



TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL ADVISORY MEETING

May 9, 2023

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

Members Present:

Bill Austin (Chair), Michael Dougherty, Andrew Gast-Bray, Brian Carr, Jeremy Evans, Maria Smith, Rickie Yeager, Jason Stinespring, Damien Davis

Others Present: Jacqueline Peate, Jing Zhang

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 1:00 PM.

2. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Austin noted that the minutes of the last meeting were included in the agenda package. Mr. Gast-Bray moved to approve the meeting minutes as presented; seconded by Mr. Dougherty; with no discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

3. Project Selection Process for Suballocated Funds and TIP Application

Mr. Austin noted that he has been working with the West Virginia MPO Association and the WV DOH on federal funding suballocation, project selection, and programming for the MPO area.

Mr. Austin noted that the IIJA Bill provides that each MPO's with populations under 200,000 are suballocated funds from the Carbon Reduction Program (CRP). Our MPO's allocation under this program is approximately \$352,000 a year for 5 years. The bill also identifies that a portion of the State's Surface Transportation Block Grant funding is to be equitably distributed to the State's MPO's with populations of less than 50,000. WVDOH worked with WVAMPO to determine an equitable formula for distributing these funds. Our MPO's portion of these funds is approximately \$570,000 a year for five years. The MPO can also request use of STBG funds for projects above our suballocation in a competitive process.

Considering previously allocations, the MPO needs to select projects for the remaining CRP and STBG funds. The MMMPO has approximately \$500,000 of CRP funds to program for Fiscal Years 2022 and 2023. The MMMPO also has approximately \$700,000 in STBG funds from FY's 22 and 23 to program. A draft process description of the selection of projects for the MPO's suballocation funding is included in the agenda package.

Mr. Austin noted that the MPO is working with WV DOH to establish a process in which the MPO can submit State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) project recommendations to WV DOH, based on the status of MPO's TIP and community priorities.

Mr. Austin noted that the MPO is also working with WV DOH to set up a process in which the MPO can make recommendations on paving projects to the local DOH district.

Mr. Davis asked about the deadline for applying the federal suballocation funds. Mr. Austin noted that the MPO will coordinate with the WV DOH to determine the deadline details. It is expected that there will be one or two deadlines for each year.

Mr. Gast-Bray moved to recommend recommendation of the Project Selection Process to the MPO's Policy Board; seconded by Mr. Yeager. With no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

4. Pavement Condition and System Reliability Performance Measures

Mr. Austin noted that included in the agenda package are the updated 2023-2025 pavement and bridge maintenance performance measures that WV DOT has requested the MPO to adopt. The performance measures include targets for the interstate system, non-interstate national highway systems (NHS) and NHS bridge deck area. The measures include system reliability and pavement conditions. The State is required by federal regulations to update the performance measures and adopt them every year.

Mr. Yeager moved to recommend approval of the performance measures to the MPO's policy board; seconded by Mr. Gast-Bray. Mr. Dougherty asked about comparing with last year's performance measures. Mr. Austin noted that WV DOT reported a fast deterioration rate of the roads and bridges last year and some performance measures were getting worse. The proposed repairment and rehabilitation of the interstate bridges will have significant impact on the pavement condition performance in the MPO area. With no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

5. Other Business

Mr. Davis noted that WV DOH's Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) grant is now open for applications. The City of Morgantown has submitted three streetscape projects in the downtown areas.

8. Meeting Adjournment

The Meeting adjourned at 1:28 PM