

MINUTES  
 CAMBRIA COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION  
 COMBINED MEETING OF THE TECHNICAL AND COORDINATING COMMITTEES  
 DECEMBER 9, 2021

A meeting of the Cambria County Metropolitan Planning Organization Technical and Coordinating Committees was held on December 9, 2021 at 9:30 AM. The meeting was held at the Upper Yoder Township Municipal Building, 110 Sunray Drive, Johnstown, PA and online via Zoom.

Coordinating Committee

Tom Prestash	PennDOT District 9-0	Present
Larry Shifflet	Program Center Director, PennDOT	(A) Michael Gismondi
William Smith	Cambria County Commissioner	Present
Ron Rovansek	Cambria County Planning Comm. Manager, City of Johnstown	(A) Ethan Imhoff
Open Position	Johnstown Comm. & Econ. Dev.	-
John Dubnansky	Johnstown/ Cambria County Airport Authority	Present
Open Position	Cambria County Transit Auth. Regional Transportation Comm. President and CEO, Regional COC	-
Rose Lucey-Noll	Borough Representative: North	Present
Amy Bradley	Township Representative: South	(A) Debra Orner
Doug Tusing		Present
Paul Pioli		Present

Technical Committee

Dean Roberts	PennDOT Program Center	Present
Vince Greenland	PennDOT District 9-0	Present
John Dubnansky	Johnstown Comm. and Econ. Dev.	Present
Ethan Imhoff	Cambria County Planning Comm.	Present
Chris Allison	Cambria County Planning Comm.	Present
Open Position	Johnstown/ Cambria County Airport Authority	Absent
Open Position	Cambria County Transit Auth.	(A) Rose Lucey-Noll
Clifford Kitner	Cambria County Conservation And Recreation Authority	Present
Robert Callahan	Borough Representative South	Present
Open Position	Township Representative North	-

Non-Voting Members

Eugene Porochniak	Federal Highway Admin.	Present
Chelsea Beytas	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

Tom Chernisky	Cambria County Commissioner
Scott Hunt	Cambria County Commissioner
Josh Yoder	CamTran
Jim Miliauskas	PA Senator Wayne Langerholc Staff
Mike Tedesco	Vision Together 2025
Haley Thomas	Vision Together 2025
Bob Ritter	City of Johnstown
Mayor Frank Janakovic	City of Johnstown
Mark Pasquerilla	Greater Johnstown Regional Partnership

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.

### **CAMBRIA COUNTY RAISE FUNDING AWARD AND NEXT STEPS**

Mr. Imhoff led a discussion regarding the RAISE funding. The city was awarded \$24.5 million in federal funding through the program for renovations to the Johnstown passenger rail station, inclined plane renovations, transit terminal renovations, and streetscape/pedestrian connectivity improvements. There was a discussion about possibly hiring a consultant to manage the projects. Mayor Janakovic remarked that although the projects are all separate, there should be an overall project manager assigned. January 12, 2022 is the earliest date for the city to formally accept the funds, so there is not an immediate urgency to make these decisions. The attendees agreed that a working group should be convened which would meet regularly to oversee the progress of the projects.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE COMBINED MPO TECHNICAL AND COORDINATING COMMITTEES MEETING OF AUGUST 26, 2021**

The committee members reviewed the meeting minutes. Commissioner Smith made a motion that the minutes be approved. The motion was seconded by Mr. Dubnansky, and passed unanimously.

### **REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF AMENDMENTS AND MODIFICATIONS TO THE FFY 2021-2024 HIGHWAY AND BRIDGE TIP**

Ms. Stich reviewed fiscal charts detailing the TIP modifications. The modifications were for information only and did not require a vote.

### **APPROVAL OF AMENDMENTS/ MODIFICATIONS TO THE FY 2021-2024 TIP FOR PUBLIC TRANSIT**

Ms. Lucey-Noll reviewed a chart detailing the proposed modifications to the transit TIP. She noted that the projects shown in green were new additions funded through the RAISE program. They included Train Station Restoration, for \$11.3 million, Main Street Greenway for \$5.7 million, Urban Trails Connectivity for \$3 million, and the Multi-Modal Transit Center for \$3.6 million. Mr. Tedesco asked if the amounts for the Main Street and trails projects were correct; his numbers were \$6.5 and \$2 million respectively. After some discussion it was agreed that the funding totals could include local funds, but the projects being added were showing only federal

funds. Ultimately it was decided that the projects should be added with the amounts shown, and those amounts could later be changed if necessary. Mr. Porochniak noted that the transit center project had been added previously; it was shown in yellow on the chart. It was agreed to keep the transit center as one project with the previous MPMS number. Mr. Allison made a motion to approve the amendments as discussed. The motion was seconded by Mr. Dubnansky and passed unanimously.

### **APPROVAL OF THE DRAFT FFY 2023-2026 HIGHWAY AND BRIDGE TIP**

Mr. Prestash gave a presentation of the 2023-2026 TIP to the group, including and overview of funding. He noted that the recently-passed Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) would mean a funding increase of approximately \$6 million a year, and \$29 million over four years from the current (FFY 2021-2024) program. Mr. Tedesco asked if there was funding through the IIJA for complete streets projects. Mr. Prestash responded that those types of projects are typically funded through additional programs within the funding structure, rather than the base highway and bridge allocation.

Mr. Greenland then took over the presentation and individually reviewed the new projects being added to the program. Mr. Kitner asked if millings from the Route 53 paving project could be allocated for use on the nearby Ghost Town Trail. Mr. Greenland responded that he would check the project documents and follow-up.

Mr. Prestash noted that this draft of the TIP would need to be updated as the IIJA was further examined and funding amounts became more clear, but asked that the committees approve the current draft as presented. Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve; it was seconded by Dr. Callahan and passed unanimously.

### **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA): Since this topic was extensively covered during the 2023-2026 Highway and Bridge TIP presentation, Mr. Prestash moved on to the next item.

FY 2022-2024 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP): Mr. Allison gave a brief overview of the UPWP development, including a summary of the budget. A draft was submitted to PennDOT, FHWA, and FTA for review. Once their comments are addressed, a draft will be distributed to the MPO members for review, and a special MPO meeting will be scheduled in January, 2022 for final approval.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

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