



CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

January 9, 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: Christiaan Abildso (Chairman), Wallace Venable, Matthew Cross, Heather Morgan

Others Present: Bill Austin, Jacqueline Peate, Jing Zhang

1. Call to Order

The CAC meeting was held virtually and in person. The phone number and web address to access the teleconference were publicized. With a quorum present, Mr. Abildso called the meeting of the CAC to order at 6:05 PM.

2. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Austin noted that the minutes of the last meeting were included in the agenda package. Mr. Abildso pointed out a small error in the minutes. Mr. Venable moved to approve the minutes as corrected; seconded by Ms. Morgan. The motion passed unanimously.

3. 2025 TIP Adoption and Amendments

Mr. Austin stated the MPO's updated TIP for the period FY 2025-30 is included in the agenda. This document was advertised to the public in October in accordance with the MPO's Public Involvement Policy (PIP). Since that advertisement the MPO has amended and adjusted the current TIP in accordance with the PIP, at the request of various agencies. A memorandum identifying the changes to the advertised updated TIP is also included in the agenda packet. It is respectfully requested that the TTAC recommend the adoption of the updated TIP and the associated amendments and adjustments identified in the attached memorandum to the Policy Board.

2024 November Amendment

Add New Project

I-79 EXIT 155 RAMPS TEMPORARY TRAFFIC SIGNAL. FFY: 2025. Federal ID: CARB1924001D. Phase: Construction. Type of Work: traffic signal. Funding Source: CRP 50-200K POP. Federal Funding: \$750,000. Total Funding: \$750,000. Location: The intersections of the I-79 Exit 155 ramps and Chaplin Hill Road.

Split Funding Source

CAPERTON TRAIL LIGHTING. FFY: 2026. Federal ID: NRT2018218D. Phase: Construction. Type of Work: install lighting. Location: N/A. Funding Source: NRT. Federal funding: \$239,280. Total funding: \$299,100. Funding Source: CRP 50-200k POP. Federal funding: \$320,000. Total funding: \$400,000.

Mr. Cross asked about the Project Deletion. Mr. Austin stated the district wide roadway department is being reworked/repacked as part of another program. Mr. Cross also inquired about the timeline for the Westover sidewalks. Mr. Austin stated this project is up in the air due to the reworking of the RAISE

grant. There are multiple grants out there for these sidewalks in Westover, and WVDOH wants to make sure all the projects are comprehensive and the sidewalks line up. There may be a more definite answer in the coming months.

Mr. Venable moved to approve the 2025 TIP Adoption and Amendments; seconded by Mr. Cross. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Safety Performance Measures

Mr. Austin stated that the Safety Performance Management Measures regulation supports the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) and requires State Departments of Transportation (DOTs) and Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) to set HSIP targets for 5 safety performance measures (Fatalities, Fatality Rate, Serious Injuries, Serious Injuries, and Non-Motorist Combined Fatalities and Serious Injuries). According to 23 CFR § 490.209, MPOs must establish safety performance targets within 180 days of the State DOT establishing and reporting targets in the State HSIP annual report. Part of the MPOs federal funds are utilized for these targets. The Safety Performance Measures include Fatalities, Fatality Rate, Serious Injuries, Serious Injuries, and Non-Motorist Combined Fatalities and Serious Injuries for both annual and five-year target goals. They are shown below in individual tables in the agenda. The last adopted values were from 2019-2023. The current adopted values for 2020-2024 are shown in the tables below, and are adjusted to reflect the actual performance.

Mr. Abildso pointed out the goal for the Non-Motorized Fatal and Serious Injury goal/target was increased instead of decreased, and expressed disappointment in this number decreasing. Mr. Wallace seconded this. Mr. Austin stated the ultimate goal of the Safety Performance Measures is zero, the data is just going on an incremental basis. Mr. Cross asked if funding is an incentive if these goals are reached. Mr. Austin said yes to a point, USDOT can force WVDOT to spend money on goals if they are not meeting them.

The CAC wants to point this out as they want to make sure there are still adequate resources for this area. The CAC also had discussion on how to encourage staff at WVDOH to be more aggressive in meeting these safety goals.

After discussion, Mr. Venable moved to approve the Safety Performance Measures, with reservations and concern about the Non-Motorized Fatal and Serious Injury goal/target decreasing; seconded by Mr. Abildso. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Draft 2025 Budget Review

Mr. Austin stated the draft of the FY 2025-26 UPWP was included in the agenda. The draft UPWP proposes a 3% COLA for MPO staff. The primary large projects included in the draft UPWP are the completion of a minor update of the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and a planning study looking at the feasibility of the Mon Valley Greenspace Coalition's conceptual Greenbelt. The MTP update will be built on the regional travel demand model modifications made for the ongoing Downtown Microsimulation Study and public involvement and corridor evaluations to be made by MPO Staff. Corridors to be evaluated include a portion of Brookhaven Road in the vicinity of WV 7. The Greenbelt Feasibility Study will examine the corridors identified in the Greenbelt Conceptual map and as adopted in the MTP. The Study will focus on evaluating the complete street improvements for the on-road portions of the Conceptual Map. The Study will develop planning level cost estimates and prioritization of preferred on road corridors for implementation. It will also identify the preferred locations for proposed off-road facilities to intersect with on-road segments. Additional studies will be needed to determine the

feasibility and alignments for off-road facilities. This Study's Complete Street emphasis should make it eligible for 100% Federal funding.

Mr. Austin asked the board to please review the enclosed documentation and let staff know of any changes to the proposed UPWP they would like to see.

Mr. Abildso and Mr. Venable noted something is added twice on page 3. Staff will review and edit this section.

Mr. Abildso if there will be Eco Counter Battery replacement funding. Mr. Austin was not sure, but will check on this. Mr. Cross stated the part of the MTP where Staff will be reaching out to elementary students is a good idea, and thinks it will be successful in reaching out to parents in the area. He also pointed out that the relocated Suncrest Elementary School may be near some Greenbelt connectors.

6. Other Business

Mr. Cross asked about the pending project between Dorsey Ave and Downtown. Mr. Austin stated the MPO is supportive of this and improvement to Willey Street. He also stated the City of Morgantown is applying for grants for this area, and that the MPO will be working with them. Mr. Cross asked about study on University Ave, Patterson to Boyers. Mr. Austin stated the work will begin in Spring of 2025 and the crash data staff has available from WVDOH will be worked into this study. Mr. Cross stated Star City may be getting new senior housing. He also asked about the Vulnerable Road Users project on Patteson near the Applebee's. Mr. Austin did not have an update. Mr. Cross pointed out the Joe Bartolo Bridge has rods and concrete sticking out. Mr. Austin will report this to the district.

Mr. Abildso asked if Senator Capito has talked about the Dorsey Ave RAISE grant. Mr. Austin said yes the senator did mention that project.

Ms. Peate reminded the advisory board that there is a Citizens Concern contact for District 4 in the Winter Newsletter. Mr. Zhang stated there was a new item in the crash data received from WVDOH for 2019-2023. It provides information on drug and alcohol use related to crashes.

7. Meeting Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:53 pm.