

**Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission
Transportation Technical Committee (TTC)
Meeting Minutes via Microsoft Teams
September 17th, 2026, 10:00 a.m.**

Attendees:

- Jaclyn Karolski, 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 Commission
- Nathan Clair, Westmoreland County Department of Planning and Development
- Zachary Workman, City of Pittsburgh
- Stephen Shanley, Allegheny County Public Works
- Amy Mathieson, Airport Corridor Transportation Association
- Mollie Crowe, Airport Corridor Transportation Association
- Aaron Sukenik, Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership
- Tammy Frank, Beaver County Liquid Fuels
- Thomas Swisher, Butler County Planning and Economic Development
- Andrew Wise, Greene County Planning and Community Development
- Kegan Stiles, Indiana County Office of Planning and Development
- Scott Yackuboskey, Indiana County Office of Planning and Development
- Brendan Coticchia, City of Pittsburgh
- Ed Typanski, Pittsburgh Regional Transit
- Nick Raio, PennDOT Central Office
- Julia Cornell, PennDOT Central Office
- Susan Hyde, PennDOT Central Office
- Douglas Smith, Larson Design Group
- Justin Smith, Markosky
- Dan Laird, Mannik Smith Group
- Dan Fritz, WRA
- Dominic DeFazio, PennDOT District 10-0
- Alicia Kavulic, PennDOT District 10-0
- Adam Marshall, PennDOT District 10-0
- Jordan Bergamasco, PennDOT District 11-0
- David Hollahan, PennDOT District 11-0
- John Quatman, PennDOT District 11-0
- Dina Salemi, PennDOT District 11-0
- Doug Seeley, PennDOT District 11-0
- Tyler Schurr, PennDOT District 11-0
- Angela Baker, PennDOT District 12-0
- Rachel Duda, PennDOT District 12-0
- Jessica Setmire, PennDOT District 12-0
- Josh Theakston, PennDOT District 12-0

- Indicates TTC voting member

Attendees Cont'd:

Jennifer Liptak, SPC Deputy Executive Director/Chief Operating Officer
 DJ Ryan, SPC Director of Communications and Strategic Initiatives
 Lillian Gabreski, SPC Transportation Planning Director
 Ryan Gordon, SPC Staff
 Leanne Chaney, SPC Staff
 Chuck Imbrogno, SPC Staff
 Devon White, SPC Staff
 Cate Aaron, SPC Staff
 Belachew Ayele, SPC Staff
 Ozzie Benhart, SPC Staff
 Zach Hollingshad, SPC Staff
 Ronda Craig, SPC Staff
 Nancy Hirsch, SPC Staff
 Chris Jaros, SPC Staff
 Samantha Ryan, SPC Staff
 Greg Shermeto, SPC Staff
 John Weber, SPC Staff

1. **Call to Order**

Ryan Gordon called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM with a roll call for the TTC members.

2. **Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

3. **Action on August 13th TTC Meeting Minutes**

A motion was made by Nathan Werner and seconded by Becky Butler to approve the minutes of the August 13th TTC meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.

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

Ryan Gordon began the report by introducing the new SPC region PennDOT Central Office liaison, Nick Raio, who will be replacing Brandon Leach in the role. Nick discussed some grant opportunities which are currently open, mentioning the PROTECT program grant, which is open until October 9th, and the PennDOT Multimodal Transportation Fund, which is open until October 30th. Lillian Gabreski reported on the promotion of Angela Baker from PennDOT District 12-0, who was promoted from Transportation Planning Manager to District Portfolio Manager for District 12-0.

5. **Action on Modifications to the 2025-2028 TIP**A. **PennDOT District 10-0**

Adam Marshall went over the one administrative action for PennDOT District 10-0. The first administrative action was for a congestion reduction project, which improvements to the flow of traffic with the addition of turning and through lanes, signal retiming and signal coordination, along PA 356 from just east of Harbison Road to just east of Younkens Road, in Buffalo Township, Butler County. The district requests to swap the right-of-way phase between FFYs 2026 and 2027/2028, utilizing finding of multiple projects,

including 1/112th Infantry Bridge/Graff Ramp Rehabilitation (construction phase – \$2,219,492(STU – FFY 2027/2028)) and Ekastown West 3R (construction phase – \$340,508 (STU – FFY 2028)), as well as SR 8 Butler City to SR 308 (construction phase – \$640,000 (581 – FFY 2026)).

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

B. PennDOT District 11-0

John Quatman went over the three administrative actions for PennDOT District 11-0. The first administrative action was for signal improvements to install new mast arms and signals at the intersections to improve safety, as well as ADA ramps associated with the intersections, located on SR 4003, McKnight Road, from Nelson Run Interchange to Perrymont Road in Ross, Pine and McCandless Township, Allegheny County. The district requests to swap the construction phase by \$1,265,000 (STU) in FFY 2026 to \$1,112,000 (CRP) in FFY 2025 and by \$153,000 (CRP) in FFY 2026 as part of a fund swap involving CRPU and STU funds. The district also requests to increase the right-of-way phase by \$400,000 (CRPU) in FFY 2026 to cover additional right-of-way takes. The funding will come from the final design phase of the I-376/Parkway East A.T.M project and be placed into the Betterment Reserve line item, as well as the Sheepskin Trail - City of Uniontown Connection project. The second administrative action was for a bridge preservation project, located on SR 2114 (McKeesport-Duquesne Bridge) over the Monongahela River and railroad in the City of Duquesne and McKeesport, Allegheny County. The district requests to advance the construction phase by \$1,044,825 (BRIP) and \$1,345,400 (NHPP) from FFY 2027 to FFY 2026 to capture more obligation, with the source of funding coming from the Mossdale Blvd-PA 130 to Haymaker and East Carson Street Mill and Overlay projects based on current schedules and the District's Betterment/Bridge line items. The third administrative action was for flood and scour remediation, located on SR 2010, Lovedale Road in Elizabeth Township and Lincoln Boro, Allegheny County. The district requests to add a utility phase by \$150,000 (581) in FFY 2027 to cover utility tasks, with the source of funding coming from the District Utilities Inspection line item.

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

C. Transit TIP Actions

Devon White provided an update on four actions for the Transit TIP, all from Pittsburgh Regional Transit, starting with a bus procurement project which was increased by \$6 million. Next, PRT is reducing the funding of a preventative maintenance rail project by \$15 million in 5307 funds. Third, PRT is increasing funding on a preventative maintenance bus project by \$22 million. Lastly, PRT is decreasing funding on a access contract by \$600,000.

6. 2027 TIP Update

Ryan Gordon went over the after-action survey for the 2027 TIP update, which was sent out on July 14th, with an additional reminder to complete sent out on July 29th and a final completion date of July 31st. The survey was sent to 60 members of the TIP work groups, with 21 responses. The questions asked included adequate explanation of the TIP process, adequate time in reviewing and considering public comments, adequate materials, agendas, and handouts, which TIP development tools were utilized the most,

adequate time for carryover project discussion, adequate time for characteristics, constraints, scope, and prioritization of candidate projects, the evaluation and screening of the candidate projects, the level of opportunity to work with and communicate with other transportation professionals, the effective measure of public participation panels for stakeholder input, and now effective public participation panels are for the TIP development process in each individual county. The survey also asked if the third work group meeting, which reviewed performance measures, asset management system outputs, candidate identification and prioritization within the district, was a valuable meeting to continue. The last question asked whether the SPC TIP process is informed by relevant data, collaborative, and is consensus driven and fair, which was agreed with unanimously.

7. **UPWP Development**

Ryan Gordon went over the latest update to the UPWP development, which SPC is currently updating to cover planning activities through July 1, 2027, to June 30, 2029. SPC is currently looking for input from members of TTC, as well as representation from City and County planners for guidance and assistance. SPC would also like to list any County or City planning initiatives that will be underway during the two-year time period, including any corridor studies, safety studies, traffic studies, comprehensive plans, special area planning, transit planning, or any other studies.

8. **2027 Long Range Plan Update**

Lillian Gabreski gave an update on the Long Range Plan, discussing the strategies that were put together at the expert panel meeting that was held at the SPC Policy Conference. SPC is looking at writing three themes, which will include a handful of different strategies, as well as three to four driving goals for the document to tie together all the themes and strategies. SPC is also finalizing a public survey, which Lillian asked the committee to spread amongst their networks once it is released in a few weeks. The survey will focus on the themes, as well as where prioritized investments should be located in the region. It will also touch on economic development strategies for the region, which could help to expand the unconstrained project list on the long-range plan. The themes, strategies, and goals should be finalized in the next month or two, with a goal to receive Commission approval of the themes, strategies, and goals during the December Commission meeting. This will lead into our project list development of constrained and unconstrained projects in early 2027.

Next, Ryan Gordon discussed work group meetings for the long range plan, noting that the first work group meeting was held in District 10-0 last week, with meetings in Districts 11-0 and 12-0 being held next week. Preliminary agendas will be sent out by Ryan later in the afternoon. Next, Ryan discussed the upcoming Public Participation Panel (PPP) meetings, which SPC is currently in the initial stages of setting up across the region. Ronda Craig mentioned that the meetings will be held in late October to early December, and she would be reaching out to each County to schedule a meeting in their area.

9. **SPC Housing Study Scope and Discussion**

Ozzie Benhart gave a presentation on the SPC Regional Housing Study, which looks to address affordability and availability shortages in the region. Ozzie gave some housing statistics, noting that cost-burden issues mean that nationally nearly 50% of renters and 25% of homeowners will spend over 40% of their income on housing. For Pennsylvania, over one million households will spend more than 30% of their income on housing costs, which includes 48.5% of renters and 20.3% of homeowners. Southwestern Pennsylvania is experiencing a variety of different housing conditions, with issues of supply, population and demographic shifts, geography,

and an aging housing market, with over 50% of the housing in the region being over 50 years old. The Housing Action Plan, recently finished by the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development, noted that there are over 66,000 units in the SPC region (not including Lawrence County) demanded by 2035.

Ozzie next discussed the background for SPC starting the study, noting that there was an opportunity to roll over funding previously designated for Broadband, in order to assess current housing conditions and identify opportunities and efficiencies in the region. SPC has put out a request for contractor services, utilizing a small purchase for services contract, and are currently finalizing budget documents for comparison. The deliverables for the study will include insights for policymakers, community leaders, and stakeholders, as well as County-specific one-pagers. There will be a housing report dashboard launched, with a funding a tool section covering resources and research, as well as a final report with finding, profiles, and potential strategies. Data workbooks, GIS documentation, housing typologies, opportunity areas, briefing materials, and an engagement summary will all also be included in the study, as well as documentation on the small purchase for services process. The next steps for the project include the designation of a contact person from each County to work with SPC on the housing study. Ozzie mentioned that he is following up with Counties on their designees and will be looking to have all of the designees finalized before the formal small purchase for services is issued. An internal team at SPC will make the final decision on the consultant, and SPC will coordinate meetings with each counties representative and the consultant to begin work.

10. Other Business/Open Discussion

Josh Krug noted that the Pennsylvania Week Without Driving is coming up on October 1st through the 8th, and a website is currently set up to try to get drivers to drive as little as possible throughout that week in order to understand the challenges associated with not having a personal vehicle. There will be a proclamation announced for Indiana County during that week, and Josh will send around the link to the website for any interested parties. Jacklyn Karolski noted that Allegheny County has launched the Active Allegheny Grant Program, which is a grant for planning, engineering, and design of active transportation, including biking and pedestrian safety, projects in Allegheny County municipalities. The application is open until December 4th.

11. Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made by Becky Butler and seconded by Josh Krug. The motion was passed unanimously and Ryan Gordon called for the adjournment of the meeting at 11:00 AM.