

LACKAWANNA-LUZERNE TRANSPORTATION STUDY COORDINATING
COMMITTEE MEETING
February 26, 2014

Members of the Coordinating Committee:

Attached is a copy of the minutes of the Lackawanna-Luzerne Transportation Study (LLTS) Coordinating Committee meeting, held on February 26, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. in Room 233 at the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation Engineering District 4-0 Office, Dunmore, Pennsylvania.

Please check for errors or omissions.

Thank you.

A meeting of the Lackawanna-Luzerne Transportation Study Coordinating Committee was held on Wednesday, February 26, 2014 in Conference Room 233 of the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation District Office in Dunmore, Pennsylvania.

Mr. Robert Fiume, Senior non-proxy committee member in attendance, chaired the meeting, called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m. and asked for self-introductions. Mr. Fiume received a letter of proxy from James Arey stating that Dean Roberts will serve as his proxy who attended via conference call, a letter of proxy from George Kelly stating that Steve Pitoniak will serve as his proxy, a letter of proxy from George Roberts stating that Susan Hazelton will serve as his proxy, and a letter of proxy from Nancy Snee stating she will serve as Mr. Merolli's proxy until a permanent replacement is named. (NOTE: John Pocius is the permanent proxy for William L. Courtright, Mayor of Scranton; Attilio "Butch" Frati is the permanent proxy for Thomas Leighton Mayor of Wilkes-Barre, Dominic Yannuzzi is the permanent proxy for Joseph Yannuzzi Mayor of Hazleton, and James Rodway is the permanent proxy for Lackawanna County Commissioner James Wansacz.)

Mr. Fiume stated for the record that in accordance with the provisions of the Sunshine Law and the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21), Coordinating Committee Secretary Nancy Snee, submitted the required public meeting notice, which appeared in local papers.

**ITEM #1 – DECEMBER 4, 2013 LACKAWANNA-LUZERNE TRANSPORTATION
STUDY COMBINED TECHNICAL AND COORDINATING COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES**

Copies of the December 4, 2013 Lackawanna-Luzerne Transportation Study Combined Technical and Coordinating Committee meeting minutes were sent out to all committee members. Mr. Fiume asked for additions, deletions or corrections. Hearing none, a motion to approve the December 4, 2013 Lackawanna-Luzerne Transportation Study Combined Technical and Coordinating Committee meeting minutes, was made by John Pocius, seconded by Susan Hazelton, and carried.

**ITEM #2 – 2013-2016 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP)
MODIFICATIONS & TRANSIT TIP MODIFICATIONS**

2013-2016 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Modifications

Copies of the 2013-2016 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) modifications were sent out to all committee members. Mr. Fisher noted that the modifications were all administrative actions and would not require a vote. Mr. Fisher highlighted the modifications to the 2013-2016 TIP, which included:

- Increase for the LLTS Federal Reserve Line Item to resolve federal obligations in the region
- Advancing County Road #29 and County Road #30 in Luzerne County to bid early
- Removing local funds to add Act 26 funds
- SR 3019 over the Lackawanna River in Lackawanna – advanced for early bid
- Added the utility phase on the White Haven Park-N-Ride in Luzerne

- Adjusting for the expiration of ACT 44 funds, Central Office is giving us 100% state bridge funds to keep the region whole

Mr. Fiume asked for questions or comments. Hearing none, the Coordinating Committee moved to Transit TIP Modifications.

Transit TIP Modifications

Mr. Fiume reviewed the County of Lackawanna Transit System (COLTS) TIP modifications which included:

- Adding an Access to Jobs project utilizing Federal 5316 monies
- Adding a Fare Box replacement project
- Adding a Shop Equipment project
- Adding a Light Replacement project
- Adding an Outdoor Sign Replacement project
- Adding an Intermodal Center Construction project
- Adding an Intermodal Architectural and Engineering project
- Funding adjustments for the current projects on the COLTS TIP to address funding source changes

Mr. Fiume asked for questions or comments. Hearing none, a motion for the Coordinating Committee to adopt the COLTS TIP modifications, was made by Nancy Snee, seconded by Steve Pitoniak, and carried.

ITEM #3 – 2014-2016 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM (UPWP)

Copies of the 2014-2016 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) were sent out to all committee members. Ms. Snee noted that in the past this was an annual update; however with the current requirement changes this now covers two years. The UPWP is the work tasks the MPO does from year to year. This plan includes a project that Lackawanna and Luzerne Counties have programmed for a Travel Demand Model for the region in conjunction with Northeast Pennsylvania Alliance (NEPA) RPO to cover the two counties as well as the surrounding counties covered by NEPA. The MPO is also updating the Long Range Plan using McCormick Taylor through the open end contract. Mr. Roberts noted the invoice options for utilizing the open end contract and that the MPO will be able use the consultant in that process.

Mr. Pitoniak noted that Lackawanna County is also doing a pilot program that creates Incident Management Task Forces. The program will bring together first responders (fire, EMS, police (state and local), coroner's office, tow truck operators, PennDOT, etc.) anyone who does anything on highways in one place to bring these entities together and share information and procedures (so a tow truck driver knows what the fire department is doing and the fire department knows that they cannot do something that impacts of incidents within the highway corridors in their area). These task forces will bring area responders together to coordinate incident management to minimize the length of incident impacts on the motoring public while maximizing incident clearing and cooperation within regional participants (for instance: local police awareness of interstate detours through their area to help minimize local backlogs). Using

the DVRPC model to develop four task forces initially (a task force for Interstate 81 north and south of Scranton, one for US 6, and one for I-380 and I-84). It was noted that additions and changes will be made to the task forces as needed when they are realized through running the program.

Mr. Fiume asked for questions or comments. Hearing none, a motion for the Coordinating Committee to adopt the 2014-2016 Unified Planning Work Program, was made by Steve Pitoniak, seconded by Butch Frati, and carried.

ITEM #4 – 2013 ANNUAL OBLIGATION REPORT

Ms. Snee noted that a listing of projects and funding obligated for the fiscal year 2013 and this year the MPO received a list of projects and funding that had been de-obligated, which is laid out in this plan. It was noted that FHWA had received a copy of the report but no comments were received to date.

Mr. Fiume asked for questions or comments. Hearing none, a motion for the Coordinating Committee to adopt the 2013 Annual Obligation Report as presented, was made by Susan Hazelton, seconded by John Pocius, and carried.

ITEM #5 – OTHER BUSINESS

Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP)

Mr. Pitoniak noted that the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) resulted from the funding changes through MAP-21. TAP replaces the funding previously provided to separate programs, including Transportation Enhancements, Recreation Trails, Safe Routes to School and wraps these programs into a single funding source. Along with the funding source change sponsor for projects must be a municipality; sponsors can no longer be private entities. The amount of funding is significantly lower than the amounts received in the past. Current projects that have not yet gone to bid for construction are not eligible for this funding. Projects need to reapply/resubmit an application to receive funding if they qualify. Ms. Hannon noted the projects within the MPO that have not been bid for construction are the Back Mountain Trail Phase IV project for \$300,000 and the Hazleton Area School District Safe Routes to School. Ms. Hannon noted that the Hazleton project will receive funding from the new Safe Routes to School funding source that has been created through MAP-21. Kingston Township will have to reapply for the funding under the new MAP-21 criteria. Eligibility forms are due March 3, 2014, applications are due April 4, 2014, comments are due June 4, 2014, MPO selections are due by July 3, 2014 and the final project selection should be complete by September in 2014. Currently, the funding availability seems to be over two years for allocation. As information becomes available it will be shared with the planning partners, including timelines for the funding allocation. It was noted that applications will be eligible for not only funding from MPO region but also statewide funding.

Future Meetings

The next Technical Committee meeting is scheduled for May 21, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. and the next Coordinating Committee meeting is scheduled for June 4, 2014 at 10:00 a.m.

Adjournment

Mr. Fiume asked for questions or comments. Hearing none, a motion to adjourn the Coordinating Committee meeting was made by Butch Frati, seconded by Susan Hazelton and the meeting adjourned at 10:27 a.m.

LACKAWANNA-LUZERNE TRANSPORTATION
STUDY MEETING - COORDINATING COMMITTEE
February 26, 2014

	<u>MEMBER PRESENT</u>	<u>ABSENT AND NO PROXY</u>	<u>PROXY PRESENT</u>
George J. Roberts, P.E., Chairman			X
James Arey, Central Office			X
<u>LACKAWANNA COUNTY</u>			
George Kelly			X
James Wansacz (James Rodway – Permanent Proxy)		X	
<u>LUZERNE COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION</u>			
Adrian F. Merolli			X
<u>CITY OF HAZLETON</u>			
Joseph Yannuzzi, Mayor (Dominic Yannuzzi – Permanent Proxy)		X	
<u>CITY OF SCRANTON</u>			
William Courtright, Mayor (John Pocius – Permanent Proxy)			X
<u>CITY OF WILKES-BARRE</u>			
Thomas M. Leighton (Attilio “Butch” Frati – Permanent Proxy)			X
<u>TRANSIT REPRESENTATIVE – LACKAWANNA COUNTY</u>			
Robert Fiume	X		
<u>TRANSIT REPRESENTATIVE – LUZERNE COUNTY</u>			
Stanley Strelish		X	
<u>AVIATION REPRESENTATIVE</u>			
Barry Centini		X	
<u>*PENNSYLVANIA NORTHEAST REGIONAL RAILROAD AUTHORITY</u>			
Larry Malski		X	
<u>*FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION</u>			
Dan Walston		X	
<u>*FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION (FTA)</u>			
Timothy Lidiak		X	
<u>*FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION</u>			
Lori Pagnanelli		X	
*Non-Voting Members			

Lackawanna-Luzerne Transportation Study Meeting Transportation Advisory Committee
Members Present:

Donna Palermo, Greater Hazleton Chamber of Commerce
Steph Milewski, Luzerne Heritage Valley Authority
Bernie McGurl, Lackawanna River Corridor Association, Eastern Pennsylvania Mine Coalition
and the Rail Trail Council

Lackawanna-Luzerne Transportation Study Meeting Technical Committee Members Present:

Steve Pitoniak, Lackawanna County Planning Commission
Nancy Snee, Luzerne County Planning Commission
Dean Roberts, PennDOT Central Office

Non-Members Present:

Susan Hazelton, PennDOT District 4-0, Portfolio Management
April Hannon, PennDOT District 4-0, Enhancements
Marie Bishop, PennDOT District 4-0, Planning
Steve Fisher, PennDOT District 4-0, Planning
John Frankosky, PennDOT District 4-0, Planning
Anna Fuhr, PennDOT District 4-0, Administration