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MINUTES

MPO Transportation Technical Advisory Meeting
Morgantown Airport Terminal Building 1st Floor
Morgantown Monongalia MPO Conference Room
June 7, 2016
1:30 PM

Members Present

Damien Davis-City of Morgantown, Brian Carr-WV DOH, Dave Bruffy-MLTA, Bill Austin-MMMPO, Rich Wood-Monongalia County Planning, John Whitmore-City of Morgantown, Arlie Forman-WVU

Members Absent

Ron Snyder, James Meadows, Donny Williams, Fouad Shoukry, Chris Fletcher, Scott Wright, Chandra Inglis Smith, Clement Solomon-WVU

Others Present

Jing Zhang-MMMPO

1. Call to Order

Mr. Austin called the meeting to order at 1:30 PM. Meeting attendees introduced themselves.

2. Approval of the Minutes

Mr. Austin noted that the minutes of the March meeting were included in the agenda packet.

Mr. Bruffy moved to approve the minutes; seconded by Mr. Wood. With no discussion, the motion was unanimously approved.

3. TIP Amendments

Mr. Austin noted that the Division of Highways has requested a TIP Amendment for a slide repair and resurfacing project near the intersection of River Road and DuPont Road. Mr. Wood asked if it is a project of emergency response, and how traffic will be impacted by the construction. Mr. Carr noted that it is not an emergency project. The traffic will be partly shut down during the construction due to the type of terrain adjacent to the project site. Mr. Wood moved to recommend approval of the TIP Amendment to the Policy Board; seconded by Mr. Bruffy. With no discussion, the motion was unanimously approved.

4. MPO Traffic Count Report

Mr. Austin noted that a draft Traffic Count Report of 2016 was included in the agenda package for review. The report contains detailed information for each count station, including directional volume, peak hours, and 24 hour traffic volume by 15 minute interval. MPO Staff will request 10 locations for recount this fall to insure the correctness of the data. Mr. Bruffy moved to accept the draft Traffic Count Report; seconded by Mr. Davis. With no discussion, the motion was unanimously approved.

5. UPWP Amendment

Mr. Austin noted that changing conditions have prompted MPO staff to request that the MPO amend two line items in the FY 2016-2017 Unified Planning Work Program. The first one is to include an additional \$212,500 in the Consulting Services Line item to fulfill the MPO's contractual obligation to our consultants.

Mr. Austin noted that this is a reschedule of funding with no change in the total cost of the contractual services. He noted that the MPO has the local match required for this amendment to the UPWP, no additional match will be required.

The second line item change is to revise the Health Insurance line item. MPO Staff originally projected that PEIA premiums would increase by 3%. Current discussions in Charleston indicate that the premiums may increase by 12% or more. MPO Staff recommends that this line item be increased by \$2,000 to anticipate any changes to PEIA premiums that may come forward. This change will not require an increase in local matching funds. Mr. Bruffy moved to recommend approval of the UPWP Amendment to the Policy Board; seconded by Mr. Davis. With no discussion, the motion was unanimously approved.

6. University Avenue Complete Streets Study Revision

Mr. Austin noted that the Policy Board requested MPO staff revise some parts of the Study to address comments received by the Policy Board. Mr. Bruffy noted that the Policy Board has suggested revisions of language regarding proposals at three locations. They are the Grumbein's Island, the Loop area, and the Beverly Ave area.

Mr. Carr noted this plan is essentially a concept and should not be reviewed as a final solution to solve the problems in the study area. Mr. Bruffy concurred. The plan provides a general guidance for future development and the final project-level solution will be decided by implementing agencies. He noted that the revised language helped to clarify that purpose. Mr. Davis noted that the city staff agrees with the revised language in the draft report.

7. I-79 Access Study Update

Mr. Austin noted that the MPO staff will meet the consultant and DOH staff in Charleston to discuss preliminary findings from the traffic analysis on the alternatives identified in the Study. Mr. Bruffy will join the meeting through Skype. Mr. Bruffy noted that including DOH staff in the discussion is constructive to the planning process. Mr. Carr asked about the purpose of that meeting. Mr. Austin noted that its purpose is to conduct a technical review of the potential impact of each alternatives and to identify preferred alternatives for further investigation.

8. Status Report on ongoing projects

Mr. Carr noted that the project on the intersection of Mileground Rd and Cheat Rd will be constructed next summer. The intersection will be closed for 3 weeks during its construction. The DOH has adopted an alternative to improve the intersection of WV 7 and Greenbag Rd. The construction is scheduled in Oct, 2017. Mr. Bruffy noted that the WVDOH should avoid constructing both projects at the same time. Mr. Wood concurred. Mr. Davis noted that city and WVDOH will be working on signal improvements next year. Mr. Bruffy noted that the MLTA is willing to work with the city on any signal changes that could improve transit service efficiency and safety.

Mr. Bruffy noted that the MLTA will enhance the level of transit service in the area west of I-79, including the Mylan Park and Morgantown Mall area. The improvements will include higher service frequency and extended operation time.

9. Meeting Adjournment

There being no further business. The meeting adjourned at 2: 21 PM.