



SEDA-COG METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO) MEETING

Virtual Meeting
Friday, August 21, 2020
9:30 A.M.

MPO VOTING MEMBERS

Mark Colussy, Mifflin County
Katie de Silva, Clinton County
John DelVecchio, Union County
Lisa Dooley, Town of Bloomsburg
Michele Holman, rabbittransit
Lincoln Kaufman, Snyder County
Brad Kerstetter, Juniata County
Carey Mullins, PennDOT Central Office
Steve Phillips, SEDA-COG Board, Multi-Modal Interests
Jonathan Ranck, PennDOT District 3-0
Richard Ridgway, SEDA-COG Board At-Large Member
Vickie Rusnak, PennDOT District 2-0
Jim Saylor, SEDA-COG
Justin Skavery, Northumberland County
Eric Stahley, Columbia County

OTHER MPO MEMBERS

Jamie Lemon, FHWA-PA Division
Kristin Mulkerin, PennDOT Program Center
Sal Vitko, Lycoming County Planning/Williamsport MPO
Gerald Wertz, PennDOT District 3-0
Scott Williams, Lycoming County Planning/WATS MPO

GUESTS

John Breneman, Senator Jake Corman's Office
Leanne Doran, Michael Baker International, Inc.
Eileen Evert, Geisinger Health Plan
Brian Funkhouser, Michael Baker International, Inc.
Peter Herman
Robert Watts, McCormick Taylor
Steve Wilver, Larson Design Group

STAFF PRESENT

Kay Aikey, Program Assistant
Steve Herman, Transportation Planner
Don Kiel, Senior Principal Program Analyst
Katherine Lewis, Program Analyst, GIS
Jeff Stover, Transportation Program Chief

Call to Order

Mr. Saylor called the meeting to order at 9:34 a.m. Roll call was taken of MPO voting members, other MPO members, guests, and staff.

Public Forum

No comments were received from the general public.

Approval of the June 19, 2020 Meeting Minutes of the SEDA-COG MPO

Mr. Ridgway made a motion to approve the minutes from the June 19, 2020, MPO meeting; Mr. Phillips seconded the motion; motion carried.

TIP Administrative Modifications and Amendments

Mr. Saylor summarized the administrative actions for PennDOT District 2-0:

Mr. Kerstetter made a motion for the MPO to approve the TIP administrative actions as presented for PennDOT District 2-0; Ms. de Silva seconded the motion; motion carried.

Mr. Saylor summarized the administrative actions for PennDOT District 3-0:

Mr. DelVecchio made a motion for the MPO to approve the TIP administrative actions as presented for PennDOT District 3-0; Mr. Kaufman seconded the motion; motion carried.

Functional Classification Revisions

Ms. Lewis reviewed the map titled Industrial Park Road - Proposed Minor Collector included in the meeting packet. She stated that the functional classification of Industrial Park Road in Fermanagh/Walker Townships (Juniata County) was revised from local road to minor collector.

Mr. Kerstetter made a motion to approve the revision of the functional classification for Industrial Park Road as presented; Ms. Holman seconded the motion; motion carried.

Meeting Formats and COVID-19 Impacts

Mr. Herman reviewed the SEDA-COG MPO Meetings Survey that was completed by MPO members and provided in the meeting packet. The results summarized MPO member input on MPO meeting formats and COVID-19 impacts on their own office operations.

Other handouts provided in the meeting packet included:

- Letter from Governor Wolf outlining some of the issues and difficulties with COVID-19 and the lack of any federal CARES funding going for transportation infrastructure.
- Article from The Morning Call titled “With People Driving Less, PennDOT Puts Brakes on Some Road and Bridge Projects.”

Central Susquehanna Valley Transportation (CSVT) Project Status

Mr. Ranck provided the following update:

Northern Section (completion/opening anticipated in 2022)

River Bridge:

- The final concrete pour for the bridge deck was completed in early August.
- The major remaining work is the construction of parapets and median barrier (both are currently complete for roughly 1/3 of the bridge).
- PennDOT currently anticipates that the causeway will be removed in late fall/early winter and that the bridge contract will be wrapped up by the end of 2020.

Paving:

- In Northumberland County, concrete paving for 2020 will be completed in late August. At that point, the concrete pavement will be in place from the Chillisquaque Creek area to Ridge Road. Asphalt paving (binder course placement) for 2020 will begin in late August/early September.
- In Union County, access roads are currently being constructed in the area of the new interchange with Route 15 to accommodate paving operations next year.

Southern Section (completion/opening anticipated in 2027)

PennDOT continues to make good progress on the following major activities that must be completed prior to starting construction in 2022:

- Final Design – PennDOT continues to develop detailed plans for the various components of the project, such as drainage systems, stream culverts, bridges, geotechnical treatments, erosion control/stormwater management features, etc.
- Permitting – PennDOT is in the early stages of preparing applications for waterways/ Wetland and NPDES permits, which PennDOT anticipates submitting to the environmental agencies in late 2020.
- Utility Coordination – PennDOT continues to work with affected utility companies as they advance their designs for relocating facilities impacted by the project.
- ROW Acquisition – Acquisitions are moving forward (based on gap ROW plans) for the small number of parcels that will be entirely impacted. For the bulk of the project footprint, PennDOT anticipates finalizing the ROW plan and starting appraisals (to begin the acquisition process) in late 2020.

Also related to ROW acquisition, PennDOT recently requested approval from PA’s Agricultural Lands Condemnation Approval Board, also known as ALCAB, which has scheduled a virtual public

hearing on the project on August 26, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. A copy of the Department of Agriculture's public notice about the hearing was attached.

PennDOT Connects Project/Proposal Forms

Mr. Herman reviewed the following handouts included in the meeting packet:

- List of new start bridge projects and roadway projects on 2021 TIP for District 2-0 counties and Sample Proposal Form to be used for the PennDOT Connects process.

SEDA-COG staff will participate in PennDOT Connects system refresher training on September 3rd. Afterward, potential training could be discussed for MPO members that will be using the system to offer comments on the project/proposal forms.

Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Update

Mr. Saylor reviewed the following handouts provided in the meeting packet:

- Staff Activity Report of August 2020
- Letter to Ryan Emerson of PA Department of Community and Economic Development regarding the MTF Application, Northumberland County: T-798 Berks Road over South Branch of Roaring Creek Bridge Rehabilitation Project
- Letter of Support to Mark Colussy for the Pennsylvania Department of Health WalkWorks Grant Application by Mifflin County

Mr. Herman reviewed the following handouts provided in the meeting packet:

- Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Projects Status Update 2016 Funding Round
- Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Projects Status Update 2018 Funding Round

Ms. de Silva stated that the East Church Street Streetscape Project in the City of Lock Haven is in construction. The Renovo Borough study of sidewalk and curb enhancements has been completed. It was bid out in the spring of 2019 and then the completed study was used to apply for CFA multimodal funding (still awaiting a review decision).

- Central Susquehanna Valley Transportation (CSVT) Project Special Impact Study Factsheet

Mr. Saylor called for a 10-minute break at 10:32 a.m. Mr. Saylor continued the meeting at 10:42 a.m.

SEDA-COG Long Range Transportation Plan Update

Mr. Kiel provided a status report of progress on the Long Range Transportation Plan, 2021-2045 via PowerPoint.

Slides included:

- Project Steps and Latest Schedule:
- Main Project Development and Progress Areas
- Draft Project Lists Sources
- Project List Approach – “Viability Model” Approach
- Representative Asset Management Projects

- Representative Discretionary Projects
- Next 2-3 Months – What’s Coming Up?

Active Transportation Committee Update

Ms. Lewis provided the following update on the Active Transportation Committee:

- Several work group meetings have been occurring throughout the past couple of months.
- The Community Engagement and Outreach work group completed the safety decal for cars. A draft copy of the decal was provided in the meeting packet.
- There will be a virtual League of American Bicyclists Lunch and Learn Series coming up over the next two months. Each presentation will focus on either businesses, communities, or universities.
- The group will be working on project prioritization and LRTP project selection over the next couple of months. This may result in a couple of special meetings of the MSATC taking place to discuss the projects.
- The Connections work group is working on developing a local level of stress analysis to complement the state-owned road analysis from the Bike/Ped Plan.
- The Safety work group is working on analyzing road segments to highlight safety concerns in the region. They are also working with the Community Outreach and Engagement Work Group on a letter to police asking about bike/ped areas of concern that they notice in their travels.
- The next regularly scheduled committee meeting is November 18.

Member Forum

A copy of Items of Potential Interest for MPO Members as of August 2020 was provided in the meeting packet.

Adjournment

With there being no further comments, Mr. Saylor adjourned the meeting at 11:13 a.m. The next regular meeting of the MPO is scheduled for October 9, 2020.