



TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL ADVISORY
COMMITTEE MEETING

October 13, 2020

This meeting was held virtually on
<https://morgantownmonongaliampo.my.webex.com/meet/baustin>

Members Present:

Bill Austin, John Whitmore, Andrew Gast-Bray, David Bruffy, Clement Solomon, Damien Davis, Drew Gatlin, Brian Carr, Jason Fauber

Other Present: Jing Zhang, GM (screen name)

1. Call to Order

Mr. Austin noted that due to the COVID 19 pandemic, the CAC meeting was held as a teleconference. 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 1:30 PM.

2. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Austin noted that the minutes of the last meeting were included in the agenda packet. Mr. Davis moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Mr. Gast-Bray. With no discussion, the motion was passed unanimously.

3. Mountain Line Transit Study Scope of Work Amendment

Mr. Austin noted that the Mountain Line Transit received an Accelerating Innovative Mobility (AIM) grant from the FTA to identify unified fare collection mechanisms that could potentially work in the region. Mountain Line proposed an amendment the scope work of the current transit study to include this additional work funded by the AIM grant. Mr. Gast-Bray noted that the scope of work amendment looks fine. He expects that the study could identify the impact of a unified fare collection system for the area. It could not only be a payment system, but also a measuring system, which could bring significant changes to how we assess ridership and travel demand.

Mr. Gast-Bray moved to recommend approval of the proposed scope of work amendment to the Policy Board; seconded by Mr. Whitmore. With no discussion, the motion was passed unanimously.

4. TIP Amendments

Mr. Austin noted that the WV DOH proposed projects for TIP amendments. The projects include Fairchance Rd resurfacing project, Daybrook Rd resurfacing project, Pedlar Run-Hagans Rd resurfacing

project, Burroughs St ADA ramp installation project, I-79 Westover Bridge rehabilitation project, Holland Ave APA ramp installation project, and University Ave APA ramp installation project.

Mr. Gast-Bray noted that lighting and signaling improvement should also be considered in ADA compliance projects. He noted that a tip-down curb cut at intersections could greatly enhance safety for handicapped users.

Mr. Gatlin noted that the city staff engineers would like to have an opportunity to review and comment on the engineering design for highway projects that are located within the city boundary. He noted that it could provide the project team with local insight to improve project design. Mr. Davis agreed and noted that sometimes roadway designs with minimum standard can not meet the needs of the community. Mr. Carr noted that it is unlikely that the engineering process for design-built projects will open up for public comments, but he will pass along this request to Charleston.

Mr. Bruffy asked about the location of Westover Bridge. Mr. Austin noted that it is the interstate bridge at the I-79 exit 152 near the Morgantown Mall.

Mr. Bruffy moved to recommend approval of the proposed TIP amendment to the Policy Board; seconded by Mr. Davis. With no discussion, the motion was passed unanimously.

Mr. Austin noted that Mountain Line Transit requested TIP amendment to add FY 2021 the Accelerating Innovative Mobility Funding. Mr. Austin noted that the funds are to be used to expand the scope of work for the ongoing transit study for coordinated fare and fee collection.

Mr. Davis moved to recommend approval of the proposed TIP amendment to the Policy Board; seconded by Mr. Whitmore. With no discussion, the motion was passed unanimously.

5. Performance Measures

a. Highway Safety Performance Measures

Mr. Austin noted that States are required to adopt goals for these Performance measures to document progress in achieving national goals. MPOs are asked to adopt the Highway Safety goals. Mr. Austin read the goals identified by the WV DOH.

Mr. Carr noted that the MPO can develop their own performance measures. Those measures, however, will have no bearing on funding allocation at the state level. The DOH will use statewide performance measures and locally developed plans to guide its funding priority.

Mr. Davis moved to recommend approval of the Highway Safety Performance Measures to the MPO's Policy Board; seconded by Mr. Gast-Bray. With no discussion, the motion was passed unanimously.

b. Transit Asset Management Performance Measure

Mr. Austin noted that similar to the requirements put on states for the maintenance of bridges, transit providers are to develop performance measures and goals for the maintenance of their infrastructure and equipment. For the purposes of these measures, the WVDOT Division of Public Transit works with the transit systems around the state to develop the performance measures and target goals for the state's public transportation providers. Mr. Austin then read the identified goals for 2021.

Mr. Whitmore moved to recommend approval of the Transit Asset Management Performance Measure to the MPO's Policy Board; seconded by Mr. Davis. With no discussion, the motion was passed unanimously.

c. Transit Safety Performance Targets

Mr. Austin noted that as part of the same legislation that mandates the Highway Performance Measures, the Federal Transit Administration mandates that State and local transit agencies adopt Safety performance measures to ensure that Federal funding is meeting goals for efficiency and safety. Mr. Austin noted that Mountain Line's performance measures for the Public Transportation Safety Plan is included in the agenda package.

This is an informational item. No action is required from the committee.

6. Discussion of upcoming Transportation Plan Update and Comprehensive Plans

Mr. Austin noted that the MPO is preparing to update the MPO's Metropolitan Transportation Plan. MPO Staff is proposing that the area's municipalities as well as Monongalia County update their comprehensive plans in conjunction with MTP Update, in a single effort that would develop updated land use for use in the MPO's regional travel demand model. These comprehensive plans as well as the Comprehensive Plans for Westover, Granville and Monongalia County are all due for an update in 2022. Mr. Austin noted that the MPO would use transportation planning funds to supplement the local funds for public involvement in the development of the Comprehensive plans. It will more efficiently develop all of the plans.

Mr. Austin noted that the scope of work for the updates may consists of three stage, including 1) comprehensive plan update; 2) travel demand model updates; and 3) project prioritization. The recently adopted regional bicycle and pedestrian plan and the ongoing Mountain Line short and medium range strategic plan will be integrated into the plan update.

7. Other Business

Mr. Carr noted that the Holland Ave resurfacing project could be delayed, as the scope of work of this project may need to be changed to include other elements such as drainage and brick removal.

Mr. Davis noted that the city has been collaborating with the DOH District 4 on several roadway repair projects in the region.

Mr. Carr noted that there has been negative press on the Greenbag Rd project the roundabout alternative at the Dorsey Ave intersection. Mr. Carr noted that the DOH has conducted an Environment Assessment as required by the FHWA, and decided that the roundabout is the most effective alternative to address the traffic issues along the Greenbag Rd Corridor with minimum impact on environment. He noted that the DOH would like support from the local community on this project.

8. Meeting Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 2:20 pm.