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MINUTES

MPO Transportation Technical Advisory Committee Meeting
Morgantown Airport Terminal Building 1st Floor
Morgantown Monongalia MPO Conference Room
June 10, 2014
1:30 PM

Members Present

Terry Hough-City of Morgantown, Richard wood-Monongalia County, Bill Austin-MMMPO, Elwood Penn-WV DOH, Bill Murray-WV DOH, Fouad Shoukry-WV DOH.

Others Present

Jing Zhang-MMMPO

Call to Order

Bill Austin Called the meeting to order at 1:40 PM

Approval of the Minutes

Mr. Austin noted that the Minutes of the May meeting had been included in the agenda packet. Mr. Austin then called for a motion to approve the Minutes. Mr. Wood moved to approve the minutes; seconded by Mrs. Hough. The motion was unanimously approved.

Transportation improvement Program Amendments

Mr. Austin introduced the TIP Amendments proposed by WVU. WVU received a grant under Section 5337 from the Federal Transit Administration to upgrade power system infrastructure for the Personal Rapid Transit. The grant was originally programmed for FY 2015-2016. WVU requested that this grant be moved to FY 2014-2015. Mrs. Hough asked if the Mountain Line is eligible to apply this funds. Mr. Austin noted that the Mountain Line is not eligible for this funds. Mr. Wood mentioned about the effectiveness of bus rapid transit systems implemented in other places. Mr. Wood then moved to recommend approval of this proposed TIP amendments to the MPO Policy Board; seconded by Mr. Penn. The motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Austin then noted that additional information had been provided for the WV7/Brookhaven Rd Intersection Improvement Project in the agenda package for committee's review. No action is requested. Mr. Austin thanked the WV DOH for providing those information.

Adoption of TIP Administrative Adjustment Policy For Transit

Mr. Austin noted that a draft TIP Administrative Adjustment Policy is included in the agenda package. The proposed policy will allow administrative adjustment of TIP Amendments when certain criteria are met. The adjustment will be notified to the public in the Policy Board meetings and advertised on the MPO's website.

Mr. Penn commented that the requirement concerning a project extension of less than an additional 60 days, as specified in the Criteria 3, can be altered to a project extension which falls within the life of existing TIP.

Mr. Austin noted that MPO Public Involvement Policy requires a 45 day public review period before any changes may be made to the Policy. After a short discussion, the TTAC recommended by consensus that the Policy Board approve the advertisement of this proposed policy change.

Draft Outline of Greenbag Road Corridor Study Scope of Work

Mr. Austin noted that an outline of the Greenbag Rd Corridor is included in the agenda package. He mentioned that this corridor study will incorporate the Greenbag Rd/Dorsey Ave intersection study that had been done, and that this will be an in-house project for FY2014-2015. Mr. Wood inquired about the status of Greenbag Rd/WV 7 intersection study. Mr. Shoukry noted that a consulting firm has been contracted to conduct this study and there is no definite plan or recommendation available. Mr. Wood suggested that this outline could serve as a model for future corridor studies to be conducted by the MPO.

Mr. Austin then noted that a steering committee for this project is needed. Mr. Shoukry agreed to serve on this steering committee and mentioned that he will contact Kevin McDonald to see if he is able to participate in this project too. Mrs. Hough suggested that Damien Davis be a member of this committee and emphasized that this is an very important corridor. Mr. Wood also agreed to serve on this committee. The TTAC accepted the study outline by consensus.

Traffic Count Report

Mr. Austin noted that the 2014 Traffic Count Report is included in the agenda package. He noted that this report is not as detailed as last years' report. A full blown traffic report will be prepared every three years. He also noted that more detailed information for each station, such as peak period and directional volume, are available upon request. He mentioned that MPO staff has identified several corridors and calculated the corridor volume based on the data collected at stations at each corridor as shown in the report.

Mr. Wood moved to recommend acceptance of this report to the MPO Policy Board; seconded Mrs. Hough. The motion was unanimously approved.

Bicycle Facility Cost Estimation Work Sheet

Mr. Austin noted that Jing Zhang has developed a worksheet to do a planning level estimation on the cost of bicycle facility improvement. The estimated cost will be used as a part of project description shown in the State PROVIS system. Mr. Shoukry commented that the estimation is very close to what he uses and suggested to update this estimation worksheet on annual basis. Mrs. Hough suggested to include a

contingency for each project when performing the estimation. Mr. Shoukry moved to accept the cost estimation worksheet; seconded by Mrs. Hough. The motion was unanimously approved.

Other Business

Mr. Penn asked if the MPO has uploaded any project to the PROVIS system. Mr. Zhang noted that projects listed in the 2040 LRTP have been uploaded and he has communicated with Perry McCutcheon about the system.

Mr. Austin asked about the status of proposed eleven-story project on Spruce Street. Mrs. Hough noted that the project is going through the planning commission, and that comments made by Mr. Austin on the Traffic Impact Study will be helpful.

Mr. Shoukry mentioned that he got a letter claiming that it is not appropriate to install sidewalks on a road with speed limit higher than 45 MPH. He noted that he cannot identify any source to support this claim. Mrs. Hough noted that the city does not have any knowledge about this letter. Mr. Austin noted that he will try to find relevant information from AASHTO publications concerning this issue.

Adjournment

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 2:41 PM.