

MINUTES
 CAMBRIA COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
 COMBINED MEETING OF THE TECHNICAL AND COORDINATING COMMITTEES
 April 13, 2017

A meeting of the Cambria County Metropolitan Planning Organization Technical and Coordinating Committees was held on April 13, 2017 at 1:00 PM, at the Cambria County Transit Authority, Johnstown, Pennsylvania.

Coordinating Committee

Tom Prestash	PennDOT District 9-0	Present
Larry Shifflet	Program Center Director, PennDOT	(A) Dean Roberts
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	Present
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.	(A) Rose Lucey-Noll
Clifford Kitner	Cambria County Conservation And Recreation Authority	Present
Joseph Matthew Sernell	Geistown Borough	Present
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

Anne Stich	PennDOT District 9-0	
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Fred Yanity
Brian Subich
Ryan Kieta
Joe Mangarella
Richard Stewart
Katie Kinka

Sen. Langerholc Staff
Congressman Rothfus
Johnstown Vision 2025
HAIDA
HAIDA
Cambria County Planning Commission

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.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE COMBINED JATS TECHNICAL AND COORDINATING COMMITTEES MEETING OF JANUARY 24, 2017.

The committee members reviewed the meeting minutes. Ms. Rose Lucey-Noll of the Cambria County Transit Authority made a motion that the minutes be approved. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mike Artim of the Cambria County Chamber of Commerce, and passed unanimously.

PRESENTATION BY THE HASTINGS AREA INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION (HAIDA)

Mr. Joe Mangarella and Mr. Richard Stewart of HAIDA gave a presentation on their proposed project to build an access road to the Hastings Industrial Park. The presentation included a short video, and emphasized safety concerns with the current roads large trucks use to access the park. Mr. Mangarella requested that the MPO add the access road project to its twelve-year transportation program. Mr. Tom Prestash from PennDOT District 9-0 responded that it would be very difficult to add the project to the program, because since it would not qualify for Federal surface transportation program (STP) funds. Mr. Prestash asserted that the project would not qualify as a safety improvement either, because it would amount to building a new road directly to the industrial park. All of the committee members present expressed that they thought this was good project, but that alternate funding would be needed to cover the \$4 million project cost. Mr. Dean Roberts of PennDOT and Mr. Chris Allison of the Cambria County Planning Commission offered to assist HAIDA by forwarding them information about possible funding sources including a the PA Department of Community and Economic Development Local Development Grant Program, and the Multimodal Transportation Fund. The committee asked Mr. Mangarella to gather information on how many trucks per day use the facility, and ask the local businesses if they would be willing to put forth and matching funds for the project.

JOHNSTOWN VISION 2025 TRNSPORTATION PROJECT INITIATIVES

Ryan Kieta of Johnstown Vision 2025 gave a brief presentation, noting a recent meeting which gathered thirty Federal and State agencies in order to coordinate efforts. The result of which will be several task forces to implement various initiatives of the Vision 2025 plan. Additionally, they are instituting some Main Street corridor planning in the City of Johnstown.

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)

There were no amendments or modifications to discuss; the group moved onto the next agenda item.

APPROVAL OF MPO RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CRITICAL FREIGHT CORRIDORS

Mr. Allison explained that the PennDOT central office had requested all MPOs and RPOs to review the roadways in their area and determine if any roadways could be designated as critical urban freight corridors (CUFC) or critical rural freight corridors (CRFC). Mr. Allison explained the criteria for designating each, and noted that the Technical Committee had discussed possible routes at their most recent meeting. Referring the group to a map of the routes, Mr. Allison explained that, taking into consideration the criteria, available data, and the Technical Committee's discussion, he would suggest nominating the Route 219 corridor from the Galleria Drive interchange to the Somerset County line, as well as the PA Route 56 corridor from US Route 219 to Coopersdale. After a brief discussion, Mr. Matt Sernell from Geistown Borough made a motion to accept Mr. Allison's recommendations. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ron Rovanseck of the Cambria County Planning Commission, and passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Discussion of Multimodal Transportation Fund (MTF) applications in the region: Mr. Allison explained that the application period for the most recent round of the MTF had recently closed, and that PennDOT central office had requested the MPO review the applications for Cambria County, provide comments, and rank them in priority order. Mr. Allison reviewed a summary sheet of the six (6) applications received for Cambria County, including comments and a priority for each. Mr. Allison noted that the Conemaugh – East Hills Outpatient Center project was ranked last, and the MPO would not recommend funding, because the bulk of the funding requested in the application would be used for non-transportation related projects, or projects that wouldn't benefit the traveling public at large. Mr. Allison asked for approval of the comments and rankings. Ms. Rose Lucey-Noll of CamTran asked that the comments on the Outpatient Center project be changed so that the MPO did support funding of the intersection improvements element of the application, but not the other elements. Mr. Allison agreed to make the changes. Mr. Ron Rovanseck made a motion to approve the comments and rankings, with the noted changes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mark Wissinger, Cambria County Commissioner. Ms. Rose Lucey-Noll and Mr. Matt Sernell abstained from the vote due to conflicts of interest with some of the projects. The remaining committee members approved the motion unanimously.

Update on the Cresson Admiral Peary Corridor Study: Mr. Imhoff explained that the Planning Commission Staff were currently reviewing a final draft of the plan, which should be completed by July. He reviewed the three projects which had emerged 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.

Regional Comprehensive Plan: Mr. Imhoff gave a brief update on the Regional Comprehensive Plan, noting that the project steering committee is currently discussing priorities for which goals and initiatives should be included in the plan. He noted that broadband access for business development is the top issue regionally, while blight is emerging as the biggest issue in Cambria County. Mr. Imhoff encouraged all in attendance to take the survey on the plan's website, Alleghenies Ahead.com.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Tom Prestash of PennDOT District 9-0 noted that PennDOT was requesting approval of a Project Management Committee (PMC) amendment to the 2017-2020 Highway and Bridge TIP. He explained that any project change involving \$2 million or more must be approved by the MPO committees, and then by the Secretary of Transportation. Mr. Dave Lybarger reviewed the amendment. There were two projects on Route 219: The Ebensburg Bridge Project had a cost increase of just over \$1 million due to additional work necessary. Second, the Jack Murtha Highway Rehabilitation Project had a \$3 million increase due to worsening pavement conditions since the project was proposed, as well as additional mileage of paving. The funding would come from delaying a project for the Route 22 interchanges improvements. Mr. Lybarger asked for a motion to approve the amendments, but noted that approval would be contingent on PMC approval of the actions. The motion was made by Mr. Allison, seconded by Ms. Rose Lucey-Noll, and approved unanimously.

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