



**SEDA-COG METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO) MEETING**  
**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2019**  
**SEDA-COG**  
**LEWISBURG, PA**  
**9:30 A.M.**

**MPO VOTING MEMBERS**

Katie de Silva, Clinton County  
Lisa Dooley, Town of Bloomsburg (via teleconference)  
Bill Gomes, Mifflin County  
Lincoln Kaufman, Snyder County  
Brad Kerstetter, Juniata County  
Jack Kytte, Borough of Berwick  
Shawn McLaughlin, Union County  
Greg Molter, Montour County  
Carey Mullins, PennDOT Central Office  
Steve Phillips, SEDA-COG Board, Multi-Modal Interests  
Jonathan Ranck, PennDOT District 3-0  
Vickie Rusnak, PennDOT District 2-0  
Jim Saylor, SEDA-COG  
Justin Skavery, Northumberland County  
Eric Stahley, Columbia County

**OTHER MPO MEMBERS**

John Lavelle, Lycoming County Planning  
Tom Zurat, PennDOT District 2-0

**GUESTS**

David Bostian, PennDOT District 3-0  
Robert McQuillan, LIFE Geisinger  
Nicholas Nelms, PennDOT District 3-0  
S. Aykan Ozeler, PennDOT District 3-0  
Catherin Reuther, Peters Consultants  
Damien Scoblink, Borough of Berwick  
Sal Vitko, Lycoming County Planning

**STAFF PRESENT**

Kay Aikey, Program Assistant  
Steve Herman, Transportation Planner  
Katherine Lewis, GIS  
Jeff Stover, Transportation Program Chief

**OTHER SEDA-COG STAFF**

Betsy Lockwood, Economic Development

### **Call to Order**

Mr. Saylor called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. Introduction of MPO members, guests and staff present.

### **Public Forum**

No comments were received from the general public.

Mr. Saylor congratulated Mr. Gomes on his retirement from the MPO and presented him with a certificate of appreciation recognizing his long-standing service to the MPO.

Mr. Saylor noted that Karen Michael from PennDOT District 2-0 who has been at the MPO meetings in the past is nearing her retirement at the end of January. Memories of her cookies live on.

### **Approval of the September 20, 2019 Meeting Minutes of the SEDA-COG MPO**

*Mr. Kaufman made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 20, 2019, MPO meeting; Mr. Molter seconded the motion; motion carried.*

### **TIP Administrative Modifications and Amendments**

*Mr. Mullins made a motion to approve the TIP administrative actions for PennDOT District 2-0; Ms. de Silva seconded the motion; motion carried.*

*Mr. Molter made a motion to approve the TIP administrative actions for PennDOT District 3-0; Mr. Stahley seconded the motion; motion carried.*

Ms. Lockwood discussed two ARC Local Access Road projects:

#### Expansion of Commerce Drive (Mifflin County)

Ms. Lockwood stated that staff is requesting the expansion of Commerce Drive, Armagh Township, Mifflin County be added to the TIP. This is an application for the ARC Local Access Road funding in the amount of \$560,000. This project involves the construction of 1,300 linear feet for the expansion of Commerce Drive through the Armagh Business Center to complete the roadway loop and connect it back to Old US Highway 322. The Armagh Business Center is located directly off the Milroy exit of US Highway 322. This project will eliminate the existing cul-de-sac at Lerch RV Center at the end of Phase One and extend Commerce Drive out through Phase 2, opening up about 26 acres for manufacturing and commercial development.

MCS Bank is constructing a \$2.5 million 12,300 sq. ft. building to house the corporate offices and will employ 24-32 people at the site which includes 4 new jobs. They are also developing the additional acreage at that site and have had several inquiries to date.

Additionally, Lerch RV plans on expanding by building an additional service bay and parking area for recreational vehicles and will create 12-20 jobs.

It is estimated that this project will lead to a total of 200 new jobs as Phase 2 of the Business Park becomes available to new manufacturing and commercial companies.

***Mr. Gomes made a motion for the MPO to add this project to the list of projects pending funding; Mr. Phillips seconded the motion; motion carried.***

#### Marsh Road Construction Project

Ms. Lockwood stated that Marsh Road is located in the Borough of Milton, Northumberland County. This project involves road construction, including earthwork and storm water management, of .85-mile (4,500 linear feet) access road that will serve a 145-acre parcel of land that is zoned industrial and is designated as a Keystone Opportunity Zone in the Milton Area Industrial Park. This project would not only enhance the probability of future growth in the industrial park area, it would also promote growth of current industries. Both Watsontown Trucking Company and Patton Warehousing and Service Center are expanding in that area. It is also going to promote safety and considerable energy savings and current trucking costs. Currently, the trucks need to go through a residential area in order to get to Route 147. With the construction of Marsh Road, the trucks would be able to go straight out from Housels Run Road to Industrial Park Road and then to Route 147.

This project was awarded Multi-Modal funding, and the ARC local access road funding would essentially close the funding gap.

This project is not as far along as the Commerce Drive project. Staff has been meeting with PennDOT District 3-0 and working off of construction cost estimates that were from 2010 and updated with today's costs, but there will need to be some preliminary engineering and other work that needs to be done until the final designs are received.

Ms. Lockwood stated she is hoping to bring this project to the MPO at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

The application to ARC is due now and the application will be submitted, while indicating that it will be considered by the MPO in 2020.

Ms. de Silva asked if the two projects (Commerce Drive and Marsh Road) are in competition with each other. Ms. Lockwood replied that they are, but both were invited for ARC applications.

Ms. Lockwood stated that Marsh Road was the number one ARC project but needed to wait until multi-modal was approved before it was submitted to ARC. Expansion Drive was the number two project.

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

- Summary of Transportation Projects in the SEDA-COG Region Approved for TIP Addition Pending Available Funding/Actions by Other Parties.
- SEDA-COG MPO TIP Local Project Tracking.
- SEDA-COG MPO TIP Project Updates.
- Requests to Add Projects to the SEDA-COG MPO TIP.
- Updated simplified project listing from the TIP – Project Summary.

## **Central Susquehanna Valley Transportation Project Status**

Mr. Ranck provided the following update:

Mr. Ranck stated that basically construction operations are shutting down due to the winter season approaching. The beams on the bridge have been set and much of the deck panning has been set and concrete has been poured. The paving has shut down weather permitting. Still on track for the Northern Section being done and opened to traffic in 2022. The Southern Section is moving along for final design with obtaining clearances and right-of-way. Still on track for a late summer/early fall 2021 let date for the first southern contract.

More information is available at <http://www.csvt.com/>

## **SEDA-COG MPO 2020 Meeting Dates**

The proposed SEDA-COG MPO 2020 Meeting Dates were included in the meeting packet.

***Mr. Stahley made a motion to accept the 2020 meeting dates and times as presented; Mr. Kytte seconded the motion; motion carried.***

## **Election of MPO Officers and Member Reappointments**

Mr. Saylor stated that the terms for the three members of the MPO appointed by the SEDA-COG Board includes Ms. Holman, Mr. Ridgway and Mr. Phillips. Their term is up at the end of December 2019. It is the decision of the SEDA-COG Board who they appoint to the MPO. Staff has pulled together a recommendation that they reappoint the current members. This is being submitted for consideration at the SEDA-COG Board Meeting on December 4, 2019.

Mr. Saylor stated that there are two officers for the SEDA-COG MPO – a Chair, currently served by SEDA-COG staff (Jim Saylor) and Vice-Chair, currently served by PennDOT Central Office (Carey Mullins). The MPO by-laws are written to entertain elections at the last MPO meeting of each calendar year. No action is required if the consensus is to continue to operate as currently.

***Mr. Phillips made a motion for the MPO to retain the existing officers – Chair, Jim Saylor and Vice-Chair, Carey Mullins; Mr. Ranck seconded the motion; motion carried.***

## **FY 2020-22 Unified Planning Work Program Approval and Resolution**

Mr. Saylor summarized the changes to the FY 2020-22 UPWP since the September MPO Meeting. This is an outline of what staff is going to be doing from July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2022. There have been some minor changes to the budgets and some minor changes outlining the approach to the long-range transportation update since the last MPO meeting. Still considering if it should be consultant led or by staff but currently leaning towards putting staff in front of that with consultant support.

***Mr. Molter made a motion for the MPO to approve the FY 2020-2022 SEDA-COG MPO Unified Planning Work Program and accompanying resolution; Ms. de Silva seconded the motion; motion carried.***

Mr. Saylor stated that the UPWP will be submitted to PennDOT for the next step in the process.

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

Mr. Saylor provided an update on the activities since the September MPO meeting.

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

- SEDA-COG MPO Staff Activity Report for November 2019.
- Support letter for Mulberry Mill Apartments Low-Income Housing Application
- Consistency letter for the Multimodal Application, Northumberland County: T-672 over Glade Run Bridge Replacement Project
- SEDA-COG Metropolitan Planning Organization Planning Process Review Final Report

Mr. Herman reviewed the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Projects Status Update 2016 Funding Round and 2018 Funding Round included in the meeting packet.

### **SEDA-COG Long Range Transportation Plan Update**

Mr. Saylor review the Long Range Transportation Plan Update to 2016 Plan overview included in the meeting packet. A scoping meeting will be held with PennDOT sometime in January 2020.

### **Annual Update of Safety Performance Measure Targets**

Mr. Herman provided an overview of PennDOT targets for five (5) highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) performance measures.

A copy of the Annual Update of Safety Performance Measures Targets was included in the meeting packet.

***Mr. McLaughlin made a motion for the MPO to adopt PennDOT's targets for the five HSIP performance measures; Mr. Kaufman seconded the motion; motion carried.***

### **2021 Twelve Year Program Update**

Mr. Herman provided an update on the 2021 Twelve Year Program development process.

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

- 2021 TIP Update Timeline
- List of Major SEDA-COG MPO Projects Implemented During Previous (2019) TIP
- List of Major SEDA-COG MPO Projects That Experienced Significant Delays During Previous (2019) TIP
- 2021 Program – Spike Projects (STP)

Mr. Herman also reviewed the following handouts provided to members at the meeting:

- Local Bridge BOF Funding Requests
- District 2-0 Local Bridge Retroactive Reimbursement Requests
- District 3-0 Local Bridge Retroactive Reimbursement Requests

Ms. Lewis stated that MPO members met with staff and chose bridges that were priorities. From that point Ms. Lewis stated she started working through the GIS data. A rating system was created and each piece of information that the bridge has stands for a certain amount of points. This was sent out to MPO members with a survey monkey link. All information was incorporated into the total score column. Only two counties didn't respond to the survey. This prioritization will not be adopted until the February meeting. This information will be shared with PennDOT to help put the draft TIP together by the end of December.

### **Bicycle/Pedestrian Subcommittee Update**

Ms. Lewis provided an update on the activities of the newly formed Bicycle/Pedestrian Subcommittee. She stated that a second meeting of the subcommittee was held recently and was very well received. Trish Meek of Centre County Regional Planning was the guest speaker. Work groups are in the process of being formed. The next meeting of this subcommittee will be held in January 2020 and the group will finalize principles and procedures for the group and have an outline path moving forward.

Mr. Mullins asked if anyone from PennDOT Central Office attends the meetings. Ms. Lewis will email information to Mr. Mullins of meeting dates. Mr. Gomes asked to be put on the list to be contacted regarding meetings.

### **Census Participant Statistical Areas Program**

Ms. Lewis summarized the PSAP boundary review process. Ms. Lewis stated that this has been on hold. Should be receiving the review packet in January. There is a 90-day review period. Hopefully the process will be wrapped up in April.

### **Member Forum**

The following handouts were provided in the meeting packet;

- Items of Potential Interest to MPO Members as of November 2019
- Meeting calendars for November, December and January

Mr. Stover provided MPO members with the following updates on the SEDA-COG Joint Rail Authority:

- Rail traffic in 2019 is above 2018. It is operated by North Shore Railroad Company, 200 miles of railroad and six different operations.
- Plastics and chemicals are up somewhat with plastics continuing to be a major player in the region as far as companies.
- The Authority was funded during the first round of multi-modal for the First Quality Tissue project in Lock Haven.
- The Authority was involved in three recent multi-modal applications – 2 in Centre County and 1 in Northumberland County. In Centre County worked with Milesburg Borough and Port Matilda Borough. The Milesburg Borough was for 3 bridges and in Port Matilda did a comprehensive upgrade to drainage structures. The Northumberland County project was on Poppy Road for an upgrade to a township bridge over the SVRR.

## **Adjournment**

Mr. Saylor adjourned the meeting at 11:00 a.m. The next regular meeting of the MPO is scheduled for February 14, 2020.