

**Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission
Transportation Technical Committee (TTC)
Meeting Minutes via Webex
September 21st, 2023, 10:00 a.m.**

Attendees:

- Ann Ogoreuc, Allegheny County Department of Economic Development
- Darin Alviano, Armstrong County Planning Commission
- Dan Distler, Beaver County Planning Commission
- Joel MacKay, Butler County Planning Commission
- Arthur Cappella, Fayette County Zoning, Planning, and Community Development
- Jeremy L. Kelly, Greene County Planning and Community Development
- Amy McKinney, Lawrence County Planning
- Jason Theakston, Washington County Planning
- Daniel Carpenter, Westmoreland County Planning
- Jeff Skalican, City of Pittsburgh
- Mavis Rainey, Oakland Transportation Management Association
- Brendan Coticchia, City of Pittsburgh
- Nathan Clair, Westmoreland County Planning
- Austin McDaniel, Washington County Planning
- Craig Toocheck, Pittsburgh Regional Transit
- Ed Typanski, Pittsburgh Regional Transit
- Matthew Pavlosky, Port of Pittsburgh
- Aaron Sukenik, Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership
- Vanessa Shamberg, FHWA
- Brandon Leach, PennDOT Central Office
- Julia Cornell, PennDOT Central Office
- Harold Swan, PennDOT District 10-0
- Domenic DeFazio, PennDOT District 10-0
- Jordan Bergamasco, PennDOT District 11-0
- Dave Hollahan, PennDOT District 11-0
- Stephanie Ma, PennDOT District 11-0
- Dina Salemi, PennDOT District 11-0
- Doug Seeley, PennDOT District 11-0
- Jason Zang, PennDOT District 11-0
- Rachel Duda, PennDOT District 12-0
- Jessica Setmire, PennDOT District 12-0
- Josh Theakston, PennDOT District 12-0
- Daniel Laird, Michael Baker
- Matthew Kelley, CDR Maguire
- Domenic D’Andrea, SPC Transportation Director
- Chuck Imbrogno, SPC Staff
- Ryan Gordon, SPC Staff
- Lillian Gabreski, SPC Staff
- Tom Klevan, SPC Staff
- Josh Spano, SPC Staff
- Dan Bernazzoli, SPC Staff
- Erika Eagan, SPC Staff
- John Weber, SPC Staff

- **Indicates TTC voting member**

1. **Call to Order**

Domenic D'Andrea called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. with a roll call for the TTC members.

2. **Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

3. **Action on August 17th TTC Meeting Minutes**

A motion was made by Ann Ogoreuc and seconded by Jeremy Kelly to approve the minutes of the August 17th TTC meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.

4. **FHWA/PennDOT Central Office, Program Center Report from Brandon Leach, PennDOT Central Office and Vanessa Shamberg, FHWA**

Brandon Leach began the program center report discussing the August redistribution, which is an additional obligation authority that PennDOT receives every year around this time. This year, Pennsylvania was able to secure a record \$460 million across the state, and currently PennDOT is allocating those funds to different areas and different projects. Fiscal constraint charts are being crafted by the statewide program section of PennDOT, and will be distributed to each District once completed, which should be in 1-2 weeks, and will then be discussed during the next TTC meeting. Brandon then went on to speak about the PennDOT multimodal program, which will open for applications on September 25th and will be open until November 13th. The multimodal fund provides funding for priority investments, and Brandon provided a link to the PennDOT website which provides more details on the program, as well as a funding application guide to help with the application process. Brandon next provided a status update on the statewide transportation alternative set aside program, which applications were due on September 15th. Award amount announcements for the program should come out in late Winter-early Spring 2024.

Vanessa Shamberg gave an update on a couple of grant programs which are currently available, beginning with the new EV charging program, which has \$100 million in grants available to repair and replace existing, but non-operational charging infrastructure. Grant applications for that program are due in November. The second program is through FTA for transit-oriented development planning. This program has \$13.4 million in planning grants for any municipality or county that may be interested in economic development around transit stations, and closes in October. Domenic D'Andrea closed the report by commenting on the SPC long range plan, of which the final submission was sent in early September to FHWA for review. Domenic thanked everyone for their help in the transportation plan process, and will report any updates on the submission.

5. **Action on Modifications to the 2021-2024 TIP**

A. PennDOT District 10-0

Harold Swan went over two administrative actions for PennDOT District 10-0. The first administrative action was for a safety improvement project which includes signal replacement, installation of turn lanes, and corridor improvements to enhance safety and reduce congestion along PA 68 from just east of Township Road #425 (Stevenson Road) east to approximately its intersection with SR 3007 (Meridian Road/Benbrook Road) in Connoquenessing and Butler Townships, Butler County. The district requests to advance a portion of construction funds from FFY 2024 to FFY 2023, with the sources being the Balls Bend project (\$786,127

from the deferral of a portion of construction funds from FFY 2023 to FFY 2024) and the SPC District 10 Highway/Bridge Line Item (\$344,501). The second administrative action was for a safety improvement project which includes pedestrian countdown signals along various routes in various municipalities in Armstrong, Butler, and Clarion Counties. The District requests to advance construction from FFY 2024 to FFY 2023, with the source coming from the SPC Regional Safety Line Item.

Joel MacKay made a motion to approve the administrative actions from PennDOT District 10-0, which was seconded by Jeff Skalican. The motion was approved unanimously.

B. PennDOT District 11-0

Stephanie Ma went over the two amendments and thirteen administrative actions for PennDOT District 11-0. The first amendment was for a bridge preservation to include joint replacement, located on SR 2085 (Birmingham Bridge) in the city of Pittsburgh, Allegheny County. The district requests to add a planning and engineering phase by \$150,000 (NHPP) in FFY 2023 to TIP to initiate design, with the source of funding coming from the Betterment Reserve Allegheny line item. The second amendment was for pedestrian facility improvements to walkways and staircases, located at various locations around the City of Pittsburgh, Allegheny County. The district requests to add a planning and engineering phase by \$680,000 (SXF) and \$170,000 (LOC) in FFY 2024 to the TIP to initiate design, with the source of funding coming from being a 2023 approved Highway Infrastructure Appropriations Earmark project.

The first administrative action was for a bridge preservation project, located on Ramp B, Ramp D, and Ramp F over Beaver Avenue, SR 65, and West End Bridge in City of Pittsburgh, Allegheny County. The district requests to increase the construction phase by \$1,452,292 (STP) and by \$247,708 (NHPP) in FFY 2023 for updated estimate, with the source of funding coming from numerous line items including Slide, Allegheny Co. Local Bridge Preservation, Guiderail Upgrades, Bridge-Allegheny line item, and the Pittsburgh City BPRSF line items. The second administrative action was for a bridge preservation project, located on Ramp A of the Tarentum Bridge over the Conrail Railroad, 4th Ave and SR 8088 (Ramp D) in Tarentum Borough, Allegheny County. The district requests to increase the construction phase by \$1,700,000 (NHPP) in FFY 2023 for updated estimate, with the source of funding coming from an available deobligation and the Bridge-Allegheny line item. The third administrative action was for slope stabilization, improve drainage, and repaving, located on SR 2042 Skyline Drive in Dravosburg & West Mifflin Boroughs, Allegheny County. The district requests to add a final design phase by \$400,000 (581), a utilities phase by \$100,000 (581), and a right of way phase by \$100,000 (581) in FFY 2024. The district also requests to add a construction phase by \$3,000,000 (STP) in FFY 2027 to fully fund project. The source of funds will come from the Betterment Reserve Allegheny line item.

The fourth administrative action was for slope stabilization, improved drainage, and repaving, located on SR 3074 Ewings Mill Road in Robinson Township, Allegheny County. The district requests to increase the planning and engineering phase by \$75,000 (581) in FFY 2023 for additional drilling, with the source of funding coming from the Slide line item. The fifth administrative action was for slope stabilization, improved drainage, and repaving, located on SR 3074 Ewings Mill Road in Robinson Township, Allegheny County. The district requests to increase the final design phase by \$200,000 (581), the utilities phase by \$100,000 (581), and the right of way phase by \$100,000 (581) in FFY 2024. The district also requests to add a construction

phase by \$3,000,000 (STP) in FFY 2027, with the source of funds coming from the Betterment Reserve Allegheny line item. The sixth administrative action was for a roadway resurfacing, located on Mosside Boulevard from PA 130 to Haymaker Road in Monroeville Borough, Allegheny County. The district requests to increase the final design phase by \$125,000 (NHPP), the utilities phase by \$50,000 (NHPP), and the right of way phase by \$150,000 (NHPP) in FFY 2024. The district also requests to add a construction phase by \$8,600,000 (NHPP) in FFY 2027, with the source of funds coming from the Betterment Reserve Allegheny line item.

The seventh administrative action was for a bridge replacement project, located on PA 136, Monongahela Road over Becketts Run intersection with State Route 2013, in Forward Township, Allegheny County. The district requests to increase the utilities phase by \$178,943 (185) in FFY 2023 to cover anticipated impacts, with the source of funding coming from the Bridge- Allegheny County line item. The eighth administrative action was for a bridge rehabilitation/replacement project, located on PA 168 over Jordan Run in New Galilee Borough, Beaver County. The district requests to add a final design phase by \$450,000 (185), a utilities phase by \$100,000 (185) in FFY 2024. The district also requests to add a right of way phase by \$250,000 (185) in FFY 2025, with the source of funding coming from the Bridge- Allegheny County line item. The ninth administrative action was for a highway reconstruction project, located on SR 68 from Virginia Avenue to Adams Street in Rochester Borough, Beaver County. The district requests to add a right-of-way phase by \$500,000 (STP) in FFY 2024 to TIP for anticipated right of way takes, with the source of funding coming from the Betterment Reserve Allegheny line item. The tenth administrative action was for a bridge restoration project, located on Patton Street Bridge in Wilmerding Borough, Allegheny County. The district requests to increase the planning and engineering phase by \$80,000 (STU/183/LOC) in FFY 2023 to cover updated design estimate, with the source of funding coming from the Allegheny County Local Bridge line item and an available deobligation.

The eleventh administrative action was for a transportation enhancement project to include signage to help direct the public to navigate the city, located at numerous locations from within the City of Pittsburgh, Allegheny County. The district requests to increase the construction phase by \$500,000 (TAU) in FFY 2023 to cover low bid, while also advancing \$500K (TAU) from 2024 to 2023 for better cash flow. The source of the funding will come from the SPC Regional TAU Line Item. The twelfth administrative action was for a transportation enhancement project to include pedestrian safety and access by constructing sidewalks within critical gaps throughout the city, located at numerous locations from within the City of Pittsburgh, Allegheny County. The district requests to increase the construction phase by \$325,000 (TAP) in FFY 2023 to cover low bid, with the source of funding coming from the TAP Reserve line item. The thirteenth administrative action was for a bridge replacement project, located on SR 3001, Miller's Run Road over Branch of Miller's Run in South Fayette Township, Allegheny County. The district requests to add a planning and engineering phase by \$300K (185) in FFY 2023 to initiate design, with the source of funding coming from the Pittsburgh City BPRSF Line Item.

Amy McKinney made a motion to approve the amendments and administrative actions from PennDOT District 11-0, which was seconded by Ann Ogoreuc. The motion was approved unanimously.

C. Transit TIP Amendment Summary

Tom Klevan went over two administrative adjustments for the transit TIP, beginning with one for the Butler Transit Authority, which added \$300,000 in state funding for shop equipment, utilizing 5307 funding from the previous year. The second administrative adjustment was for Fayette Area Coordinated Transportation, they advanced a communications equipment project, which had been programmed previously, by \$822,000 to be obligated for FY2023 with 5307 funding.

6. 2025 TIP Update

Domenic D'Andrea mentioned that the final version of SPCs long-range transportation plan is now available on the SPC website for viewing. He also mentioned that PennDOT had a regional vulnerable user outreach meeting in the last month, which also highlighted vulnerable areas in the SPC region, which can be viewed on the PennDOT website. Ryan Gordon gave an update to the 2025 TIP, mentioning that SPC has wrapped up the third round of work group meetings for the TIP. Ryan thanked the districts and city/county staff for the great participation at these meetings, which focused mostly on federal performance measures, and digging into how SPC stands on a statewide, regional, and district level with these measures. There was also discussion on how to address other planning processes, such as the TAMP asset management process and the strategic highway safety plan, into the SPC planning and programming process. Ryan mentioned that the fourth round of work group meetings is scheduled for October, with Districts 10-0 and 11-0 having to change meeting dates due to the APA conference. District 10-0s work group meeting will be on October 25th at 10am, District 11-0s work group meeting will be on October 20th at 10am, and District 12-0s work group meeting will be on October 12th at 1:00pm. During these meetings, the work groups will be looking at the results of the candidate project screening, and will be providing input on these projects, as well as the carryover projects from the previous TIP. Ryan also mentioned that there will be a fifth round of work group meetings, scheduled after the fourth round is finished.

Ryan next spoke on the SPC competitive programs, which closed on September 15th, same date as the PennDOT transportation alternatives program. SPC is in initial stages on organizing application materials, and will begin taking a look at applications which are lacking forms or required information. SPC has also organized the program selection committee for the competitive programs, which members should have seen an email from Lillian Gabreski informing them of their selection and discussing upcoming meeting dates. More information will be given on the competitive programs through October and November, with the final selections announced in December. Ryan last spoke on the fall public participation meetings, which are preliminarily scheduled for October, November, and December. The meetings will be an introduction to the TIP and a work in progress status update on the TIP development. Rhonda Craig sent out an email yesterday to county staff to schedule dates and times to have these meetings, as there will be one held in each county and the City of Pittsburgh. SPC also anticipates involvement from the District project managers, and well as planning and programming staff from PennDOT.

7. Other Business/Status Reports

Harold Swan gave an update on the statewide transportation committee meeting, which was held on September 13th in District 10-0. Much discussion was held on the three county District 10-0 region, as well as Jefferson and Clarion counties. Topics included funding concerns in the rural planning regions, as well

assistance on planning topics in those regions. Domenic D'Andrea mentioned that it was an excellent meeting, and the presentations were very informative.

8. **Adjourn**

A motion to adjourn was made by Jason Theakston and seconded by Arthur Cappella. The motion was passed unanimously and Domenic D'Andrea called for the adjournment of the meeting at 10:40 AM.