



243 High Street Room 110
Morgantown, WV 26505
(304) 291-9571
www.plantgether.org

Agenda

MPO Policy Board Meeting
City of Morgantown
Council Chambers
389 Spruce Street
Morgantown WV
August 17, 2017
6:00 PM

1. Call To Order
2. Public Comment
3. Approval of Minutes
4. Committee Reports
 - a. Citizens Advisory Committee
 - b. Finance Committee
 - c. Executive Director Report
5. Designation of Proposed Freight Routes
6. Proposed TIP Process and Meeting Schedule Changes
7. Beechurst Avenue Study Status Report
8. Other Business
9. Meeting Adjournment



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Memorandum

Date: August 10, 2017
To: Policy Board Members
From: Bill Austin, AICP
Subject: August 17, 2017 Policy Board Meeting Agenda Items

This memorandum is to inform you of the action items for the August 17th Policy Board Meeting.

-Designation of Proposed Freight Routes-In response to the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act passed by Congress last year, the Federal Highway Administration has been developing a National Highway Freight Network (NHFN). The purpose of this freight network is to qualify freight corridors for additional funding under programs in the FAST Act. West Virginia DOH is developing the WV State Freight network as part of the NHFN. The FHWA and DOH networks include major facilities in Monongalia County. The FHWA network includes I-79 and I-68. The State designated facilities in Monongalia County include I-79, I-68 and US 119 as part of the WV Freight network. The proposed State network is shown on the attached maps.

In addition to the State and National networks, the national freight network allows the designation of a Critical Urban Freight Corridors (CUFC) as part of the NHFN. The criteria for the designation of these networks is:

A public road designated as a CUFC must be in an urbanized area...and meet one or more of the following four elements:

- (A) connects an intermodal facility to:
 - 1. the PHFS (Primary Highway Freight System);
 - 2. the Interstate System; or
 - 3. an intermodal freight facility;
- (B) is located within a corridor of a route on the PHFS and provides an alternative highway option important to goods movement;
- (C) serves a major freight generator, logistic center, or manufacturing and warehouse industrial land; or
- (D) is important to the movement of freight within the region, as determined by the MPO or the State.

While WVDOH has the primary responsibility for determining these routes they have asked the MPO's to recommend routes for these corridors. The State can designate up to 75 miles of CUFC.

WVDOH has allocated our area approximately 9 miles of CUFC based on the area's population. MPO Staff has reviewed the criteria and previous public comments and is proposing to add WV 43, CR 857 and WV 7 as Critical Urban Freight Corridors. Please see the maps included with the agenda packet for the recommended routes. The TTAC, the Citizens Advisory Committee, and the Freight Advisory Committee have recommended that the Policy Board approve the recommendation of these routes to the WVDOH. The Freight Advisory Committee has also recommended that in the future the MPO recognize the Morgantown Industrial Park as a freight origin and destination and adjust the CUFC accordingly. The Citizens Advisory Committee recommended the approval of the CUFC as recommended by staff. It is respectfully requested that the Policy Board recommend the proposed routes to the WVDOH for inclusion in the freight network.

-Proposed TIP Process Changes and Meeting Schedule Changes-As has been previously reported to the MPO's Committee's, the WVDOH has been working with the West Virginia MPO Association to develop a process to expedite the approval of non-controversial and routine projects. These projects can include items such as bridge inspections, emergency repairs, and similar issues. The Association has come to a preliminary agreement for this process, known as "groupable projects" under this process the DOH would approve projects in certain categories such as bridge inspections and then notify the MPO to add them to the TIP and to announce the addition of these projects at the next Policy Board meeting. This process is similar to the TIP Adjustment process previously adopted by our MPO.

The WVAMPO and MMMPO Staff have been in agreement with this process for most items except there has been concern about the Transportation Alternatives and the pavement management programs. MPO Staff and Policy Board members receive the most public inquiry to projects in these categories. The MPO Association and WVDOH have worked out an agreement on these projects whereby MPO's would provide input into the Transportation Alternatives Program and the maintenance program at the beginning of the project selection process for these and the other programs to be included in "groupable projects" is included in the agenda packet. The agreement on the "groupable projects" program is to be finalized with a memorandum from WVDOH, to be provided shortly. A description of the programs to be included in the "groupable projects" program is included with the Agenda packet. This description is the basis of the final agreement with WVDOH, though some details need to be worked out.

The West Virginia Legislature's recent approval of enhanced transportation funding has made the adoption of "groupable projects" urgent. Adopting the "groupable projects" would allow WVDOH to implement small projects quickly. In addition to the adoption of "groupable projects" WVDOH has requested that MPO's schedule a Policy Board meeting every month until WVDOH has caught up with the need to program projects utilizing the new funds. If there are no TIP amendments for a meeting that is not part of the MPO's regular schedule, that meeting will be cancelled.

The Technical Advisory Committee has recommended that the Policy Board authorize the Executive Director the Policy Board Chairman and a small committee of Policy Board members to approve the "groupable projects" procedure for use in the TIP excepting the Transportation Alternatives Program ("non-traditional projects, bicycle and pedestrian projects) funding category, upon receiving the final written agreement. The TTAC felt that the TAP Project should still follow the existing approval process. The Citizens Advisory Committee recommended that a committee consisting of the Executive Director, the Policy Board Chairman, at least one additional member of the Policy Board and a member of the CAC and the TTAC should be authorized to approve the "groupable projects" process. The CAC recommended that if the Policy Board feels that TAP projects should be included in the "groupable projects process the process should include a clearly defined role for the MPO in the TAP grant process. Both the TTAC and CAC expressed concern that there be a clearly defined and documented "groupable projects" process including the definition of "regionally significant projects".

It is also respectfully requested that the Policy Board authorize the Executive Director to schedule additional meetings in September and December in 2017 to accommodate WVDOT's request. This issue will be addressed with the development of the MPO's 2018 calendar in January.

MORGANTOWN MONONGALIA
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION POLICY BOARD
JULY 27, 2017 MINUTES (SPECIAL MEETING)

Members Present:

Chairman Ron Justice-WVU, Vice-Chairman Mike Kelly-Board of Education, Commissioner Sean Sikora-Monongalia County, Councilperson Ryan Wallace -City of Morgantown, Dominick Claudio-Star City, Councilperson Jennifer Selin-City of Morgantown, Bill Kawecki-Mayor of Morgantown, Commissioner Tom Bloom-Monongalia County, Brian Carr-WV DOH, Councilperson Janice Goodwin-City of Westover

Members Absent:

Delegate Joe Statler-Blacksville, Dave Bruffy-Mountain Line, Commissioner Edward Hawkins-Monongalia County, Treasurer Mayor Patricia Lewis-Granville,

MPO Director: Bill Austin

1. Call to Order

With a quorum present, Chairman Justice called the Policy Board meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Chairman Justice welcomed new board members from Star City and the City of Morgantown. Chairman Justice then expressed his appreciation to Senator Bob Beach for attending this meeting.

2. Public Comment

No public comment

3. Approval of Minutes

Chairman Justice noted that the minutes of the June meeting were included in the agenda packet. Commissioner Sikora pointed out an error in the finance section of the minutes. The balance at the end of May has a discrepancy of two cents, according to the financial report presented at this meeting. Commissioner Bloom moved to approve the minutes as corrected, seconded by Mr. Kelly. With no discussion, the motion was unanimously approved.

4. Reports

a. Finance Report

Mr. Austin noted that Mayor Lewis was not able to attend the meeting. Mr. Austin then presented a letter prepared by Mayor Lewis. It showed the Finance Report for May as the following:

-- Beginning balance in June \$15,835.60 with expenditures of \$17,240.79 and a deposit of \$19,211.18, leaving a balance of \$17,805.99 at the beginning of June.

Councilperson Selin moved to accept the May Finance Report; seconded by Commissioner Sikora. With no discussion, the motion unanimously passed.

b. Executive Director

i. Beechurst Avenue Study Status Report

Mr. Austin noted that the MPO has completed data collection for the Beechurst Ave Corridor Study and has created a validated traffic model for the existing traffic operation in the corridor, including morning and afternoon peak hours. MPO staff will work with the steering committee to develop alternatives, which will be evaluated using the traffic model. Both existing traffic volumes and future year volumes will be used. Mr. Austin noted that the next steering committee will be held on August 8th, immediately after the regular TTAC meeting.

ii. Update on transportation and the arts grant application

Mr. Austin noted that the MPO applied for a transportation and art grant from Transportation for America. Unfortunately, the MPO was not awarded the grant. Mr. Austin then noted that the MPO is using the template developed in the grant application to partner with public health professionals to reach out to the transportation dependent population in the area. MPO staff will continue work with those entities on future projects and studies to improve transportation equity in the area.

iii. Update on the need for TIP amendment process change

Mr. Austin noted that the the WV DOH is developing a mechanism to streamline the TIP amendment process for non-controversial projects. The DOH proposes to create several classes of groupable projects, which would include projects, such as bridge inspections and road resurfacing. This process will allow the DOH to program the groupable projects quickly. Under this process, the DOH will inform the MPO about the groupable projects programmed in the MPO's TIP in the same way TIP projects are currently administratively adjusted.

Mr. Austin noted that although the MPO Association has agreed on the process in general, there are two issues. These is a disagreement on the appropriateness of including the Transportation Alternative Program and paving projects under the groupable project arrangement. Another issue is how the MPO's project priorities specified in the long range transportation plan are reflected under the proposed TIP amendment process.

Mr. Carr noted that the groupable project arrangement will help to shorten the delivery process of non-controversial projects, especially in some areas where MPO meets less frequently than the MMMPO. Projects with significant regional impact will not be included in the groupable project categories. Mr. Carr then noted that Perry Keller of DOH will attend the Policy Board meeting in August to discuss this issue further.

Mayor Kawecki asked what mechanism the DOH will use to prioritize the groupable projects and to what extent the local priority will be considered. Mr. Carr noted that he is not able to answer the question at this time, but the DOH is attempting to make the process effective in addressing local priorities.

iv. Update on Status of Performance Measures and MPO processes

Mr. Austin noted that the FAST Act mandates performance measures for transportation planning. The performance measures will require the MPO to evaluate the impact of the projects in MPO's TIP and Metropolitan Transportation Plan in the next long range transportation plan update. The WV DOH has been working with the FHWA and the MPOs to develop a state-wide performance measures. This item will come back to the Policy Board in the future.

5. TIP Amendments

Mr. Austin noted that the WV Division of Highways requested that the MPO amend the TIP to include project for the reconstruction of a portion of I-79, starting from Blue Horizon Drive to the Pennsylvania State Line. Although the project involves no federal fund at the time, the DOH requested an approval from MPO's Policy Board, which will allow the DOH to seek reimbursement from Federal Funds at later time.

Mr. Austin noted that the DOH requested the Policy Board to authorize the Policy Board Chairman to approve this TIP Amendment upon completion of the required 15 working day comment period on August 1st, pending no public comment requiring consideration by the Policy Board. Commissioner Bloom moved to the requested motion, seconded by Mr. Kelly. With no discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

6. Auditor Selection

Mr. Austin noted that the auditor selection committee has reviewed the two proposals submitted for consideration from auditing firms and recommended that Balestra, Harr and Scherer, CPA's be awarded the contract. The selection committee consisted of Mayor Lewis, Commissioner Sikora, Mayor Shamberger and the MPO Executive Director. Commissioner Sikora moved to confirm the recommendation from the the auditor selection committee and authorize the Executive Director to enter into a contract with the selected firm; seconded by Mr. Kelly. With no discussion, the motion unanimously passed.

7. Other Business

Chairman Justice noted that the DOH District Office for Mon county area has been focusing on improving the collaboration between the DOH and local entities on roadway maintenance projects, and

that the county commission has set aside dedicated funds from the County General Fund to improve the road conditions in the county.

Chairman Justice also noted that the Easton Hill will be closed in the next two weeks for construction. The utility work for the Mon Blvd 2WLTL project has completed and the construction of the project will be in next summer.

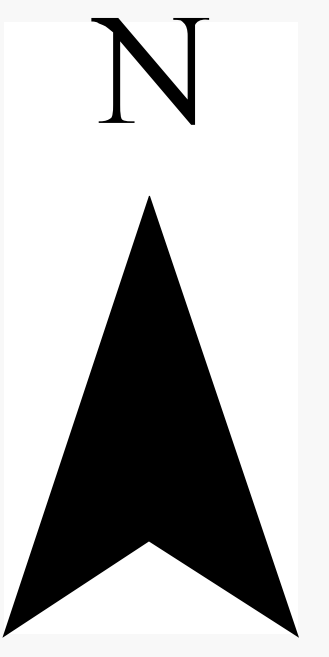
Chairman Justice then noted that the DOH has identified the preferred alternative for the improvement of the intersection at University Ave and Collins Ferry Rd, and the project is moving forward.

Councilperson Selin expressed her support to the intersection improvement project at University Ave and Collins Ferry Rd. She noted that the selected alternative will provide better accommodations for traffic to and from the Suncrest Middle School. Mr. Kelly agreed and noted the project will lower the cut through traffic at the parking lot of the bank near the intersection. Mr. Claudio noted that he is looking forward to the improvements for the community.

8. Meeting Adjournment

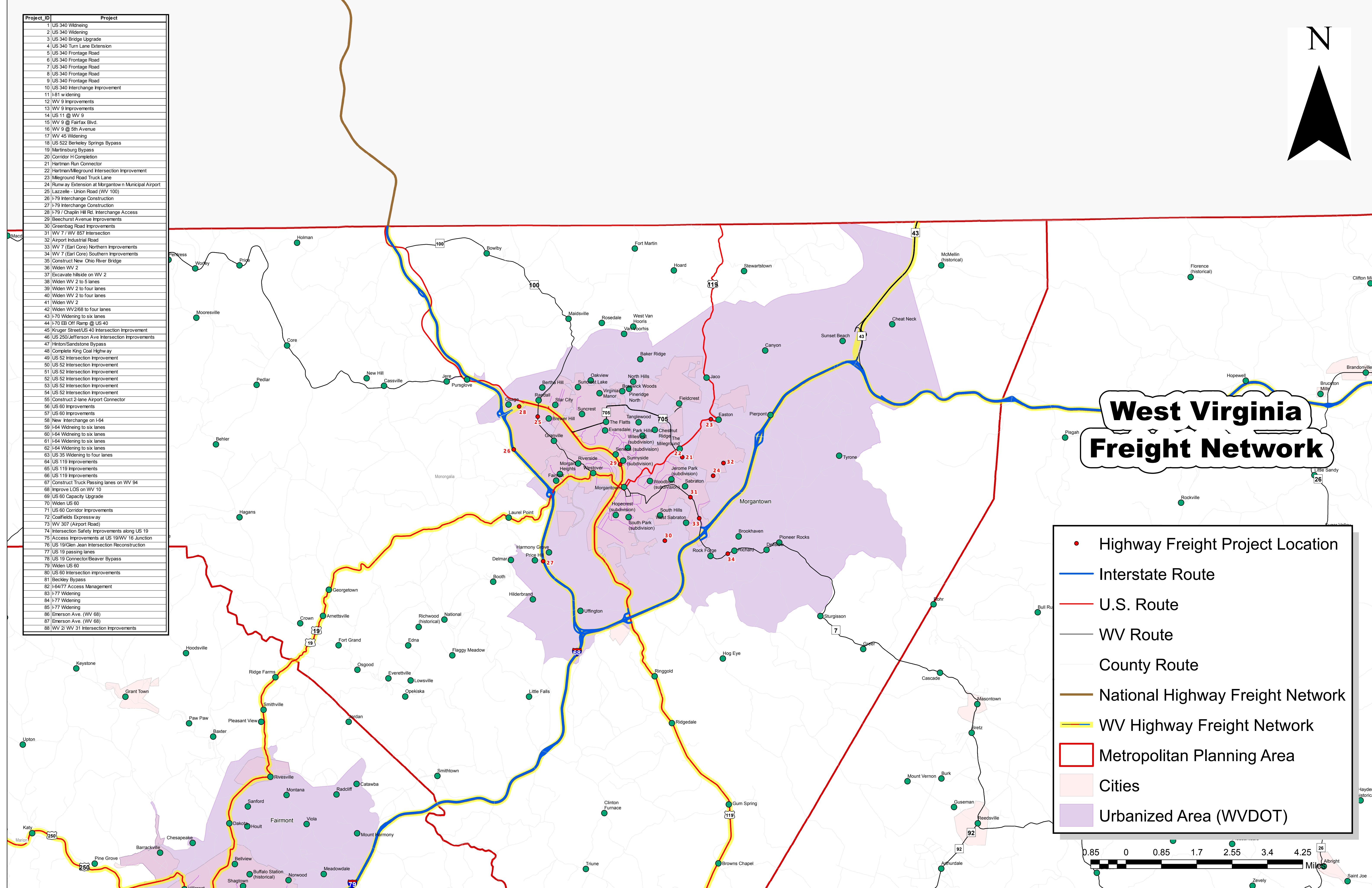
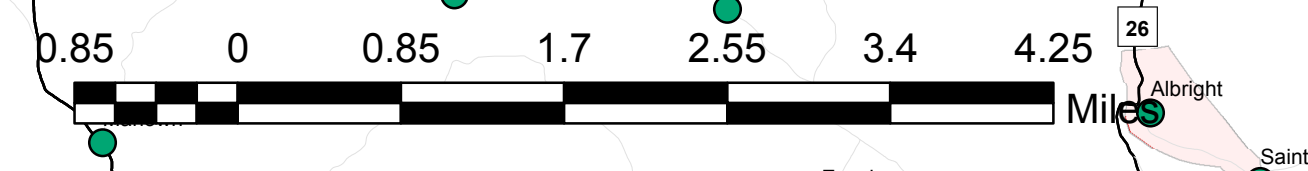
Meeting adjourned at 7:15 PM.

Project ID	Project
1	US 340 Widening
2	US 340 Widening
3	US 340 Bridge Upgrade
4	US 340 Turn Lane Extension
5	US 340 Frontage Road
6	US 340 Frontage Road
7	US 340 Frontage Road
8	US 340 Frontage Road
9	US 340 Frontage Road
10	US 340 Interchange Improvement
11	I-81 widening
12	WV 9 Improvements
13	WV 9 Improvements
14	US 11 @ WV 9
15	WV 9 @ Fairfax Blvd.
16	WV 9 @ 5th Avenue
17	WV 45 Widening
18	US 522 Berkeley Springs Bypass
19	Martinsburg Bypass
20	Corridor H Completion
21	Hartman Run Connector
22	Hartman/Miegroud Intersection Improvement
23	Miegroud Road Truck Lane
24	Runway Extension at Morgantown Municipal Airport
25	Lazzelle - Union Road (WV 100)
26	I-79 Interchange Construction
27	I-79 Interchange Construction
28	I-79 / Chaplin Hill Rd. Interchange Access
29	Beechurst Avenue Improvements
30	Greenbag Road Improvements
31	WV 7 / WV 857 Intersection
32	Airport Industrial Road
33	WV 7 (Earl Core) Northern Improvements
34	WV 7 (Earl Core) Southern Improvements
35	Construct New Ohio River Bridge
36	Widen WV 2
37	Excavate hillside on WV 2
38	Widen WV 2 to 5 lanes
39	Widen WV 2 to four lanes
40	Widen WV 2 to four lanes
41	Widen WV 2
42	Widen WV2/68 to four lanes
43	I-70 Widening to six lanes
44	I-70 EB Off Ramp @ US 40
45	Kruger Street/US 40 Intersection Improvement
46	US 250/Jefferson Ave Intersection Improvements
47	Hinton/Sandstone Bypass
48	Complete King Coal Highway
49	US 52 Intersection Improvement
50	US 52 Intersection Improvement
51	US 52 Intersection Improvement
52	US 52 Intersection Improvement
53	US 52 Intersection Improvement
54	US 52 Intersection Improvement
55	Construct 2-lane Airport Connector
56	US 60 Improvements
57	US 60 Improvements
58	New Interchange on I-64
59	I-64 Widening to six lanes
60	I-64 Widening to six lanes
61	I-64 Widening to six lanes
62	I-64 Widening to six lanes
63	US 35 Widening to four lanes
64	US 119 Improvements
65	US 119 Improvements
66	US 119 Improvements
67	Construct Truck Passing lanes on WV 94
68	Improve LOS on WV 10
69	US 60 Capacity Upgrade
70	Widen US 60
71	US 60 Corridor Improvements
72	Coalfields Expressway
73	WV 307 (Airport Road)
74	Intersection Safety Improvements along US 19
75	Access Improvements at US 19/WV 16 Junction
76	US 19/Glen Jean Intersection Reconstruction
77	US 19 passing lanes
78	US 19 Connector/Beaver Bypass
79	Widen US 60
80	US 60 Intersection improvements
81	Beckley Bypass
82	I-64/77 Access Management
83	I-77 Widening
84	I-77 Widening
85	I-77 Widening
86	Emerson Ave. (WV 68)
87	Emerson Ave. (WV 68)
88	WV 2/ WV 31 Intersection Improvements



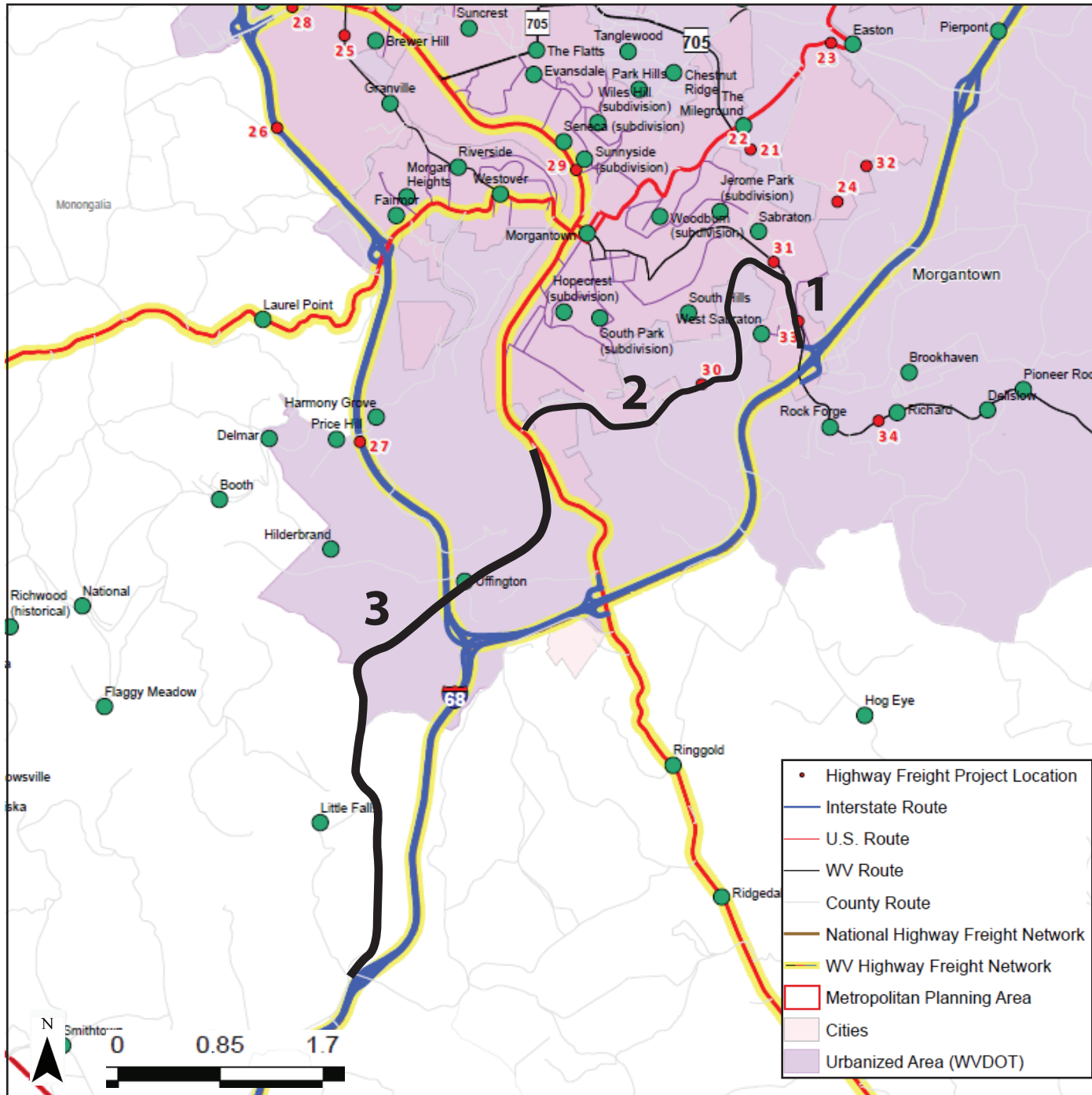
West Virginia Freight Network

- Highway Freight Project Location
- Interstate Route
- U.S. Route
- WV Route
- County Route
- National Highway Freight Network
- WV Highway Freight Network
- Metropolitan Planning Area
- Cities
- Urbanized Area (WVDOT)





West Virginia Freight Network
 MMMPO recommended freight
 routes (draft)



- 1 WV 7/Earl L Core Rd**
 From: CR 857/Greenbag Rd
 To: I-68 Exit 4
 Length: 0.8 mile
- 2 CR 857/Greenbag Rd**
 From: US 119/Don Knotts Blvd
 To: WV 7/Earl L Core Rd
 Length: 3.5 mile
- 3 CR 73 Smithtown Rd**
 From: US 119/Don Knotts Blvd
 To: CR 77/Goshen Rd
 Length: 5.5 mile

Type	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Clr	Split	Amount	Balance
Centra-Checking (voucher checks)								17,805.09
Deposi	07/10/2017		WVDOH	Deposit	√	PL Funds (Funds)	36,439.74	54,244.83
Check	07/13/2017	5555	City of Morgantown	Fee	√	Salary	-78.00	54,166.83
Check	07/15/2017	8921	HDR Engineering	I-79 Access Study	√	Consulting (Consulting Expense)	-5,000.00	49,166.83
Check	07/15/2017	8922	Stantec Consulting Service	University Avenue Complete Streets Stud	√	Consulting (Consulting Expense)	-5,000.00	44,166.83
Check	07/15/2017	8923	WV Newspaper Publishing Co.	Job Advertisement	√	Administrative Overhead	-820.65	43,346.18
Check	07/15/2017	8924	WVU Research	Beechurst Avenue Study Modeling	√	Consulting (Consulting Expense)	-1,800.00	41,546.18
Check	07/15/2017	5552	J. William B. Austin	Electronic Transfer	√	Salary	-2,043.58	39,502.60
Check	07/15/2017	5553	Jing Zhang	Electronic Transfer	√	Salary	-1,461.82	38,040.78
Check	07/15/2017	5554	ICMA. Retirement Corp	Retirement	√	Salary	-1,630.80	36,409.98
Check	07/15/2017	941	IRS	Electronic Transfer	√	Salary	-1,304.08	35,105.90
Deposi	07/19/2017		WVDOH	Deposit	√	PL Funds (Funds)	15,516.31	50,622.21
Check	07/28/2017	5556	J. William B. Austin	Electronic Transfer	√	Salary	-2,043.58	48,578.63
Check	07/28/2017	5557	Jing Zhang	Electronic Transfer	√	Salary	-1,461.83	47,116.80
Check	07/28/2017	5558	ICMA. Retirement Corp	Retirement	√	Salary	-1,630.80	45,486.00
Check	07/28/2017	941	IRS	Electronic Transfer	√	Salary	-1,304.06	44,181.94
Check	07/28/2017	072817	WV Dept of Tax and Revenue	Electronic Transfer	√	Salary	-472.00	43,709.94
Check	07/28/2017	8925	Fringe Benefits Management Company		√	Salary	-288.90	43,421.04
Check	07/28/2017	8926	HDR Engineering	I-79 Access Study	√	Consulting (Consulting Expense)	-5,000.00	38,421.04
Check	07/28/2017	8927	Public Employees Insurance Agency		√	Salary	-1,943.06	36,477.98
Check	07/28/2017	8928	Retiree Health Benefit Trust Fund		√	Salary	-354.00	36,123.98
Check	07/28/2017	8929	Stantec Consulting Service	University Avenue Complete Street Study	√	Consulting (Consulting Expense)	-5,000.00	31,123.98
Check	07/28/2017	8930	WV Newspaper Publishing Co.	TIP Advertisement	√	Administrative Overhead	-86.30	31,037.68
Total Centra-Checking (voucher checks)								31,037.68

TOTAL