



# MMMPO 2024 Fall Newsletter

## 2025 MPO COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULE

### Next MPO Policy Board

Thursday, January 16th, 2025

Time: 6pm

### Next Citizens Advisory Committee

Thursday, January 9th, 2025

Time: 6pm

### Next Technical Advisory Committee

Tuesday, January 7th, 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](http://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](http://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](mailto:Tonya.S.Clemente@wv.gov)
- **Our MPO Policy Board Meetings are recorded on our YouTube Channel -**  
[@morgantownmonongaliampo5733](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCmorgantownmonongaliampo5733)

## MPO STAFF UPDATE: TIP UPDATE

The Morgantown Monongalia Metropolitan Transportation Organization (MPO) is seeking public input as we begin the process of updating our Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for the fiscal years 2025 through 2030. The TIP is a key planning document that outlines transportation projects to be implemented in our region over the next six years. We encourage community members, businesses, and organizations to share their ideas and priorities for transportation projects. Your input will help us identify and prioritize projects that best address the needs of our region. We encourage you to participate and share your thoughts on the proposed transportation projects. There are three ways to get involved:

- **Submit your comments online:** Visit our website at [www.plantogether.org](http://www.plantogether.org) to review project information and submit your feedback electronically.
- **Send written comments:** You can also send your comments via email to [planning@plantogether.org](mailto:planning@plantogether.org).
- **Visit our office at 243 High Street (Courthouse) Room 026, Morgantown, WV.**

The MPO Policy Board will review the draft TIP update on November 21, 2024, with final adoption scheduled for January 16, 2025. The public comment period for the update is open from October 21, 2024, to January 10, 2025.

## PARTNER AGENCY UPDATE: MON RIVER TRAILS CONSERVANCY



Ella Belling, the Executive Director for the Mon River Trails Conservancy provided updates.

### Mon River Rail-Trail Repairs- Miles 3-6:

Drainage and resurfacing work on Mile 3-6 of the Mon River Rail-Trail is now completed. This section extends from mile 3, just north of Van Voorhis to mile 6 at the Star City city limits. As a result of this work, the trail surface has returned to a 10ft width and is in better condition to handle freeze and thaw conditions. Drainage upgrades will help protect the rail-trail against washouts from storms. This project was funded by a grant from the Hazel Ruby McQuain Charitable Trust and donors to the Mon River Trails Conservancy.

### Van Voorhis Trailhead Expansion:

The Van Voorhis Trailhead at mile 3.8 of the Mon River Rail-Trail was expanded with 9 new parking spots, a native flower planting, and improvements to road and existing parking. This is a popular spot for access to river paddling, mountain biking trails, and rail-trail fun. The MRTC thanks Central Supply Company of West Virginia for donation of curb stops, their contractor- Mountain Valley Resources, and donors to the Mon River Trails Conservancy.

Gov. Jim Justice announced 36 grant awards totaling \$13.9 million through the Transportation Alternatives and Recreational Trails Program, funded by federal and local contributions. Monongalia County received \$100,000.00 for the Monongahela River Trails Conservancy to work on the Morgantown Trail Bridge Restoration. This will be for the design of re-decking and railings on 5 rail trail bridges over 8 miles of the Monongahela River Rail Trail.

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## PARTNER AGENCY UPDATE: MOUNTAIN LINE

The MPO is working with Mountain Line Transit Authority (MLTA) to identify optimal locations within the downtown area for the installation of bus signage and to recommend the most suitable type of signage for each location. The primary objectives of the signage installation are twofold: first, to enhance the visibility of Mountain Line services within the downtown area, and second, to provide clear and easily recognizable markers for both residents and visitors, indicating where they can access bus services.



The study evaluates two types of signage for implementation: pavement-based signage on sidewalks and freestanding signage. Each type will be assessed for its effectiveness in terms of visibility, accessibility, and its potential to improve the overall user experience for public transit riders.



## 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 Pedestrian Safety Board participated in the WVU Student Government Association Safety Walk to observe National Pedestrian Safety month in October. The WVU SGA has done excellent work documenting problem areas for safety and accessibility improvements. The North Street widening project includes a new sidewalk and recommendations will take place for a safe crossing system across University Avenue to connect Wiles Hill to the Evansdale Campus.



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## 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:

Joe Statler, Blacksville  
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

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

Morgantown Area Partnership- Russ Rogerson (Non Voting)

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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](mailto: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.

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### Our Partners

