



Plan Together:

The Newsletter of the MMMPO

Fall 2026

2026 MPO COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULE

Next MPO Policy Board

Thursday, November 19, 2026 at 6 pm

Next Citizens Advisory Committee

Monday, November 9, 2026 at 6 pm

Next Technical Advisory Committee

Tuesday, November 10, 2026 at 1 pm

Policy Advisory Committee

Meets 2nd Monday of the Month at 9 am (as Morgantown Area Partnership Transportation Committee)

How to attend

The Policy Board Meetings are held at City of Morgantown Council Chambers. 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 Zoom. Stay tuned to our website for the updated links.

MMMPO STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS: **WELCOME MARK DEBALD**

I recently began my role as the new Executive Director of the MMMPO, and it feels great to be on the ground in Morgantown. From my perspective, MPOs are uniquely situated and qualified to help communities and agencies deliver quality transportation projects and services that can move a region forward and allow people to thrive. And it's clear you know this, as evidenced by the great plans and projects already done by the MMMPO. I'm eager to build on its success, add my decades of planning know-how to the mix, and grow professionally from this experience. I also want to thank Andrew, Jing, and Jackie for all their work in keeping the MPO going over the summer, and of course, a big thank you to my predecessor Bill for laying a great foundation to build upon – all of this has made for a very smooth transition. Over the next few months, my goal is to sit down with our communities, agencies, and other stakeholders to learn about their needs and priorities and to explore what role the MPO can play in achieving those goals. There's energy here in Mountaineer Country, and I'm glad to be part of it.



MPO ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **Want to report road repairs?**

Use the State's Citizen's Request For Assistance for Marion and Monongalia Counties, care of Chelsea Holyfield at 304-326-0102 or chelsea.r.holyfield@wv.gov

- **Want to view past Policy Board Meetings?**

Visit our YouTube Channel @morgantownmonongaliampo5733

- **Want to stay connected or learn more?**

Visit our social media platforms:

Facebook- Morgantown Monongalia Metropolitan Planning Organization on

Instagram- @morgantownmonongaliampo

YouTube- @morgantownmonongaliampo5733

LinkedIn- Morgantown Monongalia Metropolitan Planning Organization

X- @MonongaliaMpo

PARTNER AGENCY: MOUNTAIN LINE

Mountain Line Expands Fleet with Five Environmentally Friendly Propane Buses



Mountain Line Transit Authority is making strides toward more sustainable and cost-effective public transportation with the addition of five new propane-powered buses to its fleet. The new vehicles use propane autogas, a cleaner-burning alternative fuel that produces significantly fewer harmful emissions than traditional fuels. This investment supports Mountain Line's commitment to providing reliable transportation while reducing its environmental impact and operating costs.

To support the new vehicles, Mountain Line installed an onsite propane fueling station, with the infrastructure provided at no cost through Ferrellgas as part of a fuel contract. Propane autogas costs approximately 40% less than gasoline and 50% less than diesel, offering an opportunity for long-term savings on fuel and maintenance. The buses are also well suited to the Morgantown region, providing reliable performance on hilly terrain and in cold winter conditions, with cold-weather starting capabilities down to -40°F and a driving range of more than 350 miles per fueling.

By incorporating alternative-fuel vehicles into its fleet, Mountain Line is helping reduce harmful emissions in the local community while making responsible use of public transportation resources. This investment demonstrates how transit agencies can pursue environmental sustainability while maintaining reliable service and managing operating costs.



PARTNER AGENCY: CITY OF MORGANTOWN- PEDESTRIAN SAFETY BOARD



The Morgantown Pedestrian Safety Board is observing National Pedestrian Safety Month this October. Our RRFB crossing systems (i.e., flashing beacons) are working well and a huge thanks goes to WVDOH for the numerous ADA ramps being installed throughout the county. Also, the new sidewalk project on Van Voorhis Road is proceeding nicely. The Pedestrian Safety Board looks forward to working with the new incoming director of the MMMPO Mark DeBald. Welcome to Morgantown!

The Pedestrian Safety Board meets virtually every quarter at 4:30pm, via Microsoft Teams. Chaired by Matthew Cross, they discuss how to promote and encourage a pedestrian-friendly environment in the City of Morgantown. If you would like to get involved, email the board at pedestriansafetyboard@morgantownwv.gov

PARTNER AGENCY: MON RIVER TRAILS CONSERVANCY



A new bicycle and pedestrian bridge has been constructed to connect the Greenmont neighborhood to the Deckers Creek Rail-Trail, improving access and connectivity for trail users. Additionally, MRTC recently completed resurfacing five miles of the Mon River Rail-Trail with compacted limestone, extending from Opekiska Lock and Dam (Mile 24) to Prickett's Fort State Park (Mile 29).

Keep up with the Mon River Trails Conservancy and their updates on their various social media sites! See the list below.

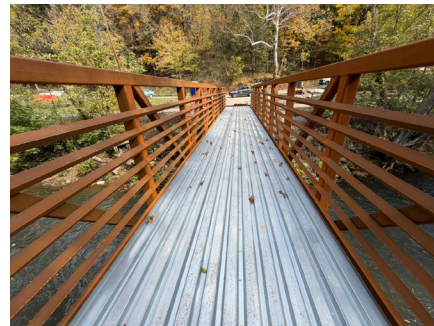
Facebook: @ Mon River Trails Conservancy

Instagram: @ monrivertrails

X: @ monrailtrails

Website Link: <https://montrails.org/>

Greenmont Bridge



PARTNER AGENCY : CITY OF MORGANTOWN

Check out the Greenmont neighborhood bridge announcement above↑!

Keep up with the City of Morgantown and their updates on their various social media sites! See the list below.

Facebook: @ City of Morgantown - City Hall

Instagram: @ cityofmorgantown

Linked-In: @ City of Morgantown

Youtube: @ CityofMorgantown



ABOUT THE MMMPO

The Morgantown Monongalia Metropolitan Planning Organization (MMMPO) serves as the federally-designated MPO for the greater Morgantown area, including all of Monongalia County. As an MPO, we ensure federal transportation funds are committed through a locally driven, comprehensive planning process. Since 2003, we have served that role, providing a forum for communities and agencies to solve transportation issues and progress transportation plans and projects across the region. We work with partners such as West Virginia DOT, Mountain Line Transit, WVU, county and local elected officials, business leaders, and the public.

Policy Board Officers:

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

Maria Smith, MLTA
Board Vice-Chairman

Mayor Patricia Lewis,
Granville
Board Treasurer

Mark Debald
Executive Director

Policy Board Members:

Monongalia County Commission:

Jeffrey Arnett
Tom Bloom
Sean Sikora

City of Morgantown City Council:

Joe Abu-Ghannam
Mark Downs
Jennifer Selin

Mon County Board of Education, 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

We strive 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 four business days prior to a scheduled meeting or hearing. At the MMMPO, we're committed to ensuring that everyone has an opportunity to provide meaningful feedback on our products and planning process.

Our Partners

