



## CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

March 14th, 2024

This meeting was held virtually at <https://morgantownmonongaliampo.my.webex.com/meet/baustin> and in person at 243 High St (Court House), Room 026 in downtown Morgantown.

### Members Present:

Christiaan Abildso (Chairman), Matthew Cross, Kelli LaNeve, Chip Wamsley

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

---

### 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 of the CAC to order at 6:04 PM.

### 2. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Austin noted that the minutes of the last meeting were included in the agenda package. Mr. Cross mentioned item 5 Mr. Cross asked about the roundabout near Pocahontas Street, needs to be Baldwin. Mr. Cross moved to approve the meeting minutes as edited; seconded by Mr. Wamsley. With no further discussion, the minutes passed unanimously.

### 3. 2024 March - TIP Amendments and Adjustments

Mr. Austin stated that the TIP Amendments were as follows:

West Virginia Department of Transportation-Division of Highways (WV DOH) has requested the following TIP amendments:

- West Run Road (GO BOND 4): Total cost increase, Federal ID change. Federal ID: STP0671010D. Construction. FY2024. Improve intersection. Federal Funds: \$1,958,674, Total Funds: \$19,586,739
- Morgantown Industrial Park Access Rd: Move the ROW phase to state funded. Federal ID: STBG2023313D. Right-of-way. FY2024. Construct new road and bridge. Federal Funds: \$0, Total Funds: \$2,500,000

Ms. LaNeve moved to recommend the approval of the amendments presented; seconded by Mr. Cross. Mr. Abildso asked if the funds were state funds, and Mr. Austin clarified they were. Without further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Mountain Line Transit Authority (MLTA) has requested the following TIP amendments:

- Revenue Rolling Stock Replacement 5339 (for purchase of revenue producing vehicles)

- FY 2024: Adjust federal funding from \$403,808 to \$212,455, Local funding from \$100,952 to \$53,114.
- FY 2025: Adjust federal funding from \$153,000 to \$453,486, Local funding from \$38,250 to \$113,372.
- FY 2026: Adjust federal funding from \$153,000 to \$150,000, Local funding from \$38,250 to \$37,500.
- FY 2027: Adjust federal funding from \$153,000 to \$150,000, Local funding from \$38,250 to \$37,500.

Mr. Cross moved to approve the amendments presented; seconded by Mr. Wamsley. Mr. Austin and Mr. Abildso noticed some minor typos, which will be fixed by staff. Without further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Austin stated the Administrative Adjustments were as follows:

- Exit 152 NB and SB Ramps (AC PAYBACK). Construction phase. Federal ID: HSIP0119502D. - funding decrease
- Burrough St (AC PAYBACK). Construction phase. Federal ID: STP0592002D. – funding increase
- Rubble Run I-Bean. Engineering phase. Federal ID: STBG0071165D.- funding increase
- Dellslow Arch. Engineering phase. Federal ID: STBG0007341D - moved to 2025 and funding increase
- Smithtown W-Bean ROW. Federal ID: STBG0073098D - funding changes to \$0 for both state and federal funds

The following projects will be removed from the MMMPO TIP Highway Project Table, because their funds have been obligated:

- Smithtown Rd Traffic Signal. Construction phase. Federal ID: HSIP0119502D.
- Smithtown Rd Traffic Signal. Row of Way phase. Federal ID: HSIP0119501D.
- Dunkard Ave Sidewalks Phase V. Construction phase. Federal ID: TAP2018216D.
- US 119 Morgantown Lighting. Construction phase. Federal ID: NHPP0119493D.
- Interstate 68 Overpass. Row of Way phase. Federal ID: NHPP0119513D.
- Greenbag Rd (GO BOND 4). Construction phase. Federal ID: NFA2317022D.

These were informational items and did not require a vote.

#### 4. Draft Unified Planning Work Program

Mr. Austin stated the draft UPWP is for the next year. Staff has been working with the City of Morgantown about a feasibility study for a pedestrian bridge across Don Knotts. Staff is also working with MLT for new bus stops and shelters, and doing a new pedestrian safety study. The MMMPO will be wrapping up the Downtown Microsimulation Study. The budget is proposing a 5% cost of living allowance for staff. There will also be funding available for consultants. There is a budget increase for the City and County.

Mr. Cross moved to recommend the UWPW to the Policy Board; seconded by Ms. LaNeve. The motion passed unanimously.

### **5. 2018-2022 Crash Report**

Mr. Zhang introduced the Crash Report for the years 2018-2022, and stated he had implemented the committee's recommendations from last meeting. This report provides a comprehensive analysis of road traffic accidents and their associated trends within our region. By examining the data collected over these five years, staff aims to promote a safer and more informed approach to urban and regional planning, ultimately working toward the goal of reducing accidents and enhancing road safety for all residents and commuters. The report provides a detailed examination of the crash data, including trends and potential contributing factors. The purpose of this crash report is to comprehensively document regional crash trends, crash locations, and crash types, identify areas of concern for planning purposes, as well as propose potential engineering countermeasures aimed at enhancing safety within these identified areas, and raise public awareness regarding frequent crash hotspots, particularly highlighting the prevalent types of crashes occurring in specific locations. There are maps in the appendix providing demographic data.

Mr. Cross asked where the data came from. Mr. Austin stated the data came from DOH and Mr. Zhang reviewed over 10,000 records to create this report.

Mr. Cross moved to approve the 2018-2022 Crash Report; seconded by Mr. Wamsley. Without further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

### **6. Draft Electrical Vehicle Charging Station Plan**

Staff stated that this document provides a comprehensive overview of electric vehicles in the context of Monongalia County, offering insights into crucial aspects of the implementation of this technology. The background section covers essential topics such as EV education, charging infrastructure, strategic location selections, and federal standards. Serving as an informative foundation, this document is a valuable resource for those seeking a holistic understanding of EVs. The analysis segment delves into the current status of EVs and charging ports in Monongalia County, presenting data on existing infrastructure while forecasting future needs. Additionally, it identifies potential locations for new charging ports to meet the rising demand for electric mobility. In a commitment to inclusive planning, the document underscores the incorporation of public input, positioning it as a collaborative resource for ongoing research or project development within the Monongalia County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MMMPO). The appendix includes funding opportunities for rural and urban charging stations for MPOs and Localities. This is currently an informational item, and staff is looking for feedback from CAC members.

Mr. Abildso asked for clarification on if 253 public level 2 charging stations were needed, per the report. Mr. Zhang said yes and that analysis was from a Federal Website. There are no current mandates, but this report makes sure the community is organized and prepared. Mr. Abildso said he appreciated the Community Recommendations in the report. Staff will involve the public as this procedure moves along.

Mr. Cross asked if this include solar power chargers, and staff said they are looking into this. This is just a location study, not technology at this point in the process.

## **7. Community Garden Project Update**

Ms. Peate provided an update on the Community Garden Project. She stated the application are currently open. One has been submitted, but it is incomplete. Staff has communicated with WVU, but that led to a dead end as they wanted to use funds for staffing instead of supplies. The deadline has been extended to March 22<sup>nd</sup>. The Steering Committee members have been selected and are Bill Austin and Andrew Gast-Bray from the MPO, and Rickie Yeager and Katherine Millete from the City of Morgantown. Ms. Peate stated she has run an ad on Facebook for this project, and reached out to the Neighborhood Associations of Morgantown. These gardens do not have to specifically in the City of Morgantown.

Mr. Cross mentioned looking into the city-wide tool shed organization and asked if there has to be a specific number of gardeners. Ms. Peate said no, and directed him to the application on the website. Mr. Abildso asked for the total amount that can be given per applicant, and Mr. Asotin clarified it was maximum \$5000. Ms. LaNeve said she has discussed this program with Ms. Smith, and they will continue to brainstorm possible locations.

## **8. Other Business**

Mr. Abildso expressed concern about cars trying to turn left leaving Enterprise on the Mileground. The view is blocked and it is causing a safety issue. This is one of many concerns about safety on the Mileground.

Mr. Cross mentioned Burrough Street having bad potholes that need to be redone. He also asked when Beechurst will be completed and if it will be resurfaced. Mr. Austin said it will be done in the summer and it will be resurfaced, as resurfacing is part of a typical upgrade.

Mr. Abildso asked about budget issues in the State and if it will disturb the certainty of money for the Industrial Bridge. Mr. Austin stated the money is secured. They are getting ready to do right of way acquisition and the environmental study. Other projects are moving forward as normal.

Mr. Cross asked about the Richwood Road project, and this will be addressed.

Mr. Abildso asked the timeline for 68/79 interchange. Mr. Ausitn suggested to look on the WVDOH's website.

## **9. Meeting Adjournment**

The Meeting adjourned at 6:53 PM.