



## POLICY BOARD MEETING

243 High Street Room 026, Morgantown WV 26501

May 19, 2022, 6 PM

Virtual Meeting Link:

<https://morgantownmonongaliampo.my.webex.com/meet/baustin>

### Members Present:

Chairman Ron Justice - WVU, Vice Chairman Mike Kelly - Board of Education, Treasurer - Granville Mayor Patricia Lewis, Commissioner Jeffery Arnett - Monongalia County, Commissioner Tom Bloom - Monongalia County, Dave Bruffy - Mountain Line Transit Authority, Brian Carr - WV DOH, Councilperson Dave Harshbarger - City of Morgantown, Councilperson Bill Kawecki - City of Morgantown, Mayor Jenifer Selin - City of Morgantown, Commissioner Sean Sikora - Monongalia County

**MPO Director:** Bill Austin, AICP

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### 1. Call to Order

With a quorum present, Chairman Justice called the meeting of the Morgantown Monongalia Metropolitan Planning Organization (MMMPO) Policy Board to order at 6:00 PM.

### 2. Public Comment

There were no public comments during the meeting.

### 3. Approval of Minutes

Chairman Justice noted that the minutes for the last meeting were included in the agenda packet. Commissioner Bloom moved to approve the minutes as presented; seconded by Mr. Kelly. With no discussion, the motion was approved unanimously.

#### 4. Committee Report

##### *a. Citizens Advisory Committee*

Mr. Austin noted that the last CAC meeting did not have a quorum. The attending committee members reviewed the agenda item and recommended approval of the TIP Amendments and MTP update as presented.

##### *b. Finance Committee*

Mayor Lewis briefed the Policy Board on the financial report:

At the beginning of March, the balance was \$ 37,454.68. The expenditures were \$49,810.61 with three deposits of 39,053.38, leaving a balance of \$ 26,697.45 at the end of January.

At the beginning of April, the balance was \$26,697.45. The expenditures were \$37,112.58 with one deposit of \$37,822.73, leaving a balance of \$27,407.60 at the end of October.

Commissioner Sikora moved to approve the finance report as presented; seconded by Commissioner Bloom. With no discussion, the motion was unanimously approved.

##### *c. Executive Director*

Mr. Austin provided the following update:

The MPO has submitted a RAISE Grant application to US DOT for the eastern portion of the Greenbag Road project.

The Mileground reconstruction project is projected to be completed by November 2022. Planner II Jing Zhang has been nominated as the Chairman of the International Division of the American Planning Association (APA). The result of the election will be announced in November. MPO staff attended a statewide planning conference in Berkeley Springs, West Virginia. During the conference, the DOH provided a presentation on pedestrian safety featuring the increasing pedestrian crashes across the state, especially in the Morgantown area. Mr. Austin noted that he will travel to Charleston for the WV DOH workshop on FHWA grants. MPO staff anticipate attending a WV DOH training for highway safety in Charleston in June. Staff will also review the MMMPO's travel policy and update accordingly.

Commissioner Bloom asked about the final completion time for Mileground project. Chairman Justice noted that according to the schedule of WV DOH, the actual road construction will start in early June and will continue through November.

#### 5. TIP Amendments

Chairman Justice noted that the DOH requested TIP amendment for the Cheat Lake – Coopers Rock resurfacing project, increasing federal funding from \$5,800,000 to \$7,500,000. The project is 100% federally funded. The TIP adjustments include Dunkard Avenue sidewalk construction project, Morgantown Airport streetscape and ADA sidewalk project, West Run Road projects, and some obligation date changes. The Mountain Line Transit Authority has requested a TIP

adjustment to decrease the §5311F - Federal 5311F Cares Act funding from \$89,100 to \$72,100 for FY 2022.

Commissioner Bloom inquired about the postponement of the West Run project, stating that the project has been delayed for some time. Chairman Justice noted that the MMMPO has approved funding for this project and the Policy Board does not have control over the project schedule at this point.

Commissioner Arnett made a motion to approve the TIP amendment as requested; seconded by Mayor Selin. With no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

## **6. Draft Metropolitan Transportation Plan**

Chairman Justice declared that the MMMPO completed a thorough process for the Metropolitan Transportation Plan update. Public comments were received and considered throughout the process and there were no substantial comments against the adoption of the Metropolitan Transportation Plan.

Mayor Selin moved to adopt the Metropolitan Transportation Plan as presented; seconded by Mr. Kelly. With no discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

## **7. Other Business**

Commissioner Bloom expressed his appreciation that the Harmony Gove Interchange project is moving forward and noted the importance of the project because it will have a significant impact to the region from an economic standpoint.

Chairman Justice noted that the consultant for the Westridge development will do a presentation about the Westridge development and the Exit 155 project for the Policy Board during the June meeting.

Mr. Carr noted that the Harmony Grove project has received significant support from state officials and the local community. He voiced his appreciation and looks forward to moving this project forward.

## **12. Meeting adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 6:18 PM.