



SPC Transit Operators Committee

Meeting Minutes: March 12, 2025

Attendance

Members

Tosh Chambers (PDP)	Anthony Hickton (SPC)
Ashley Seman (MMVTA)	Sheila Gombita (WASH)
David Wohlwill (PRT)	Mary Jo Morandini (BCTA)
John Paul (BTA)	Alan Blahovec (WCTA)
Mavis Rainey (OTMA)	Amy Mathieson (ACTA)

Guests & Transit Staff

Seth Davis (PRT)	Jaclyn Karolski (ACED)
Ed Typanski (PRT)	Cody Slater (ANR)
Deborah Phillips (PRT)	Mark Cassel (Bowman)
Kathryn Simpson (PRT)	David Totten (HDR)
Sam Buckley (PRT)	Mike Veltri (WSP/APTA)
Jeff Devlin (PRT)	Ashley Cooper-Brounce (WCTA)

SPC Staff

Evan Schoss	Chuck Imbrogno
Devon White	Russell Singer
Chris Jaros	Belachew Ayele
Julia Ferri	Lillie Gabreski
Nancy Hirsch	

1. Introductions
 - a. The meeting was called to order by Sheila Gombita
2. Minutes
 - a. The draft minutes from the previous meeting of the TOC on January 15th, 2024 were **approved on a motion Alan Blahovec (WCTA) and second by David Wohlwill.**
3. Transit Participant Updates
 - a. PRT, Jeff Devlin: Updated information on a PRT fare refresh project. The current system has been in place around 18 years. The Ready fare card will replace Connect Cards. This summer new fare cards will be available at downtown service center. All fare machines will be replaced in the fall. Contract awarded to Flowbird. RFP for fare boxes is imminent. New fare boxes will only take cash. They are encouraging riders to use up balances on existing cards and then switch. Discussion from group included questions on compatibility with other systems, partner organizations, senior passes and confirming that Connect Cards will be going away
4. PennDOT and FTA Updates

a. PennDOT

Russell Singer: Reminder of PennDOT Connects municipal outreach meetings that will be both in person and virtual, each district will have a virtual meeting, district 10&11 will have in person meetings in Indiana and Uniontown. Will show PennDOT tools available for municipal planning and land use/transportation planning. Open to the public. Date list will be sent out. District 10- 4/15. District 12- 4/19. District 11 3/25

Devin White: PennDOT STC public comment period for 12-year program operation program open. This occurs every two years. 2025 comment period open through April 30th. This is used to identify needs and prioritize projects. Outreach toolkits available and will be distributed.

1. Survey: [PENNSYLVANIA'S TRANSPORTATION SURVEY](#)
2. Public Outreach Toolkit: [Toolkit - 2025 Public Outreach Campaign for the TYP Update - Talk PA Transportation](#)
3. 2-Year Transportation Performance Report: [2025 TPR TAC](#)
4. Online Q/A, 6:30p April 10, 2025 Registration: [Registration – 2025 Online Public Forum - Talk PA Transportation](#)

b. FTA- No Update

5. TIP Amendments and Administrative Actions

a. ACTA (Note ARPA funds will now be added to TIP for tracking purposes)

- i. Operating Expenses (MPMS# NA): Grant Number PA-2023-050 adds Federal ARPA funds in the amount of \$354,719 in FFY25.

Motion to Approve: Alan Blahovec, Second: Mary Jo Morandini. Motion carries

b. BCTA

- i. ETC Renovations (MPMS# 70708): This administrative adjustment revises the project description to include changes in the scope and items purchased with no funding amount change.

Motion to Approve: Alan Blahovec, Second: Mavis Rainey. Motion carries

c. ICTA

- i. CNG Bus Replacement (MPMS# 118144): This TIP amendment moves the purchase of new vehicles from FFY26 to FFY25. Funding is increased due to newly approved Federal 5311 funds. Total TIP change of \$2,250,000.

Motion to Approve: Alan Blahovec, Second: Ashley Seman. Motion carries

d. TACT

- i. Small Bus Replacement (MPMS# 118160): Vehicle replacements originally planned in 2021 were delayed due to lower utilization due to COVID. This TIP amendment programs the replacement of these buses in FFY25 and increases the total funding by \$53,750 to align with current pricing.

Motion to Approve: Alan Blahovec, Second: Mary Jo Morandini. Motion carries

6. SPC Updates

- a. Nancy Hirsch gave a presentation on the updated of SPC's: [Regional Safety Action Plan - Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission](#). This is the 3rd update of a 5-year safety update plan being completed in-house identifying strategies and project locations for safety goals tied to the LRTP. Call to action for TOC to submit safety champions connected to transit as well as testimonials honoring victims or those who have suffered serious injuries due to safety issues.
- b. Devon White:
 - i. Triennial Review: SPC has started desk review, sub-recipients will be contacted as part of process. SPC can provide documents as needed for each agency's own triennial review. Dates not currently confirmed for on-site reviews.
 - ii. Transit Performance Measures: Two measures required by TIP- Transit Asset Management (TAM) and Public Transportation Safety (PTASP). PRT has additional statistics that need to be reported on compared to other region agencies.
 - 1. Presentation covered data and performance measures in more detail.
- c. Lillian Gabreski: PPP Comment Period this serves to inform and drive the public participation process for the TIP: [Public Participation Plan - Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission](#)
- d. Mark Hoblitzell: Coordinated Transportation Plan Subcommittee. This group will be launched this spring as part of implementation efforts related to the formal adoption of the Human Services plan by the SPC commission. This meeting is currently scheduled to follow the May TOC meeting. Each agency will be invited to include appropriate staff and local human services partners.
- e. Russell Singer: Updated TIP Change Submission Form- Updated dates and minor changes to differentiate from the old version. Grant numbers are now included.

7. Other Business

- a. Michael Veltri (WSP): Incoming chair for APTA Fare Collection Committee. Key priority is to expand committee focus to better include small and mid-sized agencies. Here to better provide information on equipment, upgrades, and technology to agencies as they look to make changes. APTA Tech is in Miami Florida 8/4-8/6. There will be a fare collection 101 on 8/3 and an innovation challenge on 8/6. Final recommendation is to have an assessment done on fare collection system prior to any changes made.
- b. Jeff Devlin (PRT): Final question on PRT fare changes: Senior Card, Requirements are that cards have photo IDs. PRT will continue with Senior Card program and will allow seniors to roll over to Ready Card. Currently working through allowing seniors to use cards until they expire vs waiting at service centers. Visual Validation will take place once systems change to new cards.
- c. Devon White: Revisiting the earlier discussion about safety, Devon called attention to MMVTA camera tracking system that monitors near-misses. The system is available and any operators that are interested should reach out to SPC about it.

8. Adjournment

- a. The next meeting will be 10:00 am April 16th.
- b. The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Alan Blahovec, Second by David Wohlwill