



**SEDA-COG METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO)**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**Hybrid Meeting**  
**Friday, June 14, 2024**  
**SEDA-COG, Lewisburg, PA**  
**9:30 A.M.**

**MPO VOTING MEMBERS**

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

**GUESTS**

Justin Batiuk, PennDOT Central Office  
Keith Chase, Gannett Fleming (via teleconference)  
Gabrielle DaSilva, Michael Baker International (via teleconference)  
Gini Feigles-Kaar, Dewberry Engineers (via teleconference)  
Brian Funkhouser, Michael Baker International (via teleconference)  
Jeff Iseman, PA SILC/PA Transportation Alliance (via teleconference)  
Nicki Jacobs, Greenman-Peterman LLC (via teleconference)  
David Juba, rabbittransit (via teleconference)  
Rob Manzella, Lackawanna-Luzerne MPO (via teleconference)  
Eric Murnyack, PennDOT District 2-0 (via teleconference)  
Gene Porochniak, FHWA (via teleconference)  
Thomas Prestash, PennDOT District 2-0 (via teleconference)  
Craig Sattesehn, PennDOT District 2-0 (via teleconference)  
Dan Szekeres, Michael Baker International (via teleconference)

**STAFF**

Bryce Buck, Program Analyst  
Tina Heintzelman, Program Assistant  
Frankie Hockenbrocht, Community Services (via teleconference)  
Don Kiel, Senior Principal Program Analyst  
Kristin McLaughlin, Principal Program Analyst  
Geralee Zeigler, Flood Resiliency (via teleconference)

## **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.

## **Approval of the April 5, 2024, Meeting Minutes of the SEDA-COG MPO**

***Mr. Kerstetter made a motion to approve the minutes from the April 5, 2024, MPO meeting; Mr. Molter seconded the motion; motion carried.***

## **TIP Administrative Modifications and Amendments**

Mr. Schultz summarized the TIP amendment for PennDOT District 2-0 for the bridge project on page 9 of the packet.

***Mr. Kerstetter made a motion for the MPO to approve the amendment as presented for PennDOT District 2-0; Mr. Kaufman seconded the motion; motion carried.***

Mr. Schultz summarized the TIP amendment for PennDOT District 2-0 for the bridge project on page 10 of the packet.

***Mr. Kerstetter made a motion for the MPO to approve the amendment as presented for PennDOT District 2-0; Mr. Molter seconded the motion; motion carried.***

Mr. Schultz summarized the TIP amendment for PennDOT District 2-0 for the highway restoration project on page 11 of the packet.

***Mr. Kerstetter made a motion for the MPO to approve the amendment as presented for PennDOT District 2-0; Mr. Kaufman seconded the motion; motion carried.***

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

***Mr. Kerstetter made a motion for the MPO to approve the TIP administrative modifications as presented for PennDOT District 2-0; Mr. Molter seconded the motion; motion carried.***

Mr. King summarized the TIP amendment for PennDOT District 3-0 for the state routes 54 and 642 intersection improvement project on page 21 of the packet. Part of the project's cost increase will be met by the regional SEDA-COG TIP and the remainder will come from statewide funds.

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

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

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

## **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:** The work is 75% complete overall. Excavation, hauling, and embankment construction are ongoing. The earthwork operations are anticipated to be completed this summer. The realignment of Park Road and Colonial Drive was completed last fall. Fisher Road is currently closed and being realigned to its new intersection with Park Road. New Fisher Road is anticipated to be completed and opened later this month. The two roundabouts at Mill Road, App Road, and Airport Road are fully open to traffic.

**Structures Contract:** Construction of the piers for the bridge carrying CSVT over Grangers Road is complete and the abutments are almost complete. Beam setting is scheduled for July 2024. Foundation construction is nearly complete for the bridge carrying the Cortland Drive Connector over the Route 61 Connector and for the bridge carrying the Route 61 Connector over ramps connecting to Routes 11/15. Beam setting is scheduled for August 2024. Foundation construction is complete for the bridge carrying CSVT over 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue, with work on the piers and abutments ongoing. Construction of the nine bridges and four noise walls included in this contract will be completed throughout 2024 and 2025. Noise barrier construction is scheduled to begin with the drilling of foundations, but posts and panels are not scheduled to be installed yet.

**Paving Contract:** Final design and plans preparation are ongoing. The right-of-way acquisition plan is just about completed for the interchange areas. Coordination is underway with local utility companies related to their facilities in the interchange areas. Initial preparation of permit applications is underway for the proposed work in the interchange areas. The contract is expected to be let in late 2025 or early 2026. The mainline CSVT Southern Section is expected to be opened to traffic in 2027. The Route 61 Connector is anticipated to be fully completed and opened to traffic in 2028.

### **Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Update**

Mr. Herman highlighted items from the SEDA-COG MPO Staff Activity Report – June 2024 provided in the meeting packet.

Other handouts provided in the meeting packet included:

- Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Projects Status Update for 2018, 2021, and 2023 Funding Rounds
- Recently Accessed Highway Occupancy Permit Applications
- Recently Accessed Traffic Impact Study Scoping Applications

Mr. Kiel highlighted some of the activity for LTAP. He said more classes are being held in member counties. There are 4 new classes that are in various stages of development but are available for requesting: Drones: Municipal Transportation Uses, GIS Basics, School Transportation Management, and Trucks on Local Roads: Issues and Solutions.

Ms. McLaughlin mentioned she is following up with people to serve on a steering committee for the LRTP update, with the first committee meeting likely for August 2024. She also mentioned roadway safety reviews for PennDOT District 2-0 and District 3-0 counties are scheduled for the fall, with

dates set but not locations. County MPO members are encouraged to attend and share their comments.

### **SEDA-COG MPO Self-Certification Resolution**

Mr. Herman explained the self-certification process and reviewed the resolution included in the meeting packet. This is a normal step taken every two years before the TIP adoption to certify that the MPO's planning process is compliant with all applicable federal transportation planning regulations.

***Mr. Stoudt made a motion for the MPO to adopt the Self-Certification resolution; Mr. Kaufman seconded the motion; motion carried.***

### **2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Adoption**

Ms. McLaughlin outlined the public comment period activities for the Draft 2025-2028 TIP. She mentioned that one public comment was received from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service about coordinating with them during the project development process. There were no comments or suggestions at the public comment meeting held on May 6.

***Mr. Kerstetter made a motion for the MPO to adopt the 2025-2028 TIP and approve submission of all the TIP documents to PennDOT; Mr. DeVecchio seconded the motion; motion carried.***

### **SEDA-COG MPO Complete Streets Policy Approval**

Ms. McLaughlin discussed the finalized Complete Streets Policy, developed by Gannett Fleming in accordance with the Smart Growth America Complete Streets Policy framework. The policy outlines the goals and principles the MPO will use to provide a safe and integrated transportation system in the region, considering all users. The checklist and exception forms are the implementation arm of the policy and will apply to new construction projects, resurfacing and reconstruction activities that use state or federal funds through the TIP.

Mr. Stahley expressed concern about adding another set of forms to fill out and review to advance TIP projects.

***Mr. Kaufman made a motion to adopt the MPO Complete Streets Policy; Mr. Molter seconded the motion; Mr. Stahley voted nay; motion carried.***

### **SEDA-COG MPO Strategic Plan Approval**

Mr. Kiel discussed the process of creating the Strategic Plan with the help of Gannett Fleming. He said a strategic plan is not required by any level of government but is something the SEDA-COG MPO wants to continue doing. It is intended to give practical guidance for some implementation actions. There are 13 objectives and approximately 50 initiatives that will be pursued. He then asked Mr. Chase to present the MPO Strategic Plan from Gannett Fleming's perspective.

Mr. Kaufman emphasized the needs of the Plain Sect community within the region and asked if those needs could be called out on page 11 of the Strategic Plan, under Objective A for the System Condition and Modernization priority area. The MPO members agreed to this insertion of Plain Sect community needs for Objective A.

***Mr. Kaufman made a motion for the MPO to adopt the MPO Strategic Plan with the modification mentioning the Plain Sect communities in the plan; Mr. Kerstetter seconded the motion; motion carried.***

### **Electric Vehicle Charging Stations Study Update**

Mr. Kiel mentioned that Michael Baker International is close to being able to present the final Electric Vehicle Charging Stations Study document. He said recommendations for charging station locations have been based on site visits made a couple weeks ago and on certain evaluation factors that Michael Baker has been using. He said it is not too late to look at other sites for charging stations. Associates from Michael Baker presented an overview of the plan. Brian Funkhouser provided a general update. Mr. Szekeres presented the mapping data, gap analysis and project web map that were developed. Ms. DaSilva gave an overview assessment from the site visits that were completed.

### **Active Transportation Committee Update**

Mr. Buck provided an update on the Active Transportation Committee. He said the 2023-24 Pedestrian Counts Program cycle is set to end in September. There are 6 trail traffic counters in the area: two at Lock Haven Riverwalk and four on the Bald Eagle Valley Trail. He said the two new Eco-Counter units should be deployed in September in Columbia and Montour counties. He also mentioned that Dr. Michelle Beiler is seeking to publish a “Research Pays Off” article about SEDA-COG MPO’s count program in a national monthly magazine. He reminded members they have until the end of the month to complete the survey about their interest in Active Transportation Committee work groups. The next Committee meeting will be from 2 to 4 p.m. on Aug. 21.

### **Member Forum**

The following handout was provided in the meeting packet:

- Items of Potential Interest to MPO Members as of June 2024

Mr. Iseman said that state budget negotiations are continuing and that the additional funding for public transit is still in discussion. He said PA House Bill 2218, which addresses some of the concerns stakeholder groups have brought about the e-scooter program, is stalled. He also mentioned that Congress recently passed the Federal Aviation Administration Reauthorization Act. This act includes provisions for ADA accessibility in boarding and deplaning aircraft.

### **Adjournment**

With there being no further comments, Mr. Herman adjourned the meeting at 11:45 a.m. with a motion from Mr. Molter; Mr. Stoudt seconded the motion; motion carried. The next regular meeting of the MPO is scheduled for Aug. 9, 2024.