

**SOUTHERN ALLEGHENIES
PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**

RURAL TRANSPORTATION COORDINATING COMMITTEE

May 2, 2018

10:00 AM

SAP&DC Conference Room

Altoona, PA

ACTION SUMMARY

The following are the major actions taken by the Rural Transportation Coordinating Committee (RTCC) at its regular meeting held on May 2, 2018, at the SAP&DC in Altoona, PA.

1. Approved the February 14, 2018, RTCC meeting minutes as presented.
2. Approved putting the Draft FY 2019-2022 Highway and Bridge TIP; Draft FY 2019-2022 Public Transit TIP; MOU, pending any changes to the MOU between the State and FHWA; and EJ Analysis out for public comment from May 4, 2018, through June 4, 2018.
3. Approved the addition of four municipal representatives, one from each of the four counties, to the Rural Transportation Technical Committee.

**SOUTHERN ALLEGHENIES
PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**

RURAL TRANSPORTATION COORDINATING COMMITTEE

May 2, 2018

10:00 AM

SAP&DC Conference Room

Altoona, PA

MEETING MINUTES

I. Welcome

The following members were present at the meeting:

- Barry Dallara, Bedford County Commissioner
- Rodney McCray, Fulton County Commissioner
- Jeff Thomas, Huntingdon County Commissioner
- John Vatauvuk, Somerset County Commissioner
- Frank Hampton, PennDOT Central Office
- Thomas Prestash, PennDOT District 9-0
- Steve Howsare, SAP&DC
- Brandon Carson, SAP&DC-RTTC Chair

Others in attendance included:

- Gerald Walker, Somerset County Commissioner
- David Beachy, GHD, Inc.
- Vince Greenland, PennDOT District 9-0
- David Lybarger, PennDOT District 9-0
- Justin Ruggles, SAP&DC
- Joseph Saxfield, SAP&DC

Each participant received a meeting packet that included:

- Agenda
- February 14, 2018 RTCC Meeting Minutes
- RTCC 2018 Meeting Schedule
- Draft FY 2019-2022 TIP Public Meeting Notice
- 2019 Program Development Schedule
- MOU PA Statewide Procedures for 2019-2022 TIP Revisions
- EJ Analysis
- Southern Alleghenies RPO TIP Adjustments
- RTTC Proposed Membership
- County Traffic Count Requests

- MTF Application Summary Sheet
- Trail Counters Data Example
- PennDOT Potential Freight Rail Projects/Improvements Questions for PREP Partners
- Draft FY 2019-2022 TIP and Project Maps

II. Approval of the February 14, 2018 RTCC Meeting Minutes

Tom Prestash welcomed the committee to the meeting and Brandon Carson conducted roll call. Tom asked the committee to review the February 14, 2018, RTCC meeting minutes included in the meeting packet.

With no further discussion, Commissioner Jeff Thomas made a motion to approve the February 14, 2018, RTCC meeting minutes as presented. Commissioner John Vatavuk seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Tom introduced David Beachy, a representative from GHD, Inc., a consulting firm in Huntingdon who was visiting today. Tom asked the committee to go around the room and introduce themselves. Brandon then reviewed the RTCC meeting schedule for the remainder of the year as there had been some confusion on meeting dates.

III. Draft 2019-2022 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Brandon Carson reviewed the FY 2019-2022 TIP Development Schedule with the committee. He reviewed the progress made so far on the development of the Draft FY 2019-2022 TIP update and the dates of the schedule to come. He then reviewed the next steps to get the Draft FY 2019-2022 TIP approved. He presented a PowerPoint presentation showing the number of projects per county broken down by type of projects. Bridges are still a priority in the RPO. Tom added that he can bring in a breakout of the resurfacing and regular maintenance conducted in each of the counties at the next meeting to give a bigger picture of the work that is being completed. Commissioner Thomas asked about the safety projects in Huntingdon County. Tom said they are programmed on the TIP. Tom added that he had some information on the projects identified in the Route 22 Study for the HCB&I meeting. He will give it to Commissioner Thomas and he will make sure they get it.

Brandon then reviewed the Draft FY 2019-2022 Public Transit TIP with the committee. He noted that Brandon Peters worked with the transit agencies to identify their needs. Most of the projects are vehicle replacements. In Somerset County, all of their vehicles will be replaced in the four-year period. Tom added that the Deputy Secretary for Transit and Multimodal is no longer with the department. Anthony McCloskey is currently the Acting Deputy Secretary taking his place. Brandon added that copies of the Draft FY 2019-2022 TIP, Draft FY 2019-2022 Transit TIP, and maps of the projects in the RPO and by county were available at the meeting for anyone who would like to see them. If you have any

questions after reviewing them, please contact him. The committee will be voting today to put the Draft FY 2019-2022 TIP out for public comment.

Brandon reviewed the MOU with the committee, noting that this dictates what is an amendment to the TIP and what is an administrative action. An amendment requires approval and is only for changes that exceed \$2M. The smaller administrative actions are still included in the update provided to the committee at each meeting. Dave added that if a state project is changed to a federal project or if money from the RPO line item is added to a project these also require approval. He noted that as new changes are added to the MOU between the State and FHWA, there may be some additional items that will require approval. The committee may need to do more frequent e-memo votes as this continues.

Brandon then reviewed the Environmental Justice (EJ) Analysis. Based on this analysis there will be no negative impact on the EJ communities from the projects programed on the Draft FY 2019-2022 TIP. The projects will have a positive impact on the areas.

He noted that the public comment period for the Draft FY 2019-2022 TIP will be May 4, 2018, through June 4, 2018. He reviewed the dates and times of the public meetings to be held in each of the four RPO counties. The public comment period and public meetings were advertised in each of the four rural county newspapers. Following this public comment period, the Draft FY 2019-2022 TIP is scheduled to be recommended for approval at the June 20, 2018, RTCC meeting.

With no further discussion, Commissioner Barry Dallara made a motion to put the Draft FY 2019-2022 Highway and Bridge TIP; Draft FY 2019-2022 Public Transit TIP; MOU, pending any changes to the MOU between the State and FHWA; and EJ Analysis out for public comment from May 4, 2018, through June 4, 2018. Frank Hampton seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Commissioner Barry Dallara asked if PennDOT can provide some project information on the MPOs as well as the RPO as they sometimes receive questions on the neighboring counties. Tom said they can certainly get that for him. He will contact him to see exactly what he is looking for.

IV. TIP Modifications and Amendments

David Lybarger reviewed the TIP modifications with the committee answering any questions they had. There were no amendments requiring a vote.

V. Rural Transportation Technical Committee (RTTC) Structure

At the last meeting, the composition of the RTTC was discussed and the discussion tabled. The committee structure changes were recommended by the RTTC to add representation from the Townships and Boroughs. The proposal was to add four members, two municipal

representatives and two transit representatives to ensure equitable distribution to be rotated among counties. Now that this committee has had more time to discuss this, a vote needs to be held to approve the recommendation or vote the recommendation down. After much discussion, it was recommended that four municipal members be added to the committee membership. It was also recommended that only the RTCC be permitted to score and vote on the Transportation Alternatives Projects.

With no further discussion, Commissioner Jeff Thomas made a motion to add four municipal representatives, one from each of the four counties, to the Rural Transportation Technical Committee. Commissioner Barry Dallara seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

VI. Other Business

Supplemental Traffic Counts

Brandon Carson added that a list of 41 supplemental traffic counts have been put together to be completed this season. The list has not yet been prioritized, but staff hopes to have a schedule later this week. If there are any additional counts the counties would like to see, please contact SAP&DC staff.

MTF Applications submitted

Brandon Carson presented a list of applications for Multi-Modal funding to the committee. Three of these were submitted for last round as well, two were submitted for TAP funds, and two are new. DCED Multi-Modal funding has waived the 30% match for municipalities but PennDOT Multi-Modal funding has not. The PennDOT match can be waved with approval by the Secretary but there is no indication that this will happen. SAP&DC staff will be going out in the next few weeks to conduct site visits and then will coordinate with PennDOT on their comments.

Heritage Trail Counts

SAP&DC purchased five trail counters. One has been deployed on the Heritage Trail in Bedford County and three are ready to be deployed on the H&BT Trail sometime next week. He showed the committee some of the results of the data collected so far explaining that it will be very useful moving forward. He added that there is one counter left if anyone has a trail or dirt road they would like counts on.

Rail Freight

Brandon also added that SAP&DC received information from DCED that they are looking for feedback on potential rail freight projects. This information has been distributed to the PREP planning partners as well as the County Planners. If anyone is aware of any projects, please contact your County Planning Directors. Any potential applications can be sent to SAP&DC.

Commissioner Dallara asked what the process would be to try an initiate a project in Claysburg? There is not a location in Bedford for a project but there is not much distance

between Claysburg and the Bedford County Industrial Park. Tom said it would start with a discussion with the new Department Secretary. He will discuss this with Commissioner Dallara and then possibly set up a conference call.

Other Business

Tom added that recently the EPA made a ruling on an air quality conformance issue. The RPO will not be affected but the Johnstown and Altoona MPOs will.

Tom also noted that as this committee is aware, a Blair County PennDOT employee was fatally wounded while working recently on I-99. Tomorrow at 3:00 PM there will be a memorial service held at PennDOT District 9-0. Juniata Street will be closed during the service. Starting next week, the traveling memorial for all 88 District 9 employees who have lost their lives on the job will be passing through the six counties.

On May 7, 2018, Secretary Richards will be on a panel at UPJ in Johnstown at 11 AM. Anyone who is available is welcome to attend.

PennDOT is also coordinating a public event on Route 219 this fall. Information will be sent out as it becomes available.

Frank Hampton added that previously, the RPO opted to adopt the State Safety Performance Measures. The State is now setting targets for pavement, bridges, and performance-based planning and programming. The new targets are due at the State level this month and then the RPO will have 180 days to set their own targets or adopt the states. Just an FYI that this may need to be on the November meeting agenda.

VII. Adjournment

Brandon Carson made a motion to adjourn at 11:30 AM.

<p><u>NOTE:</u> The next meeting of the RTCC is scheduled for November 7, 2018, at the SAP&DC beginning at 10:00 AM.</p>

**SOUTHERN ALLEGHENIES
PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**

**RURAL TRANSPORTATION COORDINATING COMMITTEE
May 2, 2018**

ACTION ITEMS

Date Issued	Action Items	By Whom	Due Date
May 2, 2018	To present a breakout of the resurfacing and regular maintenance projects conducted in each of the RPO counties to give a bigger picture of the work that is being completed on the TIP.	Tom Prestash, PennDOT District 9	Next Meeting
May 2, 2018	Provide information on the projects identified in the Route 22 Study to Commissioner Thomas for the HCB&I meeting.	Tom Prestash, PennDOT District 9	No Date Given
May 2, 2018	Provide Commissioner Barry Dallara with project information on the MPOs as they sometimes receive questions on the neighboring counties.	PennDOT District 9	No Date Given
May 2, 2018	Discuss the possibility of a rail freight project in Claysburg with Commissioner Barry Dallara.	Tom Prestash, PennDOT District 9	No Date Given