

Northern Tier RPO Regional Transportation Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday, February 10, 2020
10AM – 11:30 PM
Northern Tier Offices
Towanda, PA

Attendance:

Brian Baker, Northern Tier
Katie Prichard, Northern Tier
Matt Williams, Bradford County Planning
Dakoatah Manning, Tioga County Planning
Rick Biery, Bradford County
Bob Getz, Sullivan County
Diane Fitzgerald, Sullivan County
Brian Hoffman, Sullivan County Commissioner
Mark Hamilton, Tioga County Commissioner
Alan Hall, Susquehanna County Commissioner
Michael Gismondi, PennDOT Central Office
Justin Batiuk, PennDOT District 3-0
Steve Fisher, PennDOT District 4-0
John Frankosky, PennDOT District 4-0
Alexandra Allen, Representative Jonathan Fritz
Jason Krise, Representative Tina Pickett
Chuck Dillon, Senator Joseph Scarnati
Jean Ruhf, Wyoming County EMVB
Al Quimby, Develop Tioga
Tim Smith, Gannett Fleming
Michelle Brummer, Gannett Fleming

I. Items for Discussion

A. Approve December 9, 2019 Minutes

- A motion was made by Mark to accept the December meeting minutes, seconded by Mike, the motion carried unanimously.

B. 2019 – 2022 TIP Administrative Actions and Amendments –

District 3.0 – Amendments & Admin Actions

- Project #9 – SR 414 Slide Morris Twp \$1.9 million cost increase to meet the updated estimate

Amendment:

- SR 199/010 Satterlee Street to NY Line \$4 million increase to meet updated consultant estimate. A motion was made by Matt to accept the amendment, seconded by Rick, the motion carried unanimously.

District 4.0 – Amendments & Admin Actions

- Project #2 – Adding a construction phase to the TIP

- Project #3 – 17 – cashflows of projects to capture money for the amendment. Moving phases to outer years.

Amendment:

- SR 267 paving to NY State Line – Add construction phase to current estimate amount. A motion was made by Alan to accept the amendment, seconded by Jean, the motion carried unanimously.

C. 2021 – 2024 TIP Update

- First four meetings went well. Everyone agreed that the process is productive. Alan stated more local projects need to be added and Steve agreed. District 3 and 4 will be working together to share knowledge in house. The public comment period will be in May in the TIP will be adopted in June.

D. LRTP Update, Gannett Fleming Consultant and NTRPDC Staff

- Northern Tier added in Major Corridors to cover any projects that needed to be added in the future. Michelle gave a brief overview of what has been completed so far. Chapters 1-6 are assembled in a preliminary draft. Chapter 1 is introductory material. Chapter 2 contains trends in the region such as population estimates and economic and natural resources. Chapter 3 contains an inventory of the transportation system such as metrics on highways and bridges as well as transportation resources in the region. Performance measures and targets are shown in Chapter 4. Chapter 5 and 6 contain what the counties in the region share for community, economic, and environmental goals. Chapter 7 is financial analysis and investment strategies. Chapter 8 is project selection and utilizing the PennDOT process. Chapter 9 is the environmental screening of the projects. Chapter 10 is the air quality conformity analysis. The last chapter contains future direction for the next LRTP update.

Matt stated that he had updates on the trail corridor projects for Bradford County that he would send to Michelle directly. Jean stated that there are two Endless Mountain Trails that need to be differentiated: one in Susquehanna County and the other in Wyoming County. There is resurfacing occurring for the Montrose trail. There is an extension of the Iroquois Trail and the Trolley Trail in Wyoming County that are having improvements done. Jean suggested that Lynn Conrad be contacted to verify that there is work being done on the rail trail in Susquehanna Borough. Jean stated that RT 6 should be mentioned as a National Bike Route and Michelle said she would add a relevant section in the text.

The document will be presented at the April RTAC meeting for approval and then passed onto the Executive Committee. Brian Baker asked for a motion and a second for the draft LRTP to go out for public review and comment. A motion was made by Diane to accept the amendment, seconded by Brian Hoffman, the motion carried unanimously.

E. Environmental Justice Procedure

- Brian discussed what was covered at the Environmental Justice (EJ) workshop on January 30th. Based on the Core Elements developed by PennDOT and FHWA, Northern Tier RPO has to identify EJ populations, assess conditions and identify their needs, apply EJ approach to TIP and LRTP, evaluate benefits and burdens, and identify and address disproportionate and adverse impacts on those populations. Steve stated that it is Harrisburg's attempt to make a uniform process amongst all MPO's and RPO's.

H. Regional Operations Plan

- The kickoff meeting has occurred for the Eastern ROP in which Susquehanna and Wyoming Counties are a part of. More information to follow.

Brian mentioned that the Bridge Redundancy Study kickoff meeting has occurred. The second meeting is scheduled for later this month to put together a scope of work. The project will be submitted towards a possible pot of funds.

H. LTAP Training & Equipment Show Updates

- Both equipment show meetings kickoff this month or early March. Ethan is in the process of scheduling LTAP classes but no other information is available at this time.

I. Community Development GIS, What is Going On?

- Ethan is working on DCNR grant applications. Katie is currently updating the LTRP and has worked on maps for DCNR grants.

II. Reports

A. Legislative Report:

Rep Karen Boback – No one present

Rep. Tina Pickett – Budget season.

Rep. Jonathan Fritz – Budget season. Alexandra stated that since the town hall meeting, Rep Fritz said constituents have been happy with the response time for their calls and emails to PennDOT.

Rep. Clint Owlett – No one present

Senator Gene Yaw – No one present

Senator Lisa Baker – No one present

Senator Joseph Scarnati – Budget season. Indirect cost increases proposed by the Governor.

Congressman Marino – No one present

B. FHWA Report

- No one present

C. PENNDOT Reports

Central Office – Mike mentioned that Jamie Lemon is the new FHWA contact for the RPO. PennDOT's Public Participation Plan (PPP) is currently out for public review and comment. The original was created in 2010. It outlines the PPP, LRTP, TYP, and TIP and how the public can get involved with each process. It is available through March 11 and district and MPO/RPO offices across the state. The public can review it and offer comments sent back on a form submitted electronically or by mail. The plan is anticipated to be finalized in spring 2020.

Dist. 3.0 – None.

Dist. 4.0 – Steve hopes to get more local projects on the TIP through the new process of temporarily taking over a local structure for design and construction.

D. County Reports

1. Bradford County – Act 13 Bridge Bundle is progressing. The 3rd of the five initial bridges is scheduled to be open by the end of the month. The last two projected completion dates are April and May. The second three bridges of that project are currently out for bid with a projected completion date the end of 2020. The initial cost estimate was around \$8.1 million and the current cost estimate is a little over \$6 million. There is a meeting set up with FHWA and SHIPO regarding bridge 38 that is currently on the TIP.

2. Sullivan County – Brian wanted to thank state legislators for helping to push off the broker system for 18 months.
 3. Susquehanna County – North Rd is starting to fall apart again, even after having improvements done six years ago. Received complaints about snow removal timeliness. Unfortunately, finding drivers for snow plows has been difficult. Biggest concern right now is the freezing and thawing events that are damaging roads before Spring comes.
 4. Tioga County – Marsh Creek Greenway project is still progressing. Justin stated that PennDOT will go up and look at the Ponyhill Rd slide concern.
 5. Wyoming County – The Greenways Trails and Open Space Plan is moving forward. They received over 300 questionnaires back.
- E. BEST Report – Brian and Mark spoke on behalf of BEST. They mentioned that several members of the management team were lost, including Kevin.
- F. BMTS Reports – No one present
- G. NTRPDC Reports – Brian Baker stated that the next meeting is on April 13, 2020.

IV. Other Items for Discussion – none.

V. Public Discussion – Lunch was provided by the NTRPDC.

VI. Adjournment - With no further items to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 11:45 PM