



**SEDA-COG METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO)**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**Hybrid Meeting**  
**Friday, November 22, 2024**  
**SEDA-COG, Lewisburg, PA**  
**9:30 A.M.**

**MPO VOTING MEMBERS**

Lisa Dooley, Town of Bloomsburg (via teleconference)  
Stephen Gibson, Clinton County (via teleconference)  
Steve Herman, SEDA-COG  
Michele Ocker-Holman, SEDA-COG Board, Transit Interests (via teleconference)  
Lincoln Kaufman, Snyder County  
Brad Kerstetter, Juniata County  
Chris King, PennDOT District 3-0 (via teleconference)  
James Lettiere, Mifflin County (via teleconference)  
Shawn McLaughlin, Union County  
Greg Molter, Montour County  
Mark Schultz, PennDOT District 2-0 (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 (via teleconference)  
Austin Daily, WATS MPO (via teleconference)  
Brian Funkhouser, Michael Baker International  
Jeff Iseman, PA SILC/PA Transportation Alliance (via teleconference)  
Rob Manzella, Lackawanna-Luzerne MPO (via teleconference)  
Dan Merk, STEP (via teleconference)  
Garrett Winner, PennDOT District 3-0 (via teleconference)

**STAFF**

Bryce Buck, Program Analyst  
Tina Heintzelman, Program Assistant  
Don Kiel, Senior Principal Program Analyst (via teleconference)  
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. He mentioned that Mr. Buck accepted a job in Colorado and is leaving SEDACOG at the end of November. He also thanked him for the great work he did on behalf of the MPO.

## **Public Forum**

Mr. Iseman said the state legislature didn't act on transportation funding and that the governor might flex federal funds to help SEPTA and perhaps other transit operators. He also mentioned the SEPTA strike in Philadelphia was settled. He mentioned that president-elect Donald Trump nominated former congressman Sean Duffy as the new secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation and the U.S. Senate race was called for Dave McCormick over Bob Casey.

## **Approval of the October 4, 2024, Meeting Minutes of the SEDACOG MPO**

***Mr. Kaufman made a motion to approve the minutes from the October 4, 2024, MPO meeting; Mr. Lettiere seconded the motion; motion carried.***

## **TIP Administrative Modifications and Amendments**

Mr. Herman said there is one TIP amendment that requires a vote. The new project, which was introduced at the October 4 meeting, is a local bridge replacement on T-349 over Fishing Creek in Logan Township, Clinton County. The township has committed the local match, the project scored well in the recent prioritization process, and Clinton County strongly supports it.

Mr. Schultz said the amendment is a testament to the efforts of the SEDACOG MPO in trying to put forth a line item specifically for local bridge interests and needs. This bridge, after inspection, identified a need and rather than pursuing repairs, there was a commitment by the local municipality to pursue replacement instead of preservation.

***Mr. Kerstetter made a motion for the MPO to approve the TIP amendment for T-349 over Fishing Creek in Logan Township as presented for PennDOT District 2-0; Mr. McLaughlin seconded the motion; motion carried.***

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

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

## **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 roughly 95% complete overall. 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 completed. The remaining work involves final grading and installing drainage.

**Structures Contract:** The project is roughly 33% complete overall. Beams have been set and the deck placed on the bridge over Grangers Road and the Route 61 Connector bridge over the ramps connecting to Routes 11/15. The Cortland Drive bridge over the Route 61 Connector is nearly complete. Piers and abutments are complete, and beam setting is in progress for the bridge over 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Piers and abutment work on the bridge over Stetler Avenue is underway. Noise barrier construction has also begun. Work will begin on the bridge over Park Road in December. 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 is ongoing. Right-of-way acquisition is progressing for the interchange areas, particularly with existing US 11/15 and US 522. Utility company coordination related to their facilities in the interchange areas continues. 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 CSV/T 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 is set for December 12, 2024.

### Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Staff Activity Report

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

Other handouts provided in the meeting packet included:

- Summary of Proposed EV Charging Stations Grant Opportunity through PennDOT's Community Charging Program Initiative
- 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
- Letter on Behalf of East Buffalo Township's SR 45 West Market Street Improvement Project

Mr. Buck highlighted a few resources that might be helpful to members, including the 2024 Trail Demand StoryMap, the LTAP Activity Dashboard, the SEDA-COG Zoning Map Viewer and the SEDA-COG Regional Directory Map Viewer. He mentioned there are two long-term GIS projects in the works – a sidewalk inventory and a warehouse development map for the entire SEDA-COG region. He also demonstrated the UrbanSim webmap that features the undevelopable and zero capacity areas in the SEDA-COG region. He asked members to look over the map for accuracy.

Mr. Kiel gave an update on the EV charging station proposals. He said there are six sites being advanced, five that were identified during the EV study and one additional site in Clinton County. The next phase of PennDOT's NEVI program is the Community Charging Program. Through this program, PennDOT is allocating funding to be spread out over the state MPO regions so there are target amounts of money to go to charging projects for each region. PennDOT will be issuing a notice of funding opportunity directly to contractors who can support the planning, design, implementation and operation of the charging stations. This is dependent on getting some federal

approvals that are in process, so the funding opportunity won't be available until mid-2025 or later. SEDA-COG will be hosting outreach meetings to get input and feedback from community leaders, government officials and residents about prospects for implementing charging stations. There will be one in a District 2-0 county and one in a District 3-0 county in early 2025.

### **FY 2025-27 Unified Planning Work Program Approval/Resolution**

Mr. Herman said the Draft FY 2025-27 Unified Planning Work Program was circulated to PennDOT, FHWA and FTA for formal review. He reviewed the minor edits made to the UPWP that addressed FHWA comments.

***Mr. McLaughlin made a motion to adopt the FY 2025-27 Unified Planning Work Program and approve its submission to PennDOT; Mr. Molter seconded the motion; motion carried.***

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

Ms. McLaughlin said PennDOT is required to update its Safety Performance Measure Targets annually and the targets for 2025 reflect a 2% annual fatality reduction and maintaining level suspected serious injuries. She said the MPO is required to establish its targets by February 27, 2025.

***Mr. McLaughlin made a motion to approve the 2025 PennDOT Safety Performance Measure Targets; Mr. Kerstetter seconded the motion; motion carried.***

### **2024 SEDA-COG Coordinated Transit Plan Adoption**

Ms. McLaughlin said no comments were received by the SEDA-COG MPO or WATS MPO during the 2024 SEDA-COG Coordinated Transit Plan public comment period.

***Mr. Molter made a motion to adopt the 2024 SEDA-COG Coordinated Transit Plan; Mr. Kaufman seconded the motion; motion carried.***

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

Ms. McLaughlin said the Long-Range Transportation Plan listening sessions were held with good feedback and there was a good turnout at each session.

Mr. Funkhouser delivered a PowerPoint presentation that highlighted the public survey and listening sessions results and the status of the stakeholder interviews. He said most of the survey comments were bicycle/pedestrian-related and most came from Union County. He discussed the main concerns that came out of each listening session and said one of the main themes coming out of the stakeholder interviews conducted so far is that municipalities need assistance in preparing, submitting and administering grants. Other issues that came out of the interviews were regarding capital projects, including the I-99 and I-80 interchange and its effect on the region, the CSVT project, large bridge projects, and the US 22/322 Lewistown Narrows. Topics of interest that came out of the District Strategy Day with District 2-0 were the use of asset management tools, local bridge reserve line item, the forthcoming I-99 designation, the State College Area Connector impact on Juniata and Mifflin counties, new financial guidance anticipated in April 2025, and the impact of the new federal administration.

Mr. Herman showed the Social Pinpoint page for the Long-Range Transportation Plan and the feedback submitted by the public on the site. Mr. Iseman asked if there is a deadline for submitting public feedback. Ms. McLaughlin said that public input can be continuous, but that it's hoped the main input for the preliminary outreach phase of the LRTP can be submitted by the end of 2024.

### **SEDA-COG MPO 2025 Meeting Dates**

Mr. Herman presented the 2025 SEDA-COG MPO meeting dates.

***Mr. Kaufman made a motion to approve the SEDA-COG MPO 2025 Meeting Dates; Mr. Kerstetter seconded the motion; motion carried.***

### **Election of MPO Officers and Member Re-appointments**

Mr. Herman mentioned that, per the MPO bylaws, nominations of officers may occur at the end of the year. The current officers can be renominated or there can be new ones appointed. The practice has been to continue with the SEDA-COG Transportation Planning Program Director as the chair and the PennDOT Program Center voting member as the vice-chair.

Mr. Kaufman asked if a letter would be sent to the county commissioners regarding the re-appointments of members whose terms expire at the end of the year. Mr. Herman said that a letter will be sent to each county and copied to the voting member.

***Mr. Molter made a motion to reappoint the existing MPO Officers as Chair and Vice-Chair; Mr. Kaufman seconded the motion; motion carried.***

### **Active Transportation Committee Update**

Mr. Buck provided an update on the Active Transportation Committee. He said the Outreach Work Group created bike crash report cards and other resources, which were accepted at the MSATC meeting on Nov. 20, 2024. He mentioned the MSATC quarterly meetings will move to the second Wednesday of the month in 2025. The next meeting will be Feb. 11, 2025.

### **Member Forum**

The following handouts were provided in the meeting packet:

- Items of Potential Interest to MPO Members as of November 2024
- PennDOT news release about Union County's local bridge bundle approved through PennDOT's Multimodal Transportation Fund

Mr. Herman mentioned the Safe Streets and Roads for All Round 3 grant awards were announced on Nov. 15. He said three projects in the area were among those receiving funding: City of Williamsport, East Buffalo Township and Mifflin County, all for Comprehensive Safety Action Plans. He also mentioned DCNR announced its Community Conservation Partnership Program funding awards last week, including for Clinton County's Greenway Plan.

Mr. Herman commended Mr. Gibson for the work he did with the Clinton County Economic Partnership regarding tours held in October of project locations and need areas that helped feed into the long-range plan process.

Mr. McLaughlin encouraged any county that has not adopted the \$5 vehicle registration fee to do so. The fee in Union County allowed them to do their own bridge bundle and fund several other projects. Mr. Schultz agreed and said that it is a very good resource for funding local infrastructure.

### **Adjournment**

With there being no further comments, Mr. Herman adjourned the meeting at 11:30 a.m. with a motion from Mr. McLaughlin; Mr. Kaufman seconded the motion; motion carried. The next regular meeting of the MPO is scheduled for January 24, 2025.