



CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

November 9th, 2023

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), Chip Wamsley, Thomas Zeni, Kelli LaNeve, Heather Morgan

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. Ms. LaNeve moved to approve the meeting minutes as edited; seconded by Ms. Morgan.

With no more discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

3. Transportation Improvement Program Adoption

Mr. Austin stated that enclosed with the agenda is the draft 2023-2028 TIP. This document has been advertised in accordance with the MPO's Public Involvement Policy. To date we have not received any comments from the public on this document. It is respectfully requested that the CAC recommend the adoption of this document.

Mr. Abildso stated that the obligation date for engineering for the Southern Bridge is listed as October and should be August. Mr. Austin stated it will be updated. Mr. Abildso asked why Harmony Grove is not included in the TIP Adoption. Mr. Austin clarified the CAC will vote on that matter next, and it will be added to the TIP.

Mr. Cross asked about Burroughs Street being pushed back to FY2024. Mr. Austin said this is his understanding based on the TIP.

Ms. Laneve moved to recommend to approve the TIP Adoption; seconded by Mr. Wamsley. Motion passed to approve with Engineering amendment fixed unanimously.

4. TIP Amendments

Mr. Austin stated that the West Virginia Department of Transportation-Division of Highways has requested the following TIP Amendments since the development of the draft TIP. The proposed amendments are:

FY 2023-2024

Harmony Grove Interchange

Federal ID: NHPP0079109D. Engineering. FY2024. Construction new interchange. Funding Source: HNPP. Federal Funds: \$3,330,000; Total funds: \$3,700,000.

FY 2024-2025

Harmony Grove Interchange

Federal ID: NHPP0079110D. Right of Way. FY2025. Construction new interchange. Funding Source: HNPP. Federal Funds: \$495,000; total funds: \$550,000.

FY 2025-2026

Harmony Grove Interchange

Federal ID: NHPP0079111D. Construction. FY2026. Construction new interchange. Funding Source: HNPP. Federal Funds: \$22,500,000; total funds: \$25,000,000.

Mr. Austin stated that it is respectfully requested that the CAC recommend approval of the proposed TIP Amendments.

Mr. Abildso asked if the interchange justification has been completed, and Mr. Austin stated that it has not gone through.

Mr. Wamsley moved to recommend to approve the Harmony Groove TIP Amendments; seconded by Ms. Morgan.

With no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

5. Transit Asset Management Targets

Mr. Austin stated that a memorandum is attached showing the 2024 TAM Targets for West Virginia. Transit Asset Management (TAM), is a model that uses the condition of assets to guide the optimal prioritization of funding at transit agencies to keep transit networks in a State of Good Repair (SGR). WVDOT defines SGR (State of Good Repair) as a system meeting the following criteria: All assets are functioning at their ideal capacity within their design life. The state's asset management system, AVIS, includes consistent, accurate and relatively current information on the status of each capital asset covered by the TAM. Each system has a maintenance program to ensure maintenance is performed per manufacturer requirements and intervals. No rolling stock assets are placed in revenue service with identified safety defects. Mr. Austin also clarified these are state wide goals. The MMMPO is being asked to adopt the 2024 Target Goals, and respectfully requests that the CAC recommend approval of the TAM Targets.

Ms. Morgan moved to recommend to approve the TAM Targets; seconded by Mr. Wamsley.

Without further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

6. Draft Patteson Drive/Maple Drive Pedestrian Study

Staff stated that the purpose of this study is to document pedestrian traffic and identify potential pedestrian safety issues in the WV 705 and Maple Dr/Mon General Dr/Willowdale Rd intersection area. Additionally, the study makes preliminary recommendations based on those findings in the study area. The study was initiated in response to a request from a member of the MPO's Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) who had noticed safety concerns related to pedestrians crossing WV 705 near the Maple Drive intersection. Staff is encouraging feedback from the advisory committees.

Mr. Abildso suggested to add the specific hours Staff observed for more information. Staff stated this can be added to the report.

Mr. Zhang reported that he included crash and transit data to enhance the study. Mr. Abildso asked if there are specific businesses pedestrians are walking to. Staff responded saying many people walk to pharmacies in the area, in addition to medical centers, such as Mon General.

Ms. Morgan pointed out the failure of cars to yield to the only crosswalk in the area near Sheetz, and that they felt safer crossing at these locations when the cars are stopped than at the crosswalk near Sheetz.

The CAC recommended adding measures such as additional crosswalks, pedestrian warning signs, and traffic calming measures at the intersection of Mon General Dr. and Maple Dr. This intersection is tricky as ambulances drive in and out of the hospital utilizing Mon General Dr.

The advisory committee also recommended installing pedestrian activated signal and use concurrent pedestrian signal timing with a pedestrian leading phase at the segment of Pineview Drive at the intersection with WV 705 and Pineview Drive.

Mr. Abildso mentioned to tighten turning radius to slow down the speed of turning vehicles turning right from Mon General Dr. to WV 705.

After discussion, the CAC decided to postpone recommendation until January so Staff can add recommendations from the advisory committee.

Ms. Morgan moved to table the Study until January; seconded by Mr. Cross.
Without further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

7. 2024 Meeting Calendar

Mr. Austin presented the proposed 2024 Meeting Calendar. It is requested that the CAC recommend adoption of these meeting dates to the Policy Board.

Mr. Cross moved to recommend approval of the 2024 Meeting Calendar; seconded by Mr. Wamsley.

Without further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

6. Other Business

Mr. Cross mentioned that a pedestrian got hit crossing the RRFB on Patteson and asked if anyone had heard about it. No other members or staff had heard of this incident, but will ask around.

Mr. Abildso asked if the current traffic counts were for the downtown microsimulation study, and Mr. Austin clarified they are WVDOH counts. Mr. Abildso asked about the narrow sidewalk on Beechurst, and expressed disappointment about the narrow shoulders on the Mileground.

Mr. Cross also asked about Signal timing at 705 and Stewartstown, and stated people are still backing up in that area.

7. Meeting Adjournment

The Meeting adjourned at 7:03 PM