



82 Hart Field Road Suite 105
Morgantown WV, 26505
www.planttogether.org

MINUTES

MPO Citizens Advisory Meeting
MMMPO Conference Room
243 High St. Room 110, Morgantown, WV
May 11, 2017, 6:00 PM

Members Present

Bill Rice (Chair), Christiaan Abildso, Matthew Cross, Chip Wamsley, Ed Sneckenberger, Maria Smith

Others Present

Jing Zhang

1. Call to Order

With a quorum present, Mr. Rice called the meeting of CAC to order at 6:00 PM.

2. Approval of the Minutes

Mr. Rice noted that the minutes of the March meeting were included in the agenda packet. Mr. Cross suggested deleting the word “promptly” in his comments in the Other Business section. Mr. Wamsley moved to approve the minutes as corrected, seconded by Mr. Abildso. With no discussion, the motion was unanimously approved.

3. TIP Amendments

Mr. Austin noted that WVU and the West Virginia Division of Highways have requested that the MPO amend the TIP. The amendments requested by WVU specifies the type of equipment that the federal funds will be used for. This specification is required by the FTA. Mr. Abildso moved to recommend approval of the TIP Amendments requested by WVU to the MPO’s Policy Board, seconded by Mr. Wamsley. With no discussion, the motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Austin then noted that the DOH has requested TIP amendments for two projects. One is the White Day Creek Bridge Replacement and the other is the Pleasant Street Streetscape Project. Mr. Abildso asked about the scope of work for the Pleasant Street project. Mr. Austin noted that it is from the Spruce St to University Ave. It includes improvements for planters, lights, and sidewalks in the corridor. Mr. Abildso moved to

recommend approval of the TIP Amendments to the MPO's Policy Board, seconded by Mr. Wamsley. With no discussion, the motion was unanimously approved. Mr. Austin noted that there are two administrative adjustments in the TIP. The adjustments require no action from the committee.

4. Beechurst Avenue Study Status Report

Mr. Austin noted that MPO staff has conducted data collection for the Beechurst Ave Study, including turning movement counts, speed data, pedestrian safety audit, and crash data. Mr. Austin noted that MPO staff will collaborate with both the district office and the central office of the DOH to identify the best alternatives. Mr. Austin noted that the MPO is working with a professor from WVU to develop a Vissim model for the study. The improvements will include facilities for pedestrians, transit users, as well as motor vehicles. Mr. Austin also noted that the next steering committee meeting for the study will be in the middle of June and the MPO will hold a public meeting in August.

Mr. Cross noted that he will be glad to work with DOH staff to identify potential pedestrian facility improvements in the Corridor. He also suggested that the pedestrian signal at the intersection of Beechurst Ave. and Campus Dr. be changed from an exclusive signal to a concurrent signal. Mr. Austin noted that this alternative will be evaluated in the study.

5. Ongoing Project Update-WV DOH District Four

Mr. Austin noted that the Mon Blvd TWLTL project has been moved forward. The drainage improvement and utility relocation are underway and the project will be constructed next year.

The DOH will complete the paving on Van Voorhis Rd by September 1st. Chairman Rice asked what is scope of the paving project. Mr. Austin noted that the project is from WV 705 to West Run Rd.

9. Other Business

Mr. Cross asked about the bus shelter on University Ave near the Law School Dr. Ms. Smith noted that the bus shelter is expected to be relocated to the other side of the street. The relocation is delayed due to a right-of-way issue.

Chairman Rice noted that the Chamber of Commerce will hold a meeting with DOT Secretary on June 7th

Mr. Zhang noted that he has attended a webinar for a grant application. The grant is the Cultural Corridor Consortium grant, sponsored by the Transportation for America. The grant is to advance artistic and cultural practice as a strategy that transportation agencies can adopt to strengthen community involvement in transportation decision making, facilitate productive community meetings, and support community-driven infrastructure investment. Mr. Abildso noted that he has informed the City of Morgantown about this grant opportunity and suggested using the grant to fund a project to paint the PRT pillars on Walnut Street. It was the consensus of the CAC that the MPO should support an application for the grant. Mr. Austin said that he would seek Policy Board approval of staff time for this project.

10. Meeting Adjournment.

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 PM.