

**LACKAWANNA-LUZERNE TRANSPORTATION STUDY**  
**TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**April 15, 2015**

Members of the Technical Committee:

Attached is a copy of the minutes of the Lackawanna-Luzerne Transportation Study Technical Committee meeting, which was held on April 15, 2015 at 10:05 a.m. in the PennDOT Maintenance Building located at 381 S. Main Street, Ashley Pennsylvania.

Please check for errors or omissions.

Thank you.

A meeting of the Lackawanna-Luzerne Transportation Study Technical Committee was held on April 15, 2015 in the PennDOT Maintenance Building located at 381 S. Main Street, Ashley Pennsylvania.

Steve Pitoniak, Chairman of the Technical Committee, called the meeting to order at 10:10a.m.

Mr. Pitoniak asked for a self-introduction by each person in attendance.

Mr. Pitoniak received letters of proxy from Steve Fisher, Transportation Planning Specialist, acted as proxy for Gerard Babinski, District Bridge Engineer, Ms. Bishop, Transportation Planning Manager acted as proxy for Susan Hazelton, P.E., Assistant District Executive, and Kate McMahon as permanent proxy for Alan Baranski, Vice-President, Transportation Planning Services, and NEPA in his absence.

Mr. Pitoniak stated for the record that in accordance with the provisions of the Sunshine Law and the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU), Coordinating Committee Secretary, Nancy Snee, submitted the required public meeting notice, which appeared in local papers for general circulation.

### **ITEM #1 – APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 7, 2015 TECHNICAL/COORDINATING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

Copies of the January 7, 2015 Technical/Coordinating Committee Meeting minutes were distributed via email to all members of the committee.

Mr. Pitoniak asked if there were any additions, deletions, or corrections for the minutes; Mr. Pitoniak noted the next order of business list under the third item of other business – Green Light Go Program should be asset and not acid and on top of the fourth page the Bridge in Clifford Township should be the Fourth Street and not Ford Street. He entertained a motion to approve the January 7, 2015 minutes with the two corrections. Mr. Pocius made the motion, Ms. Snee seconded and the motion carried.

### **ITEM #2 2015-2018 TIP MODIFICATIONS**

Copies of the 2015-2018 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) modifications were sent out to all committee members. Mr. Fisher highlighted the modifications to the 2013-2016 TIP, which included:

- Added Construction phase of Federal Aid Paving on SR 11 in Lackawanna, SR 3023 in Lackawanna and SR 2004 Luzerne County.
- Added right-of-way phase for one of P3 Bridges the money came from Central Office line item for SR 4019 Lackawanna County over I-81.
- Received a good bid on Dorrance Park & Ride Project will be decreasing to the low bid amount; there are project savings, which in turn enabled to advance the White Haven Park & Ride project from FFY 2017 to now in order to bid the project early.
- Additional HSIP Funding was received by LLB.
- Addition of the TAP Projects – previously approved.
- Received low bids savings on SR 1025 Slide in Luzerne County and SR 1040 Slide in Luzerne County.
- Received a low bid which is another project savings on Spruces Street Complex Wall.

- Added Railroad Crossing project on SR 2032, Foote Avenue; the funding came from Central Office line item.
- Addressed an Accrued Unbilled Cost (AUC) on PA 435 Bridge over SR 348; construction phase.
- Added the Nanticoke Traffic study to get under contract.

Open for comments or questions: Ms. Snee questioned the Nanticoke Traffic Study.

Ms. Bishop noted Ms. Hazelton and Ms. Hannon is currently involved with it and their reviewing the streets of Nanticoke to determine the best locations to do streetscaping, traffic modifications that need to be done, and using the Earmark funding.

Mr. Pitoniak noted the change for the right-of-way for SR 4019 (Edella Road over I-81 in Lackawanna); submitted to Central Office for additional funding to fix the repair; it is a permanent repair.

Ms. Bishop noted the ROW – because it is a P3 bridge that was done prior to the emergency that shut the bridge down; the PMC item is currently with Central office and their trying to acquire emergency funding to fix the bridge and open it back up.

Mr. Pitoniak questioned the HSIP funding median guide rail on US 6; confirmed that is going to go all the way to Carbondale, and the survey flags end near Throop and Olyphant exits.

Ms. Bishop can provide him limits but is unsure how far up it goes.

Mr. Pitoniak asked for questions or comments. Hearing none, the committee moved to the Transit TIP modifications.

### **Luzerne County Transit Authority (LCTA) TIP AMENDMENTS**

Mr. Pitoniak noted they were distributed via email along with the COLTS Amendments.

Mr. Gavlick noted that LCTA is purchasing an additional vehicle next year. LCTA is looking at installing a new camera system, currently only the fixed route buses have camera and they want to install them in the share ride busses. The camera system will cost \$150,000 and the additional vehicle will cost \$55,000.

### **County of Lackawanna Transit System (COLTS)**

Mr. Pitoniak noted there were no one present from COLTS; he is unfamiliar of their plans.

Mr. Roberts noted there are two new projects using federal funds.

Ms. Snee asked if it was LCTA or COLTS; Mr. Roberts noted both were adding new projects.

Ms. Snee question the voting on the vehicle purchase for LCTA; Mr. Roberts confirmed.

- Increase the ADA para transit service project
- Van replacement
- Purchasing bus shelters
- ITS for shared ride project

Mr. Roberts confirmed bus shelter purchase to use federal funds and para transit project.

Mr. Pocius commented on the letters noting the para transit; the break down they gave shows \$173,000.00-\$180,000.00 in federal funds, but nothing on the van procurement – all state, or intelligent transportation, and \$19,295.00 for the bus shelter.

Mr. Roberts clarified the amendments that require a vote are items that utilize federal funding.

Mr. Pitoniak noted since they are amendments, the committee will vote on them separately; a motion for the Coordinating Committee to recommend the LCTA amendments to be approve was made by Mr. Frati, seconded by Mr. Cavi.

Motion to recommend for the Coordinating Committee for the COLTS amendments to be approved

was made by Mr. Pocius, seconded Mr. Frati.

### **ITEM #3 – STATE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION ON-LINE PUBLIC MEETING**

Mr. Roberts noted the State Transportation Commission (STC) On-Line Public Meeting runs from April 16 2015 to May 29, 2015. They are opening the public comment period where anybody can go into the website and fill out a survey; everyone is encouraged to go to the website and preview the public meeting and to provide feedback. This is the second year that STC has utilized the on-line form, and the goal is to make it easier for the public to participate.

He also noted April 16, 2015 at 7:00pm, Secretary Richards's will conduct an interactive on-line meeting. She will be discussing additional information on the STC, transportation performance report, and TYP update. He encouraged to go on the website and register as well and submit questions to the secretary beforehand.

### **ITEM #4 – LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN (LRTP) UPDATE**

Long Range Transportation Plan Update:

Mr. Pitoiak noted a meeting with the consultants was held two weeks ago; the consultants were to demonstrate the survey tools they were going to use; due to technical difficulties, were unable to do so. They did go through the criteria they intend to use, evaluate, and prioritize TIP projects, and will be utilizing electronic devices which will allow everyone the same chance to vote on the projects and then be ranked. Once the projects are ranked, they will then be put in categories for funding. The projects will be ranked numerically and begin after the Coordinating Committee meeting in two weeks at which time they will do the demonstration, and by the middle of May 2015 they will have the rankings.

Ms. Snee reported a link was sent to everyone; which allows to go line and take the survey regarding the Long Range Transportation Plan; she recommended everyone to take the survey.

Mr. Pitoniak noted the first stakeholders meeting was held last week; - discussions on specific projects and general ideas, especially with transit. One of the main concerns was educating the public through the LRTP program process on more use of the transit.

Mr. Pocius noted Mr. Pitoniak and Mr. Roberts were very helpful in getting him the link and was able to get registered and submit projects, but after submitting the project they weren't in the system.

Mr. Pitoniak noted the LPN forms have to be emailed to the person that will be reviewing them; Ms. Bishop, Ms. Snee, Mr. Roberts and himself because they are the actual reviewers.

Ms. Bishop recommended Mr. Pocius to skip level one and start at level two, fill in what he can and submit.

Mr. Pitoniak noted one of the items that will come out of Long Range Transportation Plan update is when projects are ranked, and if there is no LPN form, they will need to do the LPN forms; he suggested to do the forms now to get them started.

## ITEM #5 – OTHER BUSINESS

### **Green Light Go Program**

Mr. Pitoniak noted the applications were received for the District; there are eight projects submitted in Lackawanna/Luzerne Counties and Central Office requesting to prioritize the projects, but no criteria was provided.

Open for discussion: Lackawanna County - Olyphant Project - provide emergency preempt, update timing, radio frequency coordination, count down LED signals. The three signals in the corridor total cost is \$107,000.00; their match is \$15,000.00; it is way short of being a 50/50 project.

Clarks Green – two projects and only one signal – replace the controller cabinet and repair three cross walks.

City of Scranton – replacing a number of intersections with incandescent light bulbs with LEDs, and reconstruct replacement signal at Greenridge Street and Sanderson Avenue.

Ms. Snee noted in Luzerne County - two of them involved preemption capabilities; West Nanticoke Bridge and several listed for Butler Township along SR309 going into Fairview Township, and a battery for back-up for traffic lights in case of power outages. She noted they all seem to have the 50% local match that they need but as to how they are ranked she is unknown.

Mr. Pitoniak noted their down three projects in Lackawanna County and three projects for Luzerne County, all the funding will be in competition state wide after the priorities.

Ms. Bishop questioned Mr. Roberts if there is anything wrong with the MPO ranking them equally; he sees nothing that says anything different.

Mr. Roberts addressed Mr. Pitoniak and Ms. Snee if they have any lingering questions today; to contact him and he will follow-up with them.

Ms. Snee asked if there is any other funding for this type of project, and should they not get awarded through the Green Light-Go Program.

Mr. Roberts noted they will have another round.

Mr. Chapman noted they will go for round three within the next year and if they aren't funded at all, they will automatically be resubmitted for the final round.

Mr. Roberts noted it is a very quick turnaround.

Mr. Pitoniak recommended on the Lackawanna County side to give Clarks Green and City of Scranton projects a first priority ranking, Olyphant and Clarks Green second project – second priority ranking; Luzerne County side give all three projects number one priority rankings.

Mr. Snee noted Butler Township should be first priority due to the corridor which will address several intersections, and that it is a heavily traveled area; the other two projects should both be ranked number two priority ranking.

Mr. Chapman questioned if their ranked as number two, would they run into a problem and end up falling behind due to Lackawanna County being all the same; thereby all the same MPOs.

Mr. Pitoniak recommended all three of them be number one rankings for Lackawanna County except for Clarks Summit and Olyphant ranked number two, and all three in Luzerne County number one rankings.

Mr. Pitoniak noted the committee was in agreement; a motion for the committee to recommend the rankings was made by Mr. Frati, seconded by Mr. Pocius.

Mr. Pitoniak reported the meeting was scheduled on April 14, 2015 - Multimodal Study.

He noted the county commissioners in Lackawanna/Luzerne County requested a study from PennDOT to undertake a look at feasibility of merging all of the transit, railroad, and air authorities. They supposedly informed PennDOT they wanted a study of passenger rail between Scranton and

Wilkes-Barre, PA. He noted PennDOT informed the Bureau of Public Transit, they didn't include that it in the work program, and during the meeting there were discussions on whether or not that is part of the work program, can it be in the work program, and whether it is even needed in the work program. The original thought for the study was feasibility emerging operations and administration; he is unsure on what will happen. The consultants were going to go to different authorities and start collecting information and data.

Mr. Gavlick noted there was a huge miscommunication between PennDOT.

Ms. Snee noted the consultant group that specialized in consolidation; it is a total separate project.

Mr. Gavlick noted the glitch came in strictly entity study; noting consolidation was placed on the back burner; who will use all the various forms of transit and is there a need.

### **Next Meeting:**

### **Meeting Schedule**

The next Technical Committee meeting is scheduled for July 1, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. and the next Coordinating Committee meeting is scheduled for July 15, 2015 at 10:00 a.m.

### **Adjournment**

Mr. Pitoniak for questions or comments. Hearing none, a motion to adjourn the LLTS Technical Committee meeting was made by Ms. Snee, seconded by Mr. Cavil and the meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

LACKAWANNA-LUZERNE TRANSPORTATION  
STUDY MEETING  
TECHNICAL COMMITTEE  
January 7, 2015

	<u>MEMBER PRESENT</u>	<u>ABSENT AND NO PROXY</u>	<u>PROXY PRESENT</u>
<u>VOTING MEMBERS</u>			
<u>PA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION</u>			
Susan Hazelton, P.E., ADE-Design		X	
Gerard Babinski, District Bridge Engineer		X	
Dean Roberts, Transportation Planning Manager	X (teleconference)		
<u>LACKAWANNA COUNTY</u>			
Lou Norella (Permanent Proxy – Gary Cavill, P.E.)			X
<u>LACKAWANNA COUNTY COMMISSIONER</u>			
Corey O’Brien			X
<u>LUZERNE COUNTY</u>			
Larry Plesh, County Engineer	X		
<u>LUZERNE COUNTY REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY</u>			
Vacant			
<u>CITY OF SCRANTON</u>			
Mayor William Courtright (Proxy-John Pocius)	X		
<u>CITY OF WILKES-BARRE</u>			
Mayor Thomas M. Leighton (Permanent Proxy – Attilio “Butch” Frati)	X		
<u>LACKAWANNA COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION</u>			
Steve Pitoniak, Chair	X		
<u>LUZERNE COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION</u>			
Nancy Snee, Vice Chair	X		
<u>PA NORTHEAST REGIONAL RAIL AUTHORITY</u>			
Larry Malski			X

	<u>MEMBER PRESENT</u>	<u>ABSENT AND NO PROXY</u>	<u>PROXY PRESENT</u>
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NORTHEAST PENNSYLVANIA ALLIANCE

Jeff Box (Permanent Proxy – Alan Baranski) (Proxy for Alan Baranski – Kate McMahon)			X
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TRANSIT REPRESENTATIVE – LACKAWANNA COUNTY

Jennifer Honick, (COLTS)		X	
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TRANSIT REPRESENTATIVE – LUZERNE COUNTY

Norm Gavlick, Interim Executive Director <u>TRANSIT REPRESENTATIVE – CITY OF HAZELTON</u>	X		
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Mayor Joe Yannuzzi (Permanent Proxy-Ralph Sharp)		X	
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AVIATION REPRESENTATIVES - LUZERNE COUNTY

Barry J. Centini		X	
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AVIATION REPRESENTATIVES – LACKAWANNA COUNTY

Stephen MyKulyn, P.E, Director		X	
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\*FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

Camille Otto		X	
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\*FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

Wayne Hibeck		X	
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\*FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION

Tony Cho		X	
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\*Non Voting Members

Non Members Present

Marie Bishop, PennDOT District 4-0  
 John Frankosky, PennDOT District 4-0  
 Steve Fisher, PennDOT District 4-0  
 Peggy Voldenberg, PennDOT District 4-0  
 Chris Chapman, LCRCP