and currently the PennDOT districts are working to identify already existing projects that can use these funds to condense cash flows or cover cost increases. Once identified, Central Office can approve and process these projects, which will hopefully be identified during the May TTC meeting as informational items. Next, Brandon spoke on the PennDOT Connects municipal outreach sessions, which are currently occurring in the SPC region. The meeting in District 11-0 occurred on March 25<sup>th</sup>, and the meeting in District 12-0 happened on April 9<sup>th</sup>, the District 10-0 municipal outreach session is still upcoming on April 15<sup>th</sup> from 2pm to 5pm. Anybody who would like to register for those meetings can attend either in person or virtually, and Brandon can provide a link. Josh Krug asked who the target audience for these meetings would be, which Brandon replied that it is open to everyone, however it is designed for municipal officials, planners, and engineers that work in your region, and any community leaders that would like to attend as well.

Lillian Gabreski gave the SPC Transportation Directors report, beginning with the opening of the pre-application period for the Automated Red-Light Enforcement program (ARLE). PennDOT will be accepting applications for the program between June 1<sup>st</sup> and June 30<sup>th</sup>, and the program will continue to prioritize safety enhancements considering PennDOT safety network screening conditions. The pre-application scoping form is required prior to applying, which is what is currently open now, and can be submitted to [arle@pa.gov](mailto:arle@pa.gov). The pre-application scoping forms are due on April 28<sup>th</sup>, with feedback from the forms will be returned to the applicants by May 30<sup>th</sup>. Lillian also spoke on the FTA triannual review, of which the desk review was just completed. The review is for funding the SPC CommuteInfo program and the TDM program,

and helps with funding the TMAs in the SPC region. Devin White has met with each of the three TMAs in the region to make sure the sub recipient compliance is still in good order, and the next steps will be the scheduled onsite review, which is set for June 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>. Lillian mentioned that SPC will pass on more information as we receive it, however TTC involvement is not anticipated. Last, Lillian spoke on the SPC Long Range Plan kickoff meeting, which is to start the preliminary planning for the 2027 Long Range Plan. Currently, SPC is working with the commissioners to schedule a kickoff meeting, which will refresh the MPOs roles and responsibilities in the region, as well as an economic component with SPC economic development director, Jenn Lasser. Currently, the tentative date for this kickoff meeting is the morning of Friday, May 16<sup>th</sup>, however more information will be upcoming on an actual date and time.

## 5. **Action on Modifications to the 2025-2028 TIP**

### A. PennDOT District 10-0

Domenic DeFazio went over the three administrative actions for PennDOT District 10-0. The first administrative action was for signal installation at the existing intersection of Main Street and Spring Street, located in Zelienople Borough, Butler County. The district requests to add the project to the TIP and program construction at \$96,800 (70% State MTF/ 30% Local – FFY 2025) due to a funding award, with the source of funding coming from the multimodal reserve. The second administrative action was for safety improvements along PA 228 that include through lanes, turn lanes, side road improvements, addition of service roads for access control, drainage and guide rail upgrades, signal replacement, signage and pavement markings, sidewalks, ADA ramps, and roundabout, located in Adams Township, Butler County. The district requests to increase right-of-way ``and add \$1,326,000 (NHPP/581 – 2025) in order to pay for additional claims arising from the claim settlement process and impacts from increasing real estate values in the area. The sources of funding will come from the Three Degree Road Intersection project (\$155,292 from the construction phase), the Pittsburgh Street Intersection project (\$31,288 from the deobligation of right-of-way funds), the SR 4005 Mack Park Bridge project (\$31,200 from the deobligation of utility funds), the US 422 Cunningham Culverts project (\$52,246 from the deobligation of preliminary engineering funds), the Jefferson – Cunningham Streets Signal Improvements project (\$53,769 from low-bid savings), the US 22 – SR 403 Underpass Paving project (\$280,694 from low-bid savings), and the SPC District 10 Highway/Bridge Line Item (\$721,511). The third administrative action was for safety improvements to include signal upgrades that will improve coordination, control, signal phasing, timing, and add vehicle detection to reduce congestion and lower carbon monoxide and particulate matter emissions at various locations along the SR 68/SR 356 corridor, located in Butler City, Butler County. The district requests to decrease construction and remove \$215,076 (CMAQ – 2025) due to low-bid savings, with the source of funding going back into the SPC CMAQ Line Item.

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

### B. PennDOT District 11-0

John Quatman went over the five amendments and four administrative actions for PennDOT District 11-0. The first amendment was for a bridge replacement project, located over Thoms Run in South Fayette Township, Allegheny County. The district requests to add a preliminary engineering phase by \$450K (BOF) in

FFY 2025 to initiate design, with the source of funding coming from the City of Pittsburgh's BPRSF line item. The second amendment was for a feasibility study for a road diet, located on Grand Avenue between Neville Road and Coraopolis Bridge in Neville Township in Allegheny County. The district requests to remove the study phase by \$160K (STU) and \$40K (LOC) in FFY 2025, as the project will be combined with the previously named Neville Road project, and the funding will be placed into the Neville Township Traffic Improvement project. The third amendment was for the safety improvement project on Neville Road from Grand Avenue to the Fleming Park Bridge in Neville Township, Allegheny County. The district requests to increase the study phase by \$240K (STP), \$60K (STP) in FFY 2025, with the funds coming from the previous Neville Island projects study phase and the preliminary engineering phase of the same project.

The fourth amendment was for a bridge replacement project, located on Trumbull Drive over Wheeling and Lake Erie Railroad in Greentree Borough, Allegheny County. The district requests to remove the utility phase by \$100K (BOF) in FFY 2025, as the phase is no longer needed. The funds will be placed back into the District's Bridge Line Item. The fifth amendment was for a mill and resurfacing project, located on SR 224 (State Street), from I-376 to Wilmington Road, SR 18 in the City of New Castle and Union Township, Lawrence County. The district requests to add a preliminary engineering phase by \$500K (NHPP) in FFY 2026 to initiate design, with the source of funding coming from the Betterment Reserve line item. The first administrative action was for intersection Improvements for signal update, vehicular and pedestrian detection/signals, ramps, establishment of a traffic management center, cameras to monitor and control signals, located at approximately 126 intersections along eight corridors within the City of Pittsburgh, Allegheny County. The district requests to adjust the utility phase by adding \$375K (OTH-F) and reducing by \$375K (LOC) and adjusting the right-of-way phase by \$75K (OTH-F) and reducing by \$75K (LOC) in FFY 2025 to accomplish a 50% federal/local participation to utilize ATCMTD funds. The district also requests to defer the construction phase funding by \$2.45M (OTH-F), \$3.2M (GLG), and \$2.45M (LOC) from FFY 2025 to FFY 2026 and increasing each amount to \$3.4M (OTH-F), \$3.2M (GLG), \$3.4M (LOC) for updated estimate and current let schedule. The source of funding will come from the Smart PGH - City of Pittsburgh TMC project.

The second administrative action was for a mill and overlay project, located on SR 48, SR 2037, SR 2083, and SR 2068 in the Townships of Elizabeth & N. Versailles, the City of McKeesport, and the Boroughs of White Oak, Lincoln, Versailles and East Pittsburgh in Allegheny County. The district requests to reduce the construction phase by \$2M (NHPP) in FFY 2026 for bid savings, with the funds going back into the Betterment Reserve Allegheny line item. The third administrative action was for State Bridge Inspections, located at various locations from within District 11. The district requests to reduce the final design phase by \$250K (185) in FFY 2025, as the project is no longer needed. The funding will be placed into the District's Bridge line item. The fourth administrative action was for Interchange improvements, including construction of ramp and bridge, and ramp construction, located on I-376 from the Parkway Center Interchange to the Fort Pitt Tunnel in the City of Pittsburgh, Allegheny County. The district requests to advance the final design phase by \$750K (CAQ) from FFY 2026 to FFY 2025 to cover AC conversion, with the source of funding coming from the SPC CMAQ line item.

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

C. PennDOT District 12-0

Josh Theakston went over the two administrative actions for PennDOT District 12-0. The first administrative action was for the replacement of structure carrying PA 88 over Peters Creek, located in Finleyville Borough, Washington County. The district requests to increase the preliminary engineering phase on the 2025 TIP in FFY 2025 and 2026 to match current estimate, as well as swap final design, utility, and construction phase funding from A-185 to Federal STP funds, with construction phase funds moving from FFY 2028 to FFY 2029. The Federal STP funds for all phases will be drawn from the District 12 Highway/Bridge Line Item (MPMS# 76508). The second administrative action was for signal replacement/upgrades to five signal locations on PA 18, US 40, and PA 136, located in the City of Washington, Washington County. The district requests to increase the preliminary engineering phase on the FFY 2025 TIP in FFY 2025, using Federal CAQ funds. The sources of funding will come from the MPMS# 114560 – 119 SW Greensburg CMAQ construction phase reduction in FFY 2025, the MPMS# 101493 – Jeanette/Hempfield CMAQ preliminary engineering and construction deobligations in FFY 2025, and the MPMS# 110402 – US 119 Connellsville CMAQ preliminary engineering deobligation in FFY 2025.

Arthur Cappella made a motion to approve the administrative actions from PennDOT District 12-0, which was seconded by Nate Clair. The motion was approved unanimously.

6. **2027 TIP Update**

Ryan Gordon gave an update to the 2027 TIP, starting with some recent activities that have started since the last TTC meeting. Ryan noted that SPC staff has sent out candidate resources and the 2025 candidate project template, as well as continued work on the TIP work group draft meeting outlines while confirming work group membership in each PennDOT district. SPC staff has also continued to participate in statewide guidance development, as well as beginning work on Work Group meeting scheduling, with six work group meetings anticipated to be scheduled in each PennDOT District. Dates for those meetings will be sent out at a later date. Ryan also mentioned that the STC pre-TIP comment period is currently open, and will be open until April 30<sup>th</sup>. He provided a link to the website for the public comments, and also made a note that the statewide financial, general, and procedural guidance work groups are underway. Guidance on statewide financial guidance is scheduled for the mid-May timeframe, so more information should be available during the next TTC meeting. SPC is also coordinating on the County Public Participation Panels, as well as beginning work on Candidate Project Development in the region.

Ryan gave a refresher on some other early milestones for the TIP update, which include the identification and prioritization of candidate projects to SPC from organizations by June 20<sup>th</sup>, as well as the opening of SPCs competitive programs (Transportation Alternatives (TA) and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ)), which will open in June and will include a webinar beforehand for interested applicants. For upcoming candidate review and development, SPC will provide the current LRTP and TYP lists for each district's work group members, as well as providing the TIP candidate list, updated for current status, to each member as well. Ryan reviewed the candidate template sheet, and mentioned to provide a good need and purpose for the project in the appropriate boxes. Ryan gave next steps for the update, which includes working with work group members on the review of the draft timeline and draft process flow, with any comments coming back to SPC, as well as conferring with key staff on candidate projects and utilizing resources to populate candidate submission templates before the June

20<sup>th</sup> deadline. Public Participation Panel orientations will be beginning soon, as well as work for SPC staff on TIP work group draft meeting outlines and continued participation in statewide guidance development, as well as upcoming competitive program guidance development.

#### 7. **Public Participation Plan Overview**

DJ Ryan gave discussed the upcoming Public Participation Plan (PPP), which was last updated in 2021 and will continue to be updated every four years. This plan is a requirement of Federal Law to be updated, and complies with titles and directives in the public participation plan, such as Title VI of the Civil Rights Act, the ADA, and several other laws. SPC has also been required to do a limited English proficiency section of the PPP, and although it is no longer a Federal requirement, SPC will continue to have that section in the document. Outlined in the document is how people can interact with SPC, and how they can participate in any business ventures with the company. SPC will be holding public participation panels in every County, which gives County and City leadership the opportunity to appoint people to the panels who can give and bring feedback to the general public. The PPP also includes SPC content through the internet, such as on the SPC website, social media, and through the email newsletters, which can be signed up for at any public meeting. The plan will also involve a document review plan, which maintains a regional document review in which SPC may send our documents to a list of libraries, where anyone can review and comment of those documents if they choose to, instead of commenting and reviewing them online. There are also sections on right to know requests, and other specific engagement opportunities in which to offer public comments.

DJ discussed the upcoming public participation panel meetings, which will cover engagement for the TIP updates, the LRTP updates, Air Quality Conformity, as well as the Public Participation Plan. The public comment period for the draft PPP is currently open, and will be closing on April 16<sup>th</sup>, at 5pm. Links to the survey are on SPCs website, but can also be accessed by emailing DJ Ryan. DJ also mentioned that SPC recently received Federal guidance to remove or replace certain items in the Public Participation Plan, including phrases which include environmental justice, equity, and diversity. SPC will continue to provide services for limited English proficiency, and SPC has recently hired a new editorial compliance specialist to review our documents for compliance and to follow the current administrations priorities. DJ mentioned that the updated PPP will be available on SPCs website after the deadline to comment has passed and everything has been approved.

#### 8. **Upcoming TTC Presentations**

Ryan Gordon discussed upcoming TTC presentations, as he has been requesting presentations from Counties and PennDOT districts for the past few TTC meetings. Ryan mentioned that SPC has lined up a few presentations for the upcoming months, beginning with Allegheny County in May and then a presentation on recent projects from District 10-0, currently lined up for June. District 12-0 will also give a presentation on the life cycle of a project in July. Ryan thanked the County and Districts for being the first to volunteer for presentations, noting that after these presentations are complete, he would like the other District and Counties to volunteer for presentations for upcoming months. He mentioned these presentations only need to be 5-10 minutes in length, and can be about anything interesting that is currently happening in your County or District.

#### 9. **PA WalkWorks Capacity-Building Pre-Planning Assistance Program**

Ryan Gordon gave a quick overview of the PA WalkWorks Capacity-Building Pre-Planning Assistance Program, which is a new program from PA WalkWorks and the Department of Health, and is focused on

pedestrian activity and infrastructure. The program is limited in eligibility to a few Counties and assorted other communities, including areas in the SPC region. A link was provided in the agenda to the program, with more information and ways to apply found on the website.

10. **Other Business/Status Reports**

Brandon Leach mentioned that there is an online public forum being held later tonight for the STC public comment period, which is available to anyone who would like to participate. IT will give an overview of the STC, as well as the process of creating the 12-year program. It will be available through PA cast and Facebook Live, or a link can be provided by emailing Brandon directly, for anyone who would like to attend.

11. **Adjourn**

A motion to adjourn was made by Jeff Skalican and seconded by Becky Butler. The motion was passed unanimously and Ryan Gordon called for the adjournment of the meeting at 10:59 AM.