



MINUTES
MPO Transportation Technical Committee Meeting
MMMPO Conference Room
243 High St. Room 110, Morgantown, WV
Nov 12, 2019, 1:30 PM

Members Present

Bill Austin, Andrew Gast-Bray, Chris Fletcher, Damien Davis, Latina Mayle, Brian Carr

Others Present

Jing Zhang

1. Call to Order

With a quorum present, Mr. Austin called the meeting of the TTAC to order at 1:45 PM.

2. Approval of the Minutes

Mr. Austin noted that the minutes of the last meeting were included in the agenda packet. Mr. Gast-Bray moved to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Mr. Davis. With no discussion, the motion was approved.

3. TIP Amendments

Mr. Austin noted that the WVDOH requested TIP Amendments, which include adding River Road Slide Repairs to FY 2020 TIP and deleting US 19 Beechurst Avenue-Campus Drive Intersection Project from FY 2020 TIP. The DOH has requested that a large number of projects be moved by Administrative Adjustment for the FY 2020. Two major projects to be adjusted are Van Voorhis Road GO Bound Project and Greenbag Road GO Bond Project.

Mr. Carr moved to recommend the TIP Amendments to the MPO's Policy Board; seconded by Mr. Gast-Bray. With no discussion, the motion was approved.

4. HSIP Performance Measures

Mr. Austin noted that the MPO is required to update the Highway Safety Improvement Program Goals each year. The FHWA has adopted a vision of zero deaths and serious injuries on the national transportation network as part of FHWA's Strategic Plan. MPO staff is commending that the MPO adopt the State of West Virginia's HSIP 2019 goals with the understanding that these goals are to work toward the vision of zero fatalities and serious injuries on the State's and the nation's transportation network. The State of West Virginia's goals for 2019 are included in the agenda package.

Besides the State's performance measure, MPO staff is developing its own measures including metrics and targets. MPO staff will come up with recommendations on the local performance measures early next spring.

Mr. Gast-Bray agreed and noted that it would be helpful to add more nuance to the metrics and targets reflecting national and local trends, and to consider wide-range of parameters that might affect the outcome of transportation investment in relation to the adopted performance measures.

Mr. Carr noted that performance measurement adopted by MPOs will not directly impact the DOH programming for TIP projects. The DOH will evaluate the conditions across the State in order to achieve the targets of performance measurement as a whole.

Mr. Davis moved to recommend the adoption of the USDOT's zero fatalities and zero serious injuries vision and the State of West Virginia's 2020 HSIP Goals as one step closer to achieving the vision; seconded by Mr. Carr. With no discussion, the motion was approved.

5. Adoption of Bicycle and Pedestrian Study

Mr. Austin noted that the MPO has been working on the Bicycle and Pedestrian Study for the past year. The Study has been vetted through a series of public meetings and presentations and is very comprehensive. Mr. Austin noted that included in the agenda package are the Study's Executive Summary and the prioritized list of projects by mode.

Mr. Carr noted that on page 11, the executive summary lists top 20 projects located along the state roadways or along the local roadway. He suggested adding a notation of pilot projects currently pursued by the city for immediate pedestrian safety improvement.

Mr. Carr moved to recommend adoption of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Study to the MPO's Policy Board with the suggested changes; seconded by Mr. Fletcher. With no discussion, the motion was approved.

6. 2020 MPO Calendar

Mr. Austin noted that the MPO's draft 2020 meeting calendar was included in the agenda package. Mr. Davis moved to recommend an adoption of the 2020 MPO Calendar to the MPO Policy Board; seconded by Mr. Fletcher. With no discussion, the motion was approved.

7. Update on Mountain Line Transit Study

Mr. Austin noted that the consultant will hold a kick-off meeting of the steering committee next week. Mayor Kawecki and Councilperson Selin are on the committee for the Study. The study is expected to move forward in the next year.

8. Requests for 2020-2021 Unified Planning Work Program

Mr. Austin noted that MPO staff is preparing a draft work program to present to the MPO Policy Board in January. Mr. Austin asked committee members for any work on transportation planning projects that the members' agency would like the MPO to perform in the upcoming year.

Mr. Austin noted that MPO staff is preparing for the MPO's Metropolitan Transportation Plan Update. The update will integrate the outcomes from the Pedestrian and Bicycle Study and the Medium-range Transit Study for the Mountain Line Transit. The update will focus on bringing the MPO's travel demand model up-to-date in order to identify or reconfirm highway improvement projects. It will also have emphasis extensive public involvement.

Mr. Austin noted that the MTP update is required to be completed by the Spring of 2022. The update process is to take about 18 months.

Mr. Fletcher noted that the City of Morgantown will be updating the City's Comprehensive Plan in the similar time-frame. It will be beneficial that the MPO and the City collaborate to update these plans. Mr. Fletcher also suggest partnership with the Westover, Granville, Star City, and the Monongalia County to take the advantage of economies of scale and to develop a consistent land-use and transportation plan throughout the region.

Mr. Austin agreed and noted that joint public involvement strategies are particularly effective. The past cooperation during the 2013 update of the MPO's Long Range Transportation Plan was a success. The MPO will seek to coordinate with the municipalities and the county when developing the work program for the update.

9. Meeting Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:25 PM.