



SOUTHWESTERN PENNSYLVANIA COMMISSION

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MINUTES TRANSIT OPERATORS COMMITTEE MEETING

Date: June 19, 2019
Location: Two Chatham Center
112 Washington Place
Pittsburgh, PA

Attendance:

Members: Alan Blahovec, WCTA (Chairperson)
David Huffaker, PAAC
Anthony Hickton, CommuteInfo
Sheila Gombita, WASH
Donna Wickowski, MMVTA (phone)
Mary Jo Morandini, BCTA
John Paul, BTA (phone)
Lynn Manion, ACTA
Mavis Rainey, OTMA (phone)
Lucinda Beattie, PDP
David Richards, NCATA

Guests: David Wohlwill, PAAC
Ann Ogoreuc, ACED
Ashley Altemare, MMVTA
Lynda Conway, Delta Development (rep. Heritage Community Init.)

SPC Staff: Tom Klevan (phone)
David Totten
Andy Waple
Chuck Imbrogno
Ronda Craig
Erika Eagan
Kathy Stefani

This meeting of the TOC was called to order at 10:00 A.M.

1. Welcome and Introductions

2. Public Comment –

- a. *There was no public comment.*

3. Election of TOC Chairperson

- Alan Blahovec presented the report of the TOC Officer Selection Committee, recommending Sheila Gombita be appointed Chairperson of the SPC Transit Operators Committee for a term inclusive of the June 2021 TOC meeting. There were no further nominations offered by TOC members.

Action: By unanimous consent of the Committee, the recommendation of the Officer Selection Committee was accepted and Sheila Gombita was appointed Chairperson of the SPC Transit Operators Committee, effective immediately. The report, noting that Sheila Gombita replaces Alan Blahovec as a board member of the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission will be forwarded to the SPC.

4. Approval of Meeting Minutes for the April 17th, 2019 Transit Operators Committee meeting

- *The Committee considered the minutes of the meeting.*

Action: Minutes of the April 17th, 2019 TOC meeting were unanimously approved on a motion by David Richards and a second by David Huffaker.

5. FTA/PennDOT Updates

- Medical Assistance Transportation Program Update:
 - Sheila Gombita reported on discussion in the state legislature of the MATP program. A bill being considered would halt the plan to switch the program to a statewide broker and instead authorize a study of that plan's impacts.
- SB 778
 - Sheila Gombita also updated the TOC on Senate Bill 778, which has been introduced and referred to the Senate Transportation Committee, which has considered and voted-out the bill. This bill would address the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission's obligation to fund public transportation by gradually phasing out the payments, with the state General Fund taking over the payments, starting with \$50 million in the first year.

6. Meeting Participant Updates

- PDP—Lucinda Beattie said that the Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership has released the RFP for a Downtown Mobility Network Plan. PDP is working on this project with Port Authority, SPC and the City of Pittsburgh. The project is funded by private foundation grants. PDP plans to have a lead consultant under-contract in August.
- PAAC—Port Authority reported on the current status of the Downtown Pittsburgh-Oakland Bus Rapid Transit project. David Huffaker reported that Port Authority is evaluating the “60% Design” documents, including identifying potential cost savings. Some issues represent trade-offs that need to be balanced. Once those core issues are identified, there may need to be a summit between Allegheny County Executive Rich Fitzgerald and Pittsburgh Mayor Bill Peduto to finalize the issues. The project has been assigned a Project Management Oversight Committee by the FTA, which shows the Administration's commitment to the project. PAAC plans to resubmit the project for consideration for Small Starts funding in the fall. Also, the Memorandum of Understanding for the project sponsors—Port Authority, Allegheny County, City of Pittsburgh and Pittsburgh Urban Redevelopment Authority—is being updated and will be presented to each of the sponsors for approval.

- MMVTA—Mid Mon Valley Transit Authority announced new service adjustments. MMVTA's Ashley Altemare reported that a public meeting on the changes will be held on July 9, with the service set to start in August. The changes add service to Monongahela Hospital and the Monessen Hill neighborhood.
- WASH—Sheila Gombita reported that new Mon Valley route from Washington to Monongahela City began in April, with an official ribbon-cutting recently. Ridership has been continuous but slowly building.

There were no other meeting participant updates.

7. SPC Staff Updates

- Regional Transportation Demand Management Strategic Action Plan Update—Staff reported on the current status of a major SPC planning project, the Regional Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Strategic Action Plan. The final steering committee was held one week prior. A final meeting summary report will be sent to the steering committee shortly. The final draft of the plan will be posted to the project website (www.spcmobility.org) by June 28. Stakeholders will be given until July 12 to review the draft and furnish comments to SPC and the project team. Staff noted the help provided by TOC members on the plan.
- CMAQ/TAP Update—SPC staff provided early information on the upcoming cycle for the Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality and Transportation Alternatives programs, scheduled to open in late August or early September. More details about the application process will be provided at July's joint TOC/TTC meeting. CMAQ applications will be accepted for projects in FFY2023-24, while TAP projects will be for FFY2021-22. As in past cycles, SPC is asking for transit agency appointments to the CMAQ committee, including one member from Port Authority as well as an alternate, and one member representing small urban and rural transit agencies, with an alternate. The SPC Transportation Technical Committee acts as the TAP evaluation committee.
- Active Transportation Update—SPC staff reported that the process is now underway to update the county profiles section of the active transportation website. Staff are working directly with county planning agency staff.
- CommuteInfo—SPC staff reported that the second-annual CommuteInfo Commuter Challenge has been completed after running through the month of May, doubling participants over the first year. Staff are hoping the data collected from participants will help develop new marketing and messaging for CommuteInfo.
- MMVTA Strategic Plan—SPC staff launched a new strategic planning project with Mid Mon Valley Transit Authority. Staff recently held an interactive workshop with MMVTA's board. After analyzing the data from the workshop, a second meeting with the MMVTA board is planned for late July. The project will be complete before the end of 2019.
- ATWIC/Coordinated Transportation Plan—SPC staff reported that the project to update the Coordinated Transportation Plan (CTP) is nearly complete and is now being reviewed internally by SPC staff.

There were no other staff updates.

8. Amendments and Administrative Actions to the FFY2019-2022 TIP

- *Indiana County Transit Authority (ICTA)* requested an amendment to the FFY2019-2022 TIP to add the project “ERP Hardware/Software” with \$695,100 in Other State funding and \$4,900 in local funding for FFY2019 to purchase computer equipment through PennDOT’s “Fixed Route Intelligent Transportation System (FR-ITS)” project.
- *ICTA* also requested an amendment to add the project “Rolling Stock” to purchase four replacement BOC small transit vehicles in FFY2020 with \$256,000 in Other Federal and \$64,000 in Other State funding.
- *ICTA* also requested an amendment to add the project “Support Vehicles” to replace two support vehicles in FFY2020 with \$64,000 in Other Federal and \$13,333 in Other State and \$2,667 in local funding.
 - **TOTAL CHANGE: \$1,100,000**
 - **Action:** *These actions were unanimously approved and the appropriate changes were made to the region’s FFY2019-2022 TIP by the TOC on a motion by Mary Jo Morandini and a second by David Richards. Staff will transmit this project information to the PennDOT Program Center within one week of this action.*
- *Port Authority of Allegheny County and Urban Redevelopment Authority of Pittsburgh* requested an administrative adjustment to the FFY2019-2022 TIP project “Pittsburgh BRT” (MPMS# 110895) to change the project sponsor to Port Authority of Allegheny County, reflecting the new project sponsorship as detailed in a new Memorandum of Understanding among the project’s backers.
 - **TOTAL CHANGE: \$0**
 - **Action:** *These actions were unanimously approved and the appropriate changes were made to the region’s FFY2019-2022 TIP by the TOC on a motion by Alan Blahovec and a second by Mary Jo Morandini. Staff will transmit this project information to the PennDOT Program Center within one week of this action.*
- *Washington County Transportation Authority (WASH)* requested administrative action to the FFY2019-2022 TIP to project “Heavy Duty Bus Replacement” (MPMS# 106645) to add \$12,000 in federal 5307 funding and \$2,912 in Other State funding and \$96 in local funding in FFY2019 to adjust the cost of the project.
- *WASH* also requested administrative action to the FFY2019-2022 TIP to project “Small Transit Buses” (MPMS# 106646) to add \$75,000 in FFY2019 and \$450,000 in FFY2020 and *remove* \$75,000 in FFY2021 in Other State funding to increase the number of buses purchased and adjust for an increase in the cost of the buses.
 - **TOTAL CHANGE: \$465,008**
 - **Action:** *These actions were unanimously approved and the appropriate changes were made to the region’s FFY2019-2022 TIP by the TOC on a motion by Mary Jo Morandini and a second by David Richards. Staff will transmit this project information to the PennDOT Program Center within one week of this action.*

There were no TIP actions requested.

9. SmartMoves for a Changing Region Long Range Transportation Plan and Economic Strategy

- Staff presented details from the final draft of the update to SPC’s long range transportation plan and economic development strategy, as well as the associated documents, such as the Air Quality and Environmental Justice updates
 - Action:** *On a motion by Mary Jo Morandini and a second by Alan Blahovec, the TOC voted unanimously to recommend that the Southwestern Pennsylvania*

Commission adopt SmartMoves for a Changing Region, the update to the region's Long Range Transportation Plan and Economic Development Strategy and also recommended that SPC adopt the update to the region's Air Quality Conformity and Economic Justice Analysis, and other related plans and documents.

10. FY2019-20 SPC Meeting Schedule

- Staff presented a proposed calendar of SPC's commission and committee meetings for July 2019 to June 2020.

***Action:** On a motion by Alan Blahovec and a second by Mary Jo Morandini, the TOC voted unanimously to approve the attached meeting calendar for FY2019-20, including Transit Operators Committee meetings.*

11. Other Business

- *The next meeting of the TOC is scheduled for 10 a.m. Thursday, July 18th, 2019 at the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission, in Pittsburgh, PA. **This will be the annual joint TOC/TTC meeting.***

12. Adjournment

***Action:** The Meeting was adjourned by a unanimous vote on a motion by Alan Blahovec and a second by Lucinda Beattie.*