



82 Hart Field Road Suite 105  
Morgantown WV, 26505  
[www.plantgether.org](http://www.plantgether.org)

## MINUTES

MPO Transportation Technical Advisory Committee Meeting  
Morgantown Airport Terminal Building 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Morgantown Monongalia MPO Conference Room  
August 6, 2013  
1:30 PM

### Members Present

Arlie Forman-WVU, Chris Fletcher-City of Morgantown, Damien Davis-City of Morgantown, Terry Hough-City of Morgantown, Richard Wood- Monongalia County, Bill Austin-MMMPO, Fouad Shoukry-WVDOH, Perry Keller-WVDOH, Alanna Slack-WVDOH

### Others Present

Jing Zhang

### Call to Order

Bill Austin called the meeting to order at 1:38 PM.

### Approval of the Minutes

Mr. Austin noted that the Minutes of the June 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. Mr. Fletcher moved to approve the minutes; seconded by Mr. Keller the motion. 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 only two amendments to the TIP for the engineering and construction of a path in the Westover Park. Mr. Fletcher stated that he was not trying to hold up the project but he would like clarification on why the proposed cost of the engineering portion of the project equaled 75% of the cost of constructing the project. Mr. Keller noted that the project had been properly vetted by the DOH, but that he would inquire about the cost and get Mr. Fletcher a clarification on this issue prior to the Policy Board meeting. After a brief discussion it

was agreed that the TTAC should recommend approval of the Project to the Policy Board and that Mr. Keller would be prepared to discuss the issue of the cost of the Project's Engineering with the Board. Mr. Keller moved recommending adoption of the TIP amendment to the MPO Policy Board seconded by Mr. Wood. The motion was approved by a vote of 5 to 2 with Mr. Fletcher and Ms. Hough opposed. It should be noted that the Division of Highways confirmed that the cost outlined to the TTAC was incorrect and that the Engineering cost was approximately \$4,000 rather than \$14,000 as shown in the agenda packet. Upon notification of this correction Mr. Fletcher and Ms. Hough removed their objections.

### **Prioritization of the LRTP Tier One Projects and the Projects in Project 38**

Mr. Austin then stated that the TTAC and Citizen's Advisory Committee Members had been asked to rank the Projects in the Tier One Project Category of the Long Range Transportation Plan and the projects that make up Project 38 which is included in the LRTP's Tier One Project List. He asked that the TTAC consider the Tier One Projects first. Mr. Austin noted that 10 Committee Members had ranked the projects out of approximately 20 eligible Committee members. He noted that it was his understanding that the WV DOH Committee members did not rank the projects because they viewed the list as the local citizens and agencies priorities. Mr. Keller confirmed this understanding.

Mr. Austin noted that he thought it would be advisable to take two of the Tier One Projects, Project 38 and the ADA Connectivity Project and list them as "Ongoing Projects the MPO Supports". He stated that he was making this recommendation because these projects consist of multiple items with some elements that are already being addressed by DOH. He noted that one example of this is the intersection of Van Voorhis and WV 705 which is currently under study by the DOH and it is also included as part of the Project 38. He stated that he would recommend that the remainder of the projects be ranked according to the priorities identified by the TTAC and CAC members. Mr. Keller and Ms. Hough concurred with this approach. Mr. Keller added that he would recommend that the Safe Routes to School Project also be listed as and "Ongoing Project supported by the MPO". After further discussion, Mr. Keller moved that the TTAC recommend that Project 38, the ADA Connectivity Project, and the Safe Routes to School Project be listed as "Ongoing Projects supported by the MPO and the remainder of the projects would be ranked according to the ratings provided by the two committees. Mr. Wood seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Austin then asked the TTAC to consider the Project 38 projects. Mr. Austin asked if the Committee wished to discuss the priorities as presented from the ranking procedure. Mr. Fletcher stated that he did not think the Committee should modify the list as presented. Mr. Fletcher moved approval of the list as prioritized by the combined committees, seconded by Ms. Hough. There being no further discussion the motion was unanimously approved.

### **Other Business**

Mr. Austin asked for other business. He asked Mr. Forman to provide the Committee with an update on the status of the PRT. Mr. Forman stated that the Committee may be aware that WVU will be replacing the controllers in the PRT vehicles shortly. This project is estimated to cost \$38 million and it should increase the PRT reliability to 99%. He stated that the PRT reliability is actually about 97% but that there is a perception that it is not reliable. He stated that the controllers will be put out to bid shortly and that the deadline for the replacement of the controllers is August 15 2016. He stated that one of the guiding principles for the refurbishment of the PRT will be to make the components compatible with components in use on other systems, allowing for the use easy replacement of parts. He also stated that the University expects to have a replacement drive prototype for the PRT vehicles identified in 2016 as well.

Mr. Austin thanked Mr. Forman for his update. He asked if there is any additional business for the committee. Mr. Fletcher inquired into the status of the proposed signal on WV 705 at the old Alumni Center. Mr. Austin stated that he had not heard anything about the project since WVU had a project scoping meeting for a traffic study for the Evansdale redevelopment project. Mr. Shoukry stated that he had heard nothing on the project since that time as well. Mr. Fletcher noted that the City would prefer that the signal not be aligned with Baldwin Street. Mr. Austin stated that he would check into the status of the Study.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 2:57 PM.