

**SOUTHERN ALLEGHENIES  
PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**

**RURAL TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL COMMITTEE**

**July 8, 2020**

**9:00 AM**

**Zoom**

**Virtual Meeting**

**ACTION SUMMARY**

The following are the major actions taken by the Rural Transportation Technical Committee (RTTC) at its regular meeting held on July 8, 2020, on Zoom.

1. Approved the April 22, 2020, RTTC meeting minutes as presented.
2. Recommended approval to the RTCC of the Draft FY 2021-2024 Highway and Bridge TIP, Draft FY 2021-2024 Public Transit TIP, Draft Memorandum of Understanding, and the RPO Self-Certification Resolution.
3. Recommended the RTCC approve the release of the 2020 Public Participation Plan for a 45-day public comment period.

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**MEETING MINUTES**

**I. Welcome**

The following members were present at the meeting:

- Donald Schwartz, Bedford County Planning Commission
- Rick Suder, Bedford County Planning Commission
- Stew Neff, Warriors Mark Township
- Josh Boland, SCEDC
- Brad Zearfoss, Somerset County Planning Commission
- Mike Villeneuve, Somerset County Transportation System
- Karl King, Central PA Rails to Trails
- Jeff Eisaman, CLI Transport
- Frank Hampton, PennDOT Central Office
- Vince Greenland, PennDOT District 9-0
- Brandon Carson, SAP&DC
- Brandon Peters, SAP&DC

Others in attendance included:

- Dave Lybarger, PennDOT District 9-0
- Anne Stich, PennDOT District 9-0
- Gene Porochniak, FHWA
- Matt Preisler, Metro Analytics
- Frank Broen, Metro Analytics
- Jennifer Walsh, Greater Cumberland Committee
- Stacy LoCastro, SAP&DC
- Matt Bjorkman, SAP&DC
- Zachary Lee, SAP&DC
- Janice Streightiff, SAP&DC

Each participant received a meeting packet that included:

- Agenda
- April 22, 2020 RTTC Meeting Minutes
- SA RPO FY 2019-2022 TIP Adjustments

## **II. Review and Approval of the April 22, 2020 RTTC Meeting Minutes**

Brandon Carson welcomed the committee to the meeting and Brandon Peters conducted roll call. He asked the committee to review the April 22, 2020, meeting minutes included in the meeting packet.

With no further discussion, Frank Hampton made a motion to approve the April 22, 2020, RTTC meeting minutes as presented. Vince Greenland seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

## **III. Corridor N U.S. 219 Study Update**

Brandon Carson informed the committee that the Corridor N Study funded through ARC is coming together. SAP&DC has received the interim report from Metro Analytics and Matt Preisler is on the phone today to review it with the committee. Brandon turned it over to Matt who informed the committee that the interim report is an overview of the kick-off and the public input survey. They were pleased with the surveys received and the bulk of the report is based on the findings from those surveys with the last section being a summary of the modeling effort. Once approved by the RTTC and RTCC, Metro Analytics will release the final report, which can then be distributed to the stakeholders. He reviewed the findings with the committee noting that there is a lot of good information for the completion of Corridor N. Some of the items that stood out were that there is twice as much north/south traffic as east/west; and 50% of the north/south traffic reroutes around Route 219. The majority of business owners said the completion of Route 219 will improve their business. He reviewed some of the actual responses with the committee noting that the public input is still ongoing. This information will be updated for the final report. The platform used for the surveys captures all user information allowing staff to follow up with them at a later date. The last section of the report is more technical data. It uses the traffic data from PennDOT's model and INRIX to show where the congestion is and if the corridor were completed how the traffic might be rerouted through the corridor. It also shows where all the congestion points and accidents currently are.

The next step is the site visits. Metro Analytics will target 10 to 12 businesses based on recommendations from staff and a few larger companies from the survey. They plan to set up the site visits within the next two weeks. Vince Greenland had a question about the table on page 24. It shows the no build vs build traffic data basically flatlined. The table does not match the data. Matt said he will have the staff person who completed this section redo the table to see if it is correct. Brandon Carson asked if the group wanted to set a timeline for feedback. PennDOT responded that they prefer to wait to comment on it until they know the data is correct.

The data also stops at the Maryland border. Jennifer Walsh with the Greater Cumberland Committee recommended Metro Analytics speak with Michael Baker at the Maryland SHA as they have the Maryland data and see if they would be willing to share it.

Brandon Carson requested Metro Analytics keep him informed on the status as they confirm the data and he will pass that along to the group so they can provide their feedback. He hopes to have the feedback by the end of week.

#### **IV. FY 2019-2022 TIP Modifications and Amendments**

David Lybarger reviewed the FY 2019-2022 TIP modifications with the committee answering any questions they had. There were no amendments requiring approval.

#### **V. FY 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program**

Brandon Carson reminded the committee that the FY 2021-2024 Draft TIP was out for public comment from May 14, 2020, through June 12, 2020. Brandon Peters provided a summary from that comment period. Nine written comments were received and all concerned Route 219. A virtual public meeting was held on May 21, 2020, rather than the usual four public meetings with one in each county, and thirty people attended. Brandon Carson thanked PennDOT & SAP&DC staff for their hard work putting this together.

Brandon Peters added that along with the Draft TIP the committee also needs to recommend approval of the RPO Self Certification Resolution. This means that the RPO agrees to abide by the Title VI/EJ Requirements, the DBE Requirements, the ADA Requirements, and the TIP Financial Constraint and Capacity Requirements. He asked for a motion to recommend approval of the Draft FY 2021-2024 Highway and Bridge TIP, Draft FY 2021-2024 Public Transit TIP, Draft Memorandum of Understanding, and the RPO Self-Certification Resolution.

With no further discussion, Frank Hampton made a motion to recommend approval to the RTCC of the Draft FY 2021-2024 Highway and Bridge TIP, Draft FY 2021-2024 Public Transit TIP, Draft Memorandum of Understanding, and the RPO Self-Certification Resolution. Karl King seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

#### **VI. 2020 Public Participation Plan**

Brandon Peters noted that at the last RTTC meeting the PPP development matrix was reviewed. This plan defines how the RPO will advertise and receive public comments. Since that time staff has received feedback from PennDOT and FHWA. Nothing in the matrix has changed since the last meeting. The PPP outlines the methods the RPO will take to be sure everyone has the opportunity to attend the meetings and provide input on the TIP, LRTP, the PPP itself, and other plans developed by the RPO. He then asked for a motion to put the 2020 Public Participation Plan out for a 45-day public comment period. The plan would then be adopted at the December meeting.

With no further discussion, Stew Neff made a motion to recommend the RTCC approve the release of the 2020 Public Participation Plan for a 45-day public comment period. Donald Schwartz seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

## **VII. 2042 Southern Alleghenies LRTP**

Brandon Peters informed the committee that the LRTP is not updated as frequently as the TIP and the process is begun 30 months in advance. A conference call was conducted July 2<sup>nd</sup> with PennDOT and FHWA to discuss what this LRTP should look like. He reviewed the tentative development schedule for LRTP outlining the process through adoption. The LRTP should be ready for approval at the July 2022 meeting, although the RPO has until November 2, 2022 to adopt it. July would be on the same cycle as the next TIP and the public meetings could be combined as long as the two plans are clearly defined. There is \$50,000 in UPWP funds available for plan development. These funds were remaining from the FY 18/20 UPWP funds and have been extended through March 31, 2021, to bolster the LRTP planning effort. He is looking for feedback from the committee on what tasks the RPO could use a consultant for on the front end to help build the plan. This was discussed on the July 2<sup>nd</sup> conference call and he reviewed a few suggestions received from PennDOT. A survey will be sent out to the committee to prioritize these tasks and then one or two will be selected for completion by a consultant. The recommendations were the demographic commuter and economic profiles; performance measure analysis and how the draft project list is addressing the performance measures; local structure process or how the RPO reviews, ranks and selects the over 20 ft. and under 20 ft. structures on the system including looking at data collection and traffic counts at these local structures; bridge redundancy – look at these types of situations and recommend what structures would be the best investment; identify possible HSIP projects; and doing user counts at trail crossings across the region. Brandon Peters will get a list of potential tasks out to the committee with a brief description of each for the committee to rank. Also, a LRTP Steering Committee will need to be put together to determine what steps to take. He will send an email following the meeting to ask for volunteers to serve on committee.

## **VIII. Other Business**

No other business was identified.

## **IX. Adjournment**

The next scheduled meeting of the RTTC will be held on December 2, 2020. A meeting can be scheduled earlier if necessary. Frank Hampton made a motion to adjourn at 10:06 AM.

<p><b>NOTE:</b> The next meeting of the RTTC is scheduled for December 2, 2020, at the SAP&amp;DC beginning at 9:00 AM.</p>
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July 8, 2020**

**ACTION ITEMS**

<b>Date Issued</b>	<b>Action Items</b>	<b>By Whom</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
July 8, 2020	Update the committee on Metro Analytics progress in updating the traffic data section of the report so feedback can be submitted.	Brandon Carson, SAP&DC	No Date Given