

SOUTHWESTERN PENNSYLVANIA COMMISSION

RESOLUTION NO. 18-05

A RESOLUTION OF THE SOUTHWESTERN PENNSYLVANIA COMMISSION ("SPC") to amend the region's 2005-2008 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to fund identified transit capital and maintenance projects with highway program funds for the Beaver County Transit Authority (BCTA), Mid Mon Valley Transit Authority (MMVTA), and Port Authority of Allegheny County (PAAC).

WHEREAS, by letter dated June 7, 2005 Pennsylvania's Secretary of Transportation, on behalf of the Governor, requested that available FY 2006 federal highway program funds be programmed for identified transit capital and maintenance projects statewide, and

WHEREAS, this is the fourth in a series of requests to SPC to fund ongoing transit capital and maintenance projects with available statewide reserves of federal surface transportation funds; SPC having approved three previous actions, totaling \$38.8 million, in November 2003, January 2005 and March 2005, and

WHEREAS, the Governor had previously reserved \$344 million from FY 2006 federal highway program funds, as detailed in SPC Resolution 4-05 (March 10, 2005), in anticipation of the need for this fourth action to fund transit capital and maintenance projects statewide through the surface transportation programs, and

WHEREAS, the need for a long-term, predictable, dedicated source of transportation funding has been recognized by the Governor, who has created the Transportation Funding and Reform Commission by Executive Order to investigate transportation funding and financing issues and to report on its findings and recommendations by November 2006, and

WHEREAS, the June 7, 2005 letter noted that PennDOT would only request the transfer of funds from the Federal Highway Administration to the Federal Transit Administration for the identified projects on an as needed cash flow basis through December 31, 2006, and would consult with the affected MPOs prior to each such fund transfer request, and

WHEREAS, the Governor has identified \$115,793,008 from the additional \$344 million FY2006 federal highway program funds as additional resources to the region and has requested that SPC amend the region's 2005-2008 TIP to fund the following projects:

- 1.) The Beaver County Transit Authority (BCTA Preventive Maintenance, \$1,577,640; BCTA Bus Replacement, \$720,000),
- 2.) The Mid Mon Valley Transit Authority (MMVTA Preventive Maintenance, \$145,368), and
- 3.) The Port Authority of Allegheny County (PAAC Preventive Maintenance FY 2006, \$80,750,000; PAAC Infrastructure Safety Renewal Program, \$24,800,000; PAAC Vehicle Overhaul Program, \$4,000,000; and PAAC Mid-life Light Rail Vehicle Overhaul, \$3,800,000).

WHEREAS, a 30-day public comment period was held consistent with the SPC Public Involvement Policy and did not identify any adverse issue requiring a response by the Commission, and

WHEREAS, the proposed action conforms with SPC's TIP amendment policies and public involvement process, does not change TIP fiscal balance, does not affect any SIP project, or affect the region's air quality conformity determination.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission, recognizing first its collective interests in the well-being of its residents and in the continued effective operations of the overall transportation system, amends the 2005-2008 TIP to fund the identified \$115,793,008 in transit capital and maintenance projects for Beaver County Transit Authority, Mid Mon Valley Transit Authority and the Port Authority of Allegheny County from available statewide reserves of federal surface transportation funds.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that SPC's approval stipulates that PennDOT will request the transfer of funds from FHWA to FTA only after consultation with SPC and only on an as needed cash flow basis through December 31, 2006 so as to preserve the opportunity to return these funds to highway/bridge use should the General Assembly and the Governor enact a long-term, predictable and dedicated source of transit funding for Pennsylvania.

RESOLVED FURTHER that SPC, recognizing that enactment of an adequate, long-term, predictable and dedicated source of transit funding for Pennsylvania is in the hands of the General Assembly and the Governor, offers its assistance to the Governor and General Assembly and to the appointed Transportation Funding and Reform Commission which has been created by Executive Order to investigate transportation funding and financing issues and to report on its findings and recommendations by November 2006.

I, Dan Onorato, 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 20th day of July 2005, 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.

Secretary-Treasurer