

MINUTES
JOHNSTOWN AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY
TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
August 2, 2016

A meeting of the Johnstown Area Transportation Study Coordinating Committee was held on August 2, 2016 1:00 PM, at the Cambria County Transit Authority, Johnstown, Pennsylvania.

Technical Committee

Larry Shifflet	PennDOT Program Center	(A) Dean Roberts
Vince Greenland	PennDOT District 9-0	(A) Jim Pruss
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) Daniel Ligda
Adam Henger	Regional Transportation Comm. Johnstown COC	(A) Bob Layo

Guests

Tom Prestash	PennDOT District 9-0
Anne Stich	PennDOT District 9-0
David Lybarger	PennDOT District 9-0
Josh Yoder	CamTran
Shanna Murphy	Cambria County Planning Commission

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Ethan Imhoff, Cambria County Planning Commission. Mr. Chris Allison, Cambria County Planning Commission, polled the members present.

DISCUSSION ON REPURPOSING OLD EARMARK FUNDS

Mr. Imhoff explained that Federal Rulings have required the MPO to spend any left over funds from previous earmarked projects. The MPO currently has funds remaining from the HAIDA industrial Park Project (\$683,000) and a US 219 corridor study (\$263,000).

Ms. Anne Stich of PennDOT District 9-0 noted that the funds must be used on a project within 50 miles of the original earmark project. She also said that the funds must be used on a road that is part of the National Highway Performance Program (NHPP).

Mr. Tom Prestash of PennDOT District 9-0 explained that he spoke with Joe Mangarella from HAIDA, and explained the situation with him. Mr. Mangarella asked if the funds could be used as part of their Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) access road project, and Mr. Prestash responded that the funds were not eligible. Mr. Prestash said that Mr. Mangarella was understanding of the funds being used for a different purpose.

Mr. Prestash also stated that the other funds were left over from a study for completing Rt 219 as a four-lane highway. The four-lane concept was eventually deferred.

Mr. Allison asked why the funds were only eligible for NHPP projects. Mr. Lybarger of PennDOT District 9-0 responded that it was because the original earmark funds were transferred to a project on the NHPP. Mr. Allison asked if it was too late for that to be changed, so that the funds could be made more flexible. Mr. Prestash responded that it may not be possible, but that he and his staff would investigate to see if the funds could be transferred to a project using Surface Transportation Program (STP) funds, which are more flexible.

The group discussed several possible uses for the funds, including:

- Parking, streetscape, and other improvements on Route 219 in Carrolltown Borough, which have previously been studied
- TSM Improvements on Route 36
- Improvements to Route 219 in Northern Cambria Borough, including the curve where a Sheetz store was previously located
- Mr. Dan Ligda of Camtran suggested looking at straightening the s-curve near the drive-in along Rt. 219 just North of Carrolltown Borough.

Ms. Stich noted that the Route 36 was not on the NHPP.

After some further discussion, it was determined that more information regarding project eligibility and cost estimates was necessary before any decisions could be made. PennDOT District 9-0 staff will generate cost estimates for the projects mentioned, and also determine if the funding type can be changed from NHPP to STP. Mr. Allison will schedule another committee meeting for September to review the information and make a final decision and recommendation for the Coordinating Committee.

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