



SOUTHWESTERN PENNSYLVANIA COMMISSION

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MINUTES TRANSIT OPERATORS COMMITTEE MEETING

Date: September 14, 2022
Location: **Meeting was held by online video/teleconference**

Attendance:

Members: Lynn Manion, ACTA
John Paul, BTA
Nancy Basile, MMVTA
David Richards, NCATA
Mavis Rainey, OTMA
David Wohlwill, PRT
Patti Lynn Johnston, TACT
Sheila Gombita, WASH (Chairperson)
Alan Blahovec, WCTA

Guests/Staff: Karen Hoesch, ACCESS
Ann Ogoreuc, Allegheny County
Cody Slater, ANR
Kelly Stewart, BTA
Lynda Conway, CCS Pro (rep. Heritage Transp.)
Nugent Laing, HDR
Sam Plocinski, PennDOT
Kevin McCullough, PennDOT
David White, Pittsburgh Bikeshare
Seth Davis, PRT
Tiffany Chaffee, TACT
Jason Theakston, Washington County
Ashley Cooper, WCTA

SPC Staff: Chuck Imbrogno
Dan Bernazzoli
David Totten
Dom D'Andrea
Ryan Gordon
Tom Klevan

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

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Public Comment
 - No public comments.
3. Approval of Minutes (Attachment A)

- **Committee Action:** The minutes of the August 17, 2022 TOC meeting were **approved** on a motion by Alan Blahovec and a second by David Richards.
4. PennDOT Update
 - PennDOT reported that Andy Batson had been appointed to the role of Deputy Secretary of Multimodal Transportation. Batson had previously been on the staff at the Bureau of Public Transportation.
 5. Amendments & Administrative Actions to the FFY2021-2024 TIP (*Attachment B*)
 - No actions were requested by the TOC.
 6. Transit Participant Updates
 - **Butler Transit Authority:** John Paul reported that the new additions and waiting area at BTA's facility were opened 9/13.
 - **Pittsburgh Regional Transit:** David Wohlwill of PRT reported that the Downtown bus routing study is underway, looking at potential realignments and reconfigurations as part of the Bus Rapid Transit project. PRT has received interest from downtown stakeholders and will be holding input sessions, including pop-up events. The next phase will include a request for additional data, including reaching out to TOC members who serve Downtown Pittsburgh.
 7. Regional Mobile Ticketing Project
 - SPC staff recently met with FTA Region III staff to plan the use of SPC's Section 5307 funds to conduct a feasibility study looking into how Southwestern Pennsylvania could best move to a regional mobile transit ticketing platform. The study will examine governance, equity, tech options, and will incorporate national best practice case studies. SPC plans to use a team of on-call consultants for this project, led by McCormick Taylor and including Rockland and Valerie Southern. Staff will coordinate closely with the TOC.
 8. Long Range Transportation Plan Update
 - SPC staff updated the TOC on the plan to update *SmartMoves for a Changing Region*, the region's Long Range Transportation Plan. SPC Transportation Director Dominic D'Andrea told the Committee that this will not be a complete overhaul, because *SmartMoves* had been very thorough and is still relevant. The update will look at the impacts of the COVID-19 Pandemic. SPC's Ryan Gordon said the strategy is to update the plan with new candidate projects. There are three TIP workgroups based on the PennDOT districts, with three meetings each. (Pittsburgh Regional Transit is a member of the District 11 group.) There will be a constrained list of projects, a list of Interstate projects, and an unconstrained list. The draft lists, including highway/bridge and transit projects, will be brought to the TOC for review. Tom Klevan told the Committee that SPC is in contact with PennDOT Bureau of Public Transportation staff about the update. Transit projects lists will be based on projects shown on the current TIP and the existing LRTP, as well as those shown in the Bureau's Capital Planning Tool. In addition, SPC transit planning staff will meet with each transit agency beginning in October. The transit list is planned to use a more fluid description of fiscal constraint to account for new federal infrastructure funding. At the March, 2023 TOC meeting, staff will present the draft project lists so that they can be included in the public input process, based around the Public Participation Panels, starting in mid-March. The first PPP meetings will begin in October.

9. Public Transit-Human Services Coordinated Transportation Plan Update
 - SPC staff is currently planning how to best update the PT-HSCTP. While past updates had been timed to coincide with LRTP updates, SPC leadership have not yet decided if that should be done with this cycle. However, the LRTP update will include 5310-funded projects in the project list. The CTP is more than just projects. The current CTP predates the Pandemic, but many things had already been changing. PennDOT leadership said in 2012 that the current system was not sustainable. SPC is considering several options to update the CTP: A big, consultant-driven project would necessitate changing the timeline, for example. Sheila Gombita noted that involving the public was a good idea, especially getting input from the public that uses—or that needs to use, or will one day use—the system is something that has not been done and is needed, but will be expensive.

10. Staff Updates
 - Safe Streets For All
 - SPC successfully completed the application for federal funding through the Safe Streets For All program. The total amount requested was over \$40 million. This included 29 distinct implementation projects including a significant number of transit-related improvements.
 - Transit Development Plans
 - SPC staff are completing the NCATA transit development plan, finalizing the documents.
 - The Cranberry Multimodal Plan is also in the final document stage.

11. Other Business
 - Next meeting: October 12, 2022. (Note: this meeting was cancelled. The next meeting will be held November 9, 2022.)

12. Adjournment
 - The meeting was **adjourned** on a motion by Alan Blahovec and a second by Nancy Basile.