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MINUTES

MPO Citizens Advisory Committee
MMMPO Conference Room
243 High St. Room 110, Morgantown, WV
June 8, 2017, 6:00 PM

Members Present

Bill Rice, Bill Austin, Kyle Haugh, Chip Wamsley, Maria Smith, Ed Sneckenberger

Others Present

Jing Zhang-MMMPO

1. Call to Order

With a quorum present, Chairman Rice called the meeting of CAC to order at 6:05 PM.

2. Approval of the Minutes

Mr. Austin noted that the minutes of the May meeting were included in the agenda packet. Mr. Sneckenberger pointed out an error in the minutes that the name of Bill Austin should be added to the list of members who were present in the last meeting. Mr. Sneckenberger then moved to approve the minutes with the suggested correction, seconded by Mr. Wamsley. With no discussion, the motion was unanimously approved.

3. TIP Amendments

Mr. Austin noted that the WV DOH requested that the MPO amend the TIP. The amendments include Mylan park bridge approach engineering project, construction project at the intersection Goshen Rd and Smithtown Rd, I- 79 Corporal Thomas Bennett Memorial Bridge-Inspection, and resurfacing projects on CO 73, WV 100-Maidsville, Van Voorhis Rd, and WV 7. A map is attached showing the locations of requested projects.

Mr. Austin noted that he is not sure of the location of the Mylan Park bridge approach project and the TTAC recommended approval of the TIP Amendments with a request for clarification of the location of the project. Mr. Rice noted that it would be helpful to know if the Mylan Park approach bridge project is within the boundary of the Westover TIF district. Mr. Austin noted that MPO staff will prepare a TIF map in the county for future use. Mr. Rice moved to recommend approval of the Mylan Park bridge approach project

with a request for clarification of the project location from WV DOH; seconded by Mr. Haugh. With no discussion, the motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Sneckenberger asked if the Van Voorhis project has already been funded. Mr. Austin noted that the Van Voorhis project under the TIP Amendments has increased length and a different scope of work. Mr. Haugh moved to recommend approval of the requested TIP Amendment to the MPO's Policy Board; seconded by Mrs. Smith. With no discussion, the motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Austin noted that in addition to the TIP Amendments, the WV DOH requested several TIP Adjustments. The information on the adjustments is included in the agenda package. TIP Adjustment require no action from the Committee. Mr. Austin noted that many TIP adjustments are for projects programmed several years ago and TTAC members expressed their concern that WV DOH has delayed many programmed TIP projects in the area without providing any reasons for the delay.

Mr. Austin then noted that the WV MPO Association is developing a way to improve the funding approval mechanism for non-controversial TIP projects in the state. It is an attempt to allow MPOs in West Virginia to pre-authorize a pool of funding designated for non-controversial TIP projects. The WV DOH could then use this designated funding for appropriate projects without requesting TIP Amendments. Mr. Austin noted that this mechanism will help to expedite the delivery process of non-controversial projects, such as bridge inspection and road resurfacing. Similar procedures have been successfully implemented in other states across the country.

4. Beechurst Avenue Study Status Report

Mr. Austin noted that MPO staff has held a meeting with the Study Steering Committee, discussing the existing and forecasted land uses in the Beechurst corridor. The WVU professor working on the traffic microsimulation for the study also attended this meeting. Mr. Austin then noted that the MPO is seeking information on existing signal timing from the Charleston central office. Mr. Austin noted that the MPO will hold a public meeting for this study in August.

5. Ongoing Project Update

Mr. Austin noted that based on his communication with WV DOH staff, there is no major update on the status of ongoing DOH projects in the area.

6. Other Business

Mr. Austin noted that there is an ongoing online petition opposing the WV DOH plan to put a roundabout at the intersection of University Ave and Collins Ferry Rd.

Mr. Austin noted several service improvements of the Mountain Line, including enhanced service on the I-79 Express Line from Morgantown to Charleston, the Grey Line from Morgantown to Pittsburgh airport, the evening service at major local routes, and the evening and weekend service in the area. Mr. Austin expressed his appreciation to the Mountain Line for the enhanced services to the community.

Mr. Austin noted that the WV Secretary of Transportation attended a meeting hosted by the Chamber of Commerce yesterday, discussing transportation issues and projects in the area.

10. Meeting Adjournment.

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 PM.