Southwestern Pennsylvania Corporation













Commission Executive Committee & Corporation Board of Directors

June 24, 2024 3 p.m.



Opening Agenda Items

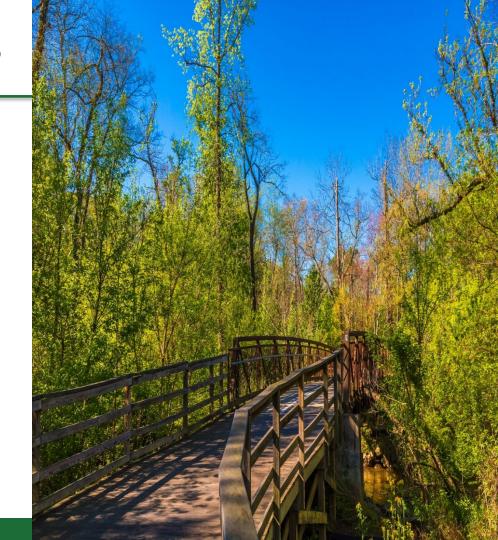
Call to Order

- Quorum
- Conflict of Interest
 Declarations on Action

 Items

Action on Minutes from April 22, 2024 Meeting

Public Comment



Financial Report

Ailisa Sobien, Finance Director

Agenda Item: 4



Financial Report

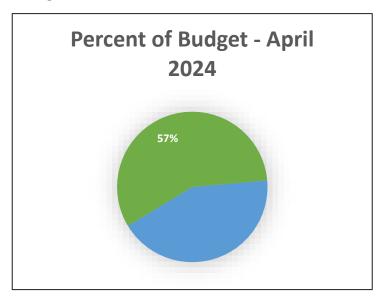
FY 23-24 Budget Status – April 30, 2024

- FY23-24 Budget
- Revenue and Expenses:
- Percent of Budget:

\$24,003,761

\$13,749,439

57.0%



Financial Report Member Dues Allocation – April 2024

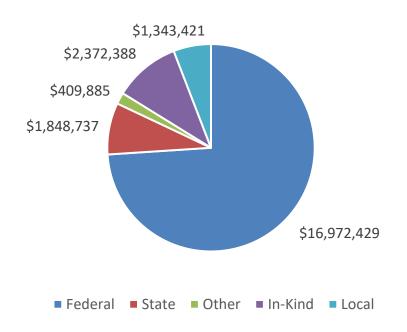
Member Dues Allocation	
FY 23/24	
April 30, 2024	
	FY 23/24
Balance @ June 30, 2023	\$ 65,937.82
Member Dues Collected	\$ 692,684.00
Member Dues Used:	
Economic Development	\$ 76,031.84
PennDot	\$ 318,518.06
Corporation General	\$ 71,400.00
Commission General	\$ 23,048.43
Unallocated Indirect	\$ 53,133.02
Balance @ April 30, 2024	\$ 216,490.47

FY 2024-2025 Annual Combined Budget



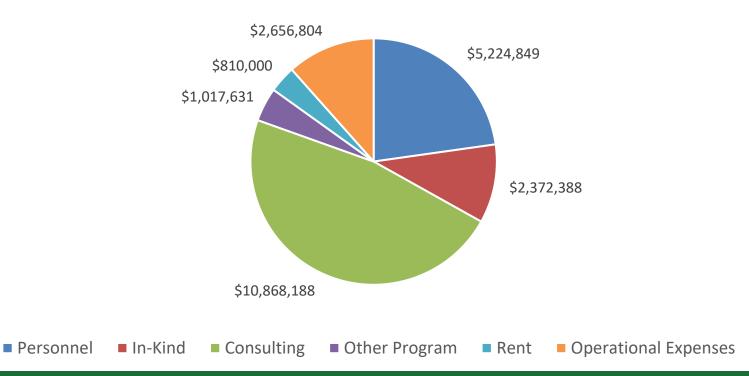
FY 24-25 Funding Sources

Total Revenue - \$22,949,860



FY 24-25 Expenditures

Total Expenditures \$22,949,860



Source and Use of Local Funds

Source:	Amount
SPC Members Local Match	\$901,670
SPC Member Water Program Dues	\$265,601
Deferred Revenue	\$382,551
Total	\$1,549,822
Use:	Amount
UPWP Match	\$513,308
Economic Development Program Match	\$156,922
Water Resources Center	\$351,414
Corporation General Expenses	\$78,300
Commission General Expenses	\$101,577
Loan Repayment / Furniture Lease / Difference w/Rent Accrual	\$206,411
Unallocated Overhead/Indirect Costs	\$141,890
Total	\$1,549,822

Notes:

- > FY 24-25 budget is \$22,949,860 and includes:
 - Grant Support from ARC, DOD/PTAC, EDA, EPA, FHWA, FTA, PA DCED and PennDOT, with additional competitive opportunities being continuously considered.
 - No increase in SPC Member Local Dues and Water Resource Dues
 - 55 full-time staff positions
 - No anticipated changes to current fringe benefits package
 - Staff performance based merit increases effective 7/1/2024
 - Current Provisional Indirect Cost Rate of 165.2609% with an Overhead Rate of 63.7413% and a Fringe Benefit Rate of 62%.

Action on Corporation Board Resolution 1-24 and Executive Committee Resolution 2–24 to Adopt the Annual Budget for FY 2024-2025

Ailisa Sobien, Finance Director

Agenda Item: 5



SOUTHWESTERN PENNSYLVANIA CORPORATION

(A PENNSYLVANIA NOT-FOR-PROFIT CORPORATION, ALLEGHENY COUNTY, COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA)

✓ SOUTHWESTERN PENNSYLVANIA COMMISSION

CORPORATION DIRECTORS' RESOLUTION NO. 1-24 COMMISSION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE RESOLUTION NO. 2-24

A RESOLUTION OF THE DIRECTORS OF THE SOUTHWESTERN PENNSYLVANIA CORPORATION AND THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE SOUTHWESTERN PENNSYLVANIA COMMISSION to adopt a Combined SPC Annual Budget, as presented, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Directors of the Southwestern Pennsylvania Corporation and the Executive Committee of the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission approve and adopt the FY 2024-25 SPC annual balanced budget of \$22,949,860 (Revenues) and \$22,949,860 (Expenditures) as presented, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024; and

RESOLVED FURTHER that the SPC President and Executive Director, the Vice President and Deputy Executive Director/Chief Operating Office, and the Secretary-Treasurer and Finance Director are hereby authorized to execute all transactions, as delineated in the above-mentioned budget, to carry out the business of SPC.

I, Ailisa Sobien, HEREBY CERTIFY that I am Secretary-Treasurer of the SOUTHWESTERN PENNSYLVANIA CORPORATION; and I, Betsy McClure, 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 Board of Directors of said Corporation and Executive Committee of said Commission at a Meeting duly called and held on the 24th day of June 2024, a quorum being present; and that said resolution is now in full force and effect.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF we hereto subscribe our names as Secretary-Treasurer.

 Secretary-Treasurer, Corporation
 Sacratary-Trageurar Commission
 Secretary-Treasurer, Commission

Action on Corporation Board Resolution 2-24 to Solicit Proposals and Enter into Consultant Contracts to Support the Planning Studies included in the 2024-2025 Budget

Ailisa Sobien, Finance Director

Agenda Item: 6



SOUTHWESTERN PENNSYLVANIA CORPORATION

(A PENNSYLVANIA NOT-FOR-PROFIT CORPORATION, ALLEGHENY COUNTY, COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA)

RESOLUTION NO. 2-24

A RESOLUTION OF THE DIRECTORS OF THE SOUTHWESTERN PENNSYLVANIA CORPORATION to solicit proposals as needed and enter into Consultant Professional Services contracts for various anticipated Transportation Planning and Economic Development Program projects and studies, any unanticipated projects and studies, and Corporation business included in the SPC Annual Budget for FY 2024-2025.

WHEREAS, the adopted Southwestern Pennsylvania Corporation 2024-2025 Combined Budget and the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission's Unified Planning Work Program and Economic Development Work Program include funding for projects and studies to support the business of the Commission;

WHEREAS, the Southwestern Pennsylvania Corporation, on behalf of the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission, will continue to apply for and secure additional funding to support regional projects and studies over the course of 2024-2025 not currently included the Combined Budget and Unified Planning Work Program and Economic Development Work Program;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Directors of the Southwestern Pennsylvania Corporation, acting on behalf of the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission, authorize its President/CEO, the Vice President, and the Secretary-Treasurer to solicit proposals and statements of qualifications and enter into consultant contracts for the anticipated projects and studies included in the adopted SPC Annual Budget for FY 2024-25 and any additional projects and studies identified throughout FY 2024-25.

I, Ailisa Sobien, HEREBY CERTIFY that I am Secretary-Treasurer of the SOUTHWESTERN PENNSYLVANIA CORPORATION; that the foregoing Resolution was adopted, in accordance with the By-Laws, by the Board of Directors of said Corporation at a Meeting duly called and held on the 24th day of June 2024, 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

Action on Corporation Board Resolution 3-24 to have Jennifer Liptak, Chief Operating Officer/Deputy Executive Director, serve as the Vice President of the Corporation

Ailisa Sobien, Finance Director

Agenda Item: 7



SOUTHWESTERN PENNSYLVANIA CORPORATION

(A PENNSYLVANIA NOT-FOR-PROFIT CORPORATION, ALLEGHENY COUNTY, COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA)

RESOLUTION NO: 3-24

A RESOLUTION OF THE DIRECTOS OF THE SOUTHWESTERN PENNSYLVANIA CORPORATION to elect Officers for calendar year 2024.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the following persons be and the same hereby are elected to serve as Officers of the Corporation in the capacity set forth opposite their name below, from the date hereof until their successors are elected and qualified by the Board of Directors of the Corporation;

- · Chair, Pat Fabian
- Vice Chair, Vince Vicites
- · Rich Fitzgerald, President and CEO
- Jennifer Liptak, Vice President
- Ailisa Sobien, Secretary-Treasurer

I, Ailisa Sobien, HEREBY CERTIFY that I am Secretary-Treasurer of the SOUTHWESTERN PENNSYLVANIA CORPORATION; that the foregoing resolution was adopted, in accordance with the By-Laws, by the Board of Directors of said Corporation at a meeting duly called and held on the 26th day of June 2024, 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-Treasure	er

Questions?



Transportation Report

Dom D'Andrea, Director of Transportation Planning

Agenda Item: 8





TIP Public Meeting Process

- The Draft TIP and supporting documents were available on the SPC Website for public review from May 8, 2024 through June 7, 2024.
- Public Involvement activities
 - -Public Comment Period ended on June 7th.
 - -11 public meetings were held within the comment period
 - -54 comments were received.
- Meetings were recorded and made available on the SPC website.
- SPC staff coordinated with PennDOT, City, County, and transit agency staff to craft a response to all 54 comments.
- Transportation Technical Committee (TTC) and Transit Operators Committee (TOC) have both recommended adoption of the draft TIP by the Commission.

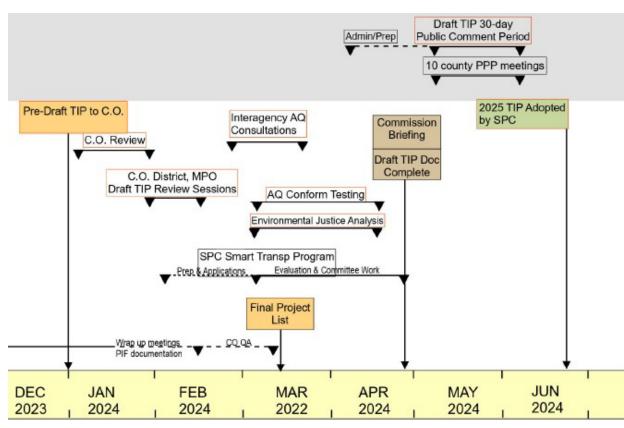


TIP Public Process-Comments

- SPC received 54 comments during the 2025-2028 TIP update.
 - o15 public comments on safety
 - o13 public comments on active transportation
 - o6 public comments on transit
 - o6 public comments on roadway conditions
 - o3 public comments on Amtrak and Passenger Rail
 - o3 public comments on bridge condition
 - o3 comments pertained to efficiency and operations
 - o2 general comments
 - o1 new capacity comment
 - o1 livability comment
 - o1 comment on Environmental Justice and Justice 40

2025 TIP Remaining Schedule

- June TTC:
 TTC Recommendation to
 the Commission to adopt
 the 2025 draft TIP
- Commission Adoption
- Preparation and submittal of final 2025 TIP Documents (Mid July)
- October: First month of the 2025 TIP.



SPC Smart Transportation for Livable Communities (STLC) Program

Applications, Evaluation Results, and Recommended Projects





Program Schedule

Program Process Timeline for the 2025-2028 TIP		
February 15, 2024	February TTC Mtg; Application period opens	
March 4, 2024	Pre-qualification applications due to SPC	
March 8, 2024	Sponsors notified if candidate projects meet requirements and are invited to submit final application	
April 8, 2024	Final application period closes	
April 8, 2024 – May 3, 2024	Project evaluation and selection process	
May 9, 2024	TTC endorses project list	
June 24, 2024	SPC TIP Adoption	





STLC Program: Applications Received

2025-2028 Program Application Summary

- 10 applications submitted
- Total Request of \$6,144,104
- Total of \$6 million available (two years of Smart program funding)
- Overall applications were good quality and program is getting more competitive.



STLC Program: 2024 Applications

Name of Project/County	Project Description	Sponsor
Sheepskin Trail Southern Extension (FACO)	New trail segment	Fayette County
PA 356 Corridor Improvements (BUCO)	ADA, Sidewalk	PennDOT District 10-0
Leechburg Road Pedestrian and School Zone Safety Improvements (WECO)	ADA/Sidewalk	Westmoreland County
SR 68 Adams St/Virginia Ave Reconstruction (BECO)	Roadway reconstruction	PennDOT District 11-0
West Liberty Avenue (ALCO)	ADA/Sidewalk/Signals	PennDOT District 11-0
SR 158, S. New Castle St/N. Market St (LACO)	Roadway safety, shoulder	PennDOT District 11-0
Grand Avenue Road Diet Study (ALCO)	Study for road diet	Allegheny County
Westmoreland Heritage Trail Murrysville Crossing (WECO)	Study trail crossings	PennDOT District 12-0
Sheepskin Trail Crossings (FACO)	Flashers at trail crossings	PennDOT District 12-0
Equitable Access Butler TwpPullman Ctr. (BUCO)	Pedestrian, transit, EV charging	Butler County



2024 Project Selection Process

Smart Themes (50%): SPC staff evaluated the candidate projects on the five SMART Transportation themes:

- Linkage with Land Use Planning
- Supportive of Community Goals
- Project takes a Multi-Modal approach
- Project includes collaboration and partnerships
- Project fosters sustainability, health and vitality, preserves the environment, increases resiliency in the transportation system, reduces emissions and increases air quality, as well as promotes equity among all residents of the community

Ancillary Factors (10%): SPC Staff evaluated the candidate projects on the five Ancillary Factors

- Consistency with the Region's Long-Range Transportation Plan (Smart-Moves)
- Consistency with the Region's Active Transportation Plan
- Safety and crash reduction
- Environmental Justice and Title VI
- Non-Federal and Non-traditional funding

Deliverability (40%): Candidate projects that clearly demonstrate that the project is free of significant deliverability issues and can be delivered within the proposed budget and schedule resulted in high deliverability ratings.



STLC Program: 2024 Awards

Name of Project	Project Description	Sponsor	Amount Requested
Grand Avenue Road Diet Study	Study for road diet	ALCO	\$160,000
Equitable Access Butler Twp-Pullman Center	Pedestrian, transit, EV charging	BUCO	\$481,320
Westmoreland Heritage Trail Murrysville Crossing	Study trail crossings	PennDOT 12-0	\$7,500
Sheepskin Trail Crossings	Flashers at trail crossings	PennDOT 12-0	\$182,784
Leechburg Road Pedestrian and School Zone Safety Improvements	ADA/Sidewalk	WECO	\$312,500
Sheepskin Trail Southern Extension	New trail segment	FACO	\$1,000,000
West Liberty Avenue	ADA/Sidewalks/Signals	PennDOT 11-0	\$1,000,000
PA 356 Corridor Improvements	ADA/Sidewalks	PennDOT 10-0	\$1,000,000
SR 68 Adams St/Virginia Ave, Reconstruction	Roadway reconstruction	PennDOT 11-0	\$1,000,000

Questions?



Strategic Initiatives & Policy Report

DJ Ryan, Director of Strategic Initiatives and Policy

Agenda Item: 9



- Harrisburg Recap
- Most counties represented
 - Primary issues discussed include:
 - Broadband
 - SITES proposal
 - Permitting Reform
 - Transportation funding
- Feedback has been positive/impactful
- Washington, DC trip September 18th -19th all commissioners are urged to attend, more details forthcoming.



- Selected grant opportunities
 - Charging and Fueling Infrastructure Program (CFI): Open now, due 8/28/24, funding to strategically deploy publicly accessible electric vehicle charging infrastructure.
 - SMART grant through DOT due July 12th
 - One possible application
 - Active Transportation Infrastructure Investment Program due July 12th, deadline extended
 - We're aware of one application
 - Reconnecting Communities NOFO expected soon
 - Please connect with me or Lillie Gabreski if your county is interested in applying for any federal grants
 - What we need from you: project priorities!

CPRG

- Hoping to hear on Implementation by end of July
- Discussions with federal officials ongoing
 - Commissioners are asked to include CPRG in their discussions with federal officials
- Planning for CCAP continues
 - First Advisory Committee meeting this summer
 - Public meetings starting in the fall

- Broadband
 - PA challenge process concluded last month, all counties participated.
 - Reviewed 4,139 CAIs and challenged 873
 - 1,216 residential speed tests taken
 - Many were already marked as un/underserved/other but 19 additional residences found
 - Exploring SPC support for additional county work going into next phase, including scaled-back summit.

Questions?



Workforce & Economic Development Report

Jenn Lasser, Director of Workforce & Economic Development

Agenda Item: 10



PREP & Community Performance

Export International Trade Assistance

40 Companies Assisted; 85 Counseling Sessions

Work Orders

- 27 Companies
- 53 Overseas Work Orders to 11 Countries

Event:

2024 Exporter of the Year Award – Small Business Administration (SBA) presented Bon Tool Inc "2024 Mid-Atlantic Region Exporter of the Year" award, it showcased Bon Tool company's successes in exporting.

Government Contract TA

4 Companies Assisted; 5 Counseling Sessions

Contract Awards

- 12 companies 50 awards \$1.2M
- Events FAA Webinar contracting

Commercial Lending Assistance

24 Companies Assisted; 30 Counseling Sessions

Keystone Opportunity Zones (KOZ)

Inquiries 3

Applications Received 27







ARC/EDA GRANT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

- ARC AREA Development OPEN! Pre-Apps Due August 2nd
 - FY23/24 Working with 13 applications requesting 6.8M
 - FY24/25 SPC Website being updated with online versions of documents etc.
 - See Faith Collins Community Capacity Coordinator
- ARC ARISE still open (rolling deadline) multiple state required
 - 1 Award 375k
- EDA Looking for projects –
- Community Capacity
 - 47 Meetings
 - 144 Participants

Regional IWG Rapid Response Meetings

- Interagency on Working Group on Coal Communities The Biden Administration established the Interagency Working Group (IWG) on Coal and Power Plant Communities and Economic Revitalization to facilitate economic revitalization in coal, oil and gas, and power plant communities and to support workers.
- First activities in SWPA August 2023 met with 5 counties
- October 20th 2023 Westmoreland County Community College Event
- March 2024 Requested meetings with Armstrong, Beaver, Fayette, Greene, Indiana and Washington
- April May June Planning
- June 2024 Meetings 3 In-Person and 3 Virtual

Fayette, Indiana and Washington







Next up... Armstrong (June 25th) Beaver (June 26th) and Greene (June 27th)

Questions?



Communications Report

Caitlin O'Connor, Director of Public Relations & Communication Initiatives





Ongoing Efforts to Educate/Inform: Commissioner Video Series



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SEYiIMmSQbM



Ongoing Efforts to Educate/Inform: Commissioner Video Series



https://youtu.be/B6cN 57HNpg







Stay Updated on SPC & SWPA Activities

- Follow us on social media
 - Instagram
 - Twitter
 - Facebook
 - LinkedIn
 - YouTube
- Subscribe to our monthly newsletter
- Tune into KDKA Radio Show
 - Every Wednesday from 7 am 8 am
 - The show features Rich co-hosting with Larry Richert
 - Focus on County Commissioners and "News Around the Region"

Questions?



"Community Chronicles"

Rich Fitzgerald, Executive Director



- In May, County Commissioners and SPC staff traveled to Harrisburg to highlight regional priorities for lawmakers and key state government stakeholders such as broadband, site development, permitting reform, transportation & infrastructure, and more.
- We met with lawmakers one-on-one, held a productive breakfast meeting with the SWPA delegation, DCED, the Broadband Authority, PUC, and connected with members of the House Transportation Committee.



- Lt. Governor Austin Davis
- Sen. Joe Pittman
- Sen. Marty Flynn
- Sen. Langerholc
- Sen. Kim Ward
- Sen. Pat Stefano
- Rep. Oberlander
- Sen. Bartolotta
- Rep. Rob Matzie
- Steve DeFrank, Chair, PA Public Utility Commission
- Brandon Carson, Executive Director,
 Pennsylvania Broadband Development Authority
- Michael Hanna Jr., Executive Deputy Secretary, PA Department of Community and Economic Development
- Attended the Allegheny Conference/PGH Chamber and the Philly Chamber's joint reception



- Met Sen. Wayne Langerholc, who chairs the Senate Transportation Committee. During our time with Sen. Langerholc, we thanked him for his continued support of SWPA and highlighted key transportation initiatives we are focused on.
- In addition to scheduled one-on-one meetings, we also had impromptu meetings with several government officials (like PennDOT Secretary Mike Carroll and Deputy Secretary for Multimodal Transportation Meredith Biggica).



- The following day, our organization hosted a breakfast meeting with the delegation that represents our 10 county region. Attendees included:
 - Lt. Gov. Austin Davis
 - Sen. Wayne Fontana
 - Sen. Devlin Robinson
 - Sen. Pat Stefano
 - Rep. Valerie Gaydos
 - Rep. Nick Pisciottano
 - Rep. Eric Nelson
 - Rep. George Dunbar
 - Rep. Arvind Venkat
 - Rep. Donna Oberlander
 - Rep. Charity Grimm Krupa
 - Rep. Jim Marshall
 - Rep. Bud Cook
 - Rep. Jim Struzzi
 - Rep. Jill Cooper
 - Rep. Stephenie Scialabba
 - Rep. Jessica Benham



TIP Meetings in the 10 Counties & the City of PGH

- As part of the region's Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) that our organization manages, we held meetings in each of the ten counties and the City of Pittsburgh.
- Public meetings were well attended by members of the public, County Commissioners/City Officials, partners, and SPC staff.
- We received numerous comments over the course of the 30-day public comment period. Feedback was gathered to further improve future meetings.



Interagency Working Group on Coal & Power Plant Communities

- Our team supported IWG 'Rapid Response
 Team' meetings in Fayette, Indiana, and
 Washington Counties. The purpose of these
 meetings was to gather feedback from key
 stakeholders on economic revitalization in
 communities impacted by the energy transition.
- Officials from 11 Federal Agencies were present in the meetings.
- Resources to connect communities with technical support, grant funding, and tax credits were shared.
- There are upcoming virtual meetings in Armstrong, Beaver, and Greene Counties.



Celebration of the Mon Wharf Connector

- Led by DCNR, this project upgrades the link between Point State Park to the Monongahela Wharf and Smithfield Street Switchback, ultimately reaching the Great Allegheny Passageway.
- Enhances trail safety by widening the existing trail and improving the trail surface, grade, lighting, and line of sight.
- The Great Allegheny Passageway generates \$120m annually and one-third of that supports small businesses, bolstering local economies along the trail.



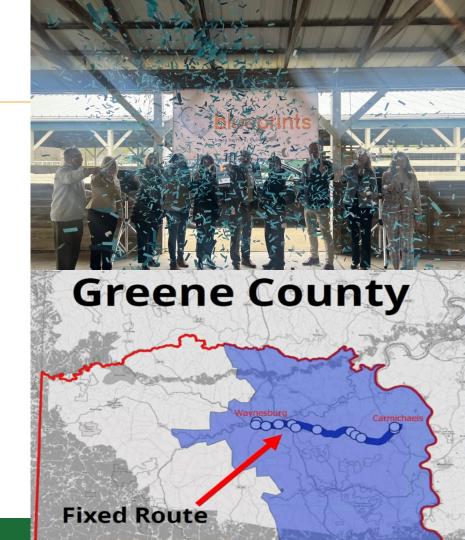
ARDC Grant in Armstrong County

- Armstrong County received \$5,000 from the Allegheny River Development Corporation (ARDC) for the maintenance of locks and dams in the county.
- ARDC currently funds all operations at Locks 6, 7, 8, & 9 and partially funds locks 4 and 5.
- Lock and Dam 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9 are all located in Armstrong County.



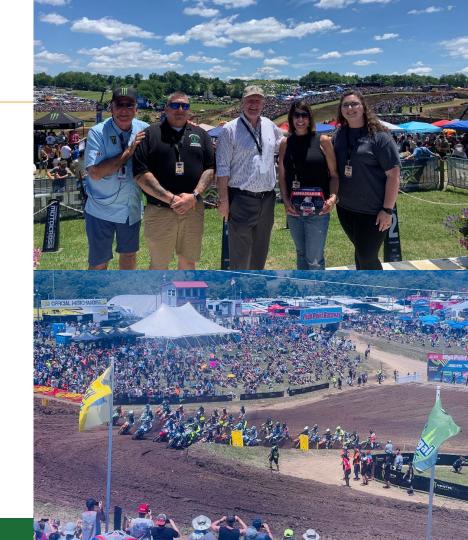
RAMP Pilot Program in Greene County

- The Rural County Mobility Platform (RAMP) is a pilot program designed to improve transportation services in rural Greene Co. launched on May 1.
- RAMP is designed to fill in the gaps that exist with the current service.
- The goal of the program is to improve the quality of life for residents by providing increased access to transportation services.
- RAMP offers free transportation services to help residents access essential services over a fourmonth period that began on May 1.



High Point Pro Motocross National in Greene County

- 54th annual Pro Motocross Championship.
- Took place at the High Point Raceway in Mount Morris, Greene County.
- Thousands of attendees from across the country.
- Showcased the beauty and hospitality of our region.
- Thrilling showcase of top-tier motocross talent, right here in Southwestern Pennsylvania.



Action on Corporation Board Resolution 4-24 & Executive Committee Resolution 3-24 to Adopt a Meeting Schedule for FY 2024-2025

Rich Fitzgerald, Executive Director



SOUTHWESTERN PENNSYLVANIA CORPORTATION

SOUTHWESTERN PENNSYLVANIA COMMISSION (EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE)

RESOLUTION NO. 4-24 & 3-24

A RESOLUTION to adopt a Meeting Schedule for 2024-2025.

WHEREAS, the Pennsylvania Sunshine Law Title 65 requires that a Schedule of all Commission and Executive Committee Meetings for the fiscal year be adopted.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission adopts the attached Meeting Schedule.

Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission Meetings

2024	2025
August 26	February 24
October 28	April 28
December 16	June 23

I, Ailisa Sobien, HEREBY CERTIFY that I am Secretary-Treasurer of the SOUTHWESTERN PENNSYLVANIA CORPORATION; and I, Betsy McClure, 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 Board of Directors of said Corporation and Executive Committee of said Commission at a Meeting duly called and held on the 24th day of June 2024, a quorum being present; and that said resolution is now in full force and effect.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF we hereto subscribe our names as Secretary-Treasurer.

Secretary-Treasurer, Corporation	
Sec	cretary-Treasurer, Commission

Message from the Executive Director

Rich Fitzgerald, Executive Director



Next Meeting Date: August 26, 2024



Adjourn

