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|  | CITIZENS ADVISORY MEETING  March 9, 2023  This meeting was held virtually at  <https://morgantownmonongaliampo.my.webex.com/meet/baustin> |

**Members Present:**

Christiaan Abildso (Chair), Chip Wamsley, Tom Zeni, Kelli LaNeve, Matt Cross

**Others Present:** Bill Austin, Jackie Peate, Jing Zhang

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**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 to order at 6:00 PM.

The committee members introduced themselves and welcomed the MPO’s new employee, Jackie Peate.

**2. Approval of Minutes**

Mr. Austin noted that the minutes of the last meeting were included in the agenda package. Mr. Cross moved to approve the meeting minutes; seconded by Mr. Zeni. With no discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

**3. On-Call Consultant Selection**

Mr. Austin noted that the MPO received 6 proposals for the RFP for general transportation planning service. The 6 proposals were from AECOM, Stantec, Michael Baker, Kimley, Horn, GPI, and WBCM. The proposals were reviewed by a selection committee consisted of members from TTAC and CAC. It was the consensus of the selection committee that two firms would be selected for a contract: Kimley Horn and Associates and AECOM. Mr. Austin noted that the two firms have complimentary skill sets and advantages.

Mr. Zeni asked if having the two on-call consulting firms will slow down projects’ development process. Mr. Austin noted that it will be easier to have one consulting firm, but having two on-call firms will give the MPO more options when it comes to implement specific projects as the two firms have slightly different strength for projects at different scales.

Mr. Zeni moved to recommend approval of the on-call consultant selection to the MPO’s Policy Board; seconded by Mr. Wamsley. With no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

**4. FY 2023-2024 Unified Planning Work Program**

Mr. Austin noted that the final draft of the MPO’s 2023 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) is included in the agenda package. Work in the draft UPWP includes oversight of the Downtown Traffic Study, oversight of the Greenbag Road Design Study, initial implementation of the pedestrian/cyclist data collection initiative, and normal MPO operations including enhanced outreach. MPO Staff also intends to perform an areawide charging station study.

Mrs. LaNeve made a motion to recommend approval of the UPWP to the MPO’s Policy Board; seconded by Mr. Wamsley. With no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

**5. Revised Title VI Policy**

Mr. Austin noted that as a part of federal requirements, the MPO needs to have a policy in place to address the use of Federal funds that may impact underserved communities. This includes outreach to those communities. The attached draft Title VI Policy is an updated version of the MPO’s existing policy. The primary change to the Policy is that the socio-economic data utilized in the Policy has been updated.

Mr. Zeni noted that since the Title VI Policy covers disability, the MPO can collect local data for the population with disabilities as a part of future data collection efforts. Mr. Austin agreed.

Mr. Zeni moved to recommend the adoption of the revised Tittle VI Policy to the Policy Board; seconded by Mr. Wamsley. With no discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

**6. TIP Adjustments**

Mr. Austin noted that WV DOH requested administrative adjustments to the MPO’s TIP under the MPO’s recently adopted groupable project policy. These proposed changes are primarily District 4 wide projects, including bridge inspection, bridge replacement/renovation, and highway maintenance.

Mr. Austin pointed out two projects of community interest. WV DOH have proposed to move the Brookhaven Road intersection project from FY 2024 to 2026. Mr. Austin noted that a group of WVU engineering students is conducting a capstone project to identify potential alternatives for the intersection. The MPO will pass the findings on to WV DOH. WV DOH also seeks to increase the funding of the Walnut Street Streetscape project.

WV DOH has requested the removal of the following projects from the MPO’s TIP because the funds have been obligated. Those projects include Dunkard Ave Sidewalk Phase V, Greenbag Rd (GO BOND 4), Morris Builders’ Bridge + 1, I-79 Bridge Rehabilitations, Patteson Dr RRFB, FY 23 SF Bridge Inspect, and Morgantown Municipal Airport Streetscape.

Mr. Cross noted that some properties have been bought to build Brookhaven Elementary School. This may have an impact to the intersection operation in the future. Mr. Austin noted that WV DOH is aware of that situation.

Mr. Austin noted that MPO has been working with the DOH on the contract for the Greenbag Rd project. For the Downtown Traffic study, a large portion of the matching funds have been received. The study is expected to start data collection in August.

This is an informational item and requires no action from the committee.

**7. Other Business**

Mr. Cross noted that the City of Morgantown will install a crosswalk with RFB on Yoke St near Falling Run Rd. He suggested that Mountain Line Transit consider installing a bus shelter at that location.

Mr. Cross expressed his appreciation for the repair of the pedestrian signal on Mon Blvd near the Creative Art Center Dr.

Mr. Cross asked about the status of Pleasant St Project and Walnut St Project. Mr. Austin noted that the Pleasant St Project has been delayed. The DOH has increased funding for the Walnut St Project. The project will be constructed soon.

Mr. Cross noted that the traffic light for left-turn traffic at Mountaineer station on Van Voorhis Rd is out of sync. He suggested adjusting the left-turn signal interval and activation to improve the intersection’s efficiency.

Mr. Cross asked about the status of Beechurst Spot Improvement project. Mr. Austin noted that the project will take approximately two years, including utility relocation and the earth work for the intersection relocation at Campus Dr.

Mr. Abildso noted that the DOH recently repaved DuPont Rd. DuPont Rd is well connected to the Mountain Line Transit station, multiple townhouse units, the Westover city park, and mountain bike trails. The DOH’s project did not provide any dedicated facilities improvement for bicyclists or pedestrians. Mr. Abildso noted that since the project received state funds, it falls under the State’s Complete Street Policy, which requires DOH consider pedestrian and bicycle facility improvements for projects receiving state or federal funds unless there is no need for such improvement.

Mr. Abildso suggested sending a request to WV DOH for any document on the design process that demonstrates no need for pedestrian and bicycle facility improvements for this project. Mr. Austin noted that the WV DOH took the project as a truck route improvement. He will reach out the DOH for any comments.

Mr. Cross expressed his appreciation to Mr. Abildso for his contribution to the pedestrian and bicycle related legislation in the State.

**8. Meeting Adjournment**

The Meeting adjourned at 6:45 PM