



TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL ADVISORY
COMMITTEE MEETING

November 10, 2020

This meeting was held virtually on
<https://morgantownmonongaliampo.my.webex.com/meet/baustin>

Members Present:

Bill Austin, Brian Carr, John Whitmore, David Bruffy, Latina Mayle, Andrew Gast-Bray, Drew Gatlin, Damien Davis

Other Present: Scott Nale, Jason Fauber, Jing Zhang

1. Call to Order

Mr. Austin noted that due to the COVID 19 pandemic, the TTAC meeting is being held as a teleconference. The phone number and web address to access the teleconference were publicized.

With a quorum present, Mr. Austin called the meeting of the TTAC to order at 1:30 PM.

2. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Austin noted that the minutes of the last meeting were included in the agenda packet. Mr. Bruffy moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Mr. Whitmore. With no discussion, the motion was passed unanimously.

3. TIP Amendments

Mr. Austin noted that the DOH has proposed two Transportation Improvement Program amendments. The amendments will delete the two projects on Van Voorhis Rd which were incorrectly programmed in their scope of work. Mr. Austin noted that the DOH did not request the removal of these projects at the time they programmed the correct segment from West Run to Burroughs Street.

Mr. Bruffy moved to recommend approval of the proposed TIP amendments to the Policy Board; seconded by Mr. Gast-Bray. With no discussion, the motion was passed unanimously.

4. 2021 Calendar

Mr. Austin noted that the draft 2021 calendar for the committee meetings is included in the agenda package for review. Mr. Carr noted that the Policy Advisory Committee meeting is on October 11, 2021, which is a federal holiday. Mr. Austin noted that the Transportation Committee of the Chamber of Commerce acts as the Policy Advisory Committee for the MPO. The transportation committee does not recognize federal holidays.

Mr. Gast-Bray moved to recommend approval of the proposed 2021 calendar to the Policy Board; seconded by Mr. Whitmore. With no discussion, the motion was passed unanimously.

5. Review of summary for MTP Update/Comp Plan RFQ

Mr. Austin noted that the MPO performed a comprehensive update of the Metropolitan Transportation Plan in 2013. Since State Law requires that comprehensive plans be updated every 10 years, Monongalia County and the County's municipalities are required to update their Comprehensive plans in the very near future. MPO staff has proposed that the County and the County's municipalities join together to achieve greater economies of scale for the Metropolitan Transportation Plan Update and the required comprehensive plan updates. The primary way cost savings could be realized is by utilizing a unified public involvement process that would tie together the development of the MTP and each individual municipality's comprehensive plans. This process would allow each jurisdiction to develop their own comprehensive plan while having those needs addressed in the MPO's urban area wide transportation plan.

Mr. Gast-Bray moved to recommend approval of the draft RFQ to the Policy Board; seconded by Mr. Davis. With no discussion, the motion was passed unanimously.

6. Request for additional work items for the FY 2021-2022 UPWP

Mr. Austin noted that MPO staff will be preparing a draft UPWP for FY 2021- 2022 in January. Staff requests committee's input on potential studies that the committee would like the MPO staff to perform in the next fiscal year. Mr. Austin noted that the MPO will conduct a traffic study at the intersection of Mineral Ave and Earl Core Rd. The study is requested by the City of Morgantown and will analyze both motor vehicle traffics and non-motorized traffic.

Mr. Bruffy noted that the Mountain Line has data of transit users, including those with disabilities. The MPO could use those data to identify locations to improve pedestrian access to transit service in the region.

Mr. Gatlin noted that the MPO could develop a pedestrian and bicycle data collection program to take advantage of current counting technologies and to standardize the non-motorized traffic data collection in the area. Mr. Austin agreed and noted that the MPO will set up a technical committee to guide the development of that program.

7. Other Business

Mr. Austin noted that the DOH has extended the comment period for the Greenbag Rd study. The MPO provided the public with proper information about the project's decision-making process and worked with the county and city officials to clarify the community's stand on the project.

Mr. Carr noted that the design decision is made primarily based on safety, operation, and cost considerations. The DOH considered the potential impact on adjacent properties and included those considerations in the final design decisions.

Mr. Gatlin asked about the pedestrian safety projects on Patteson Drive that was recommended by the recently adopted pedestrian and bicycle plan. Mr. Carr noted that in 2019 the DOH has issued a notice to proceed for the project. The engineering team has since reviewed crash data and the previous recommendations. Mr. Carr noted that he will reach out to the administration to get an update on the project.

8. Meeting Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 2:20 pm.