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## MINUTES

MPO Transportation Technical Advisory Committee Meeting  
Morgantown Airport Terminal Building 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Morgantown Monongalia MPO Conference Room  
March 12, 2013  
1:30 PM

### Members Present

Terry Hough-City of Morgantown, Chris Fletcher-City of Morgantown, Damien Davis-City of Morgantown, Richard Wood- Monongalia County, Bill Austin-MMMPO, Michael Clow-Morgantown Municipal Airport, Bryan Radabaugh-WVDOH, Irv Shuetzner-Monongalia County Board of Education,

### Others Present

Jing Zhang

### Call to Order

Bill Austin called the meeting to order at 1:30 PM.

### Approval of the Minutes

Mr. Austin noted that the Minutes of the January meeting had been included in the agenda packet. He asked for any corrections the Committee members might have to the Minutes. Mr. Austin then called for a motion to approve the Minutes. Mr. Wood moved to approve the minutes; Mr. Clow seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

### Transportation Improvement Program Amendments

Mr. Austin then introduced proposed TIP Amendments for the TTAC's consideration. The first proposed amendment discussed was a project to provide lighting for the I-79/I-68 Interchange. Mr. Austin noted that the proposed project has three phases, Engineering and Right of Way in FY 2013-2014 and Construction in FY 2014-2015. Mr. Radabaugh noted that this project is part of a road audit to improve safety at the interchange which includes the installation of a higher wall previously approved as part of the TIP. Ms. Hough noted that the installation of the lights is anticipated to be fairly expensive. After a brief discussion of the Interchange lighting project

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Mr. Austin introduced a proposed improvement at the intersection of WV 7 and Green Bag Road. Mr. Austin noted that the initial language for this project described it as the installation of a roundabout but that in discussion with the Division of Highways he had determined that there was not enough information to determine the actual layout of the proposed intersection modification. He asked Mr. Radabaugh to discuss the project in more depth. Mr. Radabaugh stated that the Division of Highways is still performing data collection along the corridor to determine the correct configuration for the project and that the project had been programmed as a placeholder due to the availability of funding. Mr. Davis noted that there are potentially concerns with the project due to its proximity to the Rail Trail as well as to the sidewalk the City is working to have installed along the corridor. Mr. Radabaugh stated that the Division of Highways would look at those factors as they design the project.

Mr. Austin then introduced a project to install pavement markings on I-68 from the I-79 interchange to the Maryland State Line. He asked Mr. Radabaugh if he could provide the TTAC with any details on this project. Mr. Radabaugh stated that the project is to install a new type of pavement marking that is supposed to be tougher and higher visibility.

Mr. Austin then outlined two proposed TIP amendments for Mountain Line. The first project is to install a GIS based system to announce a buses location on its route. The system will be useful to those with hearing and sight impairments. Mr. Austin also discussed an amendment for the construction of a sidewalk at the Mountain Line offices to facilitate walking between the upper and lower parking lots. Mr. Radabaugh confirmed that the local Division of Highways office will be designing the sidewalk for Mountain Line.

After a short discussion Terry Hough moved to recommend the approval of all of the TIP amendments to the MPO Policy Board. Mr. Fletcher seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

### **Unified Planning Work Program**

After the discussion of the proposed TIP amendments Mr. Austin introduced the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) for 2013-2014. He noted that the UPWP had been developed with input from both the City of Morgantown and Monongalia County and that the total proposed budget for the upcoming fiscal year is \$240,000 a substantial decrease in requested funding due to the fact that the MPO will not be updating the LRTP. He also noted that Mr. Zhang will be conducting a study of pedestrian traffic on the Mileground in conjunction with the annual traffic count program which will be discussed under the next item. Mr. Austin stated that in addition to the standing projects such as the traffic count program and the normal administrative functions for the MPO, the draft UPWP includes developing a preliminary ranking of corridors for additional study as identified in the LRTP Update. The UPWP also funds the development of an Urban Area Bicycle Plan in accord with the LRTP Update as well as the reinvigoration of the Vanpool program. MPO staff will also work with the Chamber of

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Commerce's Transportation Committee to develop sources of funding to implement the LRTP. After a short discussion, Mr. Wood moved to recommend approval of the UPWP for FY 2013-2014 to the MPO Policy Board. The motion was seconded by Mr. Shuetzner. The motion was unanimously approved.

### **Draft Traffic Count Map**

Mr. Austin then introduced the map of the proposed traffic counts to be conducted in April. He noted that the proposed counts included the count locations counted last year and Mr. Zhang had proposed several new count locations and asked the TTAC if the Committee had any suggestions for changing the count locations. Mr. Radabaugh asked if the MPO had considered doing fewer more focused counts. Mr. Austin stated that one of the primary purposes of the counts is to establish a baseline for use in model development and to gauge the growth of traffic in the area. He noted that the MPO would need to do some counts in the fall to help establish seasonal factors for traffic in the area. Mr. Fletcher asked if it would be worthwhile to look at counts further north on Collins Ferry Road. After a short discussion it was the consensus of the Committee that the proposed locations were adequate.

### **West Run Study Presentation**

Mr. Zhang made a presentation on the conditions on the socio-economic conditions and the traffic operations on West Run. The Committee was complimentary of Mr. Zhang's work

### **Other Business**

Mr. Austin asked for other business.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 2:55 PM.