

**SOUTHERN ALLEGHENIES  
PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**

**RURAL TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL COMMITTEE AND  
RURAL TRANSPORTATION COORDINATING COMMITTEE**

**November 2, 2017**

**11:00 AM**

**PennDOT District 9-0**

**Hollidaysburg, PA**

**ACTION SUMMARY**

The following are the major actions taken by the Rural Transportation Coordinating Committee (RTCC) at the combined meeting of the Rural Transportation Technical Committee (RTTC) and RTCC held on November 2, 2017, at PennDOT District 9-0 in Hollidaysburg, PA.

1. Approved the August 23, 2017, RTCC meeting minutes as presented.
2. Approved the FY 2017-2041 Long Range Transportation Plan as presented.
3. Approved the Draft 2019-2022 TIP as presented.
4. Approved the addition of \$800,000 in ARC funding to the FY 2018 TIP for the Fulton County Medical Center Access Road Project.
5. Elected Brandon Carson Chair and Vince Greenland Vice Chair of the RTTC for 2018.
6. Elected Tom Prestash Chair and Commissioner Jeff Thomas Vice Chair of the RTCC for 2018.
7. Approved the use of the State Performance Measures contingent on the committee's agreement with the performance measures provided in the letter from the State when received.

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**MEETING MINUTES**

**I. Welcome**

The following RTCC members were present at the meeting:

- Commissioner Barry Dallara, Bedford County
- Commissioner Jeff Thomas, Huntingdon County
- Commissioner John Vatavuk, Somerset County
- Frank Hampton, PennDOT Central Office via telephone
- Tom Prestash, PennDOT District 9-0
- Steve Howsare, SAP&DC
- Brandon Carson, SAP&DC

The following RTTC members were present at the meeting:

- Rick Suder, Bedford County Planning Commission
- Mary K. Seville, Fulton County Planning Commission
- Julia Dovey, Fulton County
- Mark Colussy, Huntingdon County Planning Commission
- Brad Zearfoss, Somerset County Planning Commission
- Jeff Eisaman, Sheetz
- Karl King, PA Rails to Trails
- Vince Greenland, PennDOT District 9-0
- Brandon Peters, SAP&DC

Others in attendance included:

- Jim Pruss, PennDOT District 9-0
- Alice Hammond, PennDOT District 9-0
- David Lybarger, PennDOT District 9-0
- Anne Stich, PennDOT District 9-0
- Justin Ruggles, SAP&DC
- Joseph Saxfield, SAP&DC
- Michael Sherman, FHWA

Each participant received a meeting packet that included:

- Agenda
- August 23, 2017 RTCC Meeting Minutes
- Map of 2017-2041 LRTP Projects
- 2017-2041 LRTP Project List
- Illustrative Project List
- Draft FFY 2019 Southern Alleghenies TIP
- Southern Alleghenies RPO FFY 2017-2020 TIP Adjustments
- SAP&DC RPO Policies and Procedures

## **II. Review and Approval of the August 23, 2017 RTCC Meeting Minutes and Action Items**

Tom Prestash welcomed the committee to the meeting and Brandon Carson conducted roll call. Tom noted there was a meeting held with Hopewell Township/Hopewell Borough on November 1, 2017 on a major safety project on a bridge there. The intent was to keep one lane of the bridge open during the project but once it was put out for bid it was discovered that this would dramatically increase the cost of the project and cause safety concerns. PennDOT discussed the issue with the Geotech staff and the consultant as well as gathering feedback from the public officials and local stakeholders. A public meeting was held and it was decided there would be a 12-mile detour for approximately 30 days with a bonus to the contractor if the project is finished early. The project is expected to be let on November 9, 2017.

Tom introduced Mike Sherman from FHWA. He started with FHWA in February and is here to observe and learn the planning process.

Tom asked the committee to review the August 23, 2017, RTCC meeting minutes included in the meeting packet.

With no further discussion, Commissioner Jeff Thomas made a motion to approve the August 23, 2017, RTCC meeting minutes as presented. Commissioner Barry Dallara seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

## **III. Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Adoption**

Brandon Peters gave the committee an introduction to the planning process used in the development of the FY 2017-2041 Long Range Transportation Plan. He presented a slide show on the process and reviewed the development schedule. He gave a brief overview of the FY 2017-2041 Long Range Transportation Plan answering any questions the committee had. There was a question about the Rt. 219 project in Somerset County. Tom replied and gave the committee the status of the funding possibilities explored to date. An additional \$250 M is still needed to complete the project. There was also a question about

the status of Rt. 219 in the freight corridor submissions. Frank Hampton replied that he is not sure if Rt. 219 is on list but will look into it and provide a status update to the committee. Brandon Peters added that this was discussed at the Planning Partners Meeting and the RPO has already received their submission, made corrections and returned to Central Office. It will be sent out one final time within the next few weeks before being submitted to FHWA. Once the list has been compiled to be submitted to FHWA Frank will provide the information to the committee.

Tom asked Vince Greenland to give an update on the mile and a half section in Maryland that was recently put up for bid. Vince informed the committee that Maryland has received the bids for the design build and are looking for the best value. An announcement should be made before the end of the year.

Brandon Peters thanked the counties and PennDOT for their assistance in putting this together. Brandon Carson added that most would have used a consultant and the staff took on a tremendous amount of work and did a good job.

With no further discussion, Frank Hampton made a motion to approve the FY 2017-2041 Long Range Transportation Plan as presented. Commissioner Barry Dallara seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

#### **IV. 2019-2022 Draft TIP Review & Approval**

Tom noted that PennDOT has been implementing the PennDOT Connects process and it has been going very well. Any feedback from municipalities or stakeholders that anyone is given or if there is anything PennDOT could do better, please let them know.

Brandon Peters reviewed the list of eight priorities recommended by the Local Bridge Subcommittee and approved by the RTCC at the August 23, 2017, meeting. He noted that SAP&DC has been working with the municipalities to help schedule the PennDOT Connects meetings for these bridges. All the projects on the list were able to be programed on the 2019 TIP. David Lybarger added that the Priority 1 project, which was a group of 25 Non-Composite Precast Concrete Adjacent Beam Rehabilitations, was programed for construction in FY 2019. Priority projects 2 thru 8 will start preliminary engineering in FY 2019 and then be carried over to the next tip for construction.

Tom gave a presentation on the Southern Alleghenies RPO 2019 TIP. The TIP is a four-year program that is updated every two years. Projects programed on the TIP and not completed during the four-year time period are carried forward to the next TIP. Carryover projects are typically given the highest priority, although that is determined by this committee. If a project is no longer a priority to the county, it can be removed. The performance measures have not yet been released by the State but are expected to be similar to the past. He discussed the candidate list including asset management, safety, Act 89, and the LRTP. He showed the 2017 to 2019 financial guidance comparison noting the 5.6%, or \$8,710,000 decrease in funding for the RPO. He noted some of the

reasons behind the decrease including the State Police request, which comes off the top, and the use of the needs based formula. Because the RPO and District 9 have done a good job in use of their funds in the past, our needs are not as great as other areas in the state. He reminded the committee that this funding comes in different categories each with specific funding requirements. He reviewed the breakdown of the SA RPO 2019 TIP financial guidance. He noted that the base allocation plus the \$700,000 in discretionary funds for the Muddy Run Culvert Project in Huntingdon County minus the \$133,080,000 set aside for carryover projects leaves \$15,190,000 remaining for new projects.

He reviewed the target performance goals for the RPO and showed the actual as well. All were under the limits except local structurally deficient bridges greater than 20 feet. The target for that is 15.4% and the actual is 38.6% so that is something to be considered when determining how to spend the available funding. He reviewed the breakout for the new projects with the committee as follows: Department Force Structures – 2 per county @ \$184,000 each (\$1,475,000), RPM Contracts – 2 region-wide contracts (400,000), Local Structures – 33 structures from the Local Bridge Subcommittee (\$9,292,000), Highway Safety Projects – TBD (\$2,049,000), Highway Projects – 1 per county (\$304,000), Bridge Projects – 9 structures (\$1,670,000). Rather than PennDOT selecting projects to recommend for the \$2,049,000 in Highway Safety Projects, PennDOT has identified projects in each of the four counties for that funding but would like the RTTC to review and recommend a project at the December RTCC meeting. PennDOT will gather the criteria and safety data and present it to the county planners. There is enough funding to do one or two projects depending on what is selected. He then reviewed the Act 89 Performance Report adding that PennDOT can provide the county project lists to the committee members. He also reviewed the 2019-2022 TIP development schedule.

Vince Greenland reviewed the new projects with the committee answering any questions they had.

With no further discussion, Commissioner Jeff Thomas made a motion approve the Draft 2019-2022 TIP as presented. Steve Howsare seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

## **V. FY 2017-2020 TIP Modifications and Amendments**

David Lybarger reviewed the 2017-2020 TIP modifications and amendments with the committee answering any questions they had. There was one amendment to add \$800,000 in ARC funding to the FY 2018 TIP for the Fulton County Medical Center Access Road Project. The project is expected to go into construction next year.

With no further discussion, Steve Howsare made a motion to approve the addition of \$800,000 in ARC funding to the FY 2018 TIP for the Fulton County Medical Center Access Road Project. Commissioner John Vatauvuk seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

## **VI. Election of Chair and Vice Chair**

Tom opened the floor for nominations for RTTC Chair and Vice Chair. Brandon Peters nominated Vince Greenland for Vice Chair. There were no other nominations for Vice Chair. Vince Greenland nominated Brandon Carson for Chair. There were no other nominations for Chair.

With no further discussion Mark Colussy made a motion to close nominations and seconded the motions to elect Brandon Carson Chair and Vince Greenland Vice Chair of the RTTC for 2018. The motion was approved unanimously.

Tom then opened the floor for nominations for RTCC Chair and Vice Chair. Commissioner Barry Dallara nominated Tom Prestash for Chair. There were no other nominations for Chair. Commissioner John Vatauvuk nominated Commissioner Jeff Thomas for Vice Chair. There were no other nominations for Vice Chair.

With no further discussion, Frank Hampton made a motion to close nominations and seconded the motions to elect Tom Prestash Chair and Commissioner Jeff Thomas Vice Chair of the RTCC for 2018. The motion was approved unanimously.

## **VII. Other Business**

### Performance Measures

Brandon Peters noted that the performance measures were discussed earlier in the meeting. The committees needs to decide by December 29, 2017, if they will use the States performance measures or set their own. The consensus seems to be to stick with the state measures. A letter is to be sent out on what those measures will be but has not been received to date. Frank Hampton added that some letters have already been sent and it should be received any day. It is up to this committee if they would like to decide now or wait until they see what the performance measures are. Decision is for a one-year time frame.

With no further discussion, Brandon Carson made a motion to approve the use of the State Performance Measures contingent on the committee's agreement with the letter when received. Steve Howsare seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

It was agreed as an action item the letter will be forwarded to the committee members once received.

### TA Set-Aside Applications

Brandon Peters added that five applications have been received from the RPO region for the Transportation Alternative Set-Aside funds. State wide there were 172 quality applications submitted requesting \$147,000,000. Many requested more than the

\$1,000,000 threshold. All applicants were required to meet with their local PennDOT District and Planning Partners. The RPO now needs to rank and score the projects and submit the rankings to Central Office by January 5, 2018. A December meeting will be scheduled to allow the applicants to make a presentation on their project to the committee and then the committee will rank and score the projects. SAP&DC is currently working with Frank Hampton to acquire the use of Decision Lens software to rank the projects at the meeting. A Doodle Poll will be sent to the committee members within a weeks' time to select a date for the December meeting.

#### Other Business

Mark Colussy drew the committees' attention to item 2F-Membership of the RTTC in the Southern Alleghenies RPO Policies and Procedures included in the meeting packet. As part of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan update it was suggested each county formulate an Active Transportation Committee. Huntingdon County Commissioners have authorized the committee and they have been soliciting for membership. They expect the committee to be complete in the next few weeks and will begin meeting in January.

He also recommended adding another public transportation/transit representative to the RTTC. Brandon Carson and Tom agreed there is room for additional representatives. They asked the committee members to look at the committee structure section of the SAP&DC RPO Policies and Procedures and make recommendations at the December meeting.

### **VIII. Adjournment**

Commissioner Jeff Thomas made a motion to adjourn at 12:30 PM.

<p><b><u>NOTE:</u></b> The next meetings will be a combined meeting of the RTTC and RTCC will be held on December 8, 2017, at the SAP&amp;DC at are at a date and time to be determined.</p>
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**ACTION ITEMS**

<b>Date Issued</b>	<b>Action Items</b>	<b>By Whom</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
November 2, 2017	Provide a status update of freight corridor list submissions.	Frank Hampton	Next meeting
November 2, 2017	Forward letter listing the State Performance Measures to the committee members as soon as it is received.	Brandon Peters	As soon as received.
November 2, 2017	Using crash data, pull together list of Highway Safety projects for remaining \$2,049,000 for the RTTC to review and make recommendation to RTCC.	District 9	Next Meeting
November 2, 2017	For committee members to review the SAP&DC RPO Policies and Procedures section 2F, Committee Structure, and make recommendations for any changes at the next meeting.	All	Next Meeting