

TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL ADVISORY MEETING

January 11, 2022

This meeting was held virtually on https://morgantownmonongaliampo.my.webex.com/meet/baustin

Members Present:

Bill Austin (Chair), Andrew Gast-Bray, Latina Mayle, Jason Workman, Josh Brown, Jeremy Evans, Maria Smith, Brian Carr

Others Present: Jing Zhang	

1. Call to Order

Due to the COVID 19 pandemic, the TTAC meeting was held virtually. The phone number and web address to access the teleconference were publicized.

With a quorum present, Mr. Austin called the meeting of the TTAC to order at 1:00 PM.

2. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Austin noted that the minutes of the last meeting were included in the agenda package. Mr. Gast-Bray moved to the approve the meeting minutes; seconded by Mrs. Smith; with no discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

3. TIP Amendments

Mr. Austin presented the Mountain Line Transit requested amendment to the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). For FY 2022, the MLT requested to increase the Operating Assistance funding (§5307) from \$857,800 to \$1,758,000, increase the Preventative Maintenance (PM) funding (§5307) from \$61,100 to \$180,000, decrease the Federal 5311(f) funding from \$1,290,200 to \$658,300, increase the Bus & Bus Facilities funding from \$900,900 to \$2,192,800, and to increase the Accelerating Innovative Mobility (AIM) funding from \$13,100 to \$40,000. For FY 2023, decreasing the Bus & Bus Facilities funding from \$1,291,800 to \$650,000.

Mr. Evans moved to recommend approval of the TIP to the MPO's Policy Board, seconded by Mr. Gast-Bray. With no further discission, the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Austin noted that the West Virginia Department of Transportation-Division of Highways has requested a TIP amendment to increase the funding for the I-79 bridge rehabilitation project.

Mr. Carr moved to recommend approval of the TIP to the MPO's Policy Board, seconded by Mrs. Mayle. With no further discission, the motion passed unanimously.

4. First Review of the Draft FY 2021-2022 UPWP

Mr. Austin noted that a draft UPWP for FY 2022-2023 is included in the agenda package for committee review. Major working items include reestablishing the traffic count program which has been dormant due to the pandemic, in addition to creating a test data collection program for bicycle and pedestrian data. Mr. Austin welcomed the committee's input on the UPWP. Mr. Austin noted that the UPWP will be submitted to the Policy Board for adoption in March. Mr. Austin noted that Ms. Jessica Moberly has joined the MPO on a shared position with the Monongalia County Planning Commission.

Mr. Carr noted some editorial errors and inconsistence in funding calculation. Mr. Austin noted that MPO staff will correct the errors as noted. Mr. Carr noted that the UPWP is a budget proposal. The actual funding from DOH might be different.

Mr. Workman asked when the UPWP will be adopted, Mr. Austin stated that it will be in March. Mr. Workman noted that recent federal legislation has some new requirements for the MPO's operation. It might be necessary to modify the UPWP after its adoption to satisfy these new requirements.

Maria Smith noted that the pedestrian and bicycle data collection committee has identified several locations to install cameras to collect non-motorized traffic data. She asked if the cost of installing those cameras is included in the budget. Mr. Austin stated that it is included in the budget.

Mr. Austin stated that the MPO will carry over a portion of the funding to the next fiscal year in order to pay the consultant for the update of the MTP. It is anticipated that the project map will be submitted to the Policy Board for adoption in May, and the final plan will be submitted to the Policy Board for adoption in June.

Mr. Workman asked if the new interchange project on I-79 is included in the MTP's fiscally constrained plan. Mr. Austin noted that the MPO has not yet developed the fiscally constrained plan. Mr. Austin asked about the community garden plan to address environmental concerns of the Greenbag Road project. Mr. Workman stated that the plan is expected to be approved in the near future.

5. Transportation Plan Update Status Report

Mr. Austin noted that many of the TTAC committee members are also on the steering committee for the transportation plan update. The committee members have been informed of the recent developments within the update. Mrs. Smith stated that Mountain Line Transit has recommended including electric vehicles in the fleet in order to address climate change.

6. Other Business

No other business.

9. Meeting Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:16 PM.