

Meeting Minutes for February 14, 2013
Transportation Technical Committee Meeting
SPC Offices
Two Chatham Center
Downtown Pittsburgh

Attendees:

- Sally Conklin Armstrong County
- Steve Shanley, Allegheny County Dept of Public Works
- James Camp, Beaver County
- Tammy Frank, Beaver County
- Joel MacKay, Butler County
- Arthur Cappella, Fayette County
- Jeremy Kelly, Greene County
- Jeff Grim, Indiana County
- Jason Shallcross, Lawrence County
- Pat Hassett, City of Pittsburgh
- Jeff Leithauser, Washington County Planning Commission
- Chris Bova, Westmoreland County Planning Department
- Kevin McCullough, PennDOT Central Office
- Casey Markey, PennDOT Central Office
- Matt Smoker, FHWA, PA Division
- Dave Cook, PennDOT District 10-0
- Doug Dupnock, PennDOT District 10-0
- Rob Miskanic, PennDOT District 11-0
- John Quatman, PennDOT District 11-0
- Angela Saunders, PennDOT District 12-0
- Jeremy Shaneyfelt, PennDOT District 12-0
- Lynn Manion, Airport Corridor Transportation Management Association
- Lachelle Binion, Oakland Transportation Management Area
- Lucinda Beattie, Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership
- J.D. Fogarty, Port of Pittsburgh
- Darin Alviano, SPC Staff
- Domenic D'Andrea, SPC Staff
- Chuck DiPietro, SPC Staff
- Ryan Gordon, SPC Staff
- Chuck Imbrogno, SPC Staff
- Matt Pavlosky, SPC Staff
- Doug Smith, SPC Staff
- David Totten, SPC Staff
- Sara Walfoort, SPC Staff
- (Indicates Voting Member)

Chuck DiPietro called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. and reviewed the agenda for the meeting.

1. January 2013 TTC Meeting Minutes (Attachment A)

The January meeting minutes were approved with no revisions.

2. Public Comment

No comments.

3. FHWA/PennDOT Central Office Reports

a. Governor's February 5th Budget Address – Attachment B

Kevin McCullough discussed the Governor's plan to address state transportation funding. Kevin stated that the recent Governor's budget address included rollout of a funding enhancement proposal that has been long anticipated. The proposal includes many of the recommendations of the Transportation Funding Advisory Commission. Kevin noted that Attachment B provides more details on the Governor's proposal. The key points of the Governor's proposal are:

- Addresses decades of underinvestment.
- Decreases the flat tax by nearly 17 percent.
- Modernizes and aligns agencies, business practices and investment strategies.
- Ensures that all system users pay their fair share, not just Pennsylvania residents. If you don't use the system, you don't pay for it.
- Ensure the continued safety of our transportation system, which among other things, carries 1.5 million children to school each day.
- Enacts long-term legislation, organizational and finance plans to meet current needs and act on future opportunities.
- Creates an inflationary financing method, ensuring that Pennsylvania's transportation infrastructure is adequately funded into the future.

Kevin noted that Secretary Schoch provided an excellent presentation of the proposal on PCN recently; it is available and is worth watching for anyone that attends TTC. Lucinda Beattie asked about the proposal to merge mass transit into a new multi-modal section of PennDOT. Kevin noted that as an improved efficiency measure, the Governor's proposal does include combining the rail, air, ports, and transit into one deputate. Lucinda asked what the legislative time frame is for passage. Kevin noted that there are various bills introduced in the legislature and many of the members are ready to move on the Governor's proposal, but it would be pure speculation to state a firm time frame.

b. First Quarter TIP Progress Reports – Attachment C

Kevin McCullough highlighted Attachment C, which was the first quarter obligations report. Kevin noted the first quarter is always relatively quiet. Chuck DiPietro pointed out that the cover letter cited the continuing unknown funding situation and the fact that targets had not yet been established for the fiscal year. Kevin noted that the federally set obligation authority limit determines the target levels and that limit has yet to be established for 2013. Appropriation legislation is operating under a continuing resolution until March 31, 2013.

c. Draft Congested Corridor Program Guidance – Attachment D

Chuck DiPietro highlighted Attachment D on PennDOT Central Office's Congested Corridor Program (CCP), noting that the program was presented at the Annual Planning Partners Meeting in October. The purpose of the CCP is to strategically allocate discretionary funds to high yield and high value projects through innovative transportation solutions specifically developed for congested corridors within the Commonwealth. The CCP provides a menu of low-cost, cost effective and innovative solutions for congested corridors. PennDOT has set aside \$12 million in the second of the two years for the 2013 Transportation Improvement Program for the CCP.

Chuck noted that the draft version of the Program Guidance is under review and comment and a deadline for project submissions is March 29th 2013. Chuck noted that the three Districts will be packaging potential candidate projects from the SPC region. Kevin McCullough noted that the region should be able to identify some good candidate projects.

d. Act 13 – Impact Fee Revenues “Frequently Asked Questions” – Attachment E

Kevin McCullough highlighted Attachment E, which was a FAQ document regarding Act 13 Impact Fee Revenues. Kevin noted that PennDOT is providing technical assistance in selecting the bridge projects, but the lead agency in administering these funds are the counties. Chuck DiPietro noted that if the counties have remaining questions send them into SPC & Kevin and they will be forwarded to the Central Office staff assisting on response to Act 13 questions.

Chris Bova asked if any counties had programmed a project with these funds yet. Kevin noted that he is not aware of any that have yet utilized these funds on a project. Chris asked if the amount of funds is inadequate to fully fund a project, then could the Act 13 funds be used as local match. Kevin stated yes this could be an option to spend the funds or defer using funds for a few years until enough is assembled to fund a project. Kevin emphasized

that the funds are County funds, and we are simply using the TIP as the way to track the Act 13 funds.

e. PennDOT Next Generation Report – Handout 1

Kevin McCullough highlighted the PennDOT NextGen Report that provides an update on innovative initiatives, such as PNG projects, Mapping the Future, Modernization Initiatives, the State Transportation Innovation Council, and IdeaLink. All of these efforts contribute to the PNG initiative. Four PNG pilot projects have already demonstrated that substantial cost savings can be achieved by thinking collaboratively and exploring new avenues. Through various modernization efforts PennDOT hopes to create a sustainable and lasting change that will be instilled in the culture of the agency's operations.

Kevin noted that the "NextGen" approach will continue to search out areas for modernization and efficiency including process in planning and the STC hearings. Chuck DiPietro noted that the PennDOT "NextGen" website is a good place to track the continued progress of these initiatives.

4. Action on Amendments and Modifications to the 2011 to 2014 TIP

The current administrative action and amendment procedures guidance are attached following these meeting minutes.

a.) PennDOT District 10-0 (Attachment B)

Dave Cook of PennDOT District 10-0 reviewed the requested administrative actions to the current TIP. District 10-0 had three amendment requests to the current TIP.

Dave Cook explained each of the amendments:

- State Game Lands 95 Bridge – add \$680,000 to PE in 2013.
- Garrett's Ramp Bridge – add project and \$250,000 to PE in 2013
- Stone House Bridge – add project and \$295,000 in FD in 2013.

Dave also reviewed the administrative actions requiring TTC approval.

The TTC motioned and unanimously approved the PennDOT District 10-0 Administrative action requests to the current TIP.

b.) PennDOT District 11-0 (Attachment C)

Rob Miskanic of PennDOT District 11-0 reviewed the requested administrative actions to the current TIP. District 11-0 had no amendment requests.

The TTC motioned and unanimously approved the PennDOT District 11-0 administrative action requests to the current TIP.

c.) PennDOT District 12-0 (Attachment D)

Angela Saunders of PennDOT District 12-0 noted that District 12-0 had no amendments and no administrative actions requiring TTC approval.

5. 2015-2018 TIP Update Development Process (Attachment E)

a.) Development of Procedural Framework for District Work Groups – Handout 3

Chuck DiPietro reviewed some of the key developments in the preparation for the 2015 TIP. Chuck noted that development of a procedural framework for the TIP work group meetings is underway and that a work in progress draft was included as handout 3. Ryan Gordon noted that PennDOT Districts 10-0 and 11-0 and SPC staff recently met to discuss an early version of the framework. Ryan noted that SPC TIP staff will be meeting with District 12-0 in early March. The work group procedural framework will be completed in advance of the first round of TIP work sessions.

Matt Smoker applauded SPC staff on the approach and the documentation of the process so far in preparation for the 2015 TIP update.

Chuck noted that previous TTC meetings have included presentations on the key focus areas for the TIP update and a detailed draft timeline of TIP development milestones.

Chuck DiPietro provided a summary of Dave Cook's recent comments on the approach to the 2015 TIP update, which included the following:

- Communication to the county commissioners may still be a challenge. Perhaps a presentation needs done to the Commission near the start of the process, explaining the process, its goals and objectives, and the roles of the participants.
- There is some concern with holding public meetings in October/November when a reconciled TIP is being developed.
- Additional state transportation funds and subsequent incorporation of the Decade of Investment projects, if and when this occurs, could have a substantial impact on the TIP update process depending on the timing, particularly if that timing occurs during the update process.

Chuck highlighted areas SPC staff are working on to improve communication of TIP update information to Commissioners including Dave Cook's suggestion with a possible

April Presentation of the process to the full Commission. Jeff Leithauser asked that the TTC attendees be informed of what Commissioners have been briefed on, and when. Chuck suggested that the SPC eleven member planning directors strive to attend the work group meetings for the 2015 TIP update.

b.) Schedule for Round 1 of TIP Work Sessions

Chuck reviewed the schedule for the first round of TIP meetings.

- District 10-0 – Wednesday, April 3rd 10:00 a.m.
(District 10-0 Office)
- District 11-0 – Tuesday, April 9th 10:00 a.m.
(District 11-0 Office)
- District 12-0 – Monday, April 8th 1:30 p.m.
(District 12-0 Office)

c.) SPC TIP Update Briefing for Commissioners (Attachment I)

Chuck DiPietro noted Attachment I, which is a one-page TIP Update summary that was included in the agenda package at the January 28th Commission Meeting. Chuck noted that in order to increase the communication with Commissioners about the TIP update, each Commission meeting will include a similar handout. TTC input is encouraged on the handout content.

d.) January 22, 2013 PennDOT Financial Guidance Work Group

Chuck DiPietro reviewed the preliminary agenda for the PennDOT Financial Guidance Work Group. The agenda included:

- State Revenue Future
- Federal Revenue Assumptions
- MAP-21 Transportation Alternatives Program
- HSIP Priorities

Chuck noted the following coming out of the meeting:

- The STC process is being revisited and may include online level 1 forms.
- Four new MPO/RPOs are in existence now that were not in existence when last financial guidance was developed
- There are many questions statewide about the TA program and a draft policy paper is forthcoming from Central Office on the Transportation Alternatives Program.
- The deadline to obligate funds for the old TE projects is September 2014 when MAP-21 expires. Project eligibility on old TE projects could be an issue.

- HSIP funds have doubled and options for distribution of the increase are under discussion.

Kevin McCullough noted that on the safety funds, the Program Center is trying to inject some planning and MPO input into the safety engineering.

The Financial Guidance Work Group's primary charge is to develop both the recommended statewide fund target and distribution for the next TIP update.

6. Other Business/Status Reports

a.) February 20th – TOC

Dave Totten provided a brief preview of the next TOC meeting. Topics for the next meeting include:

- TOD Projects including in East Liberty, Castle Shannon, and Bethel Park
- Regional Transit Oriented Development Study conducted by PCRG
- SPC FIT Zoning guide
- Passenger Rail discussions

b.) February 26th – SPC's Operations & Safety Committee

Doug Smith reviewed the agenda for the upcoming SPC Operations and Safety Committee, which includes:

- A presentation on the latest vehicle detection technology
- A presentation on the Enricks travel time data being used by District 11-0
- A presentation on pedestrian safety RSAs

c.) March 5th – Airport Corridor Local TIM

Doug Smith reviewed the upcoming meeting of the Airport Corridor Local TIM group. Doug noted that the group will be meeting at the State Police Pittsburgh station in Moon Township. Jeff Leithauser questioned what the limits of the Airport Corridor Local TIM group. Doug responded that the question of limits is something that will be discussed at the upcoming meeting.

d.) March 13th – SPC Ped/Bike Committee

Sara Walfoort reviewed the preliminary topics for the next SPC Ped/Bike Committee meeting.

e.) 2013 Road Safety Audits

Doug Smith briefly reviewed the next round of scheduled Road Safety Audits.

- o March 26-28 – S.R. 136 in WECO
- o April 9-11 – S.R.954 (Sixth St.) INCO

Art Cappella asked the length of the SR 136 RSA corridor. Doug responded that it is much longer, (at approximately 10 miles), than the RSAs completed to date.

f.) Turnpike Request to Amend TIP & LRP to Include Southern Beltway Extension east to I-79- (Handout 5)

Chuck DiPietro pointed to Handout 5, the PA Turnpike Commission's letter requesting amendment to the LRP/TIP to include the Southern Beltway Extension. Chuck added that a display add will be forthcoming to announce the review and comment period on the PTC financial plan for the project and the SPC Air Quality Conformity document. Matt Pavlosky reviewed relevant dates related to the public comment period, public review locations, and public advertisements related to the PTC request.

g.) SPC Newsletter – Journal of Transportation & Safety “JOTS”

Domenic D'Andrea announced a new e-newsletter from SPC named the Journal of Transportation and Safety. Domenic noted that the newsletter will focus on the operations and safety components of SPC's work. The first issue was released earlier in the month and had content on the signal program, road safety audits, and bicycle mapping. Dom noted that if anyone would like to subscribe send a request to jots@spcregion.org.

h.) June 11-13 – USDOT's Pittsburgh TMA Certification Review Visit (to include June 13th TTC Meeting)

Matt Smoker announced the U.S. DOT certification review of transportation planning in the SPC region will take place from June 11th – June 13th. The U.S. DOT certification visit will include the TOC meeting on the 12th and the TTC meeting on the 13th. Matt explained the phases of the certification review including a desk review, field view, and final report. Both Matt and Chuck DiPietro stressed that it is a review of the processes utilized in regional transportation planning by all participants not just a review of SPC. Matt noted that it is his goal to make the certification field view more symbiotic in the sharing of best practices.

Dave Cook requested that SPC share advanced agendas with the PennDOT Districts as well as participation needs as they become known.

i.) Public Participation Report

Matt Pavlosky provided a brief report on the recent and upcoming public participation activities. Matt noted that he is working with the counties to finalize the PPP appointments and confirming the new members. Matt noted that the next round of PPP meetings will begin in mid March and focus on education and kicking off the 2015 TIP update work.

j.) April 12th SPC Annual Tri-State Freight Forum – Handout 4

Sara Walfoort announced the date for the SPC Regional Freight Conference is April 12, 2013. Sara noted that if any of the TTC members have a suggestion for content at this conference to please contact Sara. Public Private Partnerships and Pipelines are two topics that have been suggested to date.

k.) March 21st – Environmental Justice Training

Sara Walfoort announced the date for the Environmental Justice Training is March 21, 2013 from 9:30 to Noon at the SPC Offices on the fourth floor north conference room.

l.) March 14th – TTC