

**The Blair Metropolitan Planning Organization
Annual List of Obligated Projects Report**

for

Federal Fiscal Year 2022 (October 1, 2021 – September 30, 2022)

Prepared by the Blair County Planning Commission,
The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation,
and Altoona Metro Transit

December 12, 2022

Blair MPO Annual List of Obligated Projects

Blair Metropolitan Planning Organization Background

The Federal-Aid Act of 1962 led to the creation of the Altoona Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) in 1965 with the goal to provide a continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive planning process. (This process keeps the county eligible to receive U.S. Department of Transportation funds.) In its beginning, the MPO policy or Coordinating Committee consisted of members from PennDOT, the County, and the City of Altoona. In the 1990s, the study area expanded to the entire county and the committees members expanded to include Altoona Metro Transit, the airport, and local elected officials representing the townships and the boroughs. Others who participate in the planning process are the Blair County Chamber of Commerce, representatives of organizations that represent low income and minorities, state and federal legislators, citizens, and other interested parties.

As MPO Secretary, the Blair County Planning Commission performs ongoing MPO administrative and transportation planning tasks that include convening MPO meetings and preparing meeting notices, agendas, and minutes. The planning staff also helps the MPO to meet other state and federal planning requirements like preparing the planning work program, the Long Range Transportation Plan, Transportation Improvement Program, and Public Participation and Title VI Plans.

The Annual List of Obligated Projects Requirement

The federal requirement of an annual list of obligated projects came from the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act of December 2015, the final rules on page 34158 of the Federal Register/Vol. 81, No. 103/Friday, May 27, 2016, 23 U.S. Code Section 450.334 state as follows:

- (a) In metropolitan planning areas, on an annual basis, no later than 90 calendar days following the end of the program year, the State, public transportation operators, and the MPO shall cooperatively develop a listing of projects (including investments in pedestrian walkways and bicycle transportation facilities) for which funds under 23 U.S.C. or 49 U.S.C. Chapter 53 were obligated in the preceding program year.
- (b) The listing shall be prepared in accordance with 450.314 (a) and shall include all federally funded projects authorized or revised to increase obligations in the preceding program year and shall at a minimum include the TIP information under 450.326 (g) (1) and (4) and identify, for each project, the amount of Federal funds requested in the TIP, the Federal funding that was obligated during the preceding year, and the Federal funding remaining and available for subsequent years.
- (c) The listing shall be published or otherwise made available in accordance with the MPO's public participation criteria for the TIP.

Highway and Bridge Obligated Projects

The requirement of the annual list of obligated projects has also been included in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021. PennDOT has thus continued to prepare the following reports showing the annual lists of obligated projects as follows:

1. ***“Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Obligations Report Obligations 10-1-21 to 9-30-22”***
(This document shows the highway and bridge projects by title, project description, project phase, district, state route, and program 2022 fiscal year expenditures in Blair County.)
2. ***“Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2021 Altoona Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) with State Match Encumbrances and Expenditures 10-1-21 to 9-30-22”*** (Includes projects within Blair County).
3. ***“Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2021 Interstate TIP With State Match Encumbrances and Expenditures 10-1-21 to 9-30-22”***. (Blair County interstate projects are on shown on p. 13.)

Altoona Metro Transit Obligated Projects

In FFY 2022, Amtran continued to use CARES Act funds from FY 2020 in the following projects:
PA-2020-046-00 FFY20 Section 5307 CARES Act Operating and Capital Projects.

Investments in pedestrian walkways and bicycle transportation facilities

The following projects are included in the highway and bridge projects obligated in FY 2022:

1. Margaret Avenue Sidewalk The resurfacing of Margaret Avenue in the City of Altoona includes a sidewalk.
2. South Poplar Run Bridge As part of the bridge rehabilitation on County Road 101 a sidewalk will be included on the bridge with a connecting sidewalk to Elmore Street (T-506) in Greenfield Township.
3. SR 1009/Frankston Road – SR 1021 to PA Rt. 36 A sidewalk is to be installed along the part of the resurfacing and signal upgrade project located in the City of Altoona along Frankstown Road.
4. Canoe Creek Intersection Project included a bridge replacement on U.S. Route 22 that includes a walkway on the outside of the bridge that will used as part of a planned trail extension in Canoe Creek State Park.
5. PA Route 36 Bridge over SR 2014 and Norfolk Southern and Everett Railroads will rehabilitate the bridge that includes an existing sidewalk along the bridge’s western side.
6. Wopsononock Avenue/SR 4015 Spring Bridge includes a sidewalk on the east side of the bridge.