



SEDA-COG METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO) MEETING

Hybrid Meeting
Friday, October 7, 2022
SEDA-COG, Lewisburg, PA
9:30 A.M.

MPO VOTING MEMBERS

Mark Colussy, Mifflin County
Katie de Silva, Clinton County
Frank Hampton, PennDOT Central Office (via teleconference)
Steve Herman, SEDA-COG
Lincoln Kaufman, Snyder County
Shawn McLaughlin, Union County (via teleconference)
Greg Molter, Montour County
Steve Phillips, SEDA-COG Board, Multi-Modal Interests (via teleconference)
Jonathan Ranck, PennDOT District 3-0 (via teleconference)
Mark Schultz, PennDOT District 2-0 (via teleconference)
Justin Skavery, Northumberland County (via teleconference)

GUESTS

Eric Adams, Gannett Fleming (via teleconference)
H. Virginia Feigles-Kaar, Dewberry
Brian Funkhouser, Michael Baker International (via teleconference)
Duane Gaugler, Larson Design Group (via teleconference)
Steve Gibson, Incoming Clinton County Planner Director
Jeff Iseman, PA Statewide Independent Living Council (via teleconference)
Patrick McTish, Michael Baker, International (via teleconference)
Beth Nidam, rabbittransit (via teleconference)
Gene Porochniak, FHWA (via teleconference)
Jonathan Shaw, Luzerne County MPO (via teleconference)
Jaret Stroup
Matt Wise, Senator Jake Corman's Office (via teleconference)

STAFF PRESENT

Don Kiel, Senior Principal Program Analyst (via teleconference)
Kay Aikey, Program Assistant
Kristin McLaughlin, Principal Program Analyst
Jeff Stover, Transportation Program Chief (via teleconference)
Katherine Wilde, Senior Program Analyst

Call to Order

After it was determined that a quorum was present, Mr. Herman called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.

Public Forum

No comments were received from the general public.

Introduction of member and guests.

Approval of the August 12, 2022, Meeting Minutes of the SEDA-COG MPO

Mr. Colussy made a motion to approve the minutes from the August 12, 2022, MPO meeting; Mr. Molter seconded the motion; motion carried.

TIP Administrative Modifications and Amendments

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

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

Mr. Ranck summarized the TIP administrative actions for PennDOT District 3-0.

Mr. Molter 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.

Mr. Herman briefly reviewed the following handout 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

Ms. Wilde shared an example webmap from the Harrisburg area MPO for TIP project modifications considered at its regular meetings. Ms. Wilde also shared a work in progress webmap showing TIP project modifications considered in the 10/7 SEDA-COG MPO packet. The webmap format will be revised and a link will be shared with the MPO to represent project modifications in the PennDOT District 2-0 and PennDOT District 3-0 fiscal charts at future MPO meetings.

CSV T Project and SR 54 Safety Project Status Reports

Mr. Ranck provided the following update:

CSV T Northern Section

The paving should be completed by October 7, 2022. Other work that may need to be completed after October 7th includes shoulder backup and cable median barrier.

Southern Section

Earthwork (Contract 1)

1. Utilities are being relocated throughout the area.
2. Trees are being cut at key locations.
3. Areas where trees are cut are being cleared and grubbed.

4. Haul roads and access roads are being constructed.
5. Drainage and erosion and sedimentation controls are being constructed throughout the project area.
6. Route 204 and Mill Road intersection is being upgraded.
7. Route 15 southbound turn lane at Granger's Road is being constructed.
8. Construction of large drainage features such as box culverts and large diameter pipes will begin soon.

Structures and Noise Wall (Contract 2)

In late August, PennDOT held meetings with the 5 neighborhoods where noise walls are warranted, feasible, and reasonable (based on the final design noise analysis).

Only 30% of the invited property owners and residents attended the meetings.

To date only about 50% of the ballots have been returned with answers to questions such as if a wall were desired and if so what texture/color they would want on their side of the wall.

A follow up certified letter was sent to those who didn't return their original ballots and depending on the outcome of this follow up PennDOT will determine if another outreach is needed.

Plans are continuing to be developed for the Contract for Structures and Noise Walls. PennDOT is still looking to start construction in 2024.

Ms. de Silva asked how long the construction period would be for the Southern Section; Mr. Ranck replied that the Southern Section is estimated to be opened to traffic in 2027.

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

Route 54 and 642 Intersection Improvement

Mr. Ranck stated that this project with new roadway construction and a displaced left turn lane is taking longer than anticipated to develop and finalize its right-of-way plan. PennDOT now anticipates having the final right-of-way plans approved by mid-December. Due to this, PennDOT has moved the project's LET date from a Summer LET to a Fall/Winter LET in 2023. After the final right-of-way plans are approved, PennDOT will look to meet with the Community Advisory Committee (CAC) either late this year or early next year to give an update on the project.

Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Update

Mr. Herman highlighted items from the SEDA-COG MPO Staff Activity Report – October 2022 provided in the meeting packet.

Other handouts provided in the meeting packet included:

- SEDA-COG MPO TIP Local Project Tracking
- SEDA-COG MPO TIP Project Updates
- Requests to Add Projects to the SEDA-COG MPO TIP
- Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Projects Status Update - 2018 Funding Round and 2021 Funding Round

- Recently Accessed Highway Occupancy Permit Applications and Traffic Impact Study Scoping Applications

US Route 522 Corridor Improvements Study Findings

Mr. Brian Funkhouser of Michael Baker International, provided a PowerPoint presentation on the US Route 522 Corridor Improvements Study.

Mr. Funkhouser stated that this study began in late 2021. The management team consisted of representatives from PennDOT District 3-0, Susquehanna University, Selinsgrove Borough, Penn Township, the Greater Susquehanna Valley Chamber of Commerce, and Snyder County Planning.

The PowerPoint presentation included:

- Study Purpose & Focus Areas
- Existing Conditions and Key Corridor Issues
- Study Recommendations
- US 522 Corridor Recommendations

Study Purpose

- Transportation and land use assessment to enhance safety and mobility for multimodal traffic along US Route 522.
- Inform planning decisions.
- Central Susquehanna Valley Transportation (CSVIT) influences.

Study Focus Areas

- Issue #1 – Speed Management along Corridor
- Issue #2 – US 522 Midblock Turning Safety Issues
- Issue #3 – Intersection Improvements - US 522 & SR 1012 (Bridge Street)

Key Corridor Issues and Recommendations

- Speed Management along US 522 Corridor
- US 522 Turning Safety Issues
- Intersection Improvements

Study Recommendations

Issue #1 A - Further evaluate signalization needs at the US 522 & 18th Street Intersection;
B - Complete a Design Study with input from PennDOT District 3-0 regarding a Roundabout at US 522 & University Avenue/Salem Road

Issue #2 – Construct a center two-way left-turn lane between Clifford Road and Lisalyn Road.

Issue #3 – US 522 & SR 1012 (Bridge Street) Intersection Improvements

A brief question and answer period followed.

Mr. Kaufman extended his thanks to all who participated in this study.

Mr. Kaufman made a motion for the MPO to accept the findings of the US Route 522 Corridor Improvements Study and to include the recommendations in the MPO's Planning and Programming Process; Mr. Molter seconded the motion; motion carried.

Road Safety Review Locations

Ms. Wilde shared the tables of Potential Road Safety Review Locations in PennDOT District 2-0 Counties and PennDOT District 3-0 Counties. Ms. Wilde stated that these are draft locations using crash data to pull out what intersections or segments are showing high crash rates and could qualify for HSIP funding. Ms. Wilde stated that these tables are being reviewed by the PennDOT districts. The PennDOT District 2-0 road safety review is planned for October 24 and PennDOT District 3-0 day is planned for November 2.

MPO Member Re-appointments

Mr. Herman stated that the terms for four members of the MPO are up at the end of December 2022. Those include: Katie de Silva, Mark Colussy, Lisa Dooley and Jack Kytte. A letter will be sent to the appropriate appointing body for the representative's reappointment to the MPO.

Proposed SEDA-COG MPO 2023 Meeting Dates

A list of the proposed 2023 MPO meeting dates was provided in the meeting packet. The following are the dates planned for the 2023 MPO meetings: January 20, March 17, May 19, July 21, September 15, and November 17. MPO members were asked to review these dates for any conflicts. These dates will be brought back to the November MPO meeting for approval.

Active Transportation Committee Update

Ms. Wilde presented the following update on the Active Transportation Committee:

- Full Committee meeting will occur on November 2
- Safety Work Group – Next meeting will occur sometime this fall
- Connections Work Group – Next meeting TBD
- Community Engagement and Outreach Work Group – Next meeting TBD

Ms. Wilde stated that the Northumberland County Rail Trail Master Plan has been approved and publicized. The link to the plan is listed below:

<https://www.aoatrails.com/news/northumberland-rail-trail>

A table showing federal Pedestrian & Bicycle Funding Opportunities as of September 9, 2022, was included in the meeting packet. This listing was prepared by the U.S. Department of Transportation.

Member Forum

The following handouts were provided in the meeting packet:

- Items of Potential Interest to MPO Members as of October 2022

- Press Release “STEP to Launch New Designated Stop Program in Clinton County Beginning on October 2, 2022”
- PennDOT flyer – “Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Transportation (SMART) Grant Program”

Adjournment

With there being no further comments, Mr. Herman adjourned the meeting at 11:15 a.m. with a motion from Mr. Colussy and a second from Mr. Hampton. The next regular meeting of the MPO is scheduled for November 18, 2022.