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MINUTES

MPO Citizens Advisory Committee
MMMPO Conference Room
243 High St. Room 110, Morgantown, WV
Jan 11, 2018, 6 PM

Members Present

Bill Rice, Kyle Haugh, Matthew Cross, Ed Sneckenberger, Chip Wamsley,

Others Present

Bill Austin-MMMPO, Jing Zhang-MMMPO, Jim Bissett-the Dominion Post

1. Call to Order

With a quorum present, Chairman Rice called the meeting of the CAC to order at 6:00 PM.

2. Approval of the Minutes

Chairman Rice noted that the minutes of the August meeting were included in the agenda packet. Chairman Rice noted that the adjournment time in the minutes is not correct. Mr. Sneckenberger suggested adding in the minutes that the MPO will actively engage in community involvement to promote public participation in the decision making process. Mr. Haugh moved to approve the minutes with modifications, seconded by Mr. Cross. 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: WV 7 Blacksville resurface project from the east of Monongalia county line for a distance of 2.71 miles, the WV 705 resurface project from Monongahela Boulevard to Stewartstown Road, the BOPARC trail equipment purchase, and the Deckers Creek trail slide correction project. Mr. Austin noted that the Mountain Line Transit Authority requested that the MPO amend the TIP for bus purchase under the FTA Section 5339 Bus & Bus Facilities Infrastructure Investment Program.

Mr. Haugh moved to recommend approval of the TIP Amendment to the Policy Board as presented, seconded by Mr. Cross. With no discussion, the motion was unanimously approved. Mr. Austin then introduced TIP adjustments. The TIP adjustments require no action from the committee.

4. Highway Safety Improvement Program Performance Measures

Mr. Austin noted that federal legislation requires that the States and the MPO to adopt performance measures to ensure that transportation investment is meeting state, local and national goals. Accordingly, WVDOH has recently adopted the state safety goals identified in the memorandum sent out with the agenda packet. It is anticipated that the MPO will be working on adopting additional performance measures throughout 2018. One comment received from a MPO Committee member was that the MPO may wish to include crash incidents as part of future performance measures since fatalities and injuries are at least partly mitigated by vehicle technology and crashes can be influenced by roadway design. Chairman Rice noted that he expects more input from the local level to the transportation decision making progress.

Mr. Sneckenberger moved to recommend adoption of these performance measures to the MPO Policy Board, seconded by Mr. Haugh. With no discussion, the motion was unanimously approved.

5. Traffic Count Report

Mr. Austin noted that the 2017 Traffic Count Report was enclosed with the agenda packet. The MPO split the counts between the spring and the fall of 2017 to develop regional seasonal factors. The report is complete, in spite of the need for some count locations to be verified. Mr. Austin noted that the variation in the counts between years are due to the new interchange on I-79 and recent improvements on Mileground. The MPO will use the format of this report as a basic template for future annual traffic count reports. Mr. Wamsley moved to accept the traffic count report, seconded by Mr. Haugh. With no discussion, the motion was unanimously approved.

6. Beechurst Avenue Study

Mr. Austin noted that WVDOT moved the Beechurst Avenue Spot Improvement project to quick implementation due to the “Roads to Prosperity” bond referendum. The DOH has selected a consultant to perform a “Preliminary Investigation and Engineering Study” (PIE) for this project. The MPO is to close this project in the UPWP by finishing the alternative analysis and transmitting the study documents to the consultant. The MPO will work with the consultant on public involvement for this study. Mr. Haugh moved to recommend to the MPO Policy Board that they consider this project closed for MPO staff; seconded by Mr. Wamsley. With no discussion, the motion was unanimously approved.

7. Prospectus Update

Mr. Austin noted that an updated Prospectus was included in the agenda packet. The Prospectus describes the work that the MPO is eligible to fund and each agency’s responsibility. It also outlines the primary and secondary responsibilities of member agencies. Mr. Austin noted that the previous prospectus was adopted in 2013. The update includes the following changes: Changing the name of the MPO’s Plan from “Long Range Transportation Plan” to “Metropolitan Transportation Plan” (MTP); updating the MTP Planning Factors the MPO is required to consider in the transportation planning process to match the most recent Federal requirements; updating graphics; and adding a Line Item for Performance Measurement Planning. Mr. Sneckenberger asked if the community involvement is included in the prospectus. Mr. Austin confirmed that it is included.

Mr. Sneckenberger moved to approve the prospectus as presented, seconded by Mr. Haugh. With no discussion, the motion was unanimously approved.

8. Draft FY 2018-2019 UPWP

Mr. Austin noted that the draft UPWP was included in the agenda packet. Aside from normal operations the draft UPWP includes the following initiatives: working with the Bike Board to update the regional bike plan; preparing an operational analysis including recommending improvements to the intersection of Willey Street and Richwood Avenue for the City of Morgantown; and developing a guidebook for working with the MPO. As recommended in the MTP, the MPO will also develop an ongoing bicycle and pedestrian data collection program. Mr. Austin then noted that there is no significant change from the previous year's budget proposed in the 2018-2019 UPWP except for a proposed 2% cost of living increase for the MPO's staff.

Mr. Austin noted that this item is to be brought forward to this committee for recommendation of adoption to the Policy Board in March.

9. Other Business

Mr. Austin noted that the MPO will update the MPO's Transportation Improvement Program in March or May. The DOH is in the process of finalizing groupable project policies, which is expected to be included in the TIP update.

Chairman Rice noted that MPO's role is critical in providing local knowledge to transportation projects for the community and he encourages public participation in the planning and design process of transportation projects.

10. Meeting Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7
:05 PM.