



TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

May 6, 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, Michael Dougherty, Maria Smith, Kara Greathouse

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 1:04 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; seconded by Ms. Smith. The motion to approve the minutes passed unanimously.

3. Recommendations from Downtown Microsimulation Study-Kimley Horn Associates

Mr. Austin went over the recommendations from Kimley Horn on the Downtown Microsimulation Study. Based on simulation results, stakeholder input, and the results of the evaluation process, the study team and steering committee recommended 2050 Build Alternative 7. Alternative 7 combined the most effective elements of individual scenarios into a comprehensive improvement strategy:

- Signal Optimization and Multimodal Improvements (Alternative 1) • Grumbein's Island closure (Alternative 2)
- Realignment of US 119 to Snider Street (Alternative 4B)
- Intersection and Beechurst Avenue corridor Improvements (Alternative 5).

The next steps should include inclusion of Alternative 7 projects in the MPO's long-range transportation plan and coordination with city and state agencies for project development and funding.

Mr. Dougherty asked about the closure of Grumbein's Island and if transit and EMS would still be able to go through. Mr. Austin clarified that yes, the closure would allow for only bus/transit/EMS, and be off limits to general traffic.

Mr. Dougherty moved to approve the recommendations from the Downtown Microsimulation Study from Kimley Horn; seconded by Ms. Smith. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Preliminary Findings of Don Knotts Pedestrian Bridge Study

Mr. Austin discussed the preliminary findings of the Don Knotts Pedestrian Bridge Feasibility Study. A PDF of the design was included in the agenda. On April 3rd, 2025 a public meeting was held in the Train Depot in Hazel Ruby McQuain Park to discuss the potential Pedestrian Bridge over Don Knotts Boulevard and Pedestrian Safety in Morgantown. This public meeting included MMMPO Staff, Kimley Horn Staff, and City of Morgantown Staff. On April 11th, 2025 MMMPO Staff met with some residents in the First Ward neighborhood who had concerns about safety with the potential bridge. On April 19th, 2025 MMMPO Staff attended the Touch the Earth Festival and presented the potential Pedestrian Bridge design. More comments were received at this event. Comments received were mainly positive and supportive, but concerns included concerns about cost, maintenance, and safety (connecting rail trail to a neighborhood).

Mr. Dougherty asked where the proposed ped bridge would be. Mr. Austin stated it would be just past the hotel on the river. Ms. Smith asked about the height of the bridge, who would maintain it, what the grade would be, and if it would be ADA compliant. Mr. Austin stated it would be around 21 ft tall, with a minimum of 16 ft. It would have a 4.5 degree/grade. The City of Morgantown would maintain the bridge once completed as it is in their jurisdiction. This bridge would be fully ADA compliant. Mr. Gast-Bray asked if the original path on the side would still be accessible. Mr. Austin stated they do not plan on closing it, but this path is too steep to use as part of the design.

Mr. Gast-Bray moved to recommend approval of the Don Knotts Pedestrian Bridge Feasibility Study; seconded by Ms. Smith. The motion passed unanimously.

5. TIP Administrative Adjustments

Mr. Austin reviewed TIP administrative adjustments. These do not need action, and are an informational item.

Administrative Adjustment WV DOH Highway Project

New Project

HOLLAND AVE, FFY 2025; Federal ID: NHPP0019610D; Phase: Engineering and Construction. Type of Work: RESURFACE. Federal funding \$1,800,000; total funding \$2,250,000.

I-68 - SABRATON I/C & PIERPONT I/C LIGHTING RENOVATION, FFY 2026; Federal ID: NHPP0068219D; Phase: Construction. Type of Work: LIGHTING. Federal funding \$3,200,000; total funding \$4,000,000. Location: I-68 Exit 4 Sabraton Interchange and Exit 7 Pierpont Interchange.

WVU CAMPUS CONNECTOR PATH, FFY 2026; Federal ID: TAP2021465D; Phase: Engineering. (Federal ID: TAP2022114D, Phase: Construction). Type of Work: CONST TRAIL. Federal funding \$240,000; total funding \$300,000. Location: Between WVU Evansdale Campus and Grant Ave.

UNIVERSITY AVE TRAFFIC SIGNALS, FFY 2026; Federal ID: NHPP0019596D; Phase: Construction. Type of Work: SIGNALS. Federal funding \$513,600; total funding \$642,000. Location: University Ave and Fayette St.

Funding Change

JOSEPH C BARTOLO MEMORIAL BRIDGE, FFY 2025; Federal ID: HWI0019589D; Phase: Construction. Type of Work: BRIDGE REPAIR. Federal funding \$3,800,000; total funding \$4,750,000.

Location: I Morgantown-Westover Bridge. Action: increase Federal funding from \$2,800,000 to \$3,800,000; total Funding from \$3,500,000 to \$4,750,000.

SMITHTOWN ROAD TRAFFIC SIGNAL, FFY 2025; Federal ID: HSIP0119502D; Phase: Construction. Type of Work: INSTALL SIGNAL. Federal funding \$3,700,000; total funding \$3,700,000. Location: I Morgantown-Westover Bridge. Action: increase Federal funding from \$1,200,000 to \$3,700,000; total Funding from \$1,200,000 to \$3,700,000.
FFY Change

VRU MORGANTOWN +1, FFY 2026; Federal ID: HSIP0705024D; Phase: Construction. Type of Work: SAFETY IMPROVEMENT. Federal funding \$ \$90,000; total funding \$100,000. Location: W 705 from Mon Blvd to Applebee Intersection. Action: Move FFY from 2025 to 2026

6. Other Business

No other business.

7. Meeting Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:24pm.