



SPC Transit Operators Committee

Meeting Minutes: February 12, 2025

Attendance

Members

Tosh Chambers (PDP)	Anthony Hickton (SPC)
Ashley Seman (MMVTA)	Sheila Gombita (WASH)
Seth Davis (PRT)	Mary Jo Morandini (BCTA)
David Richards (NCATA)	Alan Blahovec (WCTA)
Patti Lynn Johnston (TACT)	Amy Mathieson (ACTA)

Guests & Transit Staff

David Wohlwill (PRT)	Jaclyn Karolski (ACED)
Ed Typanski (PRT)	Brandon Leach (PennDOT)
Deborah Phillips (PRT)	Molly Allwein (HCI)
Kathryn Simpson (PRT)	Alison Keating
Sam Buckley (PRT)	Betsy Zang (McCormick Taylor)
Toby Fauver (Rockland Planning)	Susan Leinenbach
Carrie Machuga (McCormick Taylor)	Liliana Petrova
Mark Cassel (Bowman)	Erich Stein

SPC Staff

Ronda Craig	Chuck Imbrogno
Devon White	Russell Singer
Chris Jaros	Ryan Gordon
Julia Ferri	Lillie Gabreski

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 by Alan Blahovec (WCTA) and second by Ashley Seman (MMVTA).**

3. Transit Participant Updates

- a. PRT (Seth Davis) Wrapping up engagement for bus line redesign. Coming back next month for phase 2 depending on funding. There are multiple construction projects on rail system. Right now, they are wrapping up downtown subway concrete length. This should be finished by end of March or in March. Mtn Washington Transit Tunnel will be closed Feb 23rd through October 2025. Reroute through Arlington and there will be a temporary stop during construction effort, it will not be ADA. On engagement site there will be two stops being studied through the light rail accessibility program, Bethel Village and St. Anne. There is money from the all stations accessibility program to upgrade several stops along Red Line

and these are first two that are going through advance planning. Engage.Rideprt.org is location for more active public facing projects. For anyone who has not been on Detour route, it offers scenic views of the city.

4. PennDOT and FTA Updates

a. PennDOT (Brandon Leach) There has been discussion for steps forward in federal funding in context of the executive orders but not any current updates. PennDOT Connects municipal outreach meetings are coming up this spring. Usually in the April/May Timeframe. PennDOT Connects is the way to reach the public about concerns regarding projects before they get to engineering stages as well as a way to provide outreach to towns and cities. These sessions are virtual or hybrid depending on district. Link includes ways to share for each district session. District 10 session is April 15th from 1:00-3:00 pm. District 11 is March 25th 1:00-3:00 pm, and District 12 April 9th from 1:00-3:00 pm. [PennDOT Connects | Department of Transportation | Commonwealth of Pennsylvania](#)

b. FTA (Ryan Gordon) Early preparations for 2027 tip update. Whole process is getting started in March with kick off of the STC comment period for TYP which includes the tip. Opening March 3rd Through the end of April. This is important because a lot of the pre-TIP public involvement and public comments are from this effort. Devon and Russell will be sending out all the relevant information on how to get to the STC site. (<https://talkpatransportation.com/>) There is typically a survey, comment box, and map where comments can be dropped in. This is really the kick off to the 27 TIP.

(BRANDON) Information on site is not updated yet but will be coming out soon. Towards the end of February, the first STC meeting will be coming out and releasing the Transportation performance report which really kicks off the whole process.

5. TIP Amendments and Administrative Actions

a. No action

6. SPC Updates

a. Public Transit Human Services Coordinated Plan 2024 Update (Betsy Zhang) The presentation slide deck is available for review and comment. This is primarily an update of the 2019 plan which has been going on for about a year. Primary changes discussed include a new vision. The 2019 had a large planning framework included and that still stands true but a vision statement was needed. Updated sections include core beneficiaries, changes in demographics from prior plan, a mapping section which will be available for use. Conversation included adding additional national data for context and highlights in changes in accelerating senior populations. Russell Reviewed map updates and Discussion between Russell, Devon, and Seth Davis on maps included density and population layouts. Comments highlighted that some maps can be challenging given the density of Pittsburgh and perhaps using a Pittsburgh callout to improve readability.

i. In Transportation today section, comment around potential need to map out and highlight connections between transit agencies, and needs to identify transit hub opportunities. Station square is a great example of a potential transit hub between bus service, LRT, and Mon Valley connections.

Review of each section and updates followed. Highlighting public outreach, assessment of needs, and changes in demographics, especially aging population compared to national

trends. Toby Father reviewed sections on the strategies to address transportation gaps and the strategy tables. Betsy wrapped up with discussion and need for inclusions as it relates to funding and implementation steps. Devon reviewed additional opportunities for feedback and next steps. This plan and comments for changes is important as plan approval will be coming in the near future. This plan can be more of a living document. Final conversation around hubs included the suggestion to included examples of hubs from other areas in the country.

7. Other Business

- a. Guest presentation, Liliana Petrova. Liliana is the founder of [The Petrova Experience](#), who presented on Experience Design in the transportation industry. This presentation focused on customer and user experience and understanding customer journeys. A copy of the presentation is available for review.

8. Adjournment

- a. The next meeting will be 10:00 am March 12th.
- b. The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Seth Davis (PRT) and second by David Richards (NCATA)