



TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL ADVISORY
COMMITTEE MEETING

May 11, 2021

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

Members Present:

Bill Austin (Chair), Andrew Gast-Bray, Rickie Yeager, Michael Dougherty, Maria Smith, Brain Carr, Jeremy Evans, Damien Davis.

Others Present: Mark Glass, Jessica Shuey, Ryan Blair, 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 2:46 PM.

2. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Austin noted that the minutes of the last meeting were included in the agenda packet. Mrs. Smith noted that Dave Bruffy was not in the meeting and she has started to replace Dave Bruffy in representing the Mountain Line Transit Authority at the Transportation Technical Advisory Committee since the March meeting. Mr. Gast-Bray moved to approve the minutes with the correction; seconded by Mrs. Smith. With no further discussion, the motion was passed unanimously.

3. TIP Amendments

Mr. Austin noted that WV DOH has submitted the TIP amendment requests included in the agenda. The MPO will make format changes to the TIP to make it consistent with the original format as adopted. The MPO will add information about performance measures to each highway project in the TIP. The performance measure information was not available to the MPO at the time the agenda went out. Mr. Austin expressed his appreciation to Mr. Carr for providing that information.

Mr. Austin noted that WV DOH requested the amendment to update funding amount to several projects, including the Beechurst Ave project, the Westover bridge project, the Everettville bridge project, the Morris Builder bridge project + 1, and the Boyer Ave / US 19 Improvements project. The DOH also request deleting the Mon River Rial Trail Maintenance Equipment purchase project from the MPO's TIP. Mr. Austin noted that he has discussed Ella Belling, the Director of Mon River Trails Conservancy

(MRTC), about this change. The MRTC has agreed to re submit this project, folding it into another grant project. Mr. Austin noted that Ms. Belling is fine with the deletion of the project.

Mr. Davis moved to recommend approval of the TIP Amendments as presented; seconded by Mr. Gast-Bray. With no discussion, the motion was passed unanimously.

4. Status Report on Metropolitan Transportation Plan Update

Mr. Austin noted that the consultant held a second steering committee meeting and briefed participants about the outline of update process. The project team is expected to conduct extensive public engagement throughout the project period. Mr. Gast-Bray noted that the coordination between the MPO's transportation plan and the County's and Municipalities' land use plans is the key to the success of this project, as future year transportation model is depending on the land use forecast. Mr. Yeager noted that he is excited about this project. The city is working with its consultant on finalizing their contract.

Mr. Austin noted that MPO staff is bringing the consultants up to speed on the MPO's travel demand model, which was developed by a different consulting firm in the previous metropolitan transportation plan update.

5. Update on Mountain Line Transit Study

Mrs. Smith noted that the Mountain Line is working with consultants to identify opportunities to develop a coordinated fare collection system in the area. She noted that the Mountain Line staff will meet with consultant tomorrow afternoon on potential proposals. Mr. Austin noted that the study is a part of previously adopted Mountain Line Transit Study and is funded separately by a federal AIM grant.

6. Status of Mineral Ave/WV 7 Intersection Data Collection

Mr. Austin noted that MPO staff conducted data collection in the Mineral Ave/WV 7 Intersection area. Mr. Zhang noted that MPO staff did manual counts at WV 7 and Mineral Ave intersection and WV 7 and Hartman Run Rd intersection during two weekdays and two weekend days. The data collected include pedestrians, bicyclists, and vehicle turning movement. Mr. Davis asked about the weather during the day of the data collection. Mr. Zhang noted that it was sunny and warm. Mr. Austin noted that MPO staff will prepare a report of the data collection for committee review in the June meeting.

7. Other Business

Mr. Yeager asked about any updates for the Mileground project. Mr. Carr noted that he has no update about the project at the moment. He will meet the project staff next week and report any update to the MPO's Policy Board.

8. Meeting Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 3:11 pm.