

MINUTES

SHENANGO VALLEY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION COORDINATING/TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Tuesday, May 15, 2018 – 10:30 A.M. - MCRPC Offices
Hermitage, PA

PERSONS PRESENT

Bill Klumph
Dennis DeSilvey
Sam Bellich
Gary Byers
Cindi Byers
Stephen Theiss
Don Morrow
Sue Smith
Tom McClelland
Travis Siegel
Lyndsie DeVito
Ken Sympson
Courtney Lyle
Cindy Black
Jeremy Coxe
Vance Oakes
John R. Miller
Jasson Urey
James Foringer
Robert Lark
Ken Robertson
Brad Elder
Walter Darraugh
Richard Stachel
Mark Longiotti
Kim A. DiCintio
Dan Gracenin
Matt Stewart

REPRESENTING

South Pymatuning Township
Shenango Township
Mercer County Area Agency on Aging
Citizen of Sharon
Citizen of Sharon
Citizen of Sharon
South Pymatuning Township
Northwest Commission
PennDOT, District 1-0
Northwest Commission
PennDOT, District 1-0
Eastgate
PennDOT, District 1-0
Wilmington Township
Hermitage City
Grove City Borough
Pymatuning Township
Greenville Borough
PennDOT, District 1-0
West Middlesex Borough
Sharpsville Borough
Mercer County
Coolspring Township
Pine Township
State Representative
Mercer County Regional COG
MCRPC
MCRPC

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Coxe, Vice-Chairman, called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. **A quorum was present.**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MEETING FEBRUARY 13, 2018

Mr. Coxe asked for any additions, corrections or deletions to the Minutes of the February 13, 2018 meeting. There being none, Mr. Coxe asked for a motion to approve. Mr. Klumph so moved, Mr. Robertson seconded. The motion passed.

2017-2020 TIP MODIFICATIONS

Ms. Lyndsie DeVito explained the Highway/Bridge TIP Management Actions, which are all for informational purposes. (A copy is attached to and made a part of the permanent record of Minutes.) Ms. DeVito and Mr. Stewart explained that a few meetings back there was some extra \$40,000 in TA money to be used or we would lose it. The extra TA money was approved to be moved to the Sharon Bike/Ped Improvements Project, but the TA funds programmed were not eligible for that project because this project was never submitted for an application. The \$40,000 was then moved to the Alan Avenue project and funds from various deobligated projects (\$40,000) were moved back into the Sharon Bike/Ped Improvements Project to cover those expenses.

APPROVAL OF DRAFT 2019-2022 TIP

Mr. Stewart explained that Committee members reviewed and discussed the Draft 2019-2022 TIP at our February meeting. Not much has changed since then, but will need to approve the Draft TIP, with Final TIP approval at the July meeting. He mentioned about a recent court case for an area in California vs. EPA which could potentially affect our TIP regarding the Air Quality Analysis, since we were previously an attainment area. Ms. Courtney Lyle from PennDOT mentioned that now they need to add an air quality code for every project on the TIP. Mr. Gracenin mentioned that prior to 2008; we would have to do this prior to any TIP update. Mr. Stewart noted that the Draft TIP will be available for a 30-day public review and comment period, with the Public Hearing to follow, prior to the July Committee meeting. There being no comments, a motion was made by Mr. Morrow to approve the Draft 2019-2022 TIP contingent upon the Air Quality Analysis hearing results. Ms. DiCintio seconded. The motion passed.

PROJECT STATUS UPDATES

---Transportation Alternatives and STU Project Status Reports - Mr. Stewart briefly reviewed the most recent STU and Transportation Alternative Projects: 1) STU funding was granted in February for the **North 6th Street/West High Street Improvement Project in Sharpville Borough**. Construction plans will need to be prepared/finalized to address PennDOT requirements including the tabulation and summary sheets and PennDOT will need to assign a project number; 2) the **Mercer Borough Streetscape Project on South Diamond Street** is currently out for bid with a let date of May 24th; with a Notice to Proceed date of July 9th and a completion date of November 2, 2018; 3) the **City of Sharon Bike Lane Project along Sharpville Avenue/Thornton Avenue and new sidewalks on Silver Street** is going through some final design for the delineator posts (candlesticks) on the edge of the bike lanes, has a planned let date of June 7th with construction to begin on August 6, 2018; 4) the **Phase 1 SR 208 Multimodal Trail, in Springfield Township** is under construction and the contractor expects to be complete near the end of May; and 5) the **City of Farrell Hamilton Avenue Project** has submitted plans to PennDOT for their review and comment for a two block resurfacing/streetscape project. Once they receive comments back from PennDOT, work will continue on updating plans/submissions. Construction should begin in early 2019 and he noted that the City had brought another engineer on board to make sure this project moves forward.

---Major Road/Bridge Projects - Mr. Tom McClelland noted that the **US 62/State Street Improvement Project** is for intersection improvements at the Shenango Valley Mall entrance on US 62 in the City of Hermitage where a single lane roundabout is proposed for this intersection. PennDOT is working on the final design, landscaping for the central island and locating the utilities. The **City of Farrell Mercer Avenue Intersection Project** will start design work soon for signal rebuilds, ADA curb ramps and look at the traffic signal phasing to make it more efficient. The **State Street Pedestrian Improvement Project** from Boyd Drive to SR 18 would be the addition of sidewalks along State Street and some on North and South Buhl Farm Drive. A Consultant is now on board and will start design work soon.

---Planning and Data Collection Project Updates - Mr. Stewart gave two updates. The first study is for the **SE Mercer County Bike/Ped Master Plan** which covers three project areas starting out in Grove City Borough, connecting into Pine Township and doing a circular trail around various areas in the Springfield Township/Volant area. Three public meetings have been held and are getting close to wrapping up, and the consultant should have the draft available soon to review. The second study is for the **Greenville Pedestrian Study** which an online survey was done as well as the consultants completing surveys during a pop-up meeting at Thiel College. Currently they have over 300 surveys completed. The consultants will be working over the next few weeks summarizing the pedestrian crossing data from the MioVision cameras, process the survey and get our stakeholder interviews scheduled and completed. The Consultants are hoping to have the study completed by March 2019.

TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES SET-ASIDE ANNOUNCEMENT

Mr. Stewart mentioned that back in February, the Coordinating Committee recommended to approve funding the Alan Avenue sidewalks in Greenville Borough based on the Technical Committee's recommendation. The State recently announced that they were going to fund 2 of the 3 projects that the Technical Committee had reviewed and submitted to the State. The State approved funding over \$1.3 Million to go towards the Alan Avenue sidewalks in Greenville Borough and the SR 208 multi-modal path, Phase II going from the outlet mall towards the Municipal Building in Springfield Township. The Committee also agreed that whatever was the top ranked project selected, would receive the small set-aside (\$41,000) towards their project, which is the Alan Avenue project.

Mr. Stewart also noted that back in February the Coordinating Committee recommended to approve funding the gateway treatment project at the State line (Route 62), Irvine/Addison Avenue for a streetscape project in the City of Sharon if the Springfield (SR 208 multi-modal path, Phase II) Project received TA funding. Since the Springfield project was funded with TA, most of Sharon's project can now be funded with STU funds. Mr. Stewart stated that this is great news to hear that almost everything that was requested has been funded.

MPO COMMUNICATION SURVEY

Mr. Stewart mentioned that there was a Communication Survey on line, but was shut down, to gather essential information about your role as a board member or stakeholder regarding the preferred method of receiving information from the MPO staff so we could share more resources and information about transportation and various projects. The response rate was not what he was hoping for, but if someone would still like to take the survey they may do so by completing the paper copy.

FUNCTIONAL CLASSIFICATION MAP

Mr. Stewart mentioned that currently all of the State roads and some of our local Federal aid routes are on the Functional Classification Map. This map determines where the funding can be used and what types of funding can be used. Over the next few months, we will be working with PennDOT to take a more comprehensive look at this map and update, since our last major update was done in the early 1990s.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Stewart introduced Jim Foringer the new District Executive for District 1 at PennDOT. Mr. Foringer thanked everyone and will continue to do the same team work with District 1.

Mr. Morrow mentioned that the Starship Initiative launches this Friday and will be coming to Pennsylvania from San Diego. This Starship Initiative is a new super clean high-tech 60,000 lb. semi-truck. The design of this truck is totally off the wall and gets over 15mpg. The auxiliary power comes from a 8,000 Watt solar array.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mr. Klumph made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:12 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel M. Gracenin,
MPO Secretary

DMG/ew