



TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL ADVISORY MEETING

June 6th, 2023

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, Maria Smith, Rickie Yeager, Jason Stinespring, Drew Gatlin

Others Present: Jacqueline Peate, Jing Zhang, Kevin Sullivan, Dan Estep

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 1:06 PM.

2. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Austin noted that the minutes of the last meeting were included in the agenda package. Mr. Yeager moved to approve the meeting minutes as presented; seconded by Ms. Smith; motion to amend the minutes by Mr. Gast-Bray. He noted that Brian Carr was listed as attending the last meeting and this was incorrect. The motion passed unanimously to approve the minutes as amended.

3. TIP Amendments and Adjustments

Mr. Austin discussed the proposed TIP Amendments and Administrative changes to the MPO's TIP under the MPO's recently adopted policy. Administrative changes include bridge reconstruction and refurbishment. These changes came due to a new STIP being implemented. The proposed TIP Amendment is to program the Right of Way acquisition and construction of the Smithtown Road/US 119 intersection. The Right of Way Phase is \$100,000, with \$90,000 in Federal Funds. The Obligation Date is 4/28/2024. The Construction Phase has \$1,080,000 in Federal Funds and \$1,200,000 in total funds. The Obligation Date is 6/28/2024.

Mr. Gast-Bray notes that DOH providing a map and more location information would be helpful. Mr. Gatlin noted additional details would help. He also commented on Willey Street ADA cross walk expansion tripling in funding, curious about what this entails. Bill said he has talked with district about crossing, but will continue to ask the district for more details. Mr. Yeager had a question about Right of Way phase being completed on Van Voorhis Rd. Mr. Austin clarified that they are just moving their schedule for this particular phase. Mr. Austin noted the Brookhaven project is moving forward and will be designed by the district. Design should be underway this month. Mr. Austin noted that design phase for Smithtown project had been previously approved.

Mr. Yeager moved to recommend the adoption of the TIP Amendments to the MPO's Policy Board; seconded by Mr. Gast-Bray. With no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

4. Downtown Microsimulation Study Scope of Work

Mr. Austin noted that the next item was the scope of work for the Downtown Microsimulation Study for planning and traffic engineering services for the Morgantown Downtown Traffic Study. The purpose of the 'Downtown Traffic Study' is to recommend potential future reconfigurations of the downtown Morgantown transportation network based on a data driven process with additional input from the community and stakeholders. A draft of the Scope has been reviewed by the Study Steering Committee members. Kimley Horn has modified the Scope per those comments. This project is funded with \$400,000 of Federal Surface Transportation Block Grant Funding. Part of MPO's suballocation are these funds. \$100,000 of funding coming from Monongalia County, City of Morgantown, Morgantown Area Partnership, and WVU.

Mr. Gatlin noted that the Bike/Ped Safety Board previously discussed this scope of work and they were concerned about language not including safety of pedestrians and bicyclists. Mr. Austin clarified the intent of the scope, and agreed to change language to clarify/include pedestrian safety concerns. The Highway Safety Program has meeting on 13th, Mr. Austin will be attending, and this will be folded into their Highway Safety Initiative. Mr. Austin noted that steering committee will review the past Morgantown bike/ped safety study, and this Highway Safety Program to provide concerns to the consultants so they can include them in the Scope of Work. Mr. Gast-Bray agreed with clarifying pedestrians being included in study, and this being included in results. Mr. Yeager commented that Task 5, looking at configuration of one-way streets as an alternative was great.

Mr. Gatlin moved to recommend the recommendation of the Downtown Microsimulation Study Scope of Work to the MPO's Policy Board; seconded by Mr. Yeager. With no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

5. Other Business

Mr. Austin noted that the MPO will be pushing for a quick implantation of the Highway Safety Initiative. The Policy Board requested more time to review the Suballocated Funds Application Policy. We will presenting the revised version on 15th. Changed include that all projects are considered. Due to competition among municipalities, there will be a Review Committee (Board of Education and WVU). Mr. Austin provided multiple opportunities for meetings and phone calls for the Policy Board to review this policy. The MMMPO is leading the way for this policy statewide. We are trying to get other MPOs around state (Hagerstown, Parkersburg, and Charleston) to adopt, using ours as a guide.

Ms. Smith noted that vanpools are picking up and becoming more active. Mountain Lion has about 20 vanpools currently. They are continuing to work on the Micro transit service, and found a new partner-Spare. Working on getting the program ready for riders by end of the month.

8. Meeting Adjournment

The Meeting adjourned at 1:38.