



MMMPO 2023 Fall Newsletter

2023 MPO COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULE

Next MPO Policy Board

Thursday, October 19th, 2023

Time: 6 PM, EST

Next Citizens Advisory Committee

Thursday, October 12th, 2023

Time: 6 PM, EST

Next Technical Advisory Committee

Tuesday, October 10th, 2023

Time: 1 PM, EST

Policy Advisory Committee

Meets 2nd Monday of the Month at 9 AM at Morgantown Area Partnership Transportation Committee

How to attend

The MPO Policy Board meets at the Monongalia County Board of Education and the meeting is broadcasted on our YouTube channel.

Meetings of the Citizens Advisory Committee and the Technical Advisory Committee are held at the MPO's conference room at 243 High Street, Morgantown. The meetings are accessible virtually on: morgantownmonongaliampo.my.webex.com/meet/baustin

MMMPO INFORMATION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- WV DOT is holding a meeting Tuesday, October 3, 2023, at the Westwood Elementary School Gymnasium to discuss the proposed Morgantown Industrial Park Access Project. Representatives from the West Virginia Division of Highways (WVDOT) and Federal Highway Administration will be available between 5:00 and 8:00 PM to discuss the proposed project and answer your questions.
- The MPO has given Kimley Horn notice to proceed with the Downtown Micro Simulation Study. Data collection should begin shortly. The MPO will keep the public informed as the Study moves forward.
- **Need to report road repairs? Below is contact information for Monongalia County:**
Citizen's Request For Assistance - Marion and Monongalia Counties
Tonya Clemente: 304-326-0109, Tonya.S.Clemente@wv.gov

MPO STAFF UPDATE: JING ZHANG

The MMMPO is proud to announce that Jing Zhang has joined the Advisory Committee on Transportation Equity for the U.S. Department of Transportation! He is looking forward to working with Secretary Pete Buttigieg to advance civil rights and expand access to jobs and economic opportunities in transportation for all.



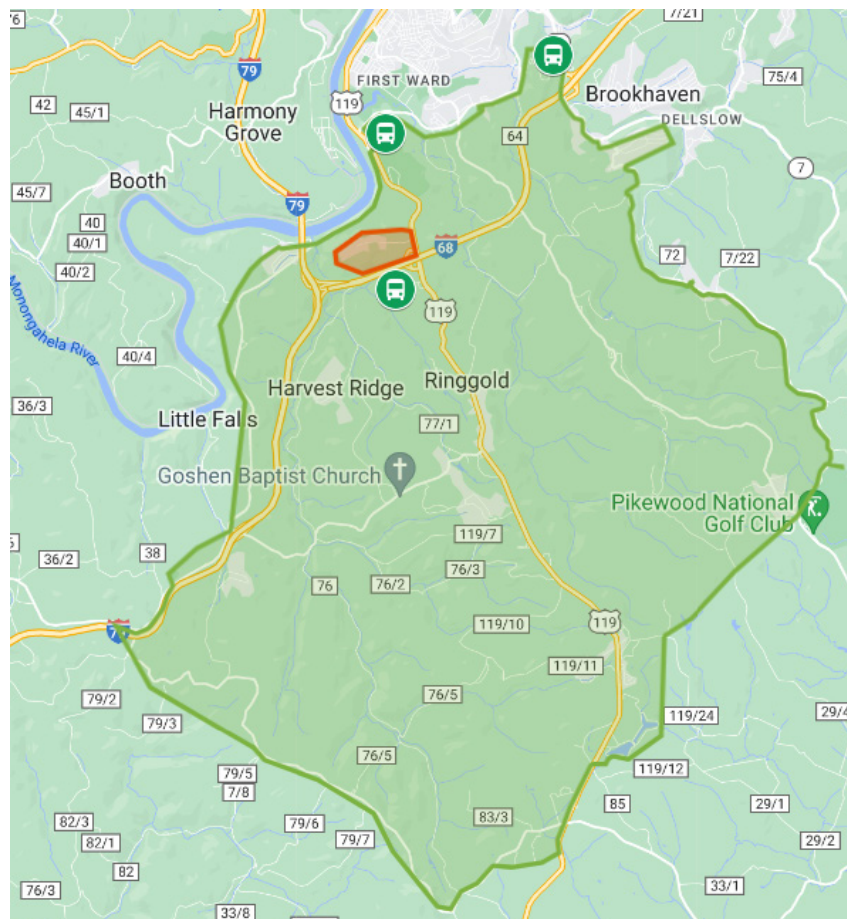
Zhang is pictured middle row, second to the right.

PARTNER AGENCY UPDATE: **MOUNTAIN LINE TRANSIT AUTHORITY (MLTA)**



Mountain Line has provided the MMMPO with multiple updates:

- Mountain Line has two vanpools currently running, both traveling to Hazelton. These vanpools are utilizing the CMAQ subsidy.
- Mountain Line is also continuing renovations of their terminal lobby. These renovations will include an expanded lobby, vending area, children's area, high-top tables and charging stations, informational monitors, and more.
- Mountain Line is continuing their microtransit service, called RideMon. There is a new app called RideMon that is specific to our service. It can be found on both IOS and Android. The dark green shaded area in the map below is where the RideMon service runs. It connects riders with transit options at Walmart on Grafton Rd, Giant Eagle on Greenbag Rd and the Sabraton Goodwill/Sheetz area.
- Mountain Line is working with consultants to conduct a Rider/Non-Rider Research Campaign to study changes in travel behavior due to third party ride-sharing services, post-pandemic increases in telecommuting, historically high fuel prices and other broader trends.
- Mountain Line's Citizen's Advisory Committee elected a new Chairperson, David Huffman. He is a frequent rider of Mountain Line and a long time member of the CAC. We are excited to have him serve as Chair.



PARTNER AGENCY UPDATE: **CITY OF MORGANTOWN**



The City of Morgantown has provided the MMMPO with multiple updates

- The Pleasant St Streetscape is currently under construction with Blue Gold Development as the contractor. The 1st St relocation project was bid out recently and should begin soon. This work complements the WVDOH Beechurst widening and Campus Drive relocation.
- The City of Morgantown's annual pavement preservation project is underway, with the contractor Parrotta Paving. Substantial completion is expected on October 17th.
- The Morgantown Traffic Commission meets next week and will consider initial recommendations for the pedestrian safety and sidewalk plan's early phase construction projects before sending said projects for broader review. Kimley-Horn is assisting the City's Public Works and Engineering department in their analysis of project candidates that will meet the initial goals and objectives set by the Commission and its Pedestrian Safety Board: high impact (existing high use or clear latent demand), benefits spread across all city neighborhoods, quick to implement, and safety motivated. This early construction phase will be concurrent with and is intended to spread awareness and encourage public participation in a year-long planning, implementation, and funding strategy analysis to address City Council's repeated demands for investment in ped / bike infrastructure.
- The City continues to refine its pavement preservation strategies and is gearing up to reassess its roads this fall.

PARTNER AGENCY UPDATE: **CITY OF MORGANTOWN- PEDESTRIAN SAFETY BOARD**

The Morgantown Pedestrian Safety Board (PSA) welcomes two new members. Traci Stead from the 6th Ward and Peter Giacobbi, Professor of Sport and Exercise Psychology who will represent WVU. Currently they are developing PSA's targeting students and the general public. They are also highlighting October as National Pedestrian Safety Month.



PARTNER AGENCY UPDATE: **MON RIVER TRAILS CONSERVANCY**

The Mon River Trails Conservancy is hosting a ribbon-cutting for the Collins Ferry Connector on Tuesday, October 3 at 1PM. All are welcome to celebrate this newest rail-trail connector. Ribbon-cutting will take place at the top of connector at the end of Collins Ferry Road followed by a guided walk to see how it links into the Mon River Rail-Trail.



MRTC is happy to announce that two trail counters were installed. One replaced an old counter at the WV/PA state line, and the other is on the newly opened Collins Ferry Connector.

ABOUT THE MMMPO

The Morgantown Monongalia Metropolitan Planning Organization (MMMPO) was established in 2003 to be the areas transportation planning agency for the Morgantown, West Virginia urban area. Any urban area with a population greater than 50,000 citizens is required by Federal Statue to form a Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The two main functions of an MPO are developing a Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and ensure that the use of federal funds for transportation projects aligns with the goals of the MTP.

Policy Board Officers:

Michael Kelly, Mon County

B.O.E

Board Chairman

Joe Statler

Board Vice-Chairman

Mayor Patricia Lewis,

Granville

Board Treasurer

Bill Austin

Secretary, Executive Director

Policy Board Members:

Monongalia County Commission:

Jeffrey Arnett

Tom Bloom

Sean Sikora

City of Morgantown City Council:

Jenny Selin

Bill Kawecki

Joe Abu-Ghannam

West Virginia University- Ron Justice

Star City- Steve Blinco, Recorder

City of Westover- Mayor Bob Lucci

Mountain Line Transit Authority- Maria Smith

West Virginia Department of Transportation-Division of Highways- Brian Carr

In accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the MMMPO strives to provide equal access to all members of the public at our public meetings and hearings. If you require mobility assistance, sign language interpretation, or interpretation in a foreign language, please contact us at least 4 business days prior to the scheduled meeting or hearing. Our contact information is as follows:

Jing Zhang/Jackie Peate

planning@plantogether.org

304-291-9671

The MMMPO is committed to ensuring that everyone has the opportunity to participate and be heard at our public meetings and hearings.

Our Partners

