

**Transportation Operations & Safety Committee**  
**Thursday, February 23, 2017, 10:00AM**  
**SPC Conference Center, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor**  
**Chatham II, Pittsburgh, PA**

**Attendees**

Cesar Balquerizo, Rhythm Engr.	Bill Lesterick, PennDOT D11	Joseph Rusiewicz, Transystems
Lucinda Beattie, PDP	Barry Lyons, PennDOT D12	Lisa Kay Schweyer, SPC
Frank Cippel, PennDOT D11	Joel MacKay, Butler Co.	Michael Shanshala, PennDOT D10
Cory Craft, PennDOT D12	Lynn Manion, ACTA	Doug Smith, PennDOT D11
Domenic D'Andrea, SPC	Adam Marshall, PennDOT D10	Joshua Spano, SPC
Phoebe Downey, PDP/Envision	Duane McKee, Cranberry Twp.	Dave Tomaswick, PennDOT D10
Rich Feder, Pitt	Justin Miller, City of Pittsburgh	David Totten, SPC
Dan Fritz, WRA	Edward Miller, PennDOT D11	Dan Tyger, PennDOT D10
Chuck Imbrogno, SPC	Cody Nolen, SPC	Sara Walfoort, SPC
Keith Johnson, Gannett Fleming	Ann Ogoreuc, ACED	Bryan Walker, PennDOT D12
Jim Katsafanas, Michael Baker	Jina O'Neill, OTMA	Andy Waple, SPC
Tom Klevan, SPC	Jim Paral, FHWA	Mike Young, Trans Associates
Todd Kravits, PennDOT D11	Mavis Rainey, OTMA	Meghan Yuhouse, WCTA
Jeffrey Leithauser, Washington Co.	Kelly Rigot, HW Lochner	

**Meeting Summary**

Domenic D'Andrea welcomed the attendees and initiated a round of introductions.

**Update: The South Hills Study**

*Todd Kravits, District Traffic Engineer, PennDOT District 11-0*

- Mr. Kravits began by introducing the study's goal of improving mobility within the South Hills. He mentioned that the purpose of the study was to evaluate the existing and future condition of key corridors and intersections, analyze existing and future operations, and determine possible improvements to assist in future planning efforts as well as enhance mobility and safety. Mr. Kravits explained the gathered data as well as the analysis used for the study. The results that the study provided recommended 82 strategies ranging between \$10M and \$47M. The three common, reoccurring strategies were: signal retiming & coordination, road diets, and roundabouts. He went on to explain the implementation plan and the projects currently in design. Mr. Kravits closed by explaining the benefits of the study and its results.
- Lucinda Beattie asked if adding sidewalks was considered as a strategy. Mr. Kravits answered that municipalities will be the ones to make that decision individually.
- Sara Walfoort asked if trucking issues were studied and found. Mr. Kravits stated that changing the radii along some intersections were suggested to improve turning ability for trucks.
- Mike Shanshala asked if flashing yellow arrow phasing was considered. Mr. Kravits explained that the policy regarding flashing yellow phasing was not known at the start of the study.
- Domenic D'Andrea asked if truck widths and volumes were considered when suggesting road diets. Mr. Kravits said that they were considered.

## **I-70/SR 19 Diverging Diamond Interchange (DDI), Update/Lessons Learned**

*Barry Lyons, Senior Project Manager, PennDOT District 12-0*

- Mr. Lyons opened by giving some facts about the DDI including when it opened, what is currently being completed, its operation, the location of the DDI, and its relation with other DDI's in the country. He explained the considerations that were taken in the design phase such as maintenance, signals, signs, pavement markings, and pedestrian considerations. Mr. Lyons went on to discuss the public involvement process which involved a site specific video, the media, and brochures. Mr. Lyons detailed the traffic control and the transition process. He said that they went from the cloverleaf interchange, to a standard diamond, to the diverging diamond. He finished by mentioning the positive feedback from the public, staff, and local officials regarding the project thus far.
- Mike Shanshala asked if they ever considered using bridges instead of traffic signals. Mr. Lyons said they did not consider using bridge structures given that signal operations were projected to be adequate.
- Tom Klevan added that many businesses have access to Route 19 and produce large volumes of traffic. He feels that this project significantly reduces the burden on this section of Route 19.
- Domenic D'Andrea asked if the PennDOT districts were planning or considering any other DDI locations. None at this time.
- Domenic D'Andrea asked whether PennDOT will look into the safety impacts of the DDI. Mr. Lyons responded that they will compare the safety information before and after the implementation to evaluate the safety impacts.
- Lucinda Beattie asked how pedestrians will travel across the interchange. Mr. Lyons answered that they will use the sidewalks constructed on the islands and use shoulders of the roadway as well.

## **Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Project Update**

*Justin Miller, Principle Transportation Planner, City of Pittsburgh, DCP*

- Justin Miller opened the update explaining that the BRT aims at providing fast and frequent service as well as special connections between Downtown, Oakland, and the East Busway. Mr. Miller continued by explaining the location and need of the BRT project. After mentioning potential alternatives, Mr. Miller went on to discuss the bike infrastructure and give examples of street sections.
- A discussion about the BRT alignment and termini ensued. Mr. Miller speculated that terminations could be at Bellefield Avenue or Neville Street. In the near future, the City and Port Authority are planning to do a public outreach effort on the project to gather public feedback.
- A question was asked about whether the number of stops will be changing. Mr. Miller's response was that the stations will be placed at intervals of 1/3 mile, which is less frequent than the current spacing.

## **SPC's Commute Info Program**

*Lisa Kay Schweyer, CommuteInfo Program Manager, SPC*

- Lisa Kay Schweyer explained that CommuteInfo is a service providing several commuting options in the region with the goals of congestion mitigation and commute cost reduction. Ms. Schweyer went on to explain the relationship between the CommuteInfo program and Transportation Operations & Safety. Next, Ms. Schweyer explained CommuteInfo's specific goals and services. Her presentation closed with a summary of the results and examples of current outreach efforts.

- Lisa Kay Schweyer mentioned the upcoming workshop: “Planning for Transportation Demand Management” which will occur on March 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**Dom D’Andrea and Josh Spano gave a brief summary of other recent/current activities that SPC Transportation Operations and Safety staff are involved in such as:**

- Lawrence County SR 18 Corridor Operations Planning Study (COPS) Status
- Road Safety Audits Planned for Spring, 2017
  - D-10 Franklin Hill Rd/Bus 422, Kittanning area
  - D-11: Rodi Rd, Penn Hills
  - D-12 SR 119 in Youngwood Borough (March)
- Regional Traffic Signal Program-3<sup>rd</sup> cycle PE/FD Underway
- Regional Traffic Signal Program-4<sup>th</sup> cycle
- TIM Activities
- Congestion Management Process (CMP) Activities
- PennDOT Central Office TSMO Workshop on 2/16/17