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MINUTES

MPO Transportation Technical Advisory Meeting
Morgantown Airport Terminal Building 1st Floor
Morgantown Monongalia MPO Conference Room
May 12, 2015
1:30 PM

Members Present

Fouad Shoukry-WV DOH, Brian Carr-WV DOH, Rob Moyer-WVU, Chris Fletcher-City of Morgantown, Rich Wood-Monongalia County, Damien Davis-City of Morgantown, Dave Bruffy-Mountain Line Transit, Kevin Burgess-FHWA, Bill Austin-MMMPO, Arlie Forman-WVU

Others Present

Ben Conley-Dominion Post, Jessica Seese-City of Morgantown, Jing Zhang-MMMPO

1. Call to Order

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

2. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Austin noted that the minutes of the March were included in the agenda packet. Mr. Fletcher moved to approve the minutes as presented; seconded by Mr. Wood. With no discussion, the motion was unanimously approved.

3. TIP Amendments

Mr. Austin noted that the first TIP Amendment is the resurfacing project on Beechurst Ave proposed by WV DOH. Mr. Shoukry noted that this project includes resurfacing Beechurst Ave from 8th St to Hough St and restriping the segment of Beechurst Ave from Campus Dr to south of Hough St. The restriping is proposed to convert the existing TWLTL to a southbound travel lane, making two southbound travel lanes from the Campus Dr. intersection to the Hough St intersection. Mr. Shoukry then noted that providing two southbound lanes on that segment on Beechurst Ave is a necessary preparation for future improvements at the Campus Dr. intersection. The proposed configuration to improve the Campus Dr intersection is to install two left-turn lanes on Campus to access southbound Beechurst Ave. Dr. Mr. Carr noted that depending on the situation of the programming process, Federal funds might be used at some point for the Beechurst Ave

resurfacing project. Mr. Davis moved to recommend approval of the proposed TIP Amendments to the MPO Policy Board; seconded by Mr. Fletcher. With no discussion, the motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Austin then noted that the second TIP Amendment is the WVU PRT improvements. It includes electrical system upgrades (Phase II) and vehicle replacements (Phase III). Mr. Forman described technologies that will be used in the PRT system improvements. Mr. Fletcher moved to recommend approval of the proposed TIP Amendments to the MPO Policy Board; seconded by Mr. Wood. With no discussion, the motion was unanimously approved.

4. Status Report on Ongoing Projects

Mr. Carr noted that for the project of Collins Ferry Rd and University Ave intersection improvements, the estimated project cost has increased significantly due to right-of-way acquisition. The DOH will contract a consulting firm for a study at this intersection. The impact of developments on adjacent hospital properties and the new Suncrest School at Collins Ferry Rd will be considered. On the project of Greenbag Rd and WV 7 intersection improvements, the DOH has recently conducted a field review to evaluate four alternatives proposed by the consulting firm of this project. The decision on final design will be made within a few weeks.

Concerning future improvements at the intersection of Campus Dr and Beechurst Ave, Mr. Shoukry noted that an effective alternative to improve traffic flow on Campus Dr is to provide two left-turn lanes on Campus Dr at that intersection. Mr. Carr noted that future improvements the intersection will also be coordinated with the University Ave Complete Street Study.

Mr. Moyer noted that as of this meeting, the University is opposed to converting the existing TWLTL into a southbound travel lane on Beechurst Ave from Campus Dr to Hough St. Mr. Moyer then noted that this change will impose difficulty for left-turn traffic from Stansbury Hall parking lot and will not improve traffic flow at the Campus Dr intersection under the current condition. Mr. Austin noted that the impact of this change to northbound traffic during AM peak hours should be considered. Mr. Fletcher noted that it is worthwhile to conduct a study identifying impact and benefits of the proposed restriping. Mr. Austin noted that Jing Zhang will build a Synchro model for this matter to provide more information on the impact of this change, especially during AM and PM peak hours. Mr. Shoukry stated that a decision on this needs to be made quickly. Mr. Zhang stated that he could have model ready in a week. It was agreed the TTAC would meet in a week to review the model.

Mr. Shoukry noted that the DOH has completed 70 percent of the design in the Van Voorhis Rd Improvements project. The project is expected to be constructed in next two years. Mr. Shoukry then noted that the design phase of the West Run Rd Improvements from Van Voorhis Rd to Riddle Ave was completed and the project proceeded to the right-of-way acquisition phase.

5. University Ave Complete Street Study and I-79 Access Study Update

Mr. Austin noted that the University Ave Complete Street Study has made some important progress in last two months, including the notice to proceed, providing project work program, preparing a technical memo, and holding steering committee orientation meeting. The consulting

firm also provided advices on 3rd Street improvements and assisted in preparing the TIGER grant application for the city of Morgantown.

Mr. Austin then noted that the I-79 Access Study is in the data collection phase. Mountain Line provided travel time data for the study and Mr. Zhang is updating information on the Transportation Analysis Zones and Centroids in the Regional Travel Demand Model that is to be used in this Study.

6. Other Business

Mr. Davis noted that the city is in the process of reviewing a preliminary site development plan at the intersection of Greenbag Rd and Luckey Ln. He then noted that roadway improvements are needed at that intersection. Mr. Carr noted that considering the roadway dimensions needed for future improvements on Greenbag Rd, there should be no direct vehicle access from the development site to Greenbag Rd.

Mr. Davis then noted that the Sheetz Gas Station at at Grafton Rd and Hornbeck Rd is in the process of purchasing right-of-way from the DOH. Mr. Austin asked if pedestrian access will be provided to the site. Mr. Davis noted that the city has requested sidewalk installation on the site.

Mr. Shoukry noted that DOH has completed the preliminary cross section plan for the TWLTL project on Mon Blvd from Boyers Ave to Patteson Dr. Once consensus is reached among stakeholders concerning the roadway configurations. The project is expected to be constructed quickly, since there is no right-of-way or utility relocation issue.

9. Meeting Adjournment

There being no further business. The meeting adjourned at 2:43 PM.