



243 High Street Room 110
Morgantown, WV 26505
(304) 291-9571
www.plantgether.org

Agenda

MPO Transportation Technical Advisory Committee Meeting
Conference Room
MPO Offices
Monongalia County
243 High Street Room 110
Morgantown WV
August 8, 2017
1:30 PM

1. Call To Order
2. Approval of Minutes
3. Designation of Proposed Freight Routes
4. Proposed TIP Process and Meeting Schedule Changes
5. Interim Traffic Count Report
6. Beechurst Avenue Study Status Report
7. Update on Performance Measure Requirements
8. Ongoing Project Update
9. Other Business
10. Meeting Adjournment



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Memorandum

Date: August 3, 2017

To: Transportation Technical Advisory Committee Members

From: Bill Austin, AICP

Subject: August 8, 2017 TTAC Meeting Agenda Items

This memorandum is to inform you of the action items for the August 8th TTAC Meeting.

-Designation of Proposed Freight Routes-In response to the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act passed by Congress last year, the Federal Highway Administration has been developing a National Highway Freight Network (NHFN). The purpose of this freight network is to qualify freight corridors for additional funding under programs in the FAST Act. West Virginia DOH is developing the WV State Freight network as part of the NHFN. The FHWA and DOH networks include major facilities in Monongalia County. The FHWA network includes I-79 and I-68. The State designated facilities in Monongalia County include I-79, I-68 and US 119 as part of the WV Freight network. The proposed State network is shown on the attached maps.

In addition to the State and National networks, the national freight network allows the designation of a Critical Urban Freight Corridors (CUFC) as part of the NHFN. The criteria for the designation of these networks is:

A public road designated as a CUFC must be in an urbanized area...and meet one or more of the following four elements:

- (A) connects an intermodal facility to:
 - 1. the PHFS (Primary Highway Freight System);
 - 2. the Interstate System; or
 - 3. an intermodal freight facility;
- (B) is located within a corridor of a route on the PHFS and provides an alternative highway option important to goods movement;
- (C) serves a major freight generator, logistic center, or manufacturing and warehouse industrial land; or
- (D) is important to the movement of freight within the region, as determined by the MPO or the State.

While WVDOH has the primary responsibility for determining these routes, they have asked the MPO's to recommend routes for these corridors. The State can designate up to 75 miles of CUFC. WVDOH has allocated our area approximately 9 miles of CUFC based on the area's population. MPO

Staff has reviewed the criteria and previous public comments and is proposing to add WV 43, CR 857 and WV 7 as Critical Urban Freight Corridors. Please see the maps included with the agenda packet for the recommended routes. It is respectfully requested that the TTAC recommend that the Policy Board approve the recommendation of these routes to the WVDOH.

-Proposed TIP Process Changes and Meeting Schedule Changes-As has been previously reported to the MPO's Committee's, the WVDOH has been working with the West Virginia MPO Association to develop a process to expedite the approval of non-controversial and routine projects. These projects can include items such as bridge inspections, emergency repairs, and similar issues. The Association has come to a preliminary agreement for this process, known as "groupable projects." Under this process the DOH would approve projects in certain categories such as bridge inspections, and then notify the MPO to add them to the TIP and to announce the addition of these projects at the next Policy Board meeting. This process is similar to the TIP Adjustment process previously adopted by our MPO.

The MPO Association and MMMPO Staff have been in agreement with this process for most items except there has been concern about the Transportation Alternatives and the pavement management programs. MPO Staff and Policy Board members receive the most public inquiry to projects in these categories. The MPO Association and WVDOH have worked out an agreement on these projects whereby MPOs would provide input into the Transportation Alternatives Program and the maintenance program at the beginning of the project selection process for these and the other programs to be included in "groupable projects" is included in the agenda packet. The agreement on the "groupable projects" program is to be finalized with a memorandum from WVDOH, to be provided shortly. A description of the programs to be included in the "groupable projects" program is included with the Agenda packet. This description is the basis of the final agreement with WVDOH, though some minor details need to be worked out.

The West Virginia Legislatures recent approval of enhanced transportation funding has made the adoption of "groupable projects" urgent. Adopting the "groupable projects" would allow WVDOH to implement small projects quickly. In addition to the adoption of "groupable projects" WVDOH has requested that MPO's schedule a Policy Board meeting every month until WVDOH has caught up with the need to program projects utilizing the new funds. If there are no TIP amendments for a meeting that is not part of the MPO's regular schedule that meeting will be cancelled. MPO Staff would appreciate any idea's the TTAC may have on these questions.

It is respectfully requested that the TTAC recommend that the Policy Board authorize the Executive Director and the Policy Board Chairman to approve the "groupable projects" procedure for use in the TIP upon receiving the final written agreement.

It is also respectfully requested that the TTAC recommend that the Policy Board authorize the Executive Director to schedule additional meetings in September and December in 2017 to accommodate WVDOH's request. This issue will be addressed with the development of the MPO's 2018 calendar in January.

-Interim Traffic Count Report-Please find enclosed with the Agenda packet the MPO's interim traffic count report. The MPO's traffic count program is being conducted in two phases this year due to administrative issues as well as the need for counts for the Beechurst Avenue Corridor Study. It should also be noted that several of the spring traffic counts had concerns and those locations will be recounted this fall to verify the accuracy of the counts. The final traffic count report will be prepared after the completion of the annual count program this fall. No action is required on this item



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MINUTES

MPO Transportation Technical Advisory Committee
MMMPO Conference Room
243 High St. Room 110, Morgantown, WV
June 6, 2017, 1:30 PM

Members Present

Bill Austin, Rich Wood, Arlie Forman, Dave Bruffy, Chris Fletcher

Others Present

John Whitmore-City of Morgantown, Phillip Avis-City of Morgantown, Kendall Perkinson-DA Newspaper, Jing Zhang-MMMPO

1. Call to Order

With a quorum present, Mr. Austin called the meeting of the TTAC to order at 1:30 PM. Mr. Austin noted that the WV DOH staff is not able to attend this this due to family related issues.

2. Approval of the Minutes

Mr. Austin noted that the minutes of the May meeting were included in the agenda packet. Mr. Bruffy moved to approve the minutes as corrected, seconded by Mr. Wood. With no discussion, the motion was unanimously approved.

3. TIP Amendments

Mr. Austin noted that the WV DOH requested that the MPO amend the TIP. The amendments include Mylan park bridge approach engineering project, construction project at the intersection of Goshen Rd and Smithtown Rd, I- 79 Corporal Thomas Bennett Memorial Bridge-Inspection, and resurfacing projects on CO 73, WV 100-Maidsville, Van Voorhis Rd, and WV 7. A map was included in the agenda showing the locations of requested projects. Mr. Fletcher noted that two projects were misnamed in the map. Mr. Austin noted that the error will be corrected. Mr. Fletcher asked the location of Mylan Park Bridge engineering project. Mr. Austin noted that the location of that project is not clear and the MPO will clarify the project location with the DOH. Mr. Bruffy moved to recommend approval of the TIP Amendments pending clarification of the Mylan Park Bridge project to the MPO's Policy Board. The motion was seconded by Mr. Fletcher. With no discussion, the motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Austin noted that in addition to the TIP Amendments, the WV DOH requested several TIP Adjustment. The information of the adjustments are included in the agenda package. TIP Adjustment require no action from the Committee.

Mr. Austin then noted that the WV MPO Association is developing a way to improve the funding approval mechanism for non-controversial TIP projects in the state. Those non-controversial projects include bridge inspections and road repair projects.

Mr. Fletcher noted that it is frustrating that there are often delays in programmed TIP projects and that the project amendments requested by the DOH should be more consistent with the MPO's transportation plan.

4. Beechurst Avenue Study Status Report

Mr. Austin noted that MPO staff has held a meeting with city staff, discussing the existing and forecasted land uses in the Beechurst corridor. The WVU professor working on the traffic microsimulation for the study also attended this meeting. Mr. Austin then noted that the MPO is seeking information on existing signal timing from the Charleston central office.

Mr. Bruffy noted that besides private vehicles and pedestrians, the traffic model should also consider the role of the PRT and bus services along the corridor in terms of their transportation capacity. Bus services should include both public transit and private transit offered by apartment rental companies. Mr. Fletcher concurred and noted that the Study should consider improving or maintaining of bus stops in the corridor, including the bus stop at the intersection Beechurst Ave and Hough St.

5. Ongoing Project Update

Mr. Austin noted that based on his communication with WV DOH staff, there is no major update on the status of ongoing DOH projects in the area.

6. Other Business

Mr. Austin noted that there is an ongoing online petition opposing the WV DOH plan to put a roundabout at the intersection of University Ave and Collins Ferry Rd.

Mr. Bruffy noted several service improvements of the Mountain Line. The Mountain Line will increase the frequency of I-79 express service from Morgantown to Charleston. It will provide better accommodation to one-day business trip customers. There will be also be an increase of bus service to Pittsburgh airport. The extra stop at the airport will be at 2:00 PM. By the end of June, the MLTA will provide evening service to major local routes, including red line, purple line, and blue line. The evening route will be from 8:00 PM to 8:30 PM. By the middle of July, the Mountain Line will increase Weekend service on most routes in the area. Mr. Bruffy then noted that a major challenge of the Mountain Line is to provide desirable service to the western part of the County. The Mountain Line is looking for a way to solve the issue.

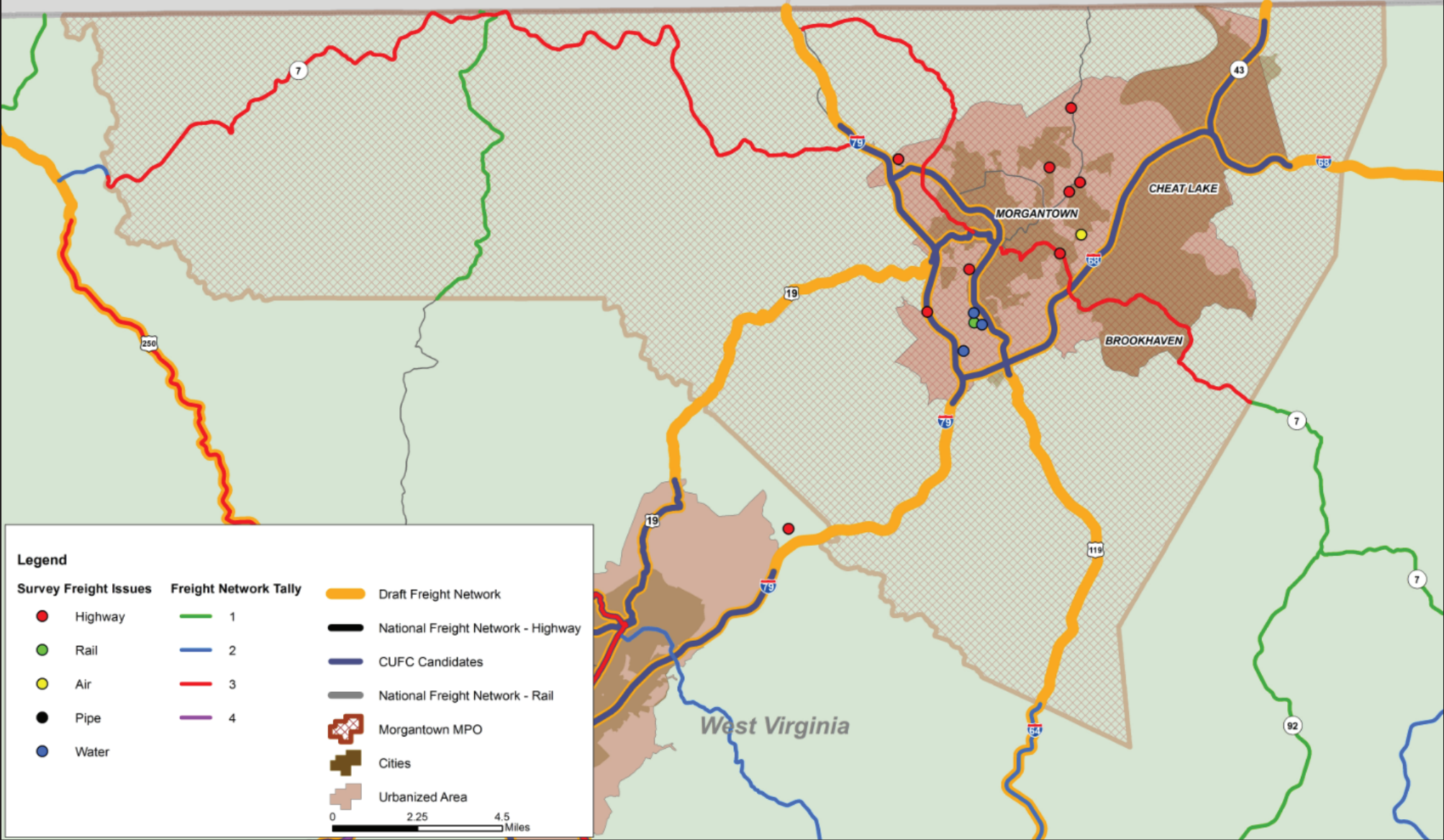
Mr. Austin expressed his appreciation to the Mountain Line for the enhanced services to the community.

10. Meeting Adjournment.

The meeting adjourned at 2:15 PM.



Pennsylvania



Legend

Survey Freight Issues

- Highway
- Rail
- Air
- Pipe
- Water

Freight Network Tally

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4

— Draft Freight Network

— National Freight Network - Highway

— CUFC Candidates

— National Freight Network - Rail

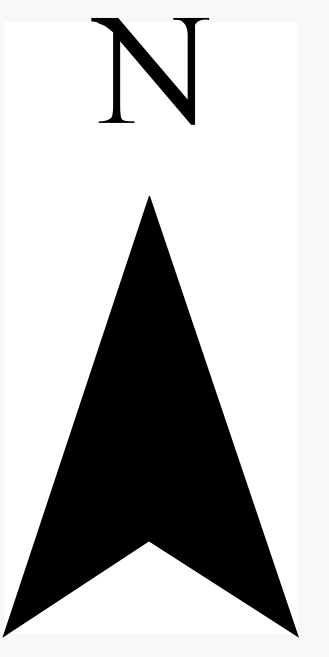
Morgantown MPO

Cities

Urbanized Area

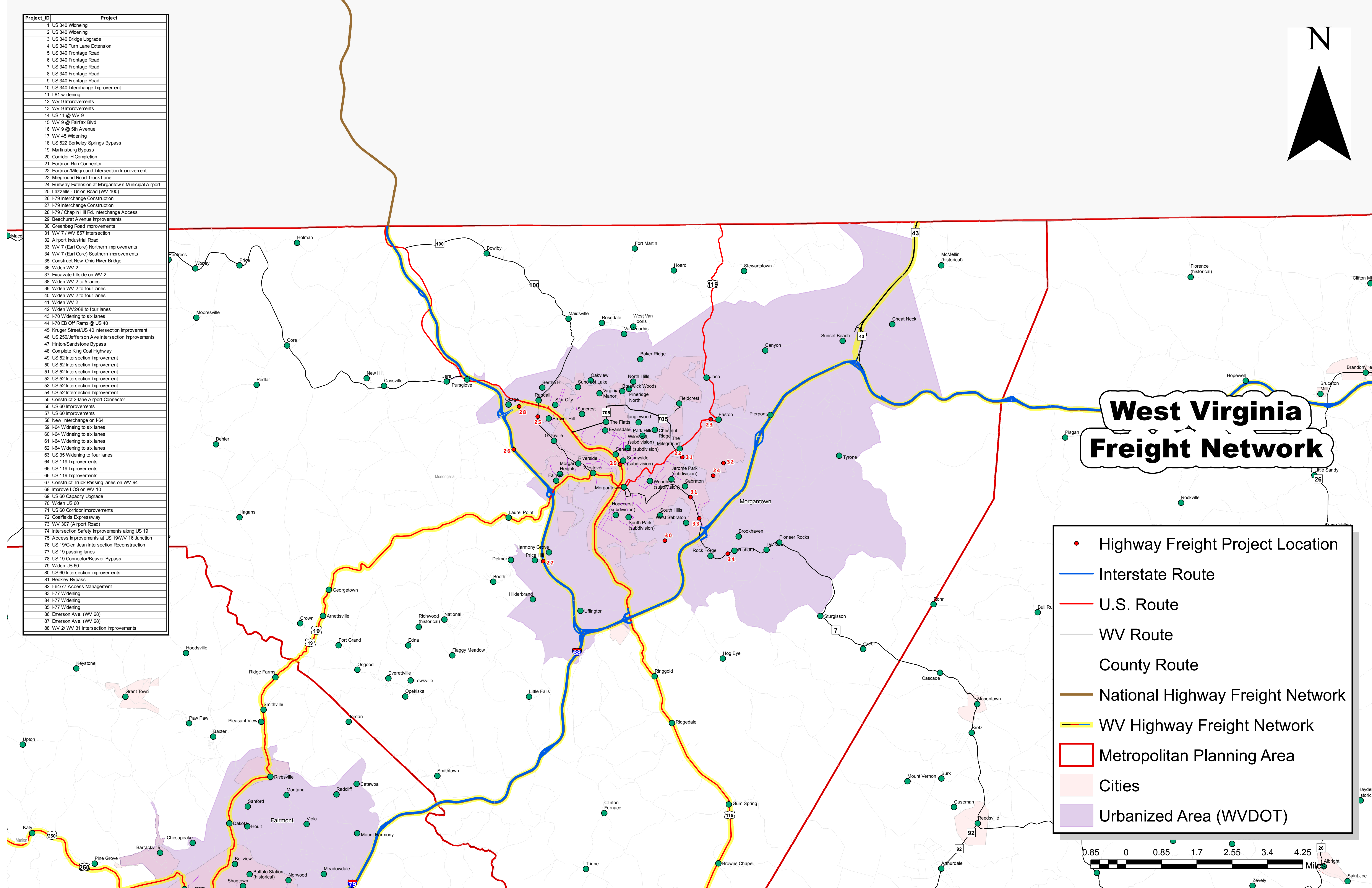
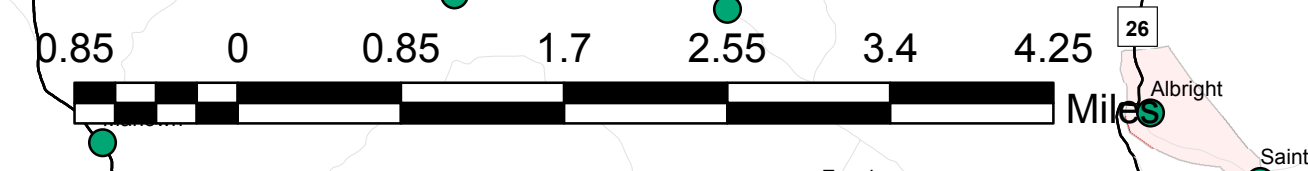


Project_ID	Project
1	US 340 Widening
2	US 340 Widening
3	US 340 Bridge Upgrade
4	US 340 Turn Lane Extension
5	US 340 Frontage Road
6	US 340 Frontage Road
7	US 340 Frontage Road
8	US 340 Frontage Road
9	US 340 Frontage Road
10	US 340 Interchange Improvement
11	I-81 widening
12	WV 9 Improvements
13	WV 9 Improvements
14	US 11 @ WV 9
15	WV 9 @ Fairfax Blvd.
16	WV 9 @ 5th Avenue
17	WV 45 Widening
18	US 522 Berkeley Springs Bypass
19	Martinsburg Bypass
20	Corridor H Completion
21	Hartman Run Connector
22	Hartman/Miegroud Intersection Improvement
23	Miegroud Road Truck Lane
24	Runway Extension at Morgantown Municipal Airport
25	Lazzelle - Union Road (WV 100)
26	I-79 Interchange Construction
27	I-79 Interchange Construction
28	I-79 / Chaplin Hill Rd. Interchange Access
29	Beechurst Avenue Improvements
30	Greenbag Road Improvements
31	WV 7 / WV 857 Intersection
32	Airport Industrial Road
33	WV 7 (Earl Core) Northern Improvements
34	WV 7 (Earl Core) Southern Improvements
35	Construct New Ohio River Bridge
36	Widen WV 2
37	Excavate hillside on WV 2
38	Widen WV 2 to 5 lanes
39	Widen WV 2 to four lanes
40	Widen WV 2 to four lanes
41	Widen WV 2
42	Widen WV2/68 to four lanes
43	I-70 Widening to six lanes
44	I-70 EB Off Ramp @ US 40
45	Kruger Street/US 40 Intersection Improvement
46	US 250/Jefferson Ave Intersection Improvements
47	Hinton/Sandstone Bypass
48	Complete King Coal Highway
49	US 52 Intersection Improvement
50	US 52 Intersection Improvement
51	US 52 Intersection Improvement
52	US 52 Intersection Improvement
53	US 52 Intersection Improvement
54	US 52 Intersection Improvement
55	Construct 2-lane Airport Connector
56	US 60 Improvements
57	US 60 Improvements
58	New Interchange on I-64
59	I-64 Widening to six lanes
60	I-64 Widening to six lanes
61	I-64 Widening to six lanes
62	I-64 Widening to six lanes
63	US 35 Widening to four lanes
64	US 119 Improvements
65	US 119 Improvements
66	US 119 Improvements
67	Construct Truck Passing lanes on WV 94
68	Improve LOS on WV 10
69	US 60 Capacity Upgrade
70	Widen US 60
71	US 60 Corridor Improvements
72	Coalfields Expressway
73	WV 307 (Airport Road)
74	Intersection Safety Improvements along US 19
75	Access Improvements at US 19/WV 16 Junction
76	US 19/Glen Jean Intersection Reconstruction
77	US 19 passing lanes
78	US 19 Connector/Beaver Bypass
79	Widen US 60
80	US 60 Intersection improvements
81	Beckley Bypass
82	I-64/77 Access Management
83	I-77 Widening
84	I-77 Widening
85	I-77 Widening
86	Emerson Ave. (WV 68)
87	Emerson Ave. (WV 68)
88	WV 2/ WV 31 Intersection Improvements



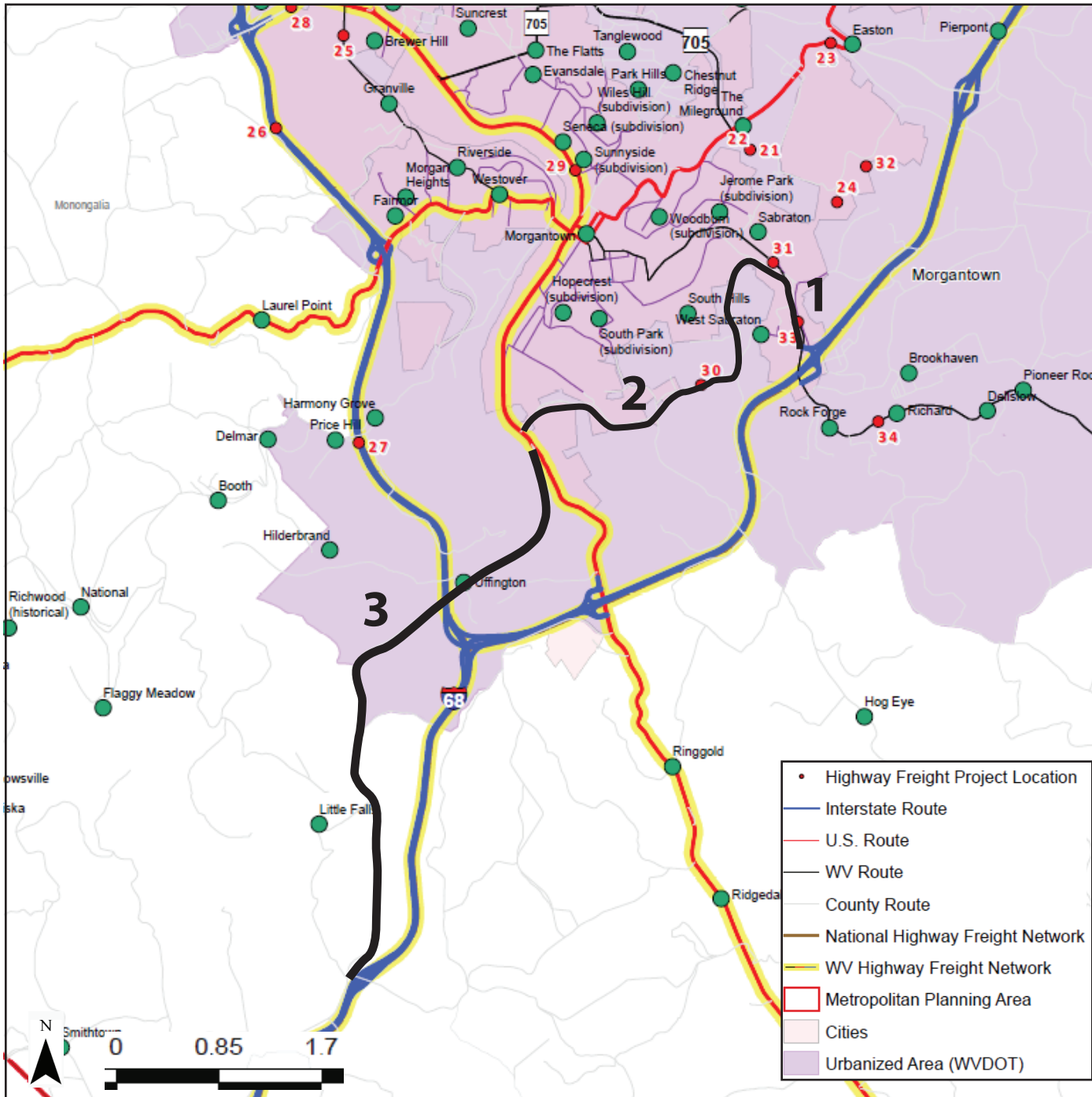
West Virginia Freight Network

- Highway Freight Project Location
- Interstate Route
- U.S. Route
- WV Route
- County Route
- National Highway Freight Network
- WV Highway Freight Network
- Metropolitan Planning Area
- Cities
- Urbanized Area (WVDOT)





West Virginia Freight Network
 MMMPO recommended freight routes (draft)



1 WV 7/Earl L Core Rd
 From: CR 857/Greenbag Rd
 To: I-68 Exit 4
 Length: 0.8 mile

2 CR 857/Greenbag Rd
 From: US 119/Don Knotts Blvd
 To: WV 7/Earl L Core Rd
 Length: 3.5 mile

3 CR 73 Smithtown Rd
 From: US 119/Don Knotts Blvd
 To: CR 77/Goshen Rd
 Length: 5.5 mile

Procedures for Grouping Projects

Projects would be taken from the current Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) that meet the Groupable Projects criteria and placed in the appropriate group (See groups below). If there are currently no projects for an MPO in one or more of the groups, the groups would still be in the TIP for use as future projects are added to the MPO area. Groupable projects would be listed and shown in the MPO's TIP with the same amount of information that was previously displayed. The difference would be that, since these projects are more routine/maintenance in nature or have been vetted through a competitive process, groupable projects would not need formal action from the Policy Board. When new a groupable project is added to an MPO area, the MPO would be notified of the adjustment to their TIP and sent the corresponding project information. At the next scheduled meeting, the project would be presented to the Policy Board as an adjustment to their TIP.

Since this procedure would cover many to most of the TIP amendments that are currently being done by the MPOs, it would allow the MPO staff and DOH staff to work on the front end helping to plan future projects and provide input into the project selection process. The Groupable Projects process also is expected to assist in expediting delivery of the project by not having to wait on the next scheduled MPO meeting or having to have an emergency MPO meeting to meet potential deadlines.

Most States utilize this process as provided in federal regulations and the use of groupable projects is supported by our Federal Highway Administration office, the West Virginia Department of Transportation, the West Virginia Division of Highways, the West Virginia MPO Association and by your MPO staff as a way to deliver the area's program more efficiently, reduce the amount of staff time preparing TIP amendment documents and moving the MPOs toward more of a planning function thus enabling more input on the front end of project development instead of the tail end. This process is used in the three border states (Ohio, Kentucky, and Maryland) with whom WV shares a planning boundary and is being utilized by the five WV border MPOs for work outside WV. All eight WV MPO's have either incorporated or are currently working to incorporate this process into their procedures for WV projects.

To this end:

- **The WVDOH and the MPOs would conduct annual coordination meetings with the respective District(s) within the MPO's geographical area;**
- **The MPOs would invite the WVDOH District personnel to its Technical Advisory Committee meetings;**
- **The WVDOH would include the MPOs in the solicitation of asset management type projects for consideration for funding;**
- **The WVDOH would share information of WVDOH asset management methodologies;**
- **The WVDOH would notify the MPO of any Intent to Apply for Transportation Alternatives and Recreational Trails funding; and**
- **The WVDOH will provide the data related project for an administrative adjustment to the TIP.**

WVDOH Groupable Projects*

Group	Description
Maintenance and System Preservation - Bridge Program	<i>Bridge Maintenance, Rehabilitation, and Replacement; inspections -such as bridge overlays/sealing, clean and paint, deck expansion joints,</i>
Maintenance and System Preservation - Pavement	<i>Pavement Maintenance, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction, Resurfacing</i>
Maintenance and System Preservation - Other	<i>Other Maintenance, Rehabilitation, and Replacement (non-pavement) items such as lighting, guardrail, retaining walls, slides, signal and sign renovation and/or replacements</i>
Operational Improvements - Miscellaneous	<i>Localized mobility; striping and signing; lighting, signals, signage, non - capacity adding work</i>
Bike and Pedestrian and Community Development	<i>Non-traditional transportation projects with Transportation Alternative funding and/or Recreational Trail funding</i>
Emergency Relief (ER) Projects**	<i>Emergency projects due to storm events</i>
Technical Support	<i>Non-capital program projects such as: research, bridge inspections, agency funded positions, etc.</i>

* Projects that are not regionally significant, environmental document type of CE, non-capacity adding, exempt from air quality analysis

** If core FHWA funds are used