

To: **The Blair Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)**

Voting Members

Brad Brumbaugh, P.E., Acting District Executive - Construction, PA Department of Transportation, Engineering District 9
Dean G. Roberts, Transportation Planning Manager, PA Department of Transportation, Center for Program Development and Management
Laura Burke, Esq., Board of Commissioners, County of Blair
Amy Webster, Esq., Board of Commissioners, County of Blair
Matt Pacifico, Mayor, City of Altoona
David Butterbaugh, Jr., P.L.S., Member of Council, City of Altoona
Dennis Igou, Mayor, Borough of Roaring Spring, Representing the Boroughs
Edwin Frontino, Supervisor, Township of Logan, Representing the Townships
James A. Patterson, Supervisor, Township of Logan, Representing the Townships
Vacant, Blair County Airport Authority
Scott G. Cessna, Chairman, Board of Directors, Altoona Metro Transit

The Technical Committee of the Blair MPO

Vince Greenland, P.E., Assistant District Executive - Design, PennDOT, District 9
Richard C. Sutter, AICP, President, Richard C. Sutter & Associates, Inc.
Nathan Kissell, Director, Department of Public Works, City of Altoona
Diana White, Director, Community Development, City of Altoona
James Gehret, Manager, Hollidaysburg Borough, representing the Boroughs
John Frederick, Recreation and Environmental Code Director, Township of Antis, representing the Townships
Luke Helsel, Sewage Enforcement Officer, Blair County Sanitation Office, rep. Townships
Tracy Plessinger, Airport Manager, Altoona-Blair County Airport
Josh Baker, General Manager, Altoona Metro Transit

Non-Voting Members

Venessa Shamberg, AICP, Senior Community Planner, Federal Highway Administration
Timothy Lidiak, Regional Planner, Federal Transit Administration
Lori Pagnanelli, Manager, Federal Aviation Admin., Harrisburg Airport District Office
Dan Pierce, Regional Advisor, Bureau of Recreation and Conservation, DCNR
Rodney Nesmith, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection

From: David W. McFarland, III, AICP, Planning Director and Secretary for the Chairperson

Date: June 2, 2023

Subject: Meeting Notice and Agenda

A combined meeting of the **MPO and Technical Committee** that was previously scheduled will be held with the particulars as follows:

DATE: Monday, June 12, 2023

TIME: 2:30 PM

**PLACE: Conference Room 1 CA
PennDOT Engineering District 9-0
1620 North Juniata Street
Hollidaysburg, PA**

Options are also available to attend the meeting in Microsoft Teams and a call in option is as follows: +1 (267) 332- 8737 Phone Conference ID: 384 542 574

The proposed agenda is as follows:

Agenda

- 1. Roll Call by the Secretary.**
- 2. PennDOT District 9 – District Executive Changes.**
- 3. Review and approve the minutes of the combined MPO and Technical Committee Meeting of January 23, 2023.**
- 4. Fiscal Year 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program Update Overview.**
- 5. Review and Approve supporting the Statewide Targets for the following performance measures as explained in the Department’s letter and attachments of February 15, 2023:**

PM-2 Performance Measures (for pavement and bridges) include:

- Percentage of pavements on the Interstate System in Good condition;
- Percentage of pavements on the Interstate System in Poor condition;
- Percentage of the pavements on the National Highway System (excluding the Interstate System) in Good condition;
- Percentage of the pavements on the National Highway System (excluding the Interstate System) in Poor condition;
- Percentage of the National Highway System bridge deck area in Good condition;
- Percentage of the National Highway System bridge deck area in Poor condition.

PM-3 Performance Measures (for travel reliability and effectiveness of CMAQ program) include:

- Percent of Person-miles Traveled on the Interstate System that are Reliable
- Percent of Person-miles Traveled on the Non-Interstate System NHS that are Reliable
- Interstate System Truck Travel Time Reliability Index
- Annual Hours of Peak-Hour Excessive Delay (PHED) per Capita
- Percent Non-Single Occupant Vehicle Travel
- On-Road Mobile Source Emissions Reduction for Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality - Improvement (CMAQ) Program funded Projects.

6. Carbon Reduction Program Funds (three attachments).

7. Other Business.

- Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Program Updates.

8. Adjournment.

cc: William Hall, Chairman, Blair County Planning Commission
Nicole Hemminger, Chief Clerk and County Administrator, County of Blair
Allison Senkevich, Assistant County Administrator, County of Blair
Cristy Shumac, P.E., Senior Civil Engineer Supervisor, PennDOT District 9-0
Anne Stich, Transportation Planning Manager, PennDOT District 9-0

Draft Minutes of January 23, 2023
Combined Meeting of the Coordinating and Technical Committees of the
Blair Metropolitan Planning Organization

1. Roll Call by Secretary.

Coordinating Committee Voting Members Present:

Thomas A. Prestash, P.E., District Executive, PennDOT Engineering District 9-0; Chairperson
Frank Hampton, Planning and Programming Manager, PennDOT (alternate for Mr. Gismondi)
Amy Webster, Esq., Board of Commissioners, County of Blair
Matt Pacifico, Mayor, City of Altoona
Dennis Igou, Mayor, Borough of Roaring Spring, Representing the Boroughs
Ed Frontino, Board of Supervisors, Township of Logan, representing the townships
Josh Baker, CEO, Altoona Metro Transit (alternate for Mr. Cessna)

Coordinating Committee Voting Members Absent:

Michael Gismondi, Division Manager, Financial Contracts and Services Division, PennDOT
Central Office
Laura Burke, Esq., Board of Commissioners, County of Blair
David Butterbaugh, Jr., P.L.S., Member of Council, City of Altoona
James Patterson, Supervisor, Township of Snyder, representing the townships
Vacant, Blair County Airport Authority
Scott G. Cessna, Chair, Board of Directors, Altoona Metro Transit

Technical Committee Members Present

Vince Greenland, P.E., ADE for Design, PennDOT District 9-0
Richard C. Sutter, AICP, President, Richard C. Sutter and Associates, Inc.
Nathan Kissell, Director, Department of Public Works, City of Altoona
Diana White, Director, Community Development, City of Altoona
James Gehret, Manager, Hollidaysburg Borough, representing the boroughs
John Frederick, Recreation and Environmental Code Director, Township of Antis, representing the
townships

Non-Voting Members and Others Present:

Michele Ivory, PA Senator Judy Ward
Eugene Porochniak, Community Planner, FHWA
Venessa Shamberg, AICP, Senior Community Planner, Federal Highway Administration
Shawn Wolfe, Antis Township
Anne Stich, Transportation Planning Manager, PennDOT District 9-0
Cristy Shumac, P.E., Senior Civil Engineer Supervisor, PennDOT District 9-0
John Pecze, Municipal Services Supervisor, PennDOT District 9-0
Bill Kibler, Altoona Mirror
Wes Burket, AICP, Transportation Planner, Blair County Planning Commission

2. Review and Approve the Minutes of the Combined Meeting of the MPO and Technical Committee of June 27, 2022.

Motioned: Ms. Webster

Seconded: Mr. Frontino

Voted: All in favor to approve the minutes as presented.

3. Report and ratification of a phone and email poll that took place November 22 to November 29, 2022, in which the MPO approved the following proposed amendments to the current FY 2023-2026 TIP:

1. Create a Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) fund reserve line item, MPMS # 119314". The Carbon Reduction Program funds have been allocated to the Blair MPO from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act based upon urban area population.
2. Exchange \$ 650,000 FY 2023 and 2024 CRP funds with Surface Transportation Program (STP) federal construction funds on the SR 4013/Chestnut Avenue, 10th Street to Greely Street Coordinated Signal Upgrades project in the City of Altoona, MPMS # 107234.
3. Move the \$ 650,000 in STP federal funds from SR 4013/Chestnut Avenue, 10th St. to Greely St. Coordinated Signal Upgrades project to the Bridge and Highway Reserve Line Item.

Ms. Stich explained that the Carbon Reduction Program funds of the IJIA were distributed by population and the county receives a specific allocation for each of the five years of the act and that the first year was rolled in with the second year allocation. She said that a line item was created for FY 2025 and 2026. She noted that because of the short turnaround time, the first two years of CRP funds were placed on the traffic signal coordination and LED upgrade project on Chestnut Avenue for \$ 650,000 and that the STP funds that had been on the project were moved into the reserve line item.

Motioned: Mr. Frontino

Seconded: Mr. Hampton

Voted: All in favor to approve the ratification of the amendments as listed that were previously approved by phone and email poll.

4. Review and approve the amendments to the 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program contained in (Amendment Vote Package BCMPO 1_23_23) as follows:

1. Margaret Avenue Sidewalk - Add \$460,000 in FY 2023 and \$460,000 in FY 2024 to the construction phase from the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Statewide Line Item on p. 1.

Ms. Stich stated that the Margaret Avenue Sidewalk project did not require a vote because the first phase of the project is included in the 2023 TIP. But because the project was awarded \$ 920,000 through the TA Set-Aide Program, she suggested it would be good to vote on the funds.

2. Lower Riggles Gap Bridge on SR 4018 – Remove project phase for \$165,000 in FY 2025 because work completed by County maintenance and increase Bridge PM Line Item on p. 3.

Ms. Stich reported that the removal of Lower Riggles Gap Bridge from the TIP was because the County maintenance had since completed the bridge underpinning work with county maintenance funds so the \$165,000 will be placed into the TIP's reserve bridge line item.

3. US Route 22 Resurfacing – Cambria County to PA Route 764 – Cash flow to match current let date by increasing construction phase in FY 2024 by \$2,569,000 from the PA Route 36 resurfacing (US 22 to Plank Road) and increasing construction phase in FY 2024 by \$1,012,095 from the Bridge & Highway Reserve and decreasing US Route 22 in FY 2026 by \$855,095 and \$2,368,000 and moving to PA Route 36 and the Bridge & Highway Line Item as shown on page 4.

Ms. Stich said that the US Route 22 project is ready to be advanced in 2024 and the PA Route 36 project needed more time as why the need to exchange the funding. She noted that because the exchange exceeded the \$ 2 million threshold, it required the boards' approval.

4. McMahon Road Extension and Improvements in Logan Township at Lowes – Add project and increase the construction phase to \$2,295,053 in FY 2024 from Appalachian Development Commission funds as shown on p. 5.

Ms. Stich said that the McMahon Road Extension would be done with ARC funds outside of the TIP and that Logan Township was the project sponsor.

5. US Route 22 Structures over Carson Valley Road in Allegheny Township – Add project and construction phase of project for \$1,811,000 in FY 2023 and \$501,000 in FY 2024, and \$1,488,000 in FY 2025 from the Bridge PM Line Item as shown on p. 6.

Ms. Stich said that the US Route 22 over Carson Valley Road project is for two structures that can now be let in 2024 and thus could be completed before resurfacing project on US Route 22.

Motioned: Mr. Sutter

Seconded: Mr. Frontino

Voted: All in favor of including the amendments package as presented in the 2023 TIP.

5. **Review and approve supporting the 2023 Statewide Targets for Safety Performance Measures by agreeing to plan and program projects so that they contribute toward the accomplishment of PennDOT targets.**

Mr. Prestash said that this item is one the board reviews regularly and has the option of adopting statewide targets or making its own. Mr. Burket said that the board has adopted the statewide targets in the last 5 years and that the targets are a 2% annual fatality reduction and maintaining a level of suspected serious injuries. Mr. Prestash added that the other PA MPOs use the statewide targets.

Motioned: Ms. Webster

Seconded: Mr. Frontino

Voted: All in favor to approve the 2023 Statewide Targets for Safety Performance Measures.

6. For information purposes: the following revisions to the transit portion of the 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) were performed administratively on January 10, 2023:

TIP #2023-7 – Maintenance Tools & Equipment increasing from \$50,000 to \$175,000 for the addition of an air dryer system to the existing bus wash.

TIP #2024-2 – Purchase 3 replacement buses for a project total of \$1,800,000 with a 50/50 split between Federal 5339 funds and state 1517.1 funds.

TIP #2024-3 – Engineering/Design – upgrade bus maintenance area in 120-year old garage increasing Engineering/Design budget from \$5,000 to \$50,000 due to increase in project scope.

TIP #2024-4 – Rehab/Renovate - upgrade bus maintenance area in 120-year old garage increasing Rehab/Renovate budget from \$50,000 to \$1,500,000. This project includes the rehab and refurbishment of all interior Maintenance facility walls, ceilings, and flooring, including the possibility of lead paint abatement. Windows (5th Avenue side) will be added to increase daylighting.

Mr. Prestash welcomed Mr. Baker to the group and his new position taking over for Mr. Wolf. Mr. Baker briefly described the transit projects.

7. Other Business.

Ms. Shumac stated that funds were being provided to the MPO through the state line item to assist the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) in the form of a Vulnerable Road User program for bicycle and pedestrian users. She explained that the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act requires that states with vulnerable road user fatalities exceeding 15% of roadway fatalities to use no less than 15% of the available HSIP funds the next fiscal year for projects that help these users. She said that the state's tier one vulnerable road user projects include pedestrian countdown signals, signs, and push buttons and tier two would include the push button poles. She said in Blair County there would be fifty-three intersections to be let in February 2024, which will include Tier 1 and part of Tier 2.

Mr. Porochniak said that he would be moving from his coverage of the Blair County MPO and thanked the MPO and District 9-0 for its cooperation over the years. He introduced the new senior community planner, Venessa Shamberg, who will take his place. Ms. Shamberg said that she has a background in community and economic development and looks forward to working with the group.

8. Adjournment.

There being no other business, the chairperson asked for a motion to adjourn at 2:50 pm.

Motioned: Mr. Frontino

Seconded: Mr. Hampton

Voted: All in favor of adjourning the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

David W. McFarland, III, AICP
Secretary, MPO