



TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

March 11, 2025

This meeting was held virtually at <https://morgantownmonongaliampo.my.webex.com/meet/baustin> and in-person at 243 High St (Court House), Room 026 in downtown Morgantown.

Members Present: Bill Austin (Chair), Andrew-Gast Bray, Rickie Yeager, Brian Carr, Jason Workman (FHWA), Jeremy Evans, Michael Dougherty, Maria Smith, Latina Mayle

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 1:05 PM. Members and those attending introduced themselves.

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; seconded by Ms. Smith. The motion to approve the minutes passed unanimously.

3. UPWP 2025-2026

Mr. Austin stated the UPWP for 2025-2026 could be found in the agenda package. The initial draft of the UPWP was presented to the MPO's committees at their January meeting. The work proposed in the draft UPWP is essentially the same as previously discussed the two primary work items for the upcoming fiscal year are the completion of the ongoing Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) update and a study identifying the feasibility of the Mon Valley Greenspace Coalition's conceptual Greenbelt Plan. There have been minor changes to the amount of funding for various items since the committee's initial review in January but no significant change in the total amount of funding proposed for the MPO's operations. It is proposed that Staff get a 3% cost of living allowance increase as discussed in January.

Mr. Gast-Bray stated he noticed Valley View was included, but asked about West Run. Mr. Austin clarified it is in the MTP. Mr. Gast-Bray explained some of the potential development plans for the area and would like to connect with Brian Carr. He wants to make sure everyone can coordinate as development comes in.

Mr. Carr asked about the Greenbelt Study. Mr. Austin stated that 100% Complete Streets funding would be used to make sure the Greenbelt fell in line with Complete Streets. It will be examining the portions proposed to be on road. Mr. Carr stated to make sure the language was clear about Complete Streets funding in the UPWP. Mr. Austin will double check this and add clarifying language. Mr. Dougherty asked about staff using Complete Streets for the Greenbelt Study, and what happens if that funding goes away. There is a lot of uncertainty about federal funding now. Mr. Austin stated we will move forward as we are, and use PL funds if needed. These would require local match and an update to the UPWP.

Mr. Dougherty moved to approve the UPWP 2025-2026; seconded by Mr. Yeager. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Crash Report 2019-2023

Mr. Austin stated the draft Crash Report for 2019-2023 can be found in the agenda package. Staff stated that the purpose of this crash report is to comprehensively document regional crash trends, crash locations, and crash types in the Morgantown-Monongalia County metropolitan area. This analysis will support the development of the MPO's 2025 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) update, providing insight into areas that need improve transportation safety. The report will be shared with the public throughout the update process, and the findings will be incorporated into the recommendations for the MTP update. MPO Staff will utilize these findings and the supporting data in future projects when needed. These findings will be made available to other agencies in the area. There are many heat maps included in this report which help identify hotspots. There was new information in this data set, such as accidents under the influence and accidents in the dark. Pages 24-25 have a list of recommendations for areas that need safety improvements. We appreciate any comments you may have on the report that may help improve it. Staff requests that the Committee's recommend adoption of the crash report to the MPO Policy Board.

Mr. Yeager moved to approve the Crash Report 2019-2023; seconded by Mr. Gast-Bray.

Mr. Gast-Bray asked if this will help with funding. Mr. Austin said it will aid in this effort. Mr. Dougherty asked if there was specific data on crashes due to the lack of proper lighting on Exit 152. There is a hotspot map for dark/unlit areas, and staff will further investigate this area.

Without further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

5. Metropolitan Transportation Plan Update Work Program

Mr. Austin stated Staff would appreciate the Committees review of the outline of work to be performed as part of the MTP update. It should be noted that a good portion of this work has already begun. There will be milestones and updates provided to the TTAC as this process moves forward. Staff will make sure MLTA is incorporated appropriately.

6. University Ave Ped Study Update

Staff noted WVDOH crash data to select this area to study, and they will be going out for pedestrian crossing data collection after Spring Break. This area is along University Avenue in Star City to identify potential safety updates.

7. Community Garden Update

Mr. Austin stated Westover had to withdraw from the Community Garden grant. Funds were secured late from WVDOH, so it resulted in them withdrawing due to a staffing issue. Scott's Run Settlement House and Chris White are still on board to begin gardens this growing year. Staff will be re-advertising for the remaining funds. There were other applications the first round, but they did not quality.

8. Other Business

Mr. Austin stated a WVU requested special consideration of a TIP amendment because delaying approval could endanger contracts for work to be done this summer. The proposed amendment will be advertised and the public comment period ends on March 31st. This amendment is being requested by West Virginia University (WVU) due to uncertainty around the awarding of a grant to fund upgrades to the PRT approved prior to January 20th. WVU is requesting that the TIP be amended to allow for regular funding to be used for the PRT upgrade.

WVU's requested amendment is shown below:

- Preventative Maintenance, Infrastructure Rehabilitation/Renovation for the Personal Rapid Transit System, FY2025, funding Source: FF22 State of Good Repair-Section 5337. Federal funding increase from \$1,209,121 to \$2,478,577.

He will be asking the Policy Board to authorize him as the Executive Director to approve the TIP Amendment if there are no negative public comments received during the Public Comment Period.

He also stated the MPO will be requesting a line of credit of \$75k due to funding uncertainties from the Policy Board. Mr. Austin also had a MAP meeting with Secretary Rumbaugh and WVDOH and it went very well. He is looking forward to working with the secretary. He asked Mr. Yeager about the Walnut Street project, and he reported it is going well.

9. Meeting Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:37pm.