



243 High Street Room 026
Morgantown, WV 26505
(304) 291-9571
www.plantgether.org

Agenda

MMMPO Policy Board
City of Morgantown
Council Chambers
389 Spruce Street
Morgantown WV
October 14, 2021

6:00 PM

1. Call To Order
2. Public Comment
3. Approval of Minutes
4. Committee Reports
 - a. Citizens Advisory Committee
 - b. Finance Report
 - c. Executive Directors Report
5. TIP Amendments
6. Performance Measures
7. TIP Policy Amendment
8. Status of Metropolitan Transportation Plan Update
9. Other Business
10. Meeting Adjournment



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Memorandum

Date: October 14, 2021
To: Policy Board Members
From: Bill Austin, AICP
Subject: October 21, 2021 Meeting Agenda Items

This memorandum is to inform you of the items under consideration in the October 12, 2021 Agenda.

5)-Transportation Improvement Program Amendments and Administrative Adjustments-Please find below a summary of the TIP Amendments requested by the West Virginia Department of Transportation Division of Highways:

FY 2022

Add

I-79 Bridge Replacements-Replace 4 Bridges- Project Construction- Funding Source NHS, State Project Number U384 79 14037.00 Federal Project Number NHPP0793313D Length 19.63 miles Begin MP 140.37
Total Cost \$13,620,000 Feder Funds \$10,896,000

I-79 Bridge Replacements-Replace 4 Bridges-ROW-Funding Source NHS, State Project Number U384 79 14037.00 Federal Project Number NHPP0793312DTC Length 19.63 miles Begin MP 140.37
Total Cost \$48,000 Federal Funds \$48,000

I-79 Bridge Replacements-Replace 4 Bridges-Construction-Funding Source Federal Grant/Earmark, State Project Number U384 79 14037.00 Federal Project Number NHPP0793313D Length 19.63 miles Begin MP 140.37
Total Cost \$20,000,000 Federal Funds \$20,000,000

I-79 Exit 152 Resurfacing-Resurface NB And SB Ramps-Construction-Funding Source NHS, State Project Number U331-79 15228.00 Federal Project Number NHPP0793287D
Total Cost \$650,000 Federal Funds \$585,000

Patteson Drive Rectangular Rapid Flash Beacon Install RRFB at Laurel Street Intersection-Construction-Funding Source HSIP, State Project Number U331 705 018.00 Federal Project Number HSIP705020D
Total Cost \$150,000 Federal Funds \$150,000

TIP Administrative Adjustments

- FY22 - Caperton Trail Drainage Eng Phase -, Federal Project **NRT2018236D**, State Project **U331CAPER200** project moved from FY21 to FY22

- FY23 - Caperton Trail Lighting project – Federal Project **NRT2018218D**, State Project **U331CAPER300** Con phase (9/17/21) moved to FY23

- FY24 - Greenbag Road, Federal Project **STP0857020DTC**, State Project **U3318570006700** RW phase - move to FY24

- FY25 - Greenbag Road Con phase, Federal Project **NFA2317022D**, State Project **U3318570006700**- move to FY25

As a reminder to Policy Board members Administrative Adjustments do not require approval. The Division of Highways requests that the Policy Board approve the TIP Amendments to the MPO Policy Board. The TTAC and CAC have reviewed the proposed TIP amendments and recommended approval.

6) Safety Performance Measures-Please find enclosed in the agenda packet a letter and information from WVDOH on the current progress on the State’s Highway Safety Performance measures. Please note that the Division of Highways is requesting that the MPO adopt the State’s targets for 2022-2024 shown on the enclosed tables. The TTAC and CAC have recommended approval of these goals. A copy of the adoption resolution was also included in the agenda packet. The Resolution most clearly states the goals the WVDOH is asking the Policy Board to adopt. Both the TTAC and CAC unanimously recommended approval of these goals. It is respectfully requested that the Policy Board approve these targets to the MPO Policy Board.

7) TIP Policy Amendment-This item carries over from the previous Policy Board meeting. Please find enclosed with the Agenda packet the Resolution adopting this amendment. The discussion of the proposal from the previous meeting’s agenda package is below.

Several years ago the WVDOH began using a process to administratively combine small projects into “pots” of money for an area (County, Region or District) that would preclude the need for an MPO to approve every small Federally funded project before it could begin. Many MPO’s around the State have approved the use of this process. Colloquially this process has been called “groupable projects.” The process streamlines WVDOH’s ability to accomplish small projects.

The way the process typically works is for the MPO Policy Board to approve a “budget” for a given project type and when the WVDOH begins a project of that type the MPO is informed that the project using a portion of those funds has been instigated. Examples of typical projects that could be considered for this process include small resurfacing projects, minor traffic operations projects such as pavement markings, shoulder improvements, fencing, skid treatments, and guard rails.

While the MPO Policy Board has been generally supportive of efforts to streamline the process, the WVDOH had not defined the criteria or project types that would be subject to “groupable projects.” It was the consensus of the Policy Board at that time the MMMPO would not authorize the use of “groupable projects” for our area until there were more clearly identifiable definitions of what projects would be “groupable.”

Since this process was last discussed with WVDOH they have adopted State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) and Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) guidelines which identifies the programs and types of

projects that would be able to be included in a “groupable project” pot of money. To be eligible to be grouped the projects must be less than \$10 million and they can be accomplished with the issuance of a Categorical Exclusion (CE) environmental document.

In addition to identifying the type of smaller projects that could be subject to “groupable projects” noted above the STIP Guidelines also identifies additional criteria when projects **cannot** be included as part of a “groupable projects” line item. The following list identifies those guidelines:

Ungrouped/Individually Listed Projects-These criteria identify projects are not to be “grouped”

-All regionally significant projects as defined by Title 23 CFR 450.104-These are large projects with large budgets.

-Any project that cannot meet CE guidelines or which cannot be exempt from air quality analysis...regardless of funding source

-Any project action as specified by 23 CFR 771.117 as listed below:

- An acquisition of more than a minor amount of ROW or that would result in any residential or non-residential displacement

- An action that needs a bridge permit from the Army Corp of Engineers

- A finding of adverse impact under the National Historic Preservation Act or likely to adversely impact threatened or endangered species under the Endangered Species Act.

- Construction of temporary access or the closure of existing roads, bridges, or ramps that result in major traffic disruptions

- Changes in access controls

- A floodplain encroachment

-Any project adding travel lanes to the transportation system

-Projects with the potential for significant environmental impacts (Environmental Assessments or Environmental Impact Statements)

-Any project for the construction of new roads and interchanges or adding pavement as part of the construction of a new roadway is ineligible for grouping.

-Any project for a new traffic signal regardless of cost in MPO counties are considered non-groupable.

-Any projects or project phases being processed initially using Advance Construction, as well as Advanced Construction conversions

-Any project likely to significantly affect regional travel during construction.

(Please note that some the expanded definition of these criteria were left out of this list for brevity. The complete list is available upon request.)

In general projects that do not meet the criteria noted above are considered “groupable”. **Under the WVDOH guidelines transit projects are considered groupable.**

Given that WVDOH has much more clearly defined the projects that are eligible to be grouped. It is respectfully recommended that the MPO amend its TIP Policy to incorporate groupable projects in our Transportation Improvement Program Public Involvement process. **If the MPO Policy Board were to take this action small**

projects that meet the criteria identified above and that are not separated out as noted could begin without Policy Board approval and the Policy Board would be notified of the project at the next regular meeting.

The TTAC recommended this change with one member voting against the change. The CAC unanimously recommended approval of this change to the TIP process. A copy of the Resolution adopting this change is included with the Agenda email.

8)-Metropolitan Transportation Plan Update-This item is informational only no action needs to be taken. Stantec has begun work on the Update of the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) to date they have reported the following progress:

- Completed summary review of previous plans/documents
- Launched online survey and interactive map through project website www.MMMPO2050.com and interim review of feedback to date we have received 260 responses to the Survey.
- Launched freight survey to targeted stakeholders
- Reviewed previous MTP/TIP list of committed projects
- Generated an initial draft of transportation revenue projections
- Synthesizing existing conditions data for summary, including crashes, traffic volume, transit service areas, demographics, and bike/ped facilities
- Coordinating series of focus group discussions with targeted stakeholders, facilitated eight stakeholders meetings to date
- Held a Public Symposium event on Thursday August 26th
- Held a Steering Committee meeting on September 28th.
- Distributed the Visual Preference Survey and completed the first Building Blocks exercise with technical staff.

Morgantown - Mon County Trans. Planning Org.
 Checking Account
 As of August 31, 2021

11:29 AM
 10/13/2021
 Accrual Basis

Type	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Clr	Split	Amount	Balance
								20,136.20
Depos	08/03/2021		City of Morgantown	Deposit	√	PL Funds Match (Local Match for	17,500.00	37,636.20
Check	08/12/2021	9353	Dominion Post		√	Public Notices	-166.13	37,470.07
Check	08/12/2021	9354	Public Employees Insurance Agency		√	Salary	-2,347.94	35,122.13
Check	08/12/2021	9355	Retiree Health Benefit Trust Fund		√	Salary	-348.00	34,774.13
Check	08/12/2021	9356	Service Plus		√	Accounting (Accounting Fees)	-119.35	34,654.78
Check	08/13/2021	5917	J. William B. Austin	Electronic Transfer	√	Salary	-2,381.84	32,272.94
Check	08/13/2021	5918	Jessica D. Shuey	Electronic Transfer	√	Salary	-1,211.18	31,061.76
Check	08/13/2021	5919	Jing Zhang	Electronic Transfer	√	Salary	-1,496.88	29,564.88
Check	08/13/2021	5920	ICMA. Retirement Corp		√	Salary	-2,190.19	27,374.69
Check	08/13/2021	941	IRS	Electronic Transfer	√	Salary	-1,573.50	25,801.19
Depos	08/23/2021		WVDOH	Deposit	√	PL Funds (Funds)	51,049.38	76,850.57
Depos	08/26/2021		Monongalia County	Deposit	√	Salary	2,480.23	79,330.80
Check	08/26/2021	9357	Centra Bank - Mastercard	\$169.23 training remainder software	√	Dues and Subscriptions	-243.04	79,087.76
Check	08/26/2021	9358	Fringe Benefits Management Co.		√	Salary	-1,033.70	78,054.06
Check	08/26/2021	9359	WV Board of Risk & Insurance Mgmt.		√	Administrative Overhead	-1,605.00	76,449.06
Check	08/30/2021	5921	J. William B. Austin	Electronic Transfer	√	Salary	-2,381.84	74,067.22
Check	08/30/2021	5922	Jessica D. Shuey	Electronic Transfer	√	Salary	-1,220.38	72,846.84
Check	08/30/2021	5923	Jing Zhang	Electronic Transfer	√	Salary	-1,496.87	71,349.97
Check	08/30/2021	5924	ICMA. Retirement Corp	Electronic Transfer	√	Salary	-2,190.19	69,159.78
Check	08/30/2021	941	IRS	Electronic Transfer	√	Salary	-1,573.52	67,586.26
Check	08/30/2021	08302	WV Dept of Tax and Revenue	Electronic Transfer	√	Salary	-626.00	<u>66,960.26</u>
								66,960.26

Total Centra-Checking (voucher checks)

TOTAL

Type	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Clr	Split	Amount	Balance
Centra-Checking (voucher checks)								
General	09/07/2021	15RRR	AMPO	Reverse of GJE 15RRRRR -- For CHK 9346 voided c	√	Dues and Subscriptions (Dues and S	422.10	66,960.26
Check	09/14/2021	9360	Encova Insurance		√	Insurance (Insurance)	-242.00	67,382.36
Check	09/14/2021	9364	Public Employees Insurance Agency		√	Salary	-2,347.94	67,140.36
Check	09/14/2021	9365	Retiree Health Benefit Trust Fund		√	Salary	-348.00	64,792.42
Check	09/14/2021	9366	Service Plus		√	Accounting (Accounting Fees)	-125.40	64,444.42
Check	09/14/2021	9367	WV Newspaper Publishing Co.	MTP Update Advertising	√	Administrative Overhead	-1,132.00	64,319.02
Check	09/14/2021	9368	Fringe Benefits Management Company	Nov, Jan, March	√	Salary	-3,119.58	63,187.02
Check	09/15/2021	5928	J. William B. Austin	Electronic Transfer	√	Salary	-2,381.84	60,067.44
Check	09/15/2021	5929	Jessica D. Shuey	Electronic Transfer	√	Salary	-1,213.48	57,685.60
Check	09/15/2021	5930	Jing Zhang	Electronic Transfer	√	Salary	-1,496.88	56,472.12
Check	09/15/2021	5931	ICMA. Retirement Corp		√	Salary	-2,190.19	54,975.24
Check	09/15/2021	941	IRS	Electronic Transfer	√	Salary	-1,573.50	52,785.05
Deposit	09/17/2021		WVDOH	Deposit August 2021	√	PL Funds (Funds)	19,592.84	51,211.55
Deposit	09/27/2021		City of Morgantown	Deposit	√	Local Gov't Membership Dues	7,217.68	70,804.39
Check	09/28/2021	9369	Centra Bank - Mastercard	Dues/Conference \$1098.76 Software \$260.05		Dues and Subscriptions	-1,358.81	78,022.07
Check	09/28/2021	9370	Cubic ITS Inc.	Software for intersection analysis		Computer Software	-389.00	76,663.26
Check	09/28/2021	9371	Fringe Benefits Management Company	September		Salary	-1,033.70	76,274.26
Check	09/28/2021	9372	Stantec Consulting Service	Transportation Plan Update		Consulting	-41,018.69	75,240.56
Deposit	09/29/2021		Monongalia County	Deposit Jessica Shuey	√	Salary	2,425.73	34,221.87
Check	09/30/2021	5935	J. William B. Austin	Electronic Transfer	√	Salary	-2,381.83	36,647.60
Check	09/30/2021	5936	Jessica D. Shuey	Electronic Transfer	√	Salary	-1,213.48	34,265.77
Check	09/30/2021	5937	Jing Zhang	Electronic Transfer	√	Salary	-1,496.88	33,052.29
Check	09/30/2021	5938	ICMA. Retirement Corp		√	Salary	-2,190.19	31,555.41
Check	09/30/2021	941	IRS	Electronic Transfer		Salary	-1,573.52	29,365.22
Check	09/30/2021	093921	WV Dept of Tax and Revenue			Salary	-626.00	27,791.70
Total Centra-Checking (voucher checks)								27,165.70

TOTAL



RESOLUTION 10-21-21-2

ADOPTION OF WVDOH HIGHWAY SAFETY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM PERFORMANCE MEASURES

WHEREAS, the Moving America Forward for Progress in the 21st Century and the Fixing Americas Surface Transportation Act establishes the requirement that State Departments of Transportation and Metropolitan Planning Organizations must establish performance measures within which States invest resources in projects that collectively will make progress toward national goals; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) established five performance measures for the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) within the National Performance Management Measures; HSIP; final (23CFR 490, Subpart B); and

WHEREAS, the Federal Highway Administration has established a vision for the nation's roads of zero fatalities on the nation's roads and;

WHEREAS, the Morgantown Monongalia MPO supports the FHWA's vision of zero fatalities and serious injuries for the nation's roads; and

WHEREAS, the Highway Safety Improvement Program is a key program for achieving the Federal Highway Administrations vision of zero fatalities; and

WHEREAS, the West Virginia Department of Transportation-Division of Highways (WVDOH) has established targets for the five performance measures for the year 2030 and whereas those goals are as follows:

- 1) Reduce five year average fatalities on highways by 50% by 2030
- 2) Reduce the five year average number of serious injuries on highways by 66% by 2030
- 3) Reduce the five year average fatality rate per hundred million miles of travel (HVMVT) by 50% by 2030
- 4) Reduce the five year average injury rate per hundred million of miles of travel (HVMVT) by 66% by 2030
- 5) Reduce the five year average of non-motorized fatalities and injuries:
 - a. Reduce fatalities by 50%
 - b. Reduce non-motorized serious injuries by 66% by 2030

And the WVDOH has established the following targets for the coming year:

- 1) Target 2018-2022 Traffic fatalities-262.1
- 2) Target 2018-2022 Number of serious injuries over a 5 year period 926.4
- 3) Target 2018-2022 Fatality Rate over a five year period 1,558
- 4) Target 2018-2022 Injury Rate over a five year period 5,634
- 5) Target Non-motorized fatalities and serious injuries (2018-2022) 80.9

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that the Morgantown Monongalia Metropolitan Planning Organization agrees to plan for and program projects to assist in achieving the HSIP targets established by WVDOH noted above.

ADOPTED, this 21st day of October 2021, at a regular meeting of the Morgantown Monongalia Metropolitan Planning Organization.

ATTEST:

Secretary to the Board



POLICY BOARD MEETING

August 19, 2021

City of Morgantown Council Chambers
389 Spruce Street. August 19, 2021, 6PM

Members Present:

Chair-Commissioner Tom Bloom, Vice-Chair Ron Justice-WVU, Treasurer-Mayor Patricia Lewis, Commissioner Jeffery Arnett-Monongalia County, Recorder Steven Blinco-Star City Mr. Brian Carr – WV DOH, Councilperson Dave Harshbarger-City of Morgantown, Councilperson Bill Kawecki-City of Morgantown, Mr. Mike Kelly-Board of Education, Mayor Jennifer Selin – City of Morgantown, Commissioner Sean Sikora-Monongalia County

MPO Director: Bill Austin, AICP

1. Call to Order

With a quorum present, Chairman Bloom called the meeting of the Morgantown Monongalia Metropolitan Planning Organization (MMMPO) Policy Board meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

2. Approval of Minutes

Chairman Bloom noted that the minutes for the last meeting are included in the agenda packet. Mr. Kelly moved to approve the minutes as presented; seconded by Mayor Lewis. With no further discussion, the motion was approved unanimously.

3. Public Comments

No public comments.

4. Committee Report

a. Citizens Advisory Committee

Mr. Austin noted that Christiaan Abildso, the Chairman of the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC), was not able to attend the meeting due to a schedule conflict. Mr. Austin noted that the CAC recommended approval of the TIP amendments and the TIP policy amendment.

b. Finance Report

Mayor Lewis briefed the Board on the financial report as the following:

At the beginning of May, the balance was \$38,687.24. The May expenditures were \$23,590.35 with three deposits totaling \$23,866.26, leaving a balance of \$38,963.15 at the end of May.

At the beginning of June, the balance was \$38,963.15. The expenditures were \$21,830.32, with one deposit totaling \$19,189.70, leaving a balance of \$36,322.53 at the end of June.

At the beginning of July, the balance was \$36,322.53. The expenditures were \$59,423.48, with three deposits totaling \$43,237.15, leaving a balance of \$20,136.20 at the end of July.

Mayor Lewis moved to approve the finance report as presented; seconded by Recorder Blinco. With no discussion, the motion was unanimously approved.

c. Executive Director Report

Mr. Austin noted that he has been assisting the County Commission with a broadband study. The study is to provide an analysis of needs and methods for increasing internet accessibility in Monongalia County.

Mr. Austin noted that the West Virginia MPO Association is planning a conference in May 2022.

Mr. Austin noted that the transportation bills that are currently considered in the Congress will have substantial impact to the operation of the MPO. Mr. Austin noted that he works with the Policy Committee of the national MPO association to keep track of the federal legislation on transportation planning policies and infrastructure investment.

Mr. Austin noted that the MPO is in the process of updating its Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). The consultant team has met a members of Mountain Line Transit's CAC and emergency response staff for their input on the plan update.

Mr. Austin expressed his appreciation to WAJR and Dominion Post for promoting the MTP update to the public.

Mr. Austin noted that currently the MPO is using a credit card that requires the MPO to pay administrative fees. The MPO will change to another credit card with no fees.

Mr. Austin noted that he will attend the National Conference of the Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations in the week of October 4th.

4. TIP Amendments

Mr. Austin noted that the West Virginia Division of Highway (WVDOH) has requested amendments to the MPO's Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The amendments include adding the Scott Run Rd-Fort Martin Rd project to FY2021, increasing funding for the Westover Bridge project, deleting the Mylan Park Bridge Approach project, deleting the I/S WV

100 and Dents Run Improvement project, deleting the Boyers Ave/US 19 Improvements project, and adding Pleasant St Streetscape project to FY2023.

Mayor Lewis noted that she has a concern over the proposed amendment to delete the Dent's Run intersection. Mayor Lewis suggested dividing the proposed amendments by fiscal year and voting for them separately. Chairman Bloom agreed.

Mr. Kelly moved to approve the amendments for FFY 2022; seconded by Mayor Selin. Without discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Selin moved to approve the amendments for FFY 2023; seconded by Councilperson Harshbarger. Councilman Kawecki asked about the scope of the Streetscape project on Pleasant St. Mr. Austin noted that it is from Spruce Street to University Ave. Without further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Councilman Kawecki moved to approve the amendment for the Beechurst Ave project; seconded by Mayor Lewis. Mayor Selin asked about the reason of cutting funds for the Beechurst Ave and asked if the project will be negatively impacted. Mr. Justice noted that the University has been working with the DOH to develop an alternative site plan that avoided right-of-way purchase by the DOH. The portion of funding that has been deleted was for right-of-way purchase, which is no longer needed. The funding decrease will have no impact on the project construction. With no further discussion, the motion unanimously passed.

Mayor Selin made a motion to vote on each amendment item in the FY2021 individually; seconded by Mr. Kelly. With no discussion, the motion unanimously passed.

Chairman Bloom noted that the first proposed amendment for FY2021 is adding Scott Run Rd-For Martin Rd project. There was no discussion on this project. The Board approved this amendment unanimously.

Chairman Bloom noted that the next proposed amendment for FY2021 is increasing funding for the Westover Bridge project. Councilman Kawecki noted that the City of Morgantown is planning to paint mural on the Westover Bridge. Mr. Austin noted that the City could coordinate with the DOH on this issue. Mr. Carr noted he will reach out to DOH District Office and identify a point of contact for this matter. There was no further discussion on this project. Mayor Selin moved to approve the amendment; seconded by Mr. Kelly. The motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Bloom noted that the next proposed amendment for FY2021 is deleting Mylan Park Bridge project. Commissioner Sikora asked about the location of the project. Mr. Austin noted that it is a small bridge northwest of the I-79 Exit 155. There was no further discussion on this project. Councilman Kawecki moved to approve the amendment; seconded by Mr. Kelly. The motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Bloom noted that the next proposed amendment for FY2021 is deleting the WV 100 and Dents Run Intersection Improvement project. Mr. Justice moved to reject the amendment; seconded by Mayor Lewis; Mayor Lewis noted that the intersection is dangerous for both vehicle drivers and pedestrians. She noted that the intersection has been used heavily by trailer trucks

and there is a very limited sight distance and turning radius. The intersection has been of a concern for the community for years. Mayor Lewis noted that it is understandable that the project is difficult, considering the potential cost of right-of-way purchase. Mr. Kelly agreed and noted that the turning movement at the intersection is extremely dangerous for all types of vehicles. The intersection causes travel hazards on daily basis. Mr. Kelly asked about the reason of deleting this project. Mr. Carr noted that the deletion is a miscommunication between the District Office and the Charleston Office. He noted that the intent of the District Office is to postpone the project. With no further discussion, the motion was passed. Mr. Carr abstained.

Chairman Bloom noted that the next proposed amendment for FY2021 is deleting Boyers Ave and US 19 Intersection improvements. Mr. Justice moved to approve the amendment; seconded by Mr. Kelly. Mr. Blinco asked if the intersection will be impacted by the I-79 Exit 155 Improvement project and if there is any plan to improve the intersection in the future. Mr. Carr noted that the reason of deleting the project is because the DOH is done installing the turn lane on Boyers Ave. The DOH need to evaluate the impact of I-79 Exit 155 project to this intersection. Mr. Austin noted that the MPO's MTP identified this intersection as a part of I-79 Exit155 Interchange improvement. With no further discussion, the motion unanimously passed.

Mr. Austin noted that the MPO will make several TIP administrative adjustments. The adjustments require no action from the Board.

Mayor Selin expressed her appreciation to the DOH for the programmed project on Burroughs Street. She noted that local residents have various concerns along Burroughs Street. Mr. Carr noted that the DOH is considering intersection at the intersection of Burrough Street and Collins Ferry Rd, as well as ADA ramps at appropriate locations.

Councilperson Kawecky asked about the status of Greenbag Rd. Chairman Bloom noted that the DOH is waiting for the final approval from FHWA. Mr. Austin noted that DOH has developed several mitigation strategies associated with the project. The project is currently under environmental impact review by FHWA. Mr. Austin noted that he will share with the board a link for the environment impact document for the project. Mr. Carr noted that DOH will start the engineering process as soon as the FHWA officially approves its preliminary design.

5. TIP Process Amendment

Mr. Austin noted that WVDOH has been using a process called "groupable projects" to administratively combine small projects into groups in order to streamline WVDOH's ability to accomplish small projects and to program TIP in a timely manner. The MPO's Policy Board has been generally supportive of these efforts, but did not authorize the use of "groupable projects" in the MPO's TIP policy, because the WVDOH had not defined the criteria or project types that would be subject to "groupable projects".

Since this process was last discussed in the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) update process, WVDOH drafted a guideline identifying the programs and types of projects that would be eligible for "groupable project". The guideline provides that to be eligible to be grouped, the projects must be less than \$10 million and they can be accomplished with the

issuance of a Categorical Exclusion (CE) environmental document. The guideline also identified the criteria for projects that are not to be “grouped”.

Mr. Austin noted that given that WVDOH has much more clearly defined the projects that are eligible to be grouped, the MPO staff recommended amending the TIP Policy to incorporate groupable projects in the MPO’s TIP.

Mr. Carr noted that the DOH is open to discuss with all MPOs to decide if a project should be groupable or not groupable. The purpose of the policy change is to expedite certain projects to avoid unnecessary administrative delay. Those projects are mainly maintenance projects such as bridge inspection, resurfacing, and slide repair. Projects that have significant local impact will always ungroupable, even it is less than \$10 million dollar. Mr. Carr noted that the \$10 million dollar is used as a threshold to catch all maintenance projects that may fall into groupable project category.

Commission Bloom suggested that the Board consider adopting the policy change by a resolution. Mr. Austin noted that he will prepare the resolution for the Board to review at the next meeting.

6. Status of Metropolitan Transportation Plan Update

Mr. Austin noted that the MPO will hold a virtual public forum on August 26. There will be two sessions. One starts at the noon; and the other at 5:30 PM. Mr. Austin noted that the event will officially kick off the public involvement process for the MTP update. Mr. Austin noted that the consultant has been reviewing existing plans and updating the travel demand model.

7. Request for Traffic Study-University Town Center

Mayor Lewis noted that the Town of Granville would like to request a traffic study at the Sesame Dr and University Town Centre Dr intersection. There has been a lot of traffic using Sesame Dr since the opening of Wendy’s and Chick-fill-A. Mayor Lewis noted that the intersection might be impacted by the modification of roundabout on the I-79 Exit 153.

Commissioner Sikora noted that there has been a lot of traffic coming in and out of Granville Square. It is worthwhile to assess the traffic condition at that intersection. Mr. Austin noted the MPO is capable of doing a warrant analysis on the intersection to verify if a traffic signal should be considered. The MPO staff can collect the data and run the warrant simulation in next few weeks.

Mayor Lewis asked if the software could do a corridor study, including the intersection at Walmart/WVU Medical Center driveway on University Town Centre Rd. Mr. Austin noted that the software can do multiple intersection analysis. The MPO can do analysis at both intersections.

Commissioner Sikora noted that there has been some traffic on University Town Centre Dr associated with the construction of a new store on the west side of the I-79. The store will have a soft opening in September and a grand opening in October. Mr. Austin noted that it is more desirable to do the data collection after the soft opening in September.

8. Other Business

Commissioner Bloom noted that the County Commission had a meeting with WVDOH regarding ongoing projects in the area, including Greenbag Rd and Mileground Rd. He noted that he will share the presentation material with the Board once it is available.

Mr. Carr noted that for the Mileground Road project, the right-of-way phase has been completed. The DOH has acquired all necessary parcels for the project. The construction has started, including drainage installation and utility relocation. Mr. Carr noted there will be some construction impact on Mileground Rd in the next few weeks.

Chairman Bloom noted that the I-79 Exit 155 Interchange Improvement project has been moving forward. Commissioner Sikora noted that currently the major challenge for the project is to coordinate utility upgrade and roadway upgrade. There has been a lot of progress on this project.

Mr. Carr noted the DOH's District Office for the MMMPO area has developed a list of various active projects in the area. Those projects are mainly low cost resurface and repair projects. He will share this information with the MMMPO.

Chairman Bloom noted that District Office will have a presentation to the County Commission on September 2, from 8 – 10 am. He would like to invite the Policy Board members to attend that meeting.

Mayor Selin noted that it is difficult for a pedestrian to cross the Greenbag Rd and WV7 intersection. She asked if DOH could do a pedestrian safety project at that intersection. Mr. Austin noted that since the MPO is updating its Metropolitan Transportation Plan, the community could raise this issue in the public involvement process. Mr. Austin encouraged community participation in the update. He noted that the residents can pass along their concerns through an online survey and an online interactive map.

Mr. Blinco noted that Chipps Hollow Rd near the Mon Blvd in Start City has been closed because of flooding. Mr. Blinco asked if there is any plan to address that issue. Mr. Austin noted that it needs to be identified whether the road is a state route. Mayor Selin noted that the damage on Chipps Hollow Rd is severe and asked if any disaster recovery funds from Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) could be used to repair that road. Commissioner Bloom agreed and noted that to qualify for emergency or recovery funds, the City needs to fill out certain forms on the FEMA website to assess if the condition meets the criteria set by FEMA.

9. Meeting Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:33 pm.



WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Division of Highways

1900 Kanawha Boulevard East • Building Five • Room 110
Charleston, West Virginia 25305-0430 • (304) 558-3505

Byrd E. White, III
Secretary of Transportation/
Commissioner of Highways

Jimmy Wriston, P. E.
Deputy Secretary/
Deputy Commissioner

August 12, 2021

**Morgantown Monongalia
Metropolitan Planning Organization
243 High Street
Room 110
Morgantown, West Virginia 26505**

Dear Sir/Madam:

The Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act requires that as a part of the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) state departments of transportation (DOT) must establish and report on safety performance targets for the following minimum five safety performance areas:

- **Number of fatalities;**
- **Number of serious injuries;**
- **Fatality rate per hundred million vehicle miles traveled (HMVMT);**
- **Serious Injury Rate per HMVMT; and**
- **Number of non-motorized fatalities and serious injuries.**

In compliance with the FAST Act, the West Virginia Department of Transportation officially approved the baseline safety performance targets for West Virginia and the methodology that would be used to determine future adjustments to them on June 23, 2017. Per the approved methodology, Traffic Engineering adjusted the safety performance targets in June of this year, and they are subsequently being reported in annual reports for both the Highway Safety Program (HSP) and the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP).

Additionally, the FAST Act requires state DOTs to share their established five safety performance targets with the State's Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs). The MPOs are given the flexibility of adopting the State's targets or establishing their own. As you will recall, Traffic Engineering previously met with the MPOs regarding the establishment of our baseline safety performance targets and the methodology that would be used to adjust these performance targets each year. In addition to the statewide safety performance targets, we then provided each MPO with data specific to their organization to enable them to select their targets should they elect to establish their own. As we provide

Morgantown Monongalia MPO
August 12, 2021
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each year, the annual updated statewide safety performance targets, and an annual update of data specific to your MPO are enclosed.

Should you have any additional questions regarding the established Safety Performance Measures, please do not hesitate to contact Marsha Mays of the Traffic Engineering Division.

Very Truly Yours,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY
Jimmy Wriston, P.E.

Jimmy Wriston, P. E.
**Deputy Secretary of Transportation/
Deputy Commissioner of Highways**

JW:CI

Enclosures

bcc: DT (CLC, DH, MKM), PR (CK), FHWA (JW, MC, DJ, CIS)

5. Number of non-motorized fatalities and serious injuries

Bike & Ped Fatalities & Serious Injuries	Goal	Safety Performance Target Year		2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
		Baseline for Safety Performance Target Year	2009-2013	2010-2014	2011-2015	2012-2016	2013-2017	2014-2018	2015-2019	2016-2020	2017-2021	2018-2022	
	5 Year Time Period		2009-2013	2010-2014	2011-2015	2012-2016	2013-2017	2014-2018	2015-2019	2016-2020	2017-2021	2018-2022	
	Actual Annual Number		7.8	6.4	6.2	5.4	3.8	4.4	4.6	4.0			
	Target to Reach Goal			7.5	6.2	6.0	5.2	3.7	4.2	4.4	3.9	3.7	
	Target Met/Not Met		Not Met	Met	Not Met	Met	Met	Not Met	Not Met	Met			
	Better than Baseline?		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes			
	Met or Made Significant Progress		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes			



RESOLUTION 10-21-21-3

**MORGANTOWN MONONGALIA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
REVISION OF THE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) PROCESS**

WHEREAS, USC 450.326 (h) provides that “projects not considered to be of appropriate scale for individual identification in a given program year may be grouped by function, work type, and/or geographic area”; to allow for the timely implementation of small projects for the benefit of the public and

WHEREAS, the West Virginia Department of Transportation (WVDOT) has developed and adopted State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) and Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Operating Guidelines (Guidelines) dated March 31, 2021 in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration and the West Virginia Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations; and

WHEREAS, the WVDOT STIP and TIP Operating Guidelines identify the criteria to be used for projects to be grouped in the STIP and Metropolitan Planning Organizations TIP’s; and

WHEREAS, the Policy Board of the Morgantown Monongalia Metropolitan Planning Organization wishes to ensure that small projects that do not materially affect the regional transportation network but which may improve the safety or the operation of the transportation network may be completed in a timely fashion; now

THEREFORE, the Policy Board of the Morgantown Monongalia Metropolitan Planning Organization amends its Public Involvement Policy to allow the area’s TIP to include “grouped projects” as identified in the Guidelines adopted March 31, 2021. Changes to the Guidelines for “grouped projects” will require a review of this Policy by the MMMPO’s Policy Board before they can be implemented in the TIP.

ADOPTED this 21st day of October 2021

Chairman

Secretary to the Board