



MMMPO 2025 Winter Newsletter

2025 MPO COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULE

Next MPO Policy Board

Thursday, March 20th, 2025

Time: 6pm

Next Citizens Advisory Committee

Thursday, March 13th, 2025

Time: 6pm

Next Technical Advisory Committee Tuesday, March 11th, 2025

Time: 1pm

Policy Advisory Committee

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

How to attend

Check our website, plantogether.org, for the location of the March Policy Board Meeting. The meeting is also broadcasted live 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

- **Want to report road repairs that are needed? 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
- **Our MPO Policy Board Meetings are recorded on our YouTube Channel -**
[@morgantownmonongaliampo5733](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCmorgantownmonongaliampo5733)

MPO UPDATE: FY 2025 - 2026 UPWP

The FY 2025-26 UPWP is in the process of being developed. The primary large projects included in the draft UPWP are the completion of a minor update of the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and a planning study looking at the feasibility of the Mon Valley Greenspace Coalition's conceptual Greenbelt. The MTP update will be built on the regional travel demand model modifications made for the ongoing Downtown Microsimulation Study and public involvement and corridor evaluations to be made by MPO Staff. Corridors to be evaluated include a portion of Brookhaven Road in the vicinity of WV 7. The Greenbelt Feasibility Study will examine the corridors identified in the Greenbelt Conceptual map and as adopted in the MTP. The Study will focus on evaluating the complete street improvements for the on-road portions of the Conceptual Map. The Study will develop planning level cost estimates and prioritization of preferred on road corridors for implementation. It will also identify the preferred locations for proposed off-road facilities to intersect with on-road segments. Additional studies will be needed to determine the feasibility and alignments for off-road facilities. This Study's Complete Street emphasis should make it eligible for 100% Federal funding. The draft UPWP also proposes a 3% COLA for MPO staff.

PARTNER AGENCY UPDATE: MOUNTAIN LINE



During the early morning hours on January 6th, 2025, the snow began to fall as Winter Storm Blair made its way through Monongalia County. A State of Emergency was declared as overnight snow accumulations were expected to be around 2-4 inches depending on elevation. Monongalia County schools closed and West Virginia University also canceled its' in person classes for the day. Local outpatients clinics also opted to close their doors to keep as many folks home and off the roads as possible.

While the adverse conditions afforded some the opportunity to work from home or have the day off, many people essential to the Monongalia community had to get to work and Mountain Line was there for them. Mountain Line Transit employees braved the snow of Winter Storm Blair. Thirty-five drivers reported to work that day providing over 600 trips for community members. Together, they drove over 3650 miles, ensuring safe and reliable transportation for the community.

Throughout the day and subsequent days, as Winter Storm Blair amounted as much as 10 inches of snow in Mon County, Mountain Line Transit drivers continued to provide safe and reliable transportation. Aside from a few roads in which conditions were not safely passable, Mountain Line Transit continued to provide transportation throughout the storm without missing any service areas. Mountain Line Transit recognizes the dedication and commitment to service our drivers demonstrated during Winter Storm Blair.

Mountain Line Transit's NewFIT specialized medical transportation program experienced 18% growth in 2024. Of the 1563 trips MLTA provided, 858 were to dialysis clinics. Additional trips include dental visits, doctor visits, vision appointments, therapy appointments as well as routine checkups. This program continues to be supported by the Federal 5310 Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities funding as well as our local partner, The Hazel Ruby McQuain Foundation. Without the continued support of The Foundation, this program would not be available. MRTC looks forward to providing continued specialized medical transportation service for Monongalia County.

RideMon, Mountain Line's micro-transit service also saw a 20% increase in ridership. The RideMon service replaces the Mountain Heights and Grafton Rd routes. Using a mobile app, passengers can request rides without advanced reservations. Riders, who travel within the designated geographical area, can be dropped off without the need for a transfer. Riders who will be traveling outside the geographical area are connected with transit services at one of the three following locations: Retail Circle Walmart, Mountaineer Mall and Sabraton Goodwill. This service operates Monday through Saturday from 7:39am to 5:30pm. For additional information regarding this service, please visit MLTA's website at <https://www.busrider.org/RideMon>

PARTNER AGENCY UPDATE: CITY OF MORGANTOWN- PEDESTRIAN SAFETY BOARD



Matthew Cross, the Chair of the Pedestrian Safety Board, provided the MPO with an update. The Morgantown Pedestrian Safety Board thanks the MPO for upcoming studies of Vulnerable Road Users on Patteson Drive and the University Avenue corridor to Boyers Avenue. They will also be studying connectivity through the Green Belt proposal from the Mon Valley Green Space Coalition.

PARTNER AGENCY UPDATE: MON RIVER TRAILS CONSERVANCY



Two new directional amenity signs are now part of the Mon River Rail-Trail landscape. On either side of Town of Star City, signs provide info on upcoming amenities, distances to other destinations, and connections to the Sheepskin Trail and the Marion County Trail at either end. The MRTC thanks the Mountain Valley Resources for install and Contemporary Design for sign construction. Thank you to partners on this project- The Oakland Foundation, Visit Mountaineer Country, Rotary Club of Morgantown North, and donors to MRTC.



PARTNER AGENCY UPDATE: CITY OF MORGANTOWN



Reminder that safety, transportation, and other issues pertaining to the City of Morgantown can be submitted to the app Morgantown 311. Morgantown 311 is the fastest, easiest way for community members to submit non-emergency requests to their community, stay updated, and initiate change in their community.

The City of Morgantown has many volunteer boards one can become involved in that help with bike and pedestrian safety. See their website for more information!

ABOUT THE MMMPO

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

Policy Board Officers:

Russ Rogerson (Non-Voting)
Morgantown Area Partnership
Board Chairman

Maria Smith, MLTA
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:

Mayor Jennifer Selin
Bill Kawecki
Joe Abu-Ghannam

Mon County B.O.E- Michael Kelly

Joe Statler, Blacksville

West Virginia University- Ron Justice

Star City- Steve Blinco, Recorder

City of Westover- Mayor Bob Lucci

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

