

MORGANTOWN MONONGALIA
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION POLICY BOARD
MAY 21, 2015 MINUTES (DRAFT)

Members Present: Vice-Chairman Eldon Callen-Monongalia County, Anthony Giambrone-Star City, Mayor Patricia Lewis-Granville, Mayor Jennifer Selin-City of Morgantown, Councilperson Marti Shamberger-City of Morgantown, Brian Carr-WVDOH, Councilperson Janice Goodwin-City of Westover, Councilperson Bill Kawecki-City of Morgantown, Clement Solomon-WVU, Mike Kelly-Board of Education

Members Absent: Chairman Wesley Nugent-City of Morgantown, Dave Bruffy-Mountain Line, Joe Statler-Blacksville, Commissioner Tom Bloom-Monongalia County, Commissioner Edward Hawkins-Monongalia County.

MPO Director: Bill Austin

1. Call to Order

Due to the absence of Chairmen Nugent, Vice-Chairman Callen presided this meeting. With a quorum present, Vice-Chairman Callen called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

2. Approval of Minutes

Vice-Chairman Callen noted that the Minutes for the March Meeting was included in the meeting package. Mr. Giambrone moved to approve the March meeting minutes as presented; seconded by Mr. Kelly. With no discussion, the motion unanimously passed.

3. Public Comments

None

4. Reports

a. Finance Report

Vice-Chairman Callen asked Mayor Lewis to present the finance report. Mayor Lewis noted that a revised February finance report had been provided due to an entry error. Councilperson Goodwin moved to accept the revised report, seconded by Mayor Selin. With no discussion, the motion unanimously passed. Mayor Lewis then noted that

-- Beginning balance in March \$943.13 with expenditures of \$18,222.63 and deposits totaling \$37,461.49, leaving a balance of \$20,181.99 at the beginning of February. Councilperson Goodwin moved to accept the March Finance Report; seconded by Mayor Selin. With no discussion, the motion unanimously passed.

-- Beginning balance in April \$20,181.99 with expenditures of \$21,804.57 and deposits totaling \$21,268.48 leaving a balance of \$19,645.90 at the beginning of March. Mayor Selin moved to accept the April Finance Report; seconded by Mr. Giambrone. With no discussion, the motion unanimously passed.

b. Citizens Advisory Committee

Mr. Rice, Chair of the Citizens Advisory Committee, reported that the CAC did not have a quorum in the last meeting. Members attending the meeting reached a consensus to support approval of the proposed TIP Amendments.

5. Audit

Mr. Austin noted that copies of MPO's Audit for the year ending July 1, 2014 were provided to the board members at this meeting. This audit was shared with the Board upon receipt from the Auditor at the end of March. The Auditor found no issues with the MPO's financial records. Councilperson Kawecki moved to accept the Audit; seconded by Mayor Selin. The Audit was accepted unanimously.

6. TIP Amendments

Mr. Austin noted that the first TIP Amendment is the resurfacing project on Beechurst Ave proposed by WV DOH. This amendments includes resurfacing Beechurst Ave from 8th St to Hough St and restriping the segment of Beechurst Ave from Campus Dr to south of Hough St. The restriping is proposed to convert the existing TWLTL to a southbound travel lane, making two southbound travel lanes from the Campus Dr. intersection to the Hough St intersection. Mr. Austin noted that MPO staff has built a micro-traffic simulation at that segment on Beechurst Ave. The model shows no significant increase of delay for the northbound traffic on Beechurst Ave during the AM peak hour and for the traffic exiting the parking lot of the Stansbury Hall during the PM peak hour. Councilperson Shamberger moved to approve the TIP Amendments on resurfacing and restriping on Beechurst Ave; seconded by Mr. Giambrone. With no discussion, the motion unanimously passed.

Mr. Austin then noted that the second TIP Amendment is the WVU PRT improvements. It includes electrical system upgrades (Phase II) and vehicle replacements (Phase III). Mayor Selin moved to approve the TIP Amendments on the WVU PRT improvements; seconded by Councilperson Kawecki. With no discussion, the motion unanimously passed.

7. Resolution in Support of the City of Morgantown University Avenue Complete Streets TIGER Grant Application

Vice-Chairman Callen noted that The City of Morgantown has determined that they would like to apply for a TIGER grant to implement the recommendations of the University Ave Completes Street and it is respectfully requested that the Policy Board approve the attached Resolution supporting the City's application. Vice-Chairman Callen then read the resolution. He noted that the Monongalia County Commission has adopted a similar resolution supporting the City of Morgantown TIGER fund application.

Councilperson Shamberger moved to approve the Resolution as presented; seconded by Mr. Giambrone. With no further discussion, the motion unanimously passed.

8. University Avenue Complete Streets Study and I-79 Access Study Updates

Mr. Austin noted that a project schedule for the University Ave Complete Street Study was included in the agenda package. Important progress made in last two months in this project includes the notice to proceed, providing project work program, preparing a technical memo, and holding steering committee orientation meeting. Mr. Austin then noted that this study will use the regional travel demand model information from the I-79 Access Study and provide a micro-land use model showing expected impacts of

development occurring along the University Ave Corridor. The study is expected to be completed by the end of the February, 2016.

Mr. Austin noted that the I-79 Access Study is in the data collection and analysis phase, and the first steering committee meeting of this study will be held at the end of June. Mr. Austin then noted that the study team will use real travel time information provided by the Mountain Line and employ advanced technologies to gather high quality origin and destination data for modeling purpose. Mr. Austin also noted that the study will develop potential alternatives to improve the regional mobility and provide a purpose and needed statement for identified solutions. In addition, the MPO's travel demand model is expected to be substantially improved.

9. Status Report on ongoing projects-WVDOH

Mr. Carr noted that the Beechurst Ave resurfacing project will be constructed this summer. The University Ave and Collins Ferry Rd intersection improvement project will move forward to the final design stage. The design will be conducted by a consulting firm. He also noted that the WV DOH and the consulting firm are working to evaluate potential alternatives and identify the best solution to improve the WV 7 and Greenbag Rd intersection. Councilperson Kawecki noted that potholes at some segments on WV 7 need to be addressed. Mr. Austin noted that he can contact the DOH District Office for this issue. Mayor Selin expressed her appreciation to the WV DOH for the committed improvements on Beechurst Ave.

9. Other Business

Mr. Solomon noted that the WVU requests a letter of support from the MPO Policy Board for its TIGER grant application to improve the PRT system. Councilperson Shamberger moved a motion to authorize the Executive Director of the MPO to write a letter of support for the WVU TIGER grant application; the motion was seconded by Mayor Selin. With no further discussion, the motion unanimously passed.

11. Meeting Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:10 PM.