

82 Hart Field Road Suite 105 Morgantown, WV 26508 (304) 291-9571 www.plantogether.org

Agenda

MPO Transportation Technical Advisory Committee Meeting MPO Conference Room Morgantown Airport Building November 12, 2013 1:30 PM

- 1. Call To Order
- 2. Approval of Minutes
- 3. Transportation Improvement Program Amendments
- 4. Completion of Mileground Pedestrian Observation Study
- 5. Items for inclusion in the FY 2014-2015 Unified Planning Work Program
- 6. Meeting Calendar for 2014
- 7. Update on Status of Downtown Operations Study and Van Pool Program
- 8. Meeting Adjournment



Field Road Suite 105

82 Hart

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Memorandum

Date: November 4, 2013

To: Transportation Technical Advisory Committee Members

From: Bill Austin, AICP

Subject: November 12, 2013 TTAC Agenda

Please find below a short description of the action items to be considered at the November 12, TTAC Meeting to be held at the MPO Office in the Conference Room at 1:30 PM.

-**Transportation Improvement Program Amendment**- Please find below a description of a TIP Amendment requested by Mountain Line Transit for the CAC's consideration:

<u>FY 2014</u>

AMENDMENT-INCREASE MOUNTAIN LINE-FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATIONI SECTION 5316 JARC OPERATING FUNDING TO \$205,900 FROM \$179,100

FY 2015

AMENDMENT-REDUCE MOUNTAIN LINE-FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION SECTION 5316 JARC OPERATING FUNDS \$179,100

AMENDMENT – REDUCE MOUNTAIN LINE FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION SECTION 5317 NEW FREEDOM FUNDS-\$50,000

AMENDMENT-REDUCE MOUNTAIN LINE FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION SECTION 5317 NEW FREEDOM FUNDS-\$80,000

FY 2016

AMENDMENT-REDUCE MOUNTAIN LINE-FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION SECTION 5316 JARC OPERATING FUNDS \$179,100

AMENDMENT – REDUCE MOUNTAIN LINE FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION SECTION 5317 NEW FREEDOM FUNDS-\$50,000

AMENDMENT-REDUCE MOUNTAIN LINE FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION SECTION 5317 NEW FREEDOM FUNDS-\$80,000

FY 2017

AMENDMENT-REDUCE MOUNTAIN LINE-FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION SECTION 5316 JARC OPERATING FUNDS \$179,100

AMENDMENT – REDUCE MOUNTAIN LINE FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION SECTION 5317 NEW FREEDOM FUNDS-\$50,000

AMENDMENT-REDUCE MOUNTAIN LINE FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION SECTION 5317 NEW FREEDOM FUNDS-\$80,000

As documented in the amendments proposed above Mountain Line anticipates the possibility of losing approximately \$927,3000 for the period FY 2015-2017 depending on how Federal funds are allocated under MAP 21. The additional funding in FY 2014 represents the reallocation of unspent funds from programs previously available under the continuing resolutions authorizing SAFETEA-LU.

-**Mileground Pedestrian Observation Study**-Please find enclosed for your comment a draft of the report for the recently completed Mileground Pedestrian Observation Study. MPO Staff would appreciate your comments and if the report is acceptable a TTAC recommendation to accept the report for the MPO Policy Board.

-Items for Inclusion in the MPO's 2014-2015 Unified Planning Work Program (**UPWP**)-MPO Staff recently held a retreat with the MPO Policy Board to discuss work to be included in the UPWP for FY 2014-2015. Currently staff time is required for normal MPO operational activities including the traffic count program, the continuation of work on the transportation funding issue, and the vanpool program. In addition to these projects Policy Board members discussed having MPO Staff work on the following projects:

-Prepare preliminary plans for those projects identified as part of Project 38 of the LRTP as recommended in the LRTP.

-Developing a Plan for the improvement of Green Bag Road (LRTP Project 18, number two on the MPO Priority List.)

-Staff collecting additional pedestrian data and working on pedestrian issues.

-The LRTP also recommended that the State begin a Study of the location of the new bridge over the Monongahela River. It is anticipated that at least a portion of MPO Staff time be allocated to this purpose if the State should move forward with this project.

We would appreciate the TTAC's recommendation on the priority of these proposed projects. We would also appreciate and any suggestions for additional projects that the TTAC may wish to propose for MPO Staff to work on.

-Calendar for the Upcoming Year-Please find attached a copy of the proposed calendar for MPO Committee meetings for the upcoming year. We would appreciate your review of the calendar for any potential conflicts.



82 Hart Field Road Suite 105 Morgantown W/V, 26505 www.plantogether.org

MINUTES

MPO Transportation Technical Advisory Committee Meeting Morgantown Airport Terminal Building 1st Floor Morgantown Monongalia MPO Conference Room October 8, 2013 1:30 PM

Members Present

Damien Davis-City of Morgantown, Terry Hough-City of Morgantown, Richard Wood-Monongalia County, Bill Austin-MMMPO, Fouad Shoukry-WVDOH, Perry Keller-WVDOH, Dave Bruffy-Mountain Line, Elwood Penn-WVDOH, Brian Carr-WVDOH, Donald Williams-WVDOH

Others Present

Jing Zhang

Call to Order

Bill Austin called the meeting to order at 1:38 PM. He noted that there were two new attendees Mr. Penn and Mr. Carr, at the meeting and he requested that the TTAC members introduce themselves so everyone would know each other. Mr. Keller noted that there have been changes at the Division of Highways and that Mr. Carr would most likely be attending future TTAC meetings on behalf of the Division of Highways.

Approval of the Minutes

Mr. Austin noted that the Minutes of the August meeting had been included in the agenda packet. He asked for any corrections the Committee members might have to the Minutes. There being no corrections Mr. Austin then called for a motion to approve the Minutes. Ms. Hough moved to approve the minutes; seconded by Mr. Wood. The motion was unanimously approved.

Transportation Improvement Program Amendments

Mr. Austin introduced the proposed amendments and administrative adjustments to the TIP. Mr. Austin stated that there were four projects proposed as amendments to the TIP by WVDOH, he also noted that WVU had proposed amendments to the TIP. He stated that he would outline the

Division of Highways amendments first. He noted that the cost information for these projects was included in the TTAC agenda packets.

The first project Mr. Austin discussed was a proposed intersection improvement at the intersection of Collins Ferry and University. He noted that the DOH was requesting the approval of the preparation of a Design Report in FY 2014 as the first step in the project with Engineering in FY 2014 as well with construction and right of way acquisition to follow in FY 2015. Mr. Austin stated that the MPO is requesting a copy of the Design Report for this Project. Ms. Hough also requested a copy of the Design Report.

Mr. Austin then noted that the next project requested by the DOH is a widening project on US 19-Chaplin Hill Road. This project is scheduled for engineering in FYH 2014 with construction in FY 2014 as well. Mr. Austin asked Mr. Radabaugh for information on the detail of this project. Mr. Radabaugh. Mr. Radabaugh stated that this project is the addition of a turn lane in the for the left turn movement from Chaplin Hill Road onto WV 7.

The next project Mr. Austin discussed is a proposed project to resurface US 119 from one half mile south of the I-68 interchange for a distance of two miles to the vicinity of S. University Plaza. He noted this project is proposed to be constructed in FY 2014.

The final DOH TIP amendment discussed by Mr. Austin is the repair of a slide on US 100 immediately north of the Granville City limits. This project is to be constructed in FY 2014.

There being no further discussion of the DOH proposed TIP Amendments Mr. Austin discussed the TIP Amendments proposed by WVU. He stated that as documented in the Agenda packet WVU is proposing to allocate the Section 5337 funds for Fiscal Years 2014 through 2017 to an upgrade to the PRT's electrical systems. He noted that the allocation for each year is approximately \$1 million.

Mr. Austin then noted that WVU is also proposing to self fund a power system upgrade for the PRT in 2015 which they would like added to the TIP. This project would cost approximately \$1.8 million. WVU is also proposing to begin the replacement of the PRT vehicle fleet in FY 2015. This project is proposed to cost \$21,100,000. WVU would be self funding this project as well. However, WVU is seeking letters of no prejudice from the FTA so these projects may become eligible for Federal funds as well. WVU would appreciate these projects being in the TIP to assist the possibility of being funded by FTA.

After a short discussion Mr. Keller moved to recommend approval of the proposed TIP amendments to the MPO Policy Board. The motion was seconded by Ms. Hough. The motion was unanimously approved.

Traffic Count Report

Mr. Austin then provided the TTAC with copies of the recently completed MPO Traffic Count Report. Mr. Radabaugh and Mr. Shoukry were complimentary of the report.

Status Report on Ongoing Work

Mr. Austin the noted that he and Mr. Zhang are working on the following items: Mr. Austin has been working with Ms. LaNeve, Mountain Lines Mobility Manager, on implementing the vanpool program. He noted that a new vanpool has begun running from Morgantown to the FBI center in Clarksburg. Mr. Zhang has been working with Mr. Davis and the Bicycle Board on the preparation of an Urban Area Bicycle Plan-Mr. Austin noted that Mr. Davis has been instrumental with this effort. Mr. Austin also noted that he has been working with the Chamber of Commerce's Transportation Committee on funding issues.

Mr. Austin then asked Mr. Radabaugh if the DOH could assist the MPO in developing future work by letting us know what projects in the LRTP Project 38 List the DOH is working on. Given this information MPO staff will perform studies on the projects on the list DOH is not working on to provide the DOH with guidance when funding becomes available for these projects. Mr. Radabaugh then stated DOH is working on the following projects: West Run and Point Marion Road, Van Voorhis and WV 705, Stewartstown and WV 705, University and Collins Ferry, Patteson Drive and Laurel, Monongahela Boulevard and Evansdale Drive, Campus Drive and Beechurst, Green Bag Road and Earl Core Road, Grafton Road and Smithtown Road, Cheat Road and North Pierpont Road.

Mr. Austin then informed the TTAC that the MPO is beginning to look into micro-simulation modeling for the evaluation of the Project 38 projects. He asked the TTAC if they had any recommendations on the right software to purchase. Mr. Keller stated that he thought that Syncro would be the easiest software to begin using. After a short discussion it was the consensus of the Committee that Syncro would be appropriate for use by MPO staff.

Other Business

Upon completion of the discussion of ongoing work Mr. Austin asked if there were other business for the group to discuss. Mr. Keller stated that he had just been informed that Mr. Don Bailey who had worked with the MPO at its founding had just passed away. The TTAC members expressed their sorrow at Mr. Bailey's passing.

Mr. Bruffy asked Mr. Radabaugh about the status of the sidewalk project in Westover. Mr. Radabaugh stated that the project is in design.

Mr. Bruffy then noted that the TTAC members may wish to investigate the 8 to 80's City initiative. He stated that the purpose of the initiative is to create streets that are appropriate for everyone from age 8 to age 80. He stated that this initiative is complementary to the Complete

Streets initiative in that it encourages documenting all uses that go through a corridor including vehicles, pedestrians and transit volumes. He stated that he would like to bring more information to the TTAC on the initiative. Mr. Austin agreed that this initiative should be brought forward at an upcoming meeting.

Mr. Williams also noted that Dr. David Martinelli is working on a study of the PRT comparing the PRT's operation to traditional transit service. The TTAC expressed interest in the results of this discussion.

Adjournment

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

Draft 2014 MPO Committee Meeting Schedule

MPO Policy Board	Technical Advisory Committee
Thursday, January 23, 2014	Tuesday, January 14, 2014
Thursday, March 20, 2014	Tuesday, March 11, 2014
Thursday, May 15, 2014	Tuesday, May 06, 2014
Thursday, June 19, 2014	Tuesday, June 10, 2014
Thursday, August 14, 2014	Tuesday, August 06, 2013
Thursday, October 16, 2014	Tuesday, October 07, 2014
Thursday, November 20, 2014	Thursday, November 13, 2014
Citizens Advisory Committee	Policy Advisory Committee
Citizens Advisory Committee Wednesday, January 15, 2014	
	Policy Advisory Committee Thursday, February 20, 2014
Wednesday, January 15, 2014	
Wednesday, January 15, 2014 Thursday, March 13, 2014	
Wednesday, January 15, 2014 Thursday, March 13, 2014 Thursday, May 08, 2014	
Wednesday, January 15, 2014 Thursday, March 13, 2014 Thursday, May 08, 2014 Thursday, June 12, 2014	Thursday, February 20, 2014



2013 Mileground Pedestrian and Bicyclist Counts Report

October, 2013

(Draft)

Prepared by Jing Zhang

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INTRODUCTION

In April and October of 2013, the Morgantown Monongalia MPO conducted the pedestrian and bicycle counts on Mileground Road in Morgantown, WV. The purpose of the counts were to gather the data necessary to inform policy and planning decisions concerning infrastructure improvements on the Mileground Rd.

METHODOLOGY

Count Locations

MPO staff selected two sites as count locations on Mileground Road, as shown in the table below:

Table 1: Count Locations									
Count location # Address Vicinity Property Intersection									
1	1738 Mileground Rd	The Mileground Car Wash	N/A						
2	1750 Mileground Rd	W.V. Army National Guard	N/A						

These location were selected based on three criteria:

- The ability to observe the street without obstacles
- Minimum interference with private properties
- A relatively safe environment for manual counters

Count Dates and Times

The counts were conducted on April 9 (Tuesday), April 10 (Wednesday), April 13 (Saturday), October 1(Tuesday), October 2 (Wednesday), and October 5 (Saturday). The count time is 7:00AM – 9:00AM, 11:00AM – 1:00PM, 3:30PM – 5:30PM.

These count dates were coordinated with the MPO's ongoing annual vehicular traffic count program.

Count Procedure and Materials

MPO staff set one screen line at each count location. The counters recorded every pedestrian and bicyclist each time they crossed the designated screen line. Mid-block crossings were recorded when observed.

Pedestrians and bicyclists were counted for two hours in 15 minute increments during morning, noon, and afternoon peak periods. The counters used standardized count forms to record their findings, and were provided with instructions and training for how to properly use the form.

COUNT RESULTS

Data Summary

Pedestrian and bicyclist counts are summarized in Table 2. Weather conditions during the counting days were cloudy or sunny, with temperature ranging from 53F to 86F.

It should be noted that mid-block crossings are separated from pedestrian counts. Most mid-block crossing occurs between the parking lots on either side of the Mileground owned by John Howard Motors. These pedestrians have different destinations than those walking along the street. Separating the two types of pedestrian activities avoids potentially misleading conclusions and more accurately reflects the reality of pedestrian activities on Mileground Rd.

	Table 2: Count Data Summary									
	Pedestrians Mid-Block Crossing Bicyclists									
Total	160	174	9							
All Days	Ave. 27 / Day	Ave. 29 / Day	Ave. 1 / Day							
Weekdays	Ave. 30 / Day	Ave. 39 / Day	Ave. 2 / Day							
Weekend days	Ave. 20 / Day	Ave. 10 / Day	Ave. less than 1 / day							

Pedestrian traffic volume is illustrated in the Figure 1.

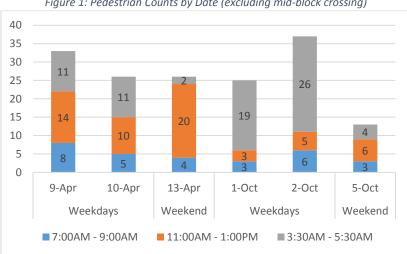
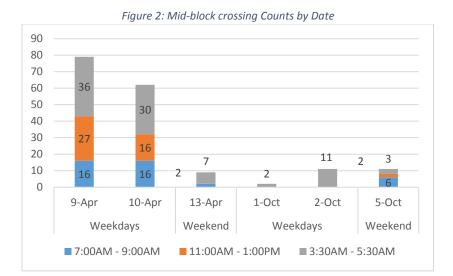


Figure 1: Pedestrian Counts by Date (excluding mid-block crossing)

Mid block crossings are illustrated in Figure 2.



Bicycle traffic volume is illustrated in the Figure 3.

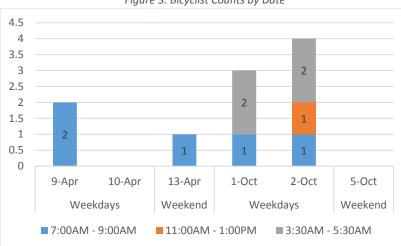


Figure 3: Bicyclist Counts by Date

Key Findings

Based on the data collected and interviews with manual counters, MPO staff have identified, albeit inconclusively, the following characteristics of non-motorized traffic conditions on Mileground Road.

-- Regarding pedestrians, it is recognized that:

- More pedestrians were observed during weekdays (76%) than weekend days (24%)
- More pedestrian were observed during afternoon hours between 3:30PM and 5:30 PM. (Afternoon hours 46%, noon hours 36%, morning hours 18%)
- No significant discrepancy was observed between the spring and fall counts.
- It was not uncommon for the same pedestrian to be counted multiple times, when he/she walked to and from one place.

- According to the manual counter's observation, pedestrians appeared to consist of people working or living in the Mileground area.
- -- Regarding mid-block crossings, it was observed that:
 - Most mid-block crossing was observed in the vicinity of John Howard Motors, which owns properties on both sides of the street.
 - Some mid-block crossings were observed at the BFS gas station.
 - Observed mid-block crossing decreased dramatically from the spring to the fall, especially during the weekdays (-84%). The reason for this change has not been conclusively identified. Though it may be speculated that the change in the traffic pattern caused by the installation of the roundabout at the intersection of the Mileground and WV 705 contributed to this change.

-- Regarding bicyclists, it is recognized that:

- Bicycle traffic increased between the spring and the fall, from 3 to 7. Given the small sample size this is not a statistically significant figure.
- Bicyclists rode through the parking lots.
- Most bicyclists were observed during the weekdays.

CONCLUSION

Although relatively a small amount pedestrian and bicycle traffic was observed, compared to more densely developed places, such as downtown, there is pedestrian and bicyclist activity on a regular basis on Mileground Road.

It may be estimated from the peak period vehicular traffic counts in the surrounding area that the observed peak period pedestrian activity shown in this report comprises approximately 25% to 30% of the total pedestrian activity during an entire day along the corridor.

In general, MPO staff concludes that:

- 1. Mileground road has pedestrian and bicyclist traffic, especially during weekday afternoon hours.
- 2. In the vicinity of John Howard Motors there are mid-block crossings on the Mileground.
- 3. The most frequent destination for pedestrian traffic on Mileground road is the BFS store.

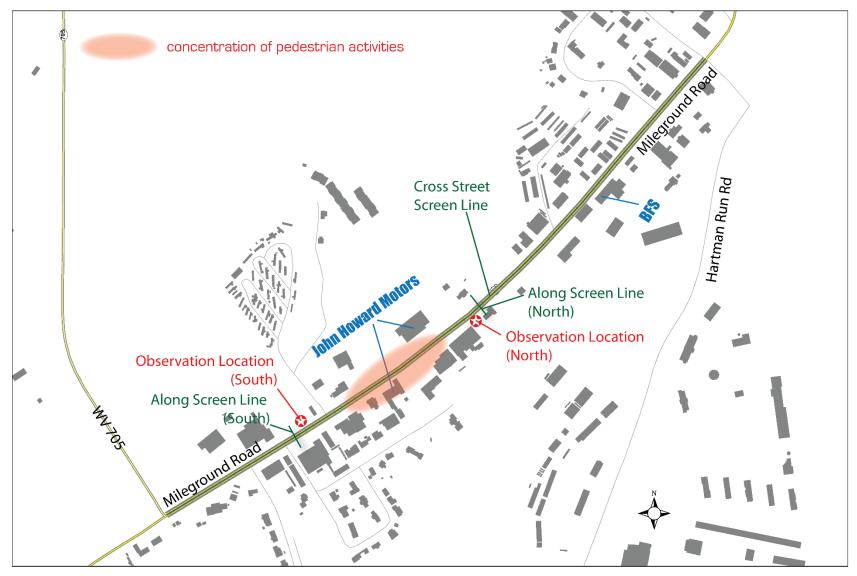
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APPENDIX I: RAW PEDESTRIANS & BICYCLES COUNTS (EXCLUDES MID-BLOCK CROSSINGS)

Page **7** of **11** *(Draft)*

APPENDIX II: RAW MID-BLOCK CROSSING COUNTS

	Date	•	ril 9 sday		il 10 Iesday		il 13 Irday		ber 1 sday		ber 2 Jesday		ber 5 Irday	
	Count Location Number	#1	# 2	#1	# 2	#1	# 2	#1	# 2	#1	# 2	#1	# 2	1
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	11:15 AM – 11:30 AM			2										
	11:30 AM – 11:45 AM	1		2										45
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APPENDIX III: MILEGROUND PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLIST COUNT MAP

APPENDIX IV: COUNTING STAFFS AND SCHEDULE

	April 9	April 10	April 13	October 1	October 2	October 5	Count Location #
Morning Shift	Simpson	Simpson	Simpson	Yang	Yang	Yang	#1
7:00 am -9:00 am 11: 00 am – 12:00 pm	Latif	Zhang	Scohy	Cheng	Zhang	Cheng	#2
Afternoon Shift 12:00 am -1:00 pm	Zhang	Zhang	Zhang	Yang	Yang	Yang	#1
3:30 pm – 5:30 pm	Latif	Latif	Scohy	Cheng	Cheng	Cheng	#2

APPENDIX IV: PEDESTRIAN / BICYCLIST COUNT FORM

BICYCLIST / PEDESTRIAN COUNT FORM

 Name:
 Date:
 Location: North / South (check)

 Start Time:
 End Time:
 Weather Conditions:
 Temp Estimation:

Time: 15 min	Pedes	strians	Bicy	clists	Mid-Block	
increments (period)	NB	SB	NB	SB	Crossing	
(1)						
(2)						
(3)						
(4) 1 hour						
(5)						
(6)						
(7)						
(8) 2 hours						
TOTAL						