

Northern Tier RPO Regional Transportation Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday, October 4, 2021
10AM – 11 AM
Northern Tier Office (Conference Call)
Towanda, PA

Attendance:
Brian Baker, Northern Tier
Katie Prichard, Northern Tier
Bob Getz, Sullivan County
Fred Jugan, Sullivan County
Brian Hoffman, Sullivan County Commissioner
Mark Hamilton, Tioga County Commissioner
Kaye Aumick, Tioga County
Alan Hall, Susquehanna County Commissioner
Matt Williams, Bradford County
Rick Biery, Bradford County
Lynnelle Farber, Wyoming County
Carey Mullins, PennDOT Central Office
Michael Gismondi, PennDOT Central Office
John Ranck, PennDOT District 3-0
Steve Fisher, PennDOT District 4-0
Emma Pugh, PennDOT District 4-0
John Petrini, PennDOT District 4-0
Jennifer Croback, FHWA
Alexandra Allen, Representative Jonathan Fritz
Leslie Cadden, Representative Karen Boback
Janenne Goliash, Senator Gene Yaw
Chuck Dillon, Senator Cris Dush

I. Items for Discussion

A. Approve April 12, 2021 and June 14, 2021 Minutes

- A motion was made by Matt Williams to accept the April and June meeting minutes, seconded by Rick Biery, the motion carried unanimously.

B. 2021 – 2024 TIP Administrative Actions and Amendments –

District 3.0 – Amendments & Admin Actions

Admin Actions

- A few cost increases as needed.
- End of the Fiscal Year adjustments
- Added some flood projects into the TIP

Fred Jugan had a question regarding a bridge that payment was postponed until 2024.

John Ranck said he would follow up with that information.

Commissioner Hamilton questioned if the Grub Rd flood project was added to the TIP.

Carey stated that the management action was not completed yet but is currently in the process before next meeting. As per ACT 13 legislation,

Act 13 of 2012 establishes a Marcellus Legacy Fund that allocates a portion of the Marcellus Shale Impact Fee to the Highway Bridge Improvement Restricted Account in the Motor License Fund. These funds are distributed to counties (proportionately based on population) and are to be used to fund the replacement or repair of locally owned

(county; municipal), at-risk, deteriorated bridges. The funding cannot be used for the project because it is a bridge removal. The bridge project will be a retroactive reimbursement. The 80% state funding will come from a statewide reserve line item instead of the Northern Tier RPO regional TIP and Tioga County will be responsible for the 20% match.

District 4.0 – Amendments & Admin Actions

Admin Actions

- End of the Fiscal Year adjustments and adding some projects.
- Moving federal funds out of FFY 2021.

C. 2022 – 2024 UPWP Draft

Brian Baker and Katie Prichard have been working to update the 2022 – 2024 UPWP. Currently waiting for information from Todd Wright.

D. 2023 TIP Update

The TIP update has begun. Matt Williams questioned if any of the projects were set aside if the infrastructure bill is passed. Currently, the projects on the TIP update will be rollover projects from the last TIP. Northern Tier RPO worked with the Districts to submit a list of regional priority projects. Brian stated that if the infrastructure bill gets passed and the money is available, the regional priority projects have a better chance of being added to the TIP.

E. Regional Operations Plan Update (Central Region) Adoption

Brian Baker emailed a copy of the Central ROP to the RTAC Committee to review. He mentioned that the RPO submitted a Sayre Signal project from the ROP as a TSMO project. The RPO is required to adopt the Central ROP. A motion was made by Matt Williams to adopt the ROP, seconded by Bob Getz.

F. PennDOT Connects Update

The RPO had a Connects meeting in Overton Twp for a bridge project. The township wanted to advance the bridge through the retroactive process. PennDOT explained the retroactive process and stated that it could begin as soon as next year. The township talked about the design they were thinking of and possible estimates. They will be putting together proposal requests to send out. All of the information they received will be presented at the next monthly meeting so they can begin the process.

G. Supplemental Funding Update: Marsh Creek, Tunkhannock Mobility

Lynnelle Farber stated that she will be attending the Borough meeting this week to get them back on track to get the Tunkhannock Mobility Study moving forward. Carey Mullins asked if there was any invoicing and Lynnelle stated there was not. Carey mentioned that the deadline to spend the funds is June 30, 2022 or it will have to be carried on the next UPWP. Northern Tier RPO currently adding it to the draft UPWP update just in case.

Kaye Aumick stated that Mark Rice and Allison Hermond are currently working with the Build-Back-Better and working with other counties for this funding via PA Wilds.

Matt Williams said at the last planning commission meeting, they were approached about the relocation status of the T-105 Cayuta Creek bridge in Athens Township. It was said that the bridge would no longer be moved which would go against a relocation agreement previously in place and it would delay the project further. John Ranck will check with Aaron Crist regarding the status of that project.

H. Transportation Set - Aside

Brian Baker covered past awarded projects. Marsh Creek Greenway was previously awarded \$1.5 million and have not started construction with that money yet. The D&H is bidding this winter for the Nicholson Streetscape this winter and they are hoping to start construction in the spring. The Lanesboro Streetscape has been completed. Up until Friday, Northern Tier RPO was under the impression that only one project was submitted, however there have been two submissions. There

is a project in Tioga County in the Mansfield/Richmond area for a trail project. The meeting regarding that project with District 3 was last week. D&H Rail Trail Council is putting in for one in Susquehanna County. The presentations for each will be scheduled for December and ranking will begin. Brian will send out the score sheets to the committee to review.

I. Multi-Modal Funding

Applications started on June 28th and are due on October 15th. There is \$18 million statewide available for projects. Brian had sent out the link further explaining project eligibility. He encourages everyone to share this information to anyone who would be interested.

J. 2022 Meeting Dates

The RTAC meeting dates for 2022 are as followed: February 7th, April 4th, June 6th, August 8th, October 3rd, and December 12th

II. Reports

A. Legislative Report:

Rep Karen Boback – None.

Rep. Tina Pickett – No one present.

Rep. Jonathan Fritz – None.

Rep. Clint Owlett – No one present

Senator Gene Yaw – None.

Senator Lisa Baker – No one present

Senator Joseph Scarnati – None.

Congressman Keller – No one present

B. FHWA Report

- Jennifer Croback introduced herself. She stated that FHWA employees were furloughed at the end of last week, but back in the office due to a 30 day extension of the FAST Act. She is hoping that Congress will either pass another extension or a replacement to the Surface Transportation Authorization Act.

C. PENNDOT Reports

Central Office – Carey stated that Brian will be reaching out the counties to meet for the TIP update.

Dist. 3.0 – Currently working on the TIP update and will hopefully have it completed in December.

Dist. 4.0 – None.

D. County Reports

1. Bradford County – Bridge 38 should be moving into final design soon. Bridge 21 on Kellogg Rd took on additional costs due to flooding in July, but is moving forward and should be open to traffic by the end of the year. The county is taking on a Blight Mitigation Study.
2. Sullivan County – Commissioner Hoffman stated that the Sullivan County fixed route extension called the Sullivan County loop is on track to resume in November tentatively. It is a fixed route expansion that will go beyond Dushore to Mildred and Laporte and will run 2 days per week.
3. Susquehanna County – None.
4. Tioga County – Commissioner Hamilton wanted to address the rumor with the T-105 Cayuta Creek bridge. He stated that there may be a possible realigned of the trail, but that is currently just in negotiations.
5. Wyoming County – None.
- E. BEST Report – Commissioner Hamilton stated that BeST recently signed a management agreement. BeST will be managed by a combination of River Valley and CATA. In the next 3 to 4 months, the call center will be moving back to Bradford County.
- F. BMTS Reports – No one present.
- G. NTRPDC Reports – Brian Baker stated that the next meeting is in-person with virtual capabilities on December 13, 2021 at the new Bradford County Planning building.

IV. Other Items for Discussion – none.

V. Public Discussion – none.

VI. Adjournment – With no further items to discuss the meeting was ended at 11 AM.