



SEDA-COG METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO)
MEETING MINUTES
Hybrid Meeting
Friday, January 24, 2025
SEDA-COG, Lewisburg, PA
9:30 A.M.

MPO VOTING MEMBERS

John DelVecchio, Union County
Lisa Dooley, Town of Bloomsburg (via teleconference)
Stephen Gibson, Clinton County
Steve Herman, SEDA-COG
Lincoln Kaufman, Snyder County (via teleconference)
Brad Kerstetter, Juniata County
Chris King, PennDOT District 3-0 (via teleconference)
Greg Molter, Montour County
Mark Schultz, PennDOT District 2-0 (via teleconference)
Justin Skavery, Northumberland County (via teleconference)
Bob Stoudt, SEDA-COG Board, Multi-modal Interests (via teleconference)
Nathan Walker, PennDOT Central Office (via teleconference)

GUESTS

Justin Batiuk, PennDOT Central Office
John Breneman, Sen. Judy Ward's Office (via teleconference)
Frank Cavataio, PennDOT Central Office (via teleconference)
Brian Funkhouser, Michael Baker International
Joe Lyons, PennDOT District 3-0 (via teleconference)
Rob Manzella, Lackawanna-Luzerne MPO (via teleconference)
Dan Merk, STEP (via teleconference)
Eric Murnyack, PennDOT District 2-0 (via teleconference)
Jim Roman, PennDOT District 2-0 (via teleconference)
Morgan Ruziecki, Rockland Planning (via teleconference)
Craig Sattesahn, PennDOT District 2-0 (via teleconference)
Jesse Smith, Greenman-Pedersen Inc. (via teleconference)

STAFF

Tina Heintzelman, Program Assistant
Don Kiel, Senior Principal Program Analyst
Kristin McLaughlin, Principal Program Analyst

Call to Order

After it was determined that a quorum was present, Mr. Herman called the meeting to order at 9:34 a.m.

Public Forum

No comments were received from the public.

Approval of the November 22, 2024, Meeting Minutes of the SEDA-COG MPO

Mr. Molter made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 22, 2024, MPO meeting; Mr. Kerstetter seconded the motion; motion carried.

TIP Administrative Modifications and Amendments

Mr. Schultz summarized the TIP administrative modifications for PennDOT District 2-0.

Mr. King summarized the TIP amendment for PennDOT District 3-0 for the new paving project on page 15 of the packet.

Mr. Molter made a motion for the MPO to approve the TIP amendment as presented by District 3-0; Mr. DelVecchio seconded the motion; motion carried.

Mr. King summarized the TIP amendment for PennDOT District 3-0 for the new turning lane project on page 16 of the packet.

Mr. DelVecchio made a motion for the MPO to approve the TIP amendment as presented by District 3-0; Mr. Molter seconded the motion; motion carried.

Mr. King summarized the TIP amendment for PennDOT District 3-0 for the handrail and sidewalk project on Page 17 of the packet.

Mr. DelVecchio made a motion for the MPO to approve the TIP amendment as presented by District 3-0; Mr. Molter seconded the motion; motion carried.

Mr. King summarized the TIP administrative modifications for PennDOT District 3-0.

Mr. Molter asked what type of study was planned for the intersection of Routes 54 and 254 in Montour County. Mr. King said there are two bridges there that are approaching the end of their lifespan and hydraulic and traffic studies would be needed as the project will be very complicated from a design standpoint. He said it is still in its infancy and that there will be opportunities for local input into the study.

CSVT Project and SR 54 Safety Project Status Reports

Mr. King provided status reports on the CSVT and SR 54 projects.

CSVT Southern Section

Earthwork Contract: Work is substantially complete. The contractor is completing punchlist items. Contractor and PennDOT are working on the required final project documentation and final payments. Excavation, hauling and embankment construction are complete. The realignments of Park Road and Colonial Drive were completed last fall. Fisher Road has been opened to the new alignment with Park Road. The two roundabouts at Mill Road, App Road and Airport Road are fully open to traffic.

Structures Contract: The project is roughly 40% complete overall. Work is nearly complete on the bridge carrying CSVT over Grangers Road and the bridge carrying Cortland Drive over the Route 61 Connector. Beams have been set and the deck has been placed for the bridge carrying the Route 61 Connector over the ramps connecting to Routes 11/15. Placing of bridge barriers will be completed in the spring. For the bridge carrying CSVT over 11th Avenue, piers and abutments and beam setting are complete. Concrete deck placement will begin in the spring. The contractor is working on the abutments and piers for the bridge carrying CSVT over Stetler Avenue. Beam setting will be in the spring. Noise wall foundations north of Grangers Road are complete. The contractor is setting posts and panels and is continuing work on foundations for the noise wall along the 61 Connector. For the bridge that will carry CSVT over the 61 Connector, the contractor is working on construction of the MSE wall abutments. Work has begun for the bridge that will carry CSVT over Park Road. Work is just beginning for the bridge that will carry CSVT over Attig Road. Overall, construction of the 9 bridges and 4 noise walls included in this contract will be completed throughout 2024 and 2025.

Paving Contract: Final design and plan preparation are ongoing. Right-of-way acquisition is ongoing for the interchange areas, particularly CSVT's southernmost interchange with existing US 11/15 and US 522. Coordination with utility companies is continuing related to their facilities in the interchange areas. Preparation of permit applications is ongoing for the proposed work in the interchange areas. The contract is anticipated to be let in late 2025 or early 2026. The mainline CSVT Southern Section highway is anticipated to be opened to traffic in 2027. The PA 61 Connector is anticipated to be fully completed and opened to traffic in 2028.

Route 54 Safety Project

The bid opening for the project was held on Dec. 12, 2024, with New Enterprise being the lowest responsible bidder, with a bid of just under \$33 million, including engineering and inspection costs. The Notice to Proceed is scheduled for Jan. 27, 2025. Mr. King mentioned that he will pause on providing formal updates about this project at MPO meetings until there is substantive construction activity later in 2025.

Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Staff Activity Report

Mr. Herman highlighted items from the SEDA-COG MPO Staff Activity Report – January 2025 provided in the meeting packet.

Other handouts provided in the meeting packet included:

- 2025 SEDA-COG MPO Meeting Dates Tentative Work Plan
- Recently Accessed Highway Occupancy Permit Applications
- Recently Accessed Traffic Impact Study Scoping Applications

- Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Projects Status Update for 2018, 2021 and 2023 Funding Rounds
- SEDA-COG MPO Strategic Plan Progress Tracker

Central Region Regional Operations Plan Presentation

Frank Cavataio of PennDOT's Highway Safety and Traffic Operations Division shared a PowerPoint presentation on the Central Regional Operations Plan (ROP). He gave an overview of Transportation Systems Management & Operations (TSMO) and why it is important, how the ROP affects each region, what projects are on the current ROP, potential funding sources for TSMO projects, and next steps related to the ROP update.

The Central Region ROP update report should be completed by the end of February 2025 and used for programming TSMO projects. The application process for the next TSMO funding round will run from May to September and the awards should be announced by January 2026.

Mr. Herman asked if official action is needed from each of the planning partners on the ROP update. Mr. Cavataio said it is not required, but many planning partners do officially adopt it.

FFY 2024 Obligated Projects Report

Ms. McLaughlin said the MPO is required by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) to publish a list of the annual projects that were obligated. The list of projects from Oct. 1, 2023, to Sept. 30, 2024, has been published and shows 76 obligated projects worth \$136,460,679.

SEDA-COG Long-Range Transportation Plan Update

Mr. Funkhouser delivered a PowerPoint presentation that highlighted activities related to developing the 2050 Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). He said the stakeholder interviews are complete, and the project team will work on using the information gathered to identify action strategies needed for the plan.

Ms. Ruziecki demonstrated the Public Survey Web Map that was created to visualize the public input received from the MetroQuest survey conducted in fall 2024.

Mr. Funkhouser said the next steps include a second steering committee meeting, the development of background profiles and strategic directions, a review of functional classification, a revenue forecast, and a review of the State Transportation Commission survey results.

NEVI Community Charging Program and EV Charging Stations Update

Mr. Kiel said there is a lot of uncertainty with the NEVI Community Charging Program at this time. However, over the next few months, MPO staff plan to survey the public for collecting input about EV charging station uses and potential new charging station locations. Staff also expect to organize up to two public workshops for community outreach and to inform EV charging station recommendations to be submitted to PennDOT.

Mr. Molter asked if there were funds obligated to the program that can't disappear. Mr. Kiel said he is unsure at this moment. Mr. Herman said the assumption is that formula funds for EV charging

station use will be secure, but timelines and focus areas for the discretionary grant programs might be significantly revised.

Local Bridge Prioritization Process for 2027 TIP Update

Mr. Herman delivered a PowerPoint presentation to review the process and timeline for prioritizing local bridge projects for the 2027 Transportation Improvement Program.

Active Transportation Committee Update

Mr. Herman provided an update on the Active Transportation Committee. He that SEDA-COG is still in the process of replacing Bryce Buck as GIS Analyst and MSATC lead. The next full committee meeting will be on Feb. 12, 2025. The Steering Work Group will meet on March 12 and the Outreach and Implementation Work Groups will meet in early April.

Member Forum

The following handout was provided in the meeting packet:

- Items of Potential Interest to MPO Members as of January 2025

Mr. Breneman mentioned that Sen. Judy Ward is the new chair of the PA Senate Transportation Committee. Nolan Ritchie, the former executive director of that committee, has joined Sen. Ward's office and he would be the point of contact.

Adjournment

With there being no further comments, Mr. Herman adjourned the meeting at 11:30 a.m. with a motion from Mr. Molter; Mr. Kerstetter seconded the motion; motion carried. The next regular meeting of the MPO is scheduled for March 28, 2025.