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MINUTES

MPO Transportation Technical Advisory Meeting
Morgantown Airport Terminal Building 1st Floor
Morgantown Monongalia MPO Conference Room
Nov 10, 2015
1:30 PM

Members Present

Donny Williams-WV DOH, Dave Bruffy-MLTA, Fouad Shoukry-WV DOH, Chris Fletcher-City of Morgantown, Damien Davis-City of Morgantown, Rich Wood-Monongalia County Planning, Elwood Penn-WV DOH, Brian Carr-WV DOH, Bill Austin-MMMPO

Members Absent

Ron Snyder, Clement Solomon, James Meadows, Arlie Forman

Others Present

Jing Zhang-MMMPO
Lara Smith-Stahl Sheaffer Engineering

1. Call to Order

Mr. Austin called the meeting to order at 1:30 PM.

2. Approval of the Minutes

Mr. Austin noted that the minutes of the October meeting were included in the agenda packet. Mr. Fletcher moved to approve the minutes; seconded by Mr. Wood. With no discussion, the motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Austin noted that Mr. Shoukry will report the status of DOH projects at the beginning of this meeting. Mr. Shoukry noted that the park-and-ride parking lot at the cheat lake area is ready for public use. Mr. Bruffy noted that the Mountain Line will seek opportunities to install shelter at that parking lot.

Mr. Shoukry the noted that WVU is seeking to add an additional left turning lane at the Mountaineer Station parking lot driveway to the Van Voorhis Rd (WV 705). Mr. Shoukry noted that the parking lot has approximately 1, 500 parking space and it would be prudent to identify the traffic pattern at that intersection before a decision is made. Mr. Shoukry also noted that the traffic signal is not efficiently

coordinated on WV 705 from Van Voorhis Rd to Pineview Dr. He suggested re-timing the signal to improve traffic flow on that segment of WV 705.

Mr. Carr noted that the DOH is considering removing the WV 705 Plus-One project from the STIP due to the lack of feasible alternatives to improve that intersection. Mr. Austin noted that University Ave Complete Streets Study will provide improvement recommendations at that intersection. He suggested that DOH retain this project and consider the alternatives recommended by the Complete Streets study.

Mr. Fletcher asked about the traffic control plan for the 3-way intersection near the newly constructed Sheets gas station at the Downtown Morgantown. Mr. Shoukry noted that it might be necessary to conduct a study to understand the traffic pattern near that gas station.

3. Draft 2016 Meeting Schedule

Mr. Austin noted that the draft 2016 meeting schedule was enclosed in the meeting package. Mr. Austin noted that one meeting date that needs to deviate from the normal schedule is the TTAC meeting in November, due to the conflict with the election on November 8th. The November TTAC in 2016 will be on November 9th, Wednesday. Another conflict is on May 10, the May TTAC meeting and the County's election. Mr. Austin suggested to move the May TTAC meeting to May 11. Mr. Wood moved to recommend adoption of the draft 2016 meeting schedule to the Policy Board; seconded by Mr. Fletcher. With no discussion, the motion was unanimously approved.

4. Public Involvement Policy

Mr. Austin noted that the draft policy was released for public comment and will have completed the required 45 day comment period on November 14th. To date there have not been any substantive comments on the content of the draft policy. Mr. Wood moved to recommend adoption of the draft policy to the MPO's Policy Board pending any substantive comments that may be received from the Public; seconded by Mr. Fletcher. With no discussion, the motion was unanimously approved.

5. Review of information for new TIP

Mr. Austin noted that MPO staff has begun developing a draft TIP for FY 2016-2021. The draft plan is expected to be released to the public for a 30-day comment period no later than December 3 and be considered for adoption at the January MPO Policy Board meeting. Mr. Austin noted that the current TIP will expire in March 2016. Mr. Penn noted that the projects listed in the final 3 years of the draft TIP are for informational purposes only. Mr. Fletcher noted that it will be helpful to associate the LRTP goals with each TIP project and show that association in the table in the TIP

6. Update on University Avenue Complete Streets Study and I-79 Access Study

Mr. Austin noted that for the University Ave Complete Streets Study, initial recommendations to improve the University Corridor have been made by the consultant, based on the public input and the existing condition analysis. The recommendation will be reviewed by the steering committee and the public in the November-January timeframe. Mr. Fletcher noted that to improve Grumbein's Island, the frequency of

bus service should be identified and counted in the site design. Mr. Fletcher also noted that Grumbein's Island needs to have the capacity to accommodate fire trucks in emergency conditions.

Mr. Austin noted that the I-79 Access Study completed the data collection and traffic modeling stage and the consultant will host a public meeting on December 3rd at the MLTA Westover Administrative Building. The purpose of the meeting is to present the outcome of existing condition analysis and to solicit community opinions on traffic issues and concerns.

7. Update on Granville/Westover Pedestrian Study

Mr. Austin noted that MPO staff is in the process of collecting community inputs for the Westover-Granville Pedestrian Study. MPO staff will use findings from the public involvements, committee's opinion, and technical analysis to identify potential improvement projects. Identified projects will be evaluated in the next stage of this study.

8. Input on MPO Unified Planning Work Program for FY 2016-17

Mr. Austin noted that the MPO is seeking input to the MPO's Unified Planning Work Program for FY 2016-2017. In addition to administrative function items, MPO staff is proposing that they perform the update of the MPO's Long Range Transportation Plan as the primary in-house work program. Tasks will include soliciting public input on project priorities, improving freight planning, updating project status, and updating MPO's travel demand model. Mr. Fletcher noted that it might be beneficial to coordinate the MPO's LRTP update with the Morgantown's Comprehensive Plan update.

9. Other Business

Mr. Carr asked if there is a public access to the pedestrian bridge over University Ave, which is proposed by the housing redevelopment at the corner of Pleasant St and University Ave in the Downtown Morgantown. Mr. Fletcher noted that public access will be provided according to the site plan.

10. Meeting Adjournment

There being no further business. The meeting adjourned at 2: 45 PM.