



243 High St. Room 110
Morgantown WV, 26505
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MINUTES

MPO Transportation Technical Advisory Committee
MMMPO Conference Room
243 High St. Room 110, Morgantown, WV
January 8, 2019, 1:30 PM

Members Present

Bill Austin, Rich Wood, Brian Carr, Damien Davis, Dave Bruffy, Bill Oliver

Others Present

John Whitmore, Jing Zhang

1. Call to Order

With a quorum present, Mr. Austin called the meeting of the TTAC to order at 1:30 PM.

2. Approval of the Minutes

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

4. Draft FY 2019-2020 Work Program

Mr. Austin noted that the draft FY 2019-2020 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) was enclosed in the agenda package. Beside the Bicycle and Pedestrian Study and regular administrative duties, the draft UPWP includes adding a part-time employee who may be shared with Monongalia County. The initial work anticipated for this employee would be website maintenance, social media outreach, the development of an ongoing newsletter, and data collection and aggregation. Mr. Austin noted that the part-time employee will free up Jing Zhang's time so he can be more focused on transportation planning related tasks.

Mr. Carr noted that the proposed part-time employee was not noted in the budget table. He suggested adding some text to explain the budget increase for public involvement. Mr. Austin agreed and noted that the specific arrangement of the part-time employee has not been decided yet. So it was reflected in the overall budget, instead of under a line item. He noted that the UPWP will be amended once the employment is finalized.

5. HSIP Performance Measures

Mr. Austin noted that a memorandum on the WVDOH Highway Safety Improvement Program Performance Measures is included in the agenda package. The measures developed for 2019 and 2020 used the same methodology and metrics to develop new targets for performance of the West Virginia roadway network as last year. Policy Board adopt the metrics shown on the attached memorandum.

Mr. Austin noted that MPO staff will explore other types of performance measures and develop more customized measures for the area. Mr. Bruffy asked about performance measures for PRT. He noted that the Mountain Line is looking for some standards of performance measures for transit. Mr. Austin noted that he has requested clarification from the Federal Transit Administration and still waits for their response. Mr. Carr noted that the FHWA is concerned most about statewide goals and objectives. Local MPOs have the flexibility to develop their own measures. Mr. Austin noted that the ongoing pedestrian-bicycle plan will make recommendations on future data collection and performance measures for non-motorized vehicles.

Dr Bruffy moved to recommend approval of the proposed HSIP performance measures to the MPO's Policy Board; seconded by Mr. Davis. With no discussion, the motion was unanimously approved.

6. Draft Metropolitan Transportation Plan Performance Measures

Mr. Austin noted that in order to be in compliance with Federal Requirement the MTP fiscally constrained priority projects, our Tier One Projects, should reflect how the proposed projects address the MPO's adopted performance measures. MPO staff have taken a look at the MPO's tier one projects, and assigned appropriate performance measure to them. Mr. Carr noted that it will be useful to allocate a value to each project, which allows a sensible comparison among projects. He noted that that a numerical reference will be particularly helpful when there are competing projects under consideration. Mr. Bruffy agreed and noted that it could be a weighted index, so that projects can be ranked in a consistent way. Mr. Austin agreed and noted that MPO staff will develop a calculation method for an evaluation index, and refine it with the input from the committee and the public.

7. Update on Status of Bicycle and Pedestrian Study

Mr. Austin noted that the next steering committee for the study will be held on February 5th. The consultant is reaching out to the City, WVU Student Government Association and other stakeholders for interview and data collection. The location for the meeting is to be decided.

8. Other Business

Mr. Austin noted that MPO staff is involved several PIE studies in the area, including the West Run project, the Beechurst Ave project, the Van Voorhis Rd project, the I-79 Access project. All these projects are moving forward. Mr. Austin also noted that the DOH is developing the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). Federal regulations require that the state adopt the STIP by October 1, 2019 to be eligible to keep spending Federal Funds. Mr. Austin noted that he is working with the DOH to develop a public involvement plan for STIP. The DOH is expected to hold STIP public meeting in Morgantown in the near future. The MPO has received the definition of groupable projects from the state and is coordinating with other MPOs in the state to provide input on this matter.

9. Meeting Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:50 PM.