

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

Attendees:

- Sally Conklin Armstrong County
- Ann Ogoreuc, Allegheny County  
Steve Shanley, Allegheny County Dept of Public Works  
Steve Shadle, Allegheny County Dept. of Public Works (CDR Maguire)
- James Camp, Beaver County  
Tammy Frank, Beaver County
- Joel MacKay, Butler County
- Arthur Cappella, Fayette County
- Jeremy Kelly, Greene County
- Amy McKenney, Lawrence County
- Pat Hassett, City of Pittsburgh
- Jeff Leithauser, Washington County Planning Commission
- Chris Bova, Westmoreland County Planning Department
- Kevin McCullough, PennDOT Central Office  
Matt Smoker, FHWA, PA Division  
Dave Cook, PennDOT District 10-0  
Kathy Reeger, PennDOT District 10-0  
Victor Defazio, PennDOT District 11-0  
John Quatman, PennDOT District 11-0  
Olivia Colangelo, PennDOT District 11-0  
Angela Saunders, PennDOT District 12-0  
Jeremy Shaneyfelt, PennDOT District 12-0  
Gary Barber, PennDOT District 12-0  
Lynn Manion, Airport Corridor Transportation Management Association  
Mavis Rainey, Oakland Transportation Management Association  
Lucinda Beattie, Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership  
Jim McCarville, Port of Pittsburgh  
Darin Alviano, SPC Staff  
Chuck DiPietro, SPC Staff  
Ryan Gordon, SPC Staff  
Chuck Imbrogno, SPC Staff  
Matt Pavlosky, SPC Staff  
Doug Smith, SPC Staff  
Tom Klevan, SPC Staff  
Sara Walfoord, SPC Staff
- (Indicates Voting Member)

Chuck DiPietro called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Chuck reviewed the agenda and highlighted changes from the advance mail out; update to District 12-0 and 11-0 and 3C. Chuck announced that the meeting is being recorded.

**1. February 2013 TTC Meeting Minutes (Attachment A)**

The February meeting minutes were approved with no revisions.

**2. Public Comment**

No comments.

**3. FHWA/PennDOT Central Office Reports**

*a) Response to Governor's Budget*

Kevin mentioned Secretary Schoch is traveling around the State meeting with stakeholders, discussing the Governor's funding initiative. Nothing new to report; there has been activity but similar to that which occurred in February. There has been multiple plans, multiple ideas but nothing specific that Kevin can point to at this time. Central Office has been preparing for the addition of Decade of Investment (DOI) projects; cleaning up mapping on website to make sure projects that can be delivered are mapped correctly. No DOI projects released to stakeholders as of yet.

*b) Final Congested Corridor Program – Attachment B*

Doug Smith of SPC highlighted PennDOT's Congested Corridor Program. The purpose of the Congested Corridor Program is to identify roadway improvement projects to address roadway congestion in a manner that is innovative, low cost, and cost effective. PennDOT has set aside \$13 million in the second year of the 2013 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (FFY14) for the Congested Corridor Program. This program uses a mix of Federal and State transportation funds, so all projects must meet applicable state and federal guidelines, eligibility, and regulations including Capital Budget authorization. If have a candidate project for the Congested Corridor Program, it is asked that sponsors work with their respective PennDOT Districts in preparing an application, and notify SPC of your intentions. Art Cappella asked if one should look at areas that have had a Road Safety Audit. Doug responded, stating you should consider a project that does not involve right-of-way issues because of the need for projects to be ready t-to-go. Please note the deadline for submitting Congested Corridor Program candidate projects to PennDOT Central Office is April 12, 2013.

*c) Corridor Modernization*

Doug Smith delivered a shortened version of a PowerPoint presentation conducted by PennDOT on their proposed Corridor Modernization concept. Corridor Modernization is a comprehensive approach to better evaluate, prioritize, plan, deploy, and measure the effectiveness of Transportation Management and Operations (M&O) strategies throughout Pennsylvania's transportation system. The products of Corridor Modernization can help guide the "evaluation, prioritization, and measurement of effectiveness of future Congested Corridor projects". [Click](#)

[here for complete PowerPoint of PennDOT's Corridor Modernization Concept](#)

*d) Pennsylvania Transportation Performance Report – Attachment C*

Kevin highlighted Pennsylvania's first-ever Transportation Performance Report, a detailed rating of the state's efforts in safety, mobility, system preservation and accountability, with the results underscoring the need for additional transportation investment. The report was developed over three months and will be updated every two years. To view the Transportation Performance Report, visit [www.dot.state.pa.us](http://www.dot.state.pa.us).

*e) Federal Update*

Matt Smoker noted that Congress needs to pass an appropriations bill; current dollars for Highway and Transit are below funding levels.

*f) Invitation to Comment on Federal Agency Climate Adaptation Plans – Attachment D*

Matt Smoker and Chuck DiPietro briefly commented on the third annual Sustainability Plans released by federal agencies, which for the first time included Climate Change Adaptation Plans to help federal agencies reach sustainability and climate change resilience goals. These adaptation plans (within the broader sustainability plans) are now available for public review and comment by the week of April 9, 2013. Click the following link to check deadline for each agency [www.climatestrategies.us/agencyplans](http://www.climatestrategies.us/agencyplans)

*g) FHWA EDC2 Spring Summit Invites - April 2013 – Attachment E*

Matt Smoker noted that the Environmental Summit is scheduled for April 10<sup>th</sup> at PennDOT Districts and Central Office. Matt noted the objective of the Regional Every Day Counts (EDC) Summit is to facilitate dialogue, encourage creative thinking and celebrate a shared vision for new opportunities. The Summit is a proven way to gather people with common interests, experiences and challenges in a productive environment with the purpose of building relationships to work together to reach a worthy goal.

*h) FHWA-PA Division Program Development Team Area Changes – Attachment F*

Matt Smoker highlighted the adjusted areas of responsibility for the FHWA PA Division Program Development Team. Attachment F consists of two maps. One which shows Environmental responsibilities and the other shows Planning responsibilities. These changes will take effect beginning March 18<sup>th</sup> of 2013.

*i) NARC Sequestration Implementation Summary – Attachment G*

Matt Smoker noted that on March 1, 2013, under the terms of the Budget Control Act of 2011, as amended by the American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012, President Obama ordered a sequestration. The result is an across-the board cut of 5% of annual funding, to be applied over seven months, for most of the programs, projects, and activities funded in the HUD and Related Agencies portions of the THUD appropriations bill. The majority of DOT's budget was exempted from sequestration, so the overall reduction in DOT funding is closer to 2%.

#### **4. Action on Amendments and Modifications to the 2013 - 2016 TIP**

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

*a) PennDOT District 10-0 (Attachment H)*

Dave Cook of PennDOT District 10-0 reviewed the requested amendments and administrative actions to the current TIP; TTC motioned and unanimously approved.

*b) PennDOT District 11-0 (Attachment I & Walk-in)*

Rob Miskanic of PennDOT District 11-0 reviewed the requested administrative actions to the current TIP; TTC motioned and unanimously approved. District 11-0 had no amendment requests.

*c) PennDOT District 12-0 (Handout I)*

Angela Saunders of PennDOT District 12-0 reviewed the requested administrative actions to the current TIP; TTC motioned and unanimously approved. District 11-0 had no amendment requests.

#### **5. Advance 2015-2018 TIP Update**

*a) Procedural Framework for District Work Groups – Attachment K*

Darin Alviano discussed the Procedural Framework for TIP Work Groups. This document provides structure and will be used as a guide for the Work Groups. SPC has met with both District 10-0 and 11-0 regarding the proposed framework and will be meeting with District 12-0 today after TTC. The framework's intention is to fully implement Linking Planning and NEPA into the development process. To do so, requires discussion on potential projects for inclusion onto the preliminary Draft TIP much earlier in the process. The first round of work sessions will be introductory/informative on the TIP Procedural Framework, and SharePoint use.

*b) Round 1 SPC Work Sessions at Districts*

Chuck reminded all that the first round of SPC TIP Work Sessions is fast approaching. Sessions will be held at respective PennDOT District Offices; dates and times are as follows:

- District 10-0 – Wednesday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> @ 10 AM
- District 11-0 – Tuesday, April 9<sup>th</sup> @ 10 AM
- District 12-0 – Monday, April 8<sup>th</sup> @ 1:30 PM

*c) February 26<sup>th</sup> PennDOT Statewide Financial Guidance Work Group*

Chuck DiPietro provided a brief summary of the Statewide Financial Work Group meeting held on February 26<sup>th</sup> at Central Office. Topics of discussion included STC Public Participation Process, Governors Transportation Plan, Federal Lands and Access Program, Transportation Alternatives Program, Highway/Bridge funding allocations, and the Highway Safety Investment

Program. Topics not covered included: Transit Guidance, Decade of Investment detail, Set Asides and Line Item Strategy; Economic Development dollars and Spike funding; many of these items plus others to be raised at future Financial Guidance Work Group meetings, or in the General & Procedural Guidance Work Group Meetings which will begin sometime in April. The next meeting of the Financial Work Group will be held March 25<sup>th</sup> via WebEx/conference call.

*d) Update on Transportation Enhancement Backlog*

Doug Smith provided a summary report on the status of backlogged Transportation Enhancement Projects (TE). SPC will not solicit for candidate projects under the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) until the backlog of TE projects are completed. Several projects, four in District 12-0 and three in District 11-0 remain. They include: (Trolley) Museum Facility Upgrade Phase 2, (Washington) CBD Revitalization Phase 3; Sheepskin Trail (North) Phase 2; George C. Marshall Phase 2 Downtown Uniontown Revitalization; Allegheny River Boulevard Scenic Vistas Program; Neshannock Creek Trail; and the Montour Trail Library Viaduct. Letters were sent to sponsors stating that all backlog projects need to be put out to bid by the end of 2013, or there is a good chance that the TE funding that was approved will no longer be available and the project will be cancelled. It is SPC's desire that if funds can be obligated and let dates established for projects, than hopefully SPC can move forward with its TAP "call for candidate projects"

*e) CMAQ Process/Schedule for 2015-2018 TIP*

Chuck Imbrogno stated that SPC will call for CMAQ projects a little earlier this TIP Update. The application period will start in the month of August and close by Labor Day. This provides an extra month to review and evaluate projects. The review and evaluations will occur September thru Thanksgiving, with recommendations to be made in December. This Spring, Chuck would like to bring the CMAQ Evaluation Committee together for a meeting to confirm and review evaluation process as well as to discuss any rule changes that may now be needed under MAP-21. Staffs has been monitoring projects this cycle, and have a good understanding on project status and how projects are moving through implementation process. Chuck then provided a summary of the PA Statewide Air Quality Work Group air quality meeting he attended yesterday. The Work Group meets quarterly and is responsible for approving air conformity.

*f) PPP Upcoming Meetings*

Matt Pavlosky provided an update regarding the PPP 101's, since the Public Participation Panel appointments in all 10 counties are now confirmed. Starting in Mid April, the PPP 101s will introduce the Panel members to SPC and its partners, the regional planning process, and the new elements and procedures of the upcoming 2015-2018 TIP.

**6. Other Business/Status Reports**

*a) February 20<sup>th</sup> – TOC & TOD Updates*

Tom Klevan gave a brief summary of topics covered during the February 20<sup>th</sup> meeting of SPC's Transit Operators Committee. Among the items covered at that meeting included Approval of Administrative Actions to the current TIP for Port Authority of Allegheny County that effectively

served to break out several line items into separate projects in the MPMS system. These actions were partially in compliance with FTA guidance in response to MAP-21 program changes. The Committee also heard a presentation from the Western Pennsylvanians for Passenger Rail concerning implementation of the Federal Passenger Rail Investment and Improvement Act. Finally, an update was provided on Transit Oriented Development plans and projects currently being carried out in the region.

*b) February 26<sup>th</sup> – SPC’s Operations & Safety Committee*

Doug Smith provided summary of the February 26<sup>th</sup> Operations and Safety Committee. Most presentations related to traffic signal detection.

*c) March 5th Airport Corridor Local TIM*

Doug Smith provided summary of the March 5<sup>th</sup> Airport Corridor Local TIM; this was the first meeting with this TIM group. Meeting was held at the Pennsylvania State Police barracks in Moon Township. There was approximately thirty people in attendance; overall, very good participation.

*d) March 20th – Regional TIM Steering Committee*

Doug Smith informed all of the March 20<sup>th</sup> Regional TIM Steering Committee. Topics of discussion will include: Update on progress of the two local TIM groups; FHWA Shark Training; and Pennsylvania State Police participation. Doug also noted the following upcoming meetings: April 17<sup>th</sup> the I-79/I-76 TIM Group meeting in Cranberry Township; and a July 13<sup>th</sup> training session for both local TIM groups at District 11-0.

*e) 2013 Road Safety Audits*

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

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

*f) Municipal Training on PennDOT’s Expedited Highway Occupancy Permit (HOP) Process – Attachment L*

Doug Smith briefly mentioned the upcoming municipal training on PennDOT’s Expedited Highway Occupancy Permit (HOP).

- Tuesday, April 2nd @ 1PM at the Cranberry (BUCO) Municipal Building
- Wednesday, April 3rd @ 10AM at the Carnegie (ALCO) Municipal Building

*g) March 13<sup>th</sup> – SPC Ped/Bike Committee*

Sara Walfoort reviewed the March 13<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Ped/Bike Committee. Sara mentioned that Brian Sanders, the Statewide Bicycle & Pedestrian Coordinator solicited input from planning partners in regards to content in PennDOT’s Next Generation Plan. Also, the status of SPC’s Transportation Alternative Program was discussed.

*h) March 2 – Moving EJ Forward: PennDOT Training Session at SPC Attachment M*

Matt Pavlosky gave a brief commercial for the Environmental Justice training which will be held on March 21. Regional Planning agencies, PennDOT Districts, and Transit Partners have all been invited to participate. There is no cost to attend.

*i) April 12<sup>th</sup> SPC Annual Tri-State Freight Forum – Attachment N*

Sara Walfoort reminded all of the SPC Regional Freight Conference to be held April 12<sup>th</sup> at SPC.

*j) Turnpike’s Request to Amend TIP/LRP to Include Southern Beltway Extension east to I-79 – Attachment O*

Matt Pavlosky noted that SPC opened 30-day public comment for review of the PA Turnpike Southern Beltway, US 22 to I-79 project. The period began Friday, March 1<sup>st</sup> and will conclude Monday, April 8<sup>th</sup>. Two public meetings were held March 12<sup>th</sup> at Hyatt Regency at the Pittsburgh International Airport and March 13<sup>th</sup>, at the Washington County Courthouse Square. Approximately 30 citizens (more than 60 total) attended each meeting. Presentations were offered by SPC, PA Turnpike Commission, and Baker Engineers, regarding Public Involvement & the TIP, project layout and design, and the financial plan, respectively. To date, 5 public comments have been received. SPC’s Board of Commissioners will consider formal action on the Southern Beltway proposal on April 29<sup>th</sup> at their regularly scheduled Commission meeting.

*k) April 29<sup>th</sup> – Commission Meeting*

Chuck DiPietro announced that the next Commission meeting is scheduled for April 29<sup>th</sup>.

*l) April 18<sup>th</sup> – TTC*

Chuck DiPietro announced the next TTC is scheduled for April 18<sup>th</sup>.

*m) Other*

Art Cappella, mentioned that a bridge in Wharton Township needs replaced; Coal Road Bridge. His commissioners asked that he bring this concern to TTC. Angela Saunders noted that this project was added to the TIP last month and should be let for construction shortly.