

SOUTHWESTERN PENNSYLVANIA COMMISSION

RESOLUTION NO. 5-07

A RESOLUTION OF THE SOUTHWESTERN PENNSYLVANIA COMMISSION to adopt an updated Public Participation Plan.

WHEREAS, the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission (SPC) is the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the ten-county metropolitan area and is responsible for regional transportation planning activities; and

WHEREAS, SPC recognizes that public participation is the cornerstone of an effective transportation planning process; and

WHEREAS, SPC communicates with interested parties to ensure effective and innovative transportation planning that is representative of and responsive to the needs of the entire region; and

WHEREAS, SPC conducts an open process that actively involves all affected individuals, groups and communities from the earliest stages, including identifying needs and resources, developing alternatives, and deciding to implement solutions; and

WHEREAS, a defined Public Participation Plan is necessary and desirable as it provides a framework to ensure that the participation activities of SPC's transportation planning processes comply with the proactive public involvement requirements of Title 23 Code of Federal Regulations, Section 450.316, the participation plan requirements of the federal Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act—A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) (Title 23 United States Code, Section 134(i)(5)), and other applicable federal regulations and guidelines on metropolitan transportation planning and programs; and

WHEREAS, the Public Participation Plan was developed in consultation with interested parties consistent with SAFETEA-LU guidance and details the strategies and procedures SPC will utilize to achieve its long-standing commitment to public participation in regional transportation planning; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary and desirable to coordinate when appropriate public involvement activities with other transportation planning agencies; and

WHEREAS, the Commission recognizes that a Public Participation Plan is a required element of the 2035 Transportation and Development Plan for Southwestern Pennsylvania and the Transportation Improvement Program under the provisions of federal transportation planning legislation (SAFETEA-LU); and

WHEREAS, the Commission is committed to “periodically reviewing the effectiveness of the procedures and strategies contained in the participation plan to ensure a full and open participation process” (23CFR 450.316(a)(1)(x)); and

WHEREAS, an approved draft updated Public Participation Plan has been made available for public review and comment for a period of 45 days, a public meeting was held, and comments were received and considered as required by federal transportation planning legislation and SPC’s existing Public Involvement Policy.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission hereby adopts the updated Public Participation Plan dated May 2007. This Public Participation Plan replaces the previous Public Involvement Policy (adopted October 24, 2005).

I, Charles A. Camp, HEREBY CERTIFY that I am Secretary-Treasurer of the SOUTHWESTERN PENNSYLVANIA COMMISSION: that the foregoing resolution was adopted, in accordance with the By-Laws, by the Members of said Commission at a meeting duly called and held on the 28th day of June 2007, a quorum being present and that said resolution is now in full force and effect.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF I hereto subscribe my name as Secretary-Treasurer.

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Secretary-Treasurer