TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

May 11th, 2026

This meeting was held virtually on ZOOM and in-person at 243 High St (Court House), Room 026 in downtown Morgantown.

Members Present: Bill Austin (Chair), Andrew-Gast Bray, Michael Dougherty, Kara Greathouse, Jeremy Evans, Drew Gatlin, Brian Carr, Rickie Yeager, Damien Davis, Kerri Wagner

Others Present: Jacqueline Peate, Jing Zhang

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1. Call to Order

The TTAC meeting was held virtually and in person. The phone number and web address to access the teleconference were publicized. With a quorum present, Mr. Austin called the meeting of the TTAC to order at 1:01 PM.

2. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Austin noted that the minutes of the last meeting were included in the agenda package. Mr. Davis moved to approve the meeting minutes; seconded by Mr. Yeager. The motion to approve the minutes passed unanimously.

3. 2026 May – TIP Amendments and Administrative Adjustments

Mr. Austin stated that the West Virginia Department of Transportation, Division of Highways, has requested the following amendments and administrative adjustments to the MPO's TIP:

TIP Amendment:

I-79 CHAPLIN HILL GATEWAY (PHASE 2) (CONVERT AC). Federal ID: NHPP0079156D. FFY: 2027. Type of Work: RECONSTRUCT I/C. Phase: Construction. Funding Source: MEGA GRANT. Federal Funding: $31,000,000. Total Funding: $135,000,000. Location Description: I-79 Exist 155.

POINT MARION ROAD INTERSECTION. Federal ID: CARB0119605D. FFY: 2026. Type of Work: DESIGN STUDY. Phase: Engineering. Funding Source: CRP 50-200K POP. Federal Funding: $960,000. Total Funding: $1,200,000. Location Description: Intersection of Point Marion Rd and Stewartstown Rd/Canyon Rd.

Mr. Davis asked about the funding amount for just planning and design for the I-79 Chaplin Hill Gateway project. He stated it seemed like a lot of money. Mr. Austin stated there was a huge NEPA process that led to this number. Mr. Gatlin asked who drew up the funding, and Mr. Austin clarified it was WVDOH with a couple of years of suballocated funds.

Mr. Gast-Bray moved to recommend approval of the 2026 May – TIP Amendments and Administrative Adjustments; seconded by Mr. Dougherty. The motion passed unanimously.

4. On Call Consultant RFQ

Mr. Austin stated that the purpose of this RFQ is to make qualified Consultant resources available to the MMMPO. The Selection Committee was made up of five members- Damien Davis, Michael Dougherty, Andrew Gast-Bray, Kimberly Fragola, and Bill Austin. Four firms applied- AECOM, Burgess and Niple, HDR and Kimley Horn. Each firm has a WVDOT approved overhead rate and their documentation shows that they are financially solvent. Applications from these four firms were uploaded to a secure Dropbox and sent to Selection Committee members on April 23, 2026. Staff requested completed score sheets by April 30, 2026. On May 1, 2026 the Committee met virtually to discuss scoring and finalized their decision.

Kimley Horn had 2 first place votes, AECOM had 2 first place votes, and HDR had 1 first place vote. Burgess and Niple was eliminated due to no first-place votes, and having scored 40-60 points below second place HDR and third place (AECOM). Burgess and Niple also exhibited less experience and fewer tools for regional travel demand modeling. The RFQ for our on-call consultants states that the MPO can accept up to three firms. The Consultant Selection Committee determined that selecting three firms will provide the MMMPO with flexibility in selecting a qualified firm for its work in specific projects. Also, if the three firms are contractually on the on-call contract, then the MMMPO can ask them to provide a scope of work including price for a project. The recommendation of the Consultant Selection Committee is that HDR, AECOM and Kimley Horn should all be offered the MPO on-call consulting contract.

Mr. Yeager asked if Burgess and Niple had applied before. Mr. Austin stated that they did work on a plan for the MMMPO in 2013. Mr. Gatlin was surprised at their score. Mr. Austin stated they did not have much on a Regional Travel Demand Model, and that was a big thing the MMMPO was looking for in an on-call consultant. Mr. Yeager also asked which firm will be assigned to what projects, and Mr. Austin stated there will be an RFP process as projects arise.

Mr. Yeager moved to recommend approval of the selected firms from the On Call Consultant RFQ; seconded by Mr. Gatlin. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Prioritization of Downtown Microsimulation Study Projects

Mr. Austin stated that this report, included in the agenda, was developed as a supplement to the Downtown Morgantown Microsimulation Study conducted for the Morgantown Monongalia Metropolitan Planning Organization (MMMPO) by Kimley Horn and Associates. This report was presented to the TTAC in March and it has been cleaned up based on feedback. The Microsimulation Study evaluated various alternative configurations of the street network. The Study analysis used turning movement counts and real time traffic origin and destination data and a simulation of downtown Morgantown's signal system using signal timings provided by WVDOH. For the analysis of future year operations, the Study used traffic volumes from the MMMPO's regional travel demand model. Them MMMPO is asking the TTAC to recommend that the Policy Board approve this report as this shows what needs to be done in order to close Grumbein's Island.

Mr. Gatlin pointed out the report showed a decrease in traffic, and he did not expect this. Mr. Austin stated this change could be attributed to WVU satellite classes, declining student population, and businesses moving out of downtown. Some of this traffic has bounced back post COVID. Mr. Austin stated his successor will need to update counts and origin + destination. MMMPO staff will add an appendix on this issue and create a memo. Mr. Dougherty agreed with Mr. Gatlin's point. He also stated that Beechurst has changed due to construction and asked for some more clarification on these numbers. Mr. Gast-Bray mentioned traffic adjusts. Mr. Yeager asked if the connection on Snider and Willey will be

happening at the same time. Mr. Austin said yes. Mr. Gatlin noted on page 20 that Beechurst cuts through Huff. Mr. Austin stated that was just how the model put it, and that Huff will not be adjusted.

Mr. Gast-Bray moved to recommend approval for the Prioritization of Downtown Microsimulation Study Projects; seconded by Mr. Dougherty. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Other Business

There was no other business.

7. Meeting Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:30 pm.