



243 High Street Room 026
Morgantown, WV 26505
(304) 291-9571
www.plantgether.org

Agenda

Citizens Advisory Committee
243 High Street Room 026 and by WEBEX
Morgantown WV
August 12, 2021

6:00 PM

1. Call To Order
2. Approval of Minutes
3. TIP Amendments
4. TIP Process Amendment
5. Comment on proposed Patteson Drive/Laurel Intersection Modification
6. Status of Metropolitan Transportation Plan Update
7. Discussion of Bicycle and Pedestrian Data Collection
8. Other Business
9. Meeting Adjournment



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Memorandum

Date: August 3, 2021
To: CAC Members
From: Bill Austin, AICP
Subject: August 12, 2021 Meeting Agenda Items

This memorandum is to inform you of the items under consideration in the August 10, 2021 Agenda.

3)-Transportation Improvement Program Amendments and Administrative Adjustments-Please find below a summary of the TIP Amendments requested by the West Virginia Department of Transportation Division of Highways:

FY 2021

Add

Scott Run Rd-Fort Martin Rd – Reconstruct Existing Alignment – Construction. Project number STP0100157D. Federal funds \$436,400; total funds \$545,400.

Update

Westover Bridge – Repair piers, deck joints – Construction. Project number STP0792205DTC. Federal funds \$2,688,769; total funds \$2,688,769. (Total funding increases from \$1,100,000 to \$2,688,769)

Delete

Mylan Park Bridge Approach – Realign Approaches – Engineering. Project number NHPP0793269D. Federal funds \$90,000; total funds \$100,000.

I/S WV 100 & Dents Run Improvement – Improve turning radius/intersection – Construction. Project number HSIP0100152D. Federal funds \$150,000; total funds \$150,000.

Boyers Ave / US 19 Improvements – Widen, Run Lane, Traffic Signal – Engineering. Project number NHPP0019437DTC. Federal funds \$5,000; total funds \$5,000.

FY 2022

Delete

Mylan Park Bridge Approach – Realign Approaches – Construction. Project number NHPP0793270DTC. Federal funds \$1,000,000; total funds \$1,000,000.

Boyers Ave / US 19 Improvements – Widen, Run Lane, Traffic Signal – Construction. Project number NHPP0019439DTC. Federal funds \$577,000; total funds \$577,000.

Boyers Ave / US 19 Improvements – Widen, Run Lane, Traffic Signal – Right of Way. Project number NHPP0019438DTC. Federal funds \$1,000; total funds \$1,000.

FY 2023

Add

Pleasant St Streetscape – Construction Sidewalks – Construction. Project number TAP2020175D. Federal funds \$1,274,400; total funds \$1,274,400.

TIP Administrative Adjustment

Add toll credits and modify federal project number:

Holland Ave + 1 – Mill & Pave – Construction. FFY 2022. Project number NHPP0019497DTC. Federal funds \$1,450,000; total funds \$1,450,000.

LT COL CARROLL B LILLY MEM BR – 6 YR BR INSP– Engineering. FFY 2021. Project number NHPP0068187DTC. Federal funds \$700,000; total funds \$700,000.

CHEAT LAKE - COOPERS ROCK – 6 YR BR INSP– Construction. FFY 2022. Project number NHPP0068182DTC. Federal funds \$5,800,000; total funds \$5,800,000.

WESTOVER - STAR CITY – RESURF – Construction. FFY 2021. Project number NHPP0793288DTC. Federal funds \$2,202,884; total funds \$2,202,884.

GREENBAG ROAD (GO BOND 4) – IMPROVE I/S & WIDEN – Right of Way. FFY 2022. Project number STP0857020DTC. Federal funds \$3,000,000; total funds \$3,000,000.

Modify FFY:

Brockway Ave – Mill & Pave – Construction. Project number STP0007305D. FFY 2023. Federal funds \$640,000; total funds \$800,000.

Burrough St – Mill & Pave – Construction. Project number STP0592001D. FFY 2023. Federal funds \$211,200; total funds \$264,000.

As a reminder to CAC members Administrative Adjustments do not require approval. The Division of Highways requests that the CAC recommend approval of the TIP Amendments to the MPO Policy Board.

4)-Transportation Improvement Program Process Amendment-Several years ago the WVDOH began using a process to administratively combine small projects into “pots” of money for an area (County, Region or District) that would preclude the need for an MPO to approve every small Federally funded project before it could begin. Many MPO’s around the State have approved the use of this process. Colloquially this process has been called “groupable projects.” The process streamlines WVDOH’s ability to accomplish small projects.

The way the process typically works is for the MPO Policy Board to approve a “budget” for a given project type and when the WVDOH begins a project of that type the MPO is informed that the project using a portion of those funds has been instigated. Examples of typical projects that could be considered for this process include small resurfacing projects, minor traffic operations projects such as pavement markings, shoulder improvements, fencing, skid treatments, and guard rails.

While the MPO Policy Board has been generally supportive of efforts to streamline the process, the WVDOH had not defined the criteria or project types that would be subject to “groupable projects.” It was the consensus of the Policy Board at that time the MMMPO would not authorize the use of “groupable projects” for our area until there were more clearly identifiable definitions of what projects would be “groupable.”

Since this process was last discussed with WVDOH they have adopted State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) and Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) guidelines which identifies the programs and types of projects that would be able to be included in a “groupable project” pot of money. To be eligible to be grouped the projects must be less than \$10 million and they can be accomplished with the issuance of a Categorical Exclusion (CE) environmental document.

In addition to identifying the type of smaller projects that could be subject to “groupable projects” noted above the STIP Guidelines also identifies additional criteria when projects **cannot** be included as part of a “groupable projects” line item. The following list identifies those guidelines:

Ungrouped/Individually Listed Projects-These criteria identify projects are not to be “grouped”

- All regionally significant projects as defined by Title 23 CFR 450.104-These are large projects with large budgets.
- Any project that cannot meet CE guidelines or which cannot be exempt from air quality analysis...regardless of funding source
- Any project action as specified by 23 CFR 771.117 as listed below:
 - An acquisition of more than a minor amount of ROW or that would result in any residential or non-residential displacement
 - An action that needs a bridge permit from the Army Corp of Engineers
 - A finding of adverse impact under the National Historic Preservation Act or likely to adversely impact threatened or endangered species under the Endangered Species Act.
 - Construction of temporary access or the closure of existing roads, bridges, or ramps that result in major traffic disruptions
 - Changes in access controls
 - A floodplain encroachment
- Any project adding travel lanes to the transportation system
- Projects with the potential for significant environmental impacts (Environmental Assessments or Environmental Impact Statements)

-Any project for the construction of new roads and interchanges or adding pavement as part of the construction of a new roadway is ineligible for grouping.

-Any project for a new traffic signal regardless of cost in MPO counties are considered non-groupable.

-Any projects or project phases being processed initially using Advance Construction, as well as Advanced Construction conversions

-Any project likely to significantly affect regional travel during construction.

(Please note that some the expanded definition of these criteria were left out of this list for brevity. The complete list is available upon request.)

In general projects that do not meet the criteria noted above are considered “groupable”. **Under the WVDOH guidelines transit projects are considered groupable.**

Given that WVDOH has much more clearly defined the projects that are eligible to be grouped. It is respectfully recommended that the MPO amend its TIP Policy to incorporate groupable projects in our Transportation Improvement Program. **If the MPO Policy Board were to take this action small projects that meet the criteria identified above and that are not separated out as noted could begin and the Policy Board would be notified of the project at the next regular meeting.**

It is respectfully recommended that the CAC recommend the approval of this change to the TIP process to the MPO Policy Board.

5)-Comment on the proposed Patteson Drive/Laurel Street Pedestrian Crossing-Please find enclosed with the agenda a preliminary drawing for a proposed pedestrian crosswalk at Patteson Drive and Laurel Street. This design has been provided by WVDOH Traffic Engineering in Charleston as part of their response to the Pedestrian Safety Initiative which is created due to a fatality on Patteson Drive several years ago. Because of the need for a quick response the City of Morgantown, WVU, and the Local Transportation Assistance Program (LTAP) have already provided comments on this drawing to WVDOH. The comments below came from those agencies:

-Please clarify if the refuge will be street level or raised. Please consider making the refuge area wider to provide pedestrians with a more well defined refuge.

-It may be appropriate to move some of the signs off of the sidewalk to ensure that there is adequate sidewalk width on Patteson.

-Also, the new Stop sign on Laurel may narrow the sidewalk making it difficult for pedestrians to use the sidewalk. Please take this into consideration.

-It is possible that the keep right signs may not be necessary.

-Also, since this is a trial design it might be desirable to install a HAWK or ped signal in the future. Please do not preclude the possibility of easily installing a HAWK with this design.

The TTAC is offered the opportunity to review the preliminary design and to provide additional comments as needed.

6)-Metropolitan Transportation Plan Update-Stantec has begun work on the Update of the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) to date they have reported the following progress:

- Completed summary review of previous plans/documents

- Launched online survey and interactive map through project website www.MMMPO2050.com and interim review of feedback
- Launched freight survey to targeted stakeholders
- Reviewed previous MTP/TIP list of committed projects
- Generated an initial draft of transportation revenue projections
- Synthesizing existing conditions data for summary, including crashes, traffic volume, transit service areas, demographics, and bike/ped facilities
- Coordinating series of focus group discussions with targeted stakeholders, facilitated two to date
- Preparing materials and outreach strategy for Public Symposium event on Thursday August 26th

No action is needed on this item.

7)-Bicycle and Pedestrian Data Collection Committee-Jing Zhang has been working with an ad-hoc committee to develop data collection protocols and strategies for Bicycle and Pedestrian data. He will briefly discuss efforts to date. No action is needed on this item.



CITIZENS ADIVOSRY COMMITTEE MEETING

June 10, 2021

This meeting was held virtually on
<https://morgantownmonongaliampo.my.webex.com/meet/baustin>

Members Present:

Christiaan Abildso, Chip Wamsley, Kelli LaNeve, Ed Sneckenberger, Matt Cross, Heather Britton, Tom Zeni.

Others Present: Bill Austin, Matthew Ridgeway, Jing Zhang

1. Call to Order

Due to the COVID 19 pandemic, the CAC meeting was held in person with teleconference option. The phone number and web address to access the teleconference were publicized.

With a quorum present, Chairman Abildso called the meeting of the CAC to order at 2:46 PM.

2. Approval of Minutes

Chairman Abildso noted that the minutes of the last meeting were included in the agenda package. Chairman Abildso noted that Star City was misspelled as Start City. Mr. Wamsley noted that his name was misspelled as Walmsley. Mr. Austin noted that MPO will correct the errors accordingly. Mr. Wamsley moved to approve the minutes as corrected; seconded by Mr. Sneckenberger.

3. WV 7-Mineral Avenue Preliminary Report

Mr. Austin noted that a preliminary report for the WV 7 – Mineral Avenue data collection is included in the agenda package. This report presents the results of staff's recent data effort on the subject intersection. The initial investigation does not identify the need for a traffic signal at the intersection, however it does identify that there are significant pedestrian volumes at the location. Staff is recommending that this data collection be repeated this fall when it is anticipated that traffic will be returning to patterns more resembling pre-pandemic levels.

Mr. Sneckenberger noted that the minutes of the last meeting mentioned that DOH did a study at the intersection two days ago and there was a concern that DOH might use outdated data. Mr. Austin noted that the study was a data collection done by the DOH. The DOH has been continually monitoring the traffic in that area.

Mr. Austin noted that the DOH will make a presentation in the Morgantown City Council Chamber about their recommendations on improving pedestrian and bicycle safety in the area.

Mr. Abildso noted that including a study area map in report will be helpful to people who are not familiar with that location.

Mr. Cross noted that some drivers are not used to the four-way intersection on WV 7 near the new Aldi. It might be helpful to install a warning sign about incoming traffic for the left-turn traffic from Hartman Run Rd.

Mr. Cross noted that the Morgantown Traffic Commission has designated the Carlisle Ave as a health street. He hopes it will encourage through traffic using the Richwood Ave and Darst St intersection, instead of using Carlisle Ave as a short cut.

This is an informational item. It requires no action from the Committee.

Mr. Abildso left the meeting. Mr. Cross assumed the role of Chairman for the committee.

4. Metropolitan Transportation Plan Update

Mr. Austin noted that the consultant team had held initial meetings with stakeholders to discuss expectations for the project. The consultants are setting up the project website and collecting data from the MPO and the Mountain Line Transit. The public involvement will begin in this fall when WVU is in session.

Mr. Austin noted that the City of Morgantown is to enter into a contract with a consultant for its Comprehensive Plan updates. The Mon County is working with its consultant to engage stakeholders and to collect data for its Comprehensive Plan updates. Granville, and Westover have contracted with the Land Use and Sustainable Development Law Clinic of the WVU Law School for their Comprehensive Plan updates. The MPO staff is coordinating with the consultants to develop a detailed work plan to proceed.

Mr. Cross asked if WVU will continue running the passenger coach buses to transport students between campus. He noted that the buses have impacted many local streets in the neighborhood. Mr. Austin noted that he will reach out to the WVU transportation to get an update on that issue.

5. Mountain Line Transit Study Update

Mr. Austin noted that the Mountain Line is working on a study to develop a universal transit and parking payment system for the region, which will include Mountain Line Transit, City of Morgantown Parking Authority, WVU parking and PRT. The study is an extension of the Strategic Transit Plan which was recently adopted. Mr. Austin noted that the Federal Transit Administration will feature it as a demonstration of this type of innovation for small communities nationwide.

Mr. Zeni noted that an intelligent parking system will benefit local business by providing convenience to its customers.

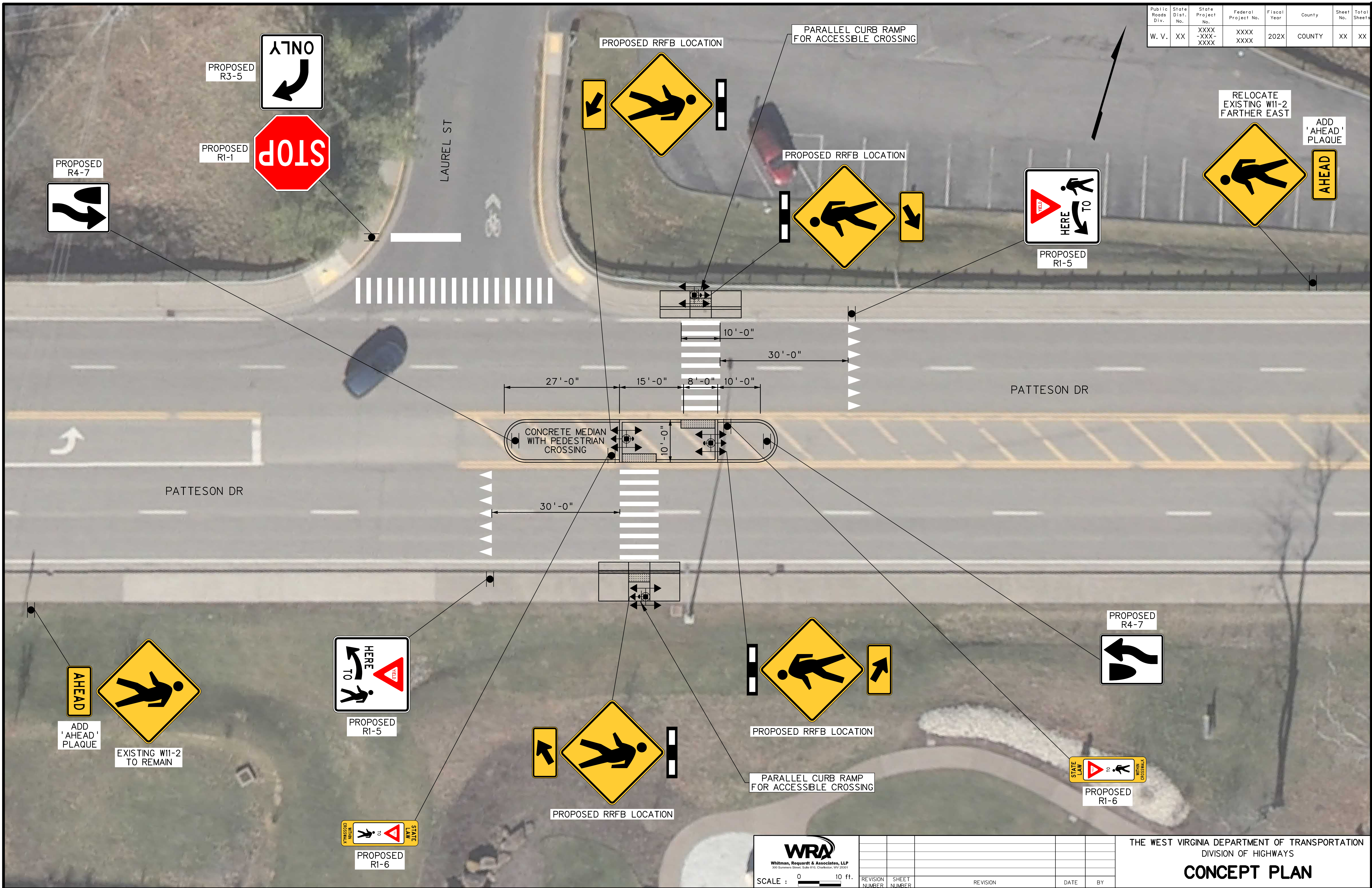
Mr. Cross asked if the Mountain Line is considering creating a major transit hub in the downtown area. He noted that there has been a new development underway near the Westover Bridge and Pleasant Street intersection.

Mr. Austin noted that a downtown transit terminal was not recommended in the transit plan. Instead, the plan recommended major transit stops in the downtown area.

6. Other Business

Mr. Cross expressed his appreciation that the DOH has removed the barrier on the shoulder of Mon Blvd. He noted that the sign of shoulder closed ahead is still at the intersection of 8th street and Mon Blvd. Mr. Austin noted that the DOH is planning to resurface the shoulder of that segment on Mon Blvd in the summer.

Public Roads Div.	State Dist. No.	State Project No.	Federal Project No.	Fiscal Year	County	Sheet No.	Total Sheets
W. V.	XX	XXXX-XXX-XXXX	XXXX XXXX	202X	COUNTY	XX	XX



WRA
Whitman, Reqsardt & Associates, LLP
1000 Summers Street, Suite 810, Charleston, WV 25301

SCALE : 0 10 ft.

REVISION NUMBER	SHEET NUMBER	REVISION	DATE	BY

THE WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS
CONCEPT PLAN



22-JUL-2023 11:55