

MINUTES
 CAMBRIA COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
 COMBINED MEETING OF THE TECHNICAL AND COORDINATING COMMITTEES
 January 24, 2017

A meeting of the Cambria County Metropolitan Planning Organization Technical and Coordinating Committees was held on September 20, 2016 at 9:30 AM, at the Cambria County Transit Authority, Johnstown, Pennsylvania.

Coordinating Committee

Tom Prestash	PennDOT District 9-0	Present
Larry Shifflet	Program Center Director, PennDOT	Present
Arch Liston	Manager, City of Johnstown	Absent
Renee Daly	Johnstown Comm. & Econ. Dev.	Absent
Mark Wissinger	Cambria County Commissioner	Present
Ron Rovansek	Cambria County Planning Comm.	Present
Rose Lucey-Noll	Cambria County Transit Auth.	Present
RaNell Fenchak	Johnstown/ Cambria County Airport Authority	Absent
Mike Artim	Regional Transportation Comm. Johnstown COC	Absent
Chris Gibbons	Hastings Borough Council	Absent
Bob Heffelfinger	Richland Township Supervisors	Absent

Technical Committee

Dean Roberts	PennDOT Program Center	Present
Vince Greenland	PennDOT District 9-0	Present
Renee Daly	Johnstown Comm. and Econ. Dev.	Absent
Ethan Imhoff	Cambria County Planning Comm.	Present
Chris Allison	Cambria County Planning Comm.	Present
RaNell Fenchak	Johnstown/ Cambria County Airport Authority	Absent
Lisa Layton	Cambria County Transit Auth.	Present
Clifford Kitner	Cambria County Conservation And Recreation Authority	Present
Joseph Matthew Sernell	Geistown Borough	Absent
Jim Melnyk	Cambria Township Supervisors	Absent

Non-Voting Members

Matt Smoker	Federal Highway Admin.	Absent
Timothy Lidiak	Federal Transit Admin.	Absent
Lori Pagnanellik	Federal Aviation Admin.	Absent
Gregory Becoat	U.S. Environmental Prot. Ag.	Absent
William Costello	U.S. Dept. of HUD	Absent
Wick Havens	PA Dept. of Environmental Prot.	Absent
William Lundquist	PA Bureau of Rail Freight, Ports and Waterways	Absent

Guests

Dave Lybarger	PennDOT District 9-0
---------------	----------------------

Anne Stich
Alyssa Patrick
Fred Yanity
Ryan Kieta

PennDOT District 9-0
PennDOT District 9-0
Sen. Langerholc Staff
Johnstown Vision 2025

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Tom Prestash, PennDOT District 9-0. Mr. Chris Allison, Cambria County Planning Commission, polled the members present.

REORGANIZATION

Approval of new member appointments to the Coordinating and Technical Committees: Ethan Imhoff of the Cambria County Planning Commission explained the changes to the committee membership, approved when the MPO bylaws were adopted at the previous meeting. These included new positions on the committees, as well as new persons to fill existing seats. Mr Imhoff detailed the committee appointments as follows: On the Coordinating Committee, Arch Liston to fill the existing City of Johnstown City Manager Seat, Mike Artim to fill the existing Chamber of Commerce seat, Chris Gibbons of Hastings Borough to fill the new Borough Representative seat, and Bob Heffelfinger to fill the new Township Representative seat.

On the Technical Committee, new positions for a Borough Representative and a Township Representative were to be filled by Joseph Sernell of Geistown Borough, and Jim Melnyk of Cambria Township, respectively. Also on the Technical Committee, Cliff Kitner of the County Conservation and Recreation Authority was nominated to fill a new seat that formerly was taken by the Johnstown Redevelopment Authority. Mr. Imhoff further noted that the Chamber of Commerce seat on the Technical Committee would remain unfilled until a new person could be nominated to fill it.

Rose Lucey-Noll of CamTran made a motion to approve the new member appointments as presented. It was seconded by Mr. Ron Rovanseck of the Planning Commission and passed unanimously.

Election of Committee Chairs and Vice Chairs for 2017: There was a discussion about who should be nominated for the positions on each committee. A question was asked as to whether the PennDOT District Executive was required to be the Chair for the Coordinating Committee. Mr. Ethan Imhoff of the Planning Commission responded that any person on the committee could be the chairperson.

Ms. Rose Lucey-Noll nominated Mr. Tom Prestash of PennDOT District 9-0 to be the chairperson for the Coordinating Committee. Mr. Ron Rovanseck seconded the motion. Mr. Prestash held a vote for the motion and it was approved unanimously. There was some discussion about who could serve as Coordinating Committee Vice-Chair. Mr. Rovanseck nominated Ms. Rose Lucey-Noll of Camtran, seconded by Mr. Chris Allison of the Cambria County Planning Commission. The nomination was approved unanimously.

There was further discussion about who should serve as the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Technical Committee. Mr. Rovanseck nominated Mr. Vince Greenland of PennDOT District 9-0 to be Chairperson, seconded by Ms. Lisa Layton of CamTran. The nomination passed unanimously. Mr. Rovanseck then nominated Mr. Allison to serve as Vice-Chair, seconded by Mr. Imhoff. This nomination also was approved unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE COMBINED JATS TECHNICAL AND COORDINATING COMMITTEES MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 20, 2016.

The committee members reviewed the meeting minutes. Mr. Larry Shifflet of PennDOT made a motion that the minutes be approved. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ron Rovanseck of the Cambria County Planning Commission, and passed unanimously.

REAFFIRMATION OF THE ELECTRONIC MEMO VOTE FOR THE HASTINGS INDUSTRIAL PARK ACCESS ROAD

Mr. Dave Lybarger of PennDOT District 9-0 explained that this vote was approved through email by majority vote of the members on November 20, 2017, and asked if they had any questions. Ms. Lucey-Noll made a motion to reaffirm the vote, seconded by Mr. Allison. The motion was approved unanimously.

APPROVAL OF AMENDMENTS AND MODIFICATIONS TO THE 2017-2020 HIGHWAY AND BRIDGE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP)

Mr. Dave Lybarger of PennDOT reviewed the modifications to the 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), all of which were administrative actions not requiring a vote. Mr. Mark Wissinger, Cambria County Commissioner, asked about the status of the Sunset Road corridor study. Mr. Prestash responded that it was scheduled to start in the Spring/Summer of 2017 with Municipal meetings and data gathering, and would be completed by the end of 2018.

APPROVAL OF AMENDMENTS/ MODIFICATIONS TO THE FY 2017-2020 PUBLIC TRANSIT TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP)

Ms. Layton of CamTran explained a few administrative changes to the 2017-2020 public transit TIP as follows: Replacement of a bus wash, replacement of a bus lift, and facility improvements in the rural area facility. The funding source for those projects was changed as new funds are now available. The changes did not require a vote.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Discussion of roadway functional classification revisions: Ms. Anne Stich of PennDOT District 9-0 explained that PennDOT has been working with the MPO to identify potential gaps in the National Highway System network in Cambria County, and to ensure all roads are classified correctly. Cambria County identified two pieces of roadway that were submitted to be added to the National Highway System: First is a section of PA 271 that would complete its NHS classification from the Johnstown urban area boundary to US Route 22, also an NHS route; a two-mile section. Second, a single block of Main Street in Johnstown in front of the CamTran downtown transit center. The remainder of Main Street is on the NHS. Ms. Stich noted that PennDOT Central Office did not agree with the MPO regarding either roadway. Ms. Stich said they felt that all of Main Street should be removed from the NHS, or determine if it could be designated as an intermodal connector due to the location of the transit center. Ms. Stich thought it would qualify as such. For 271, Central Office felt that all of that Route 271 should be removed from the NHS as well. Ms. Stich and Mr. Prestash noted that these were only recommendations from Central office, and if the committees still wanted to recommend these routes, they could. Mr. Allison noted that the MPO had already submitted twice to Central Office regarding the MPO's recommendations, and asked if Central Office was asking the MPO to change their recommendations, and also, who at Central Office was reviewing the submissions. Mr. Dean

Roberts responded that it was the Bureau of Planning and Research. Mr. Allison responded that Planning and Research has never attended a meeting of the MPO, or spoken directly to the MPO about these issues. Mr. Roberts volunteered to invite the Planning and Research, as well as Federal Highway Administration staff, to a future MPO meeting.

Discussion of the PennDOT Connects program in the region: Mr. Prestash gave an overview of the program in the region. The Secretary of Transportation has initiated the program to coordinate with stakeholders such as Municipalities much earlier in the planning and programming process. Issues such as bicycle, pedestrian, freight, storm water, safety and others will be discussed. District 9-0 has been working through projects on the 2017-2020 TIP, filling out a form for each project that hasn't started preliminary engineering. District 9-0 will then distribute a report to the Planning Commission summarizing the meetings. Later, another round of meetings will be held for projects beyond the four-year TIP.

Update on the Cresson Admiral Peary Corridor Study: Mr. Imhoff said Public and stakeholder meetings to present project recommendations were held in January, with three projects emerging as the top priority: Pedestrian improvements along the corridor from the Mount Aloysius College campus to the Route 53 intersection, safety improvements for vehicles turning into the Mount Aloysius campus, and the completion of a trail connection between the Cresson Veterans Park and the Allegheny Portage Railroad Historic Site. A final draft of the plan will be completed by Spring of 2017.

Critical Freight Corridors Program: Mr. Allison explained that PennDOT has asked the MPO to review highway corridors and determine if any should be added to the list of Critical Urban and Critical Rural Freight Corridors. Mr. Allison said the Technical Committee would review the program and discuss it at its meeting on February 14, 2017.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.