



MINUTES

MMMPO Transportation Technical Advisory Committee Meeting

MMMPO Conference Room 243 High St. Room 110, Morgantown, WV

May12, 2020, 1:30 PM

Members Present

Bill Austin, Andrew Gast-Bray, Chris Fletcher, Damien Davis, Dave Bruffy, Chandra Inglis Smith

Others Present

John Whitmore, Jessica Shuey, Jing Zhang

1. Call to Order

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

Mr. Austin noted that due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the TTAC meeting was held as a teleconference. The phone number and web address to access the teleconference have been published to the public.

2. Approval of 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. Fletcher. With no discussion, the motion was approved.

3. TIP Amendment

Mr. Austin noted that WVDOH has requested TIP amendments. The WVDOH requested deleting the Deckers Creek Landslide Repair from FYY 2020 and adding the Cheat Road Resurfacing project, Campus Drive Widening project, and the I-79 Uffington Bridge Substructure Repair project to FYY 2020.

Mr. Austin noted that the Uffington Bridge project was accidentally left off from the original memo sent to the committee for review, but the project has been duly advertised in the newspaper and on the MMMPO's website.

Mr. Fletcher asked if the Uffington Bridge Repair amendment includes funding for all project phases. Mr. Austin noted it includes all phases from engineering to construction.

Mr. Bruffy moved to recommend approval of the TIP amendment to the MPO's Policy Board; seconded by Mr. Gast-Bray. With no discussion, the motion was unanimously approved.

4. Coordinate Human Services Transit Plan

Mr. Austin noted an updated Coordinated Human Service Transit Plan is included in the agenda package. Local human services transportation providers are required to update their Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan approximately every four years. The West Virginia Department of Transportation Public Transit Division has this task performed for each agency in the State through a consulting contract.

Mr. Austin noted that the draft Plan establishes goals and objectives for Mountain Line and the MMMPO to maintain and grow our human services transportation as well as alternative forms of transportation including the Van Pool program.

Mr. Bruffy noted that the plan adequately assessed local transportation needs and outlined goals and objectives for transportation service providers. He noted that the plan is required for the FTA's Section 5310 funding.

Mr. Fletcher moved to recommend approval of the plan to the MMMPO's Policy Board; seconded by Mr. Davis. Mr. Whitmore noted that private transportation service providers did not participate in the planning process. Mr. Bruffy noted that all participants are required to attend public hearings, which could be an obstacle for private providers to participate in the process. With no further discussion, the motion was unanimously approved.

5. Update on Mountain Line Transit Study

Mr. Austin noted that the study team held several meetings and work sessions to evaluate the demography and current transit service in the region. He noted that the team is waiting to confirm the next phases of public participation.

Mr. Bruffy noted that the Mountain Line is applying for a grant, which will enable the Mountain Line to amend the scope of the study to include identifying the use of modern technologies for transit service. Mr. Bruffy noted that the Mountain Line is interested in assessing the potential use of transit pass which is valid for all transit service in the area including those operated by WVU.

6. Update on Ongoing projects-WVDOH

Mr. Carr noted that the Mileground project has cleared right-of-way issues with utility companies. There are still a number of parcels going through the legal process. He noted that the WVDOH has to secure all right-of-way before it can start construction.

Mr. Carr noted the WVDOH staff is starting to return to work in office by phases. It is expected the WVDOH office will be back to regular operation by June 1st.

7. Other business:

Mr. Austin noted that the MMMPO staff is working with Dr. Lauri Andress on an AARP grant application for enhancing public participation of the underserved population in the area. Mr. Austin then noted that MMMPO staff is working on updating the MMMPO's Public Involvement Policy, adding virtual public involvement elements and enhanced graphics. The staff is also developing a MMMPO style

book. Mr. Austin noted that Ms. Shuey has added a chat function on the MMMPO's website to facilitate virtual public participation and enhanced the overall performance of MMMPO's website.

Mr. Davis noted that the owners of the property near the Grant Ave connector project agreed to work with the City to solve right-of-way issues.

Mr. Bruffy noted that as transit service is reduced due to the coronavirus, installing a one-way sidewalk on the Grant Ave connector to WVU Evansdale campus would greatly reduce the pedestrian density on the sidewalks on University Ave. This project could be qualified for COVID-19 grant.

10. Meeting Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:15 PM