

# Northeastern Pennsylvania Metropolitan Planning Organization

*Transportation Programming for the Counties of: Carbon ✧ Monroe ✧ Pike ✧ Schuylkill*

## January 18, 2022 Technical Planning Committee

### Meeting Summary and Minutes

9:30 a.m.

#### Meeting Location:

Microsoft Teams Videoconference

#### Attendees:

David Alas\*  
David Bekisz\*  
Marie Bishop\*  
David Bodnar\*  
John Christy\*  
Steve Fisher  
Marta Gabriel  
Nathan Gerace  
Chuck Gould\*  
Micah Gursky  
Doyle Heffley\*  
Kathy Henderson  
Crystal Heshmat  
Peggy Howarth\*  
AJ Jordan\*  
Vanessa Koenigkramer\*  
Amanda Leindecker  
John Malinchok\*  
Christine Meinhart-Fritz\*

#### Organization:

PennDOT Central  
STS  
PennDOT District 4-0  
Carbon Co. Planning  
Mon. Co. Commissioner  
PennDOT District 4-0  
Sen. Toomey's Office  
Rep. Meuser's Office  
Chestnuthill Township  
St. Luke's Hospital  
State Representative  
CCEDC  
PennDOT Central  
MCTA  
CCCT/LANTA  
PennDOT District 5-0  
PennDOT District 5-0  
Sch. Planning Comm.  
Monroe Co. Planning

#### Attendees:

Mike Mrozinski\*  
Jim Mosca  
Carey Mullins  
John Petrini  
Alfred Picca  
Mike Rebert  
Rich Roman  
Jay Schectman  
Matt Smoker  
Brian Snyder\*  
Scott Vottero  
Selina Winchester  
Tom Yashinsky  
  
Alan Baranski  
Jeff Box  
Nettie Ginocchetti  
Kate McMahon  
Daniel Yelito

#### Organization:

Pike Co. Planning  
PennDOT Central  
PennDOT Central  
PennDOT District 4-0  
Urban Engineers  
PennDOT District 5-0  
PennDOT District 4-0  
Luzerne Co. Planning  
FHWA  
Pike Co. Planning  
PennDOT District 5-0  
Rep. Wild's Office  
Arro Consulting  
  
NEPA Alliance  
NEPA Alliance  
NEPA Alliance  
NEPA Alliance  
NEPA Alliance

\*Technical Committee members who voted at this meeting

#### **Summary of Actions Taken by the NEPA MPO Technical Planning Committee:**

During this meeting, the MPO Technical Committee voted on the following actions:

Action 1: Mr. Bodnar requested a motion from the Technical Committee to approve the minutes from the December 21, 2021 meeting. A motion was made by Ms. Howarth, seconded by Mr. Alas to approve the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

**Mr. Bodnar called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.**

#### **1) Business Items**

- a) Approval of minutes from the December 21, 2021 Business Meeting

Mr. Bodnar requested a motion from the Technical Committee to approve the minutes from the December 21, 2021 meeting. A motion was made by Ms. Howarth, seconded by Mr. Alas to approve the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

## 2) TIP Amendments and Administrative Actions

### a) District 4-0 and 5-0 2021-2024 TIP Amendments and Administrative Actions

Information was included in the meeting packet which highlighted administrative actions on the 2021 TIP for District 5-0. Ms. Koenigkramer highlighted actions for District 5-0.

Action 1- Columbia Street Arch Bridge- federalize in anticipation of earmark and align with anticipated need. 209 over Kettle Creek- increase to cover estimate plus YOE. Kunkletown Road over Princess Run- increase to cover estimate plus YOE. 209 over Swatara Creek- increase to cover estimate plus YOE. The sources are PA 309 Rehabilitation, SR 115-Effort Corridor Improvements, PA 611 Retaining Wall, Kellersville Historic Structures, Main Blvd over Trib of Catawissa Creek and NEPA Br. Preserve and Repair 8. Action 2- Environmental Impacts Resolution- increase for Delaware Watershed MS4 contract for constructed wetlands permit compliance and identifying future mitigation sites. The sources are SR 715/611 Intersection and the NEPA Highway and Bridge Line Item. Interstate Informational Item 1- I-80 Exit 308 Rehabilitation- non-participating costs for incorporated utility work and signal proprietary items under a separate agreement to account for the local/other share aspect of the overall estimate.

### b) Transit Amendments and Administrative Actions

Mr. Bekisz highlighted administrative actions for Schuylkill Transit System on the 2021 TIP.

Action 1- STS New Facility- reduce amounts in accordance with spending and carry forward to 2022.

Action 2- Small Transit Vehicles (2)- carry project forward to 2022. Action 3- Small Transit Vehicles (6)- carry project forward to 2022. Action 4- County Communication System- carry project forward to 2022. Mr. Bekisz stated that actions 2-4 are necessary due to vehicles and communications equipment being unavailable to purchase at this time.

## 3) Transportation Planning & Programs

### a) Current Project Status

Ms. Bishop provided an update on TA/MTF/ARC projects in District 4-0. Mr. Vottero provided an update on TA/MTF/ARC projects in District 5-0.

### b) 2023 TIP Development

Mr. Baranski stated that draft bridge and highway and transit TIPs were submitted to Central Office at the end of December. The draft TIPs included additional funding from the IIJA. NEPA also submitted draft versions of the narrative of the TIP project selection process and performance measures. Mr. Baranski stated that a meeting with Central Office will be held later this afternoon with NEPA staff and the districts to review the draft TIP documents. Additional parts of the TIP packages will be developed over the next few months and will be shared with the committee when they are available. Mr. Mosca stated that the TIP package involves a lot of information and a checklist has been developed to ensure everything is submitted. They will work with NEPA to make sure it is completed.

### c) NEPA MPO Planning Process Review Draft Report and Presentation

Mr. Baranski stated that since last spring, we have been engaged in a program review with Central Office and FHWA. It is similar to the certification review that the larger MPOs go through. All of the documents and processes of the MPO are reviewed. In October, we had a day long meeting to review all

of the information that was submitted by NEPA. A draft report was generated and it has been shared with the committee.

Mr. Mullins, Mr. Alas and Mr. Smoker provided a presentation to the committee about the program review. A copy is attached. They requested feedback from the committee for inclusion in the final version of the report. Comments are due to Mr. Alas or Mr. Smoker by February 4<sup>th</sup>. Once the report is finalized, it will be shared with the committee.

#### **4) Other Business**

Mr. Baranski stated that the Policy Board met on January 5<sup>th</sup> to take action on items that were recommended by the Technical Committee at the December meeting. The Policy Board approved the 2022-2024 UPWP. In addition, they approved the MOA for the transfer of funds for the multi-MPO freight plan. The Policy Board also took action to approve Michael Baker International as the consultant for the open-end agreement. The first project will be the update of the LRTP. We anticipate beginning discussions on the LRTP update at the February meeting.

Ms. McMahon stated that we are close to resubmitting the functional classification changes to Central Office. The spreadsheet has been updated and a revised conformity letter from District 4 has been received. An update of the mapping is underway and we expect to resubmit everything in the next week or two. Ms. McMahon also stated that we received information about the applications that were submitted to the PennDOT Multimodal Transportation Fund program. Applications were submitted from Carbon, Monroe and Schuylkill counties. None were submitted from Pike County. The review for MTF projects is less formal than the Transportation Alternatives Set Aside program. Ms. McMahon will share the applications with the county planners and ask for their comments.

#### **5) Adjournment**

There being no further business, the NEPA MPO Technical Planning Committee meeting adjourned at 10:40 a.m.