

LACKAWANNA-LUZERNE TRANSPORTATION STUDY
TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING
May 21, 2014

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 May 21, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. in Conference Room 233 in 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 Technical Committee was held on May 21, 2014 in Conference Room 233 of the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation District Office in Dunmore, Pennsylvania.

Steve Pitoniak, Chairman of the Technical Committee, called the meeting to order at 10:05a.m.

Mr. Pitoniak asked for a self-introduction by each person in attendance. (NOTE: Attilio "Butch" Frati is a permanent proxy for Thomas Leighton, Mayor of Wilkes-Barre; Stephen Mykulyn is a permanent proxy for Barry Centini, Aviation Representative of Lackawanna County; Alan Baranski is a permanent proxy for Jeff Box, Northeastern Pennsylvania Alliance (NEPA); Ralph Sharp is a permanent proxy for Joe Yannuzzi, Mayor of Hazleton; John Pocius, P.E. is a permanent proxy for William Courtright, Mayor of Scranton.

Jennifer Honick has replaced Kurt Kempter (COLTS) on the Technical Committee for Lackawanna County. Chris Belleman, P.E. will be the Acting Luzerne County Engineer until further notice; George Kelly, Lackawanna County Director of Economic Development, replaced Mr. Harry Lindsay on the Lackawanna Luzerne Transportation Study Coordinating Committee.

Mr. Pitoniak noted the retirement of Ms. Noone and will no longer be serving on the LLTS Committee; Ms. Susan Hazelton, P.E. will be Acting ADE for Design and will serve as proxy to replace Ms. Noone until the Assistant District Executive for Design is filled. Mr. Al Felinski, Bridge/Structural Design Manager, will be proxy for Mr. Gerard Babinski, District Bridge Engineer.

Also noted, Mr. Tom Lawson who served on the Transportation Advisory Committee is in the process of retiring; and will be looking to replace him.

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, Adrian Merolli, submitted the required public meeting notice, which appeared in local papers for general circulation.

ITEM #1 – APPROVAL OF THE FEBRUARY 19, 2014 COMBINED TECHNICAL COMMITTEE AND COORDIANING COMMITTEE MEETING

Copies of the February 19, 2014 combined Technical Committee Meeting minutes were distributed via emailed to all members of the committee; as well as the TIP Modifications.

Mr. Pitoniak asked if there were any additions, deletions, or corrections for the minutes.

Mr. Pocius noted some minor corrections: Page 1, after the words Mayor of Hazelton the words permanent proxy is after and before his name; noted twice and should be deleted. The first bullet states Advanced County Road 29 to 30 – correction is Advanced County Road 29 and 30, Page 2 - third bullet states Added to the TIP for \$4,98,182.00; noted the comma in in the wrong place – confirmed correct amount is \$498,182.00.

Mr. Pitoniak noted corrections on Pages 3 and 4, Stan Strelish name was misspelled incorrectly.

Mr. Pitoniak entertained a motion to approve the minutes of the May 21, 2014 of Combined Technical Committee and Coordinating Committee Meeting; Mr. Pocius made the motion, Ms. Snee seconded and the motion carried.

ITEM #2 2013-2016 TIP MODIFICATIONS

Mr. Pitoniak noted the 2013-2016 TIP Modifications; Ms. Bishop confirmed she sent the TIP Modifications via email provided a copy at the meeting.

Ms. Bishop reviewed the following:

Page 3 noted - received Act 89 funding for paving in both Lackawanna/Luzerne Counties;

\$7,000,000.00 in Lackawanna County and \$5,000,000.00 in Luzerne County. The roads that are to be paved in Lackawanna County are SR6011 - Rte. 6, 247, 171 and 107; Luzerne County: Rte. 309.

Ms. Snee questioned the location on SR 309; Ms. Hazelton noted from the Broad Street Project North.

Page 4 & 5 noted - another TIP Modifications/Act 89 funds that are going on bridges.

Page 6 noted - received an additional allocation of highway safety funding out of Central Office for Cable Medium Barrier Project and a High Surface Friction Project.

Ms. Bishop asked if there were any questions.

Ms. Snee confirmed all additions and no other funds had to be shifted around from other projects.

Mr. Pocius asked if there were any plans in any of the funding to do Main Avenue in the City of Scranton.

Ms. Hazelton confirmed SR3013; falls under a couple of contracts, primarily from Scranton Central Expressway. The Morgan Highway / SR 307 were on the funds that were received from the Decade of Investments – Maintenance Funding side.

Mr. Pitoniak noted no other questions for the TIP Modifications; it doesn't require a vote and noted no one in attendance from transit agency – no transit modifications.

ITEM #3 DRAFT 2015 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Mr. Pitoniak requested Ms. Bishop to address the Draft 2015 TIP. She noted the two larger documents that were distributed at the meeting is the first four years and the second four years of the 2015 Draft Program; it's fiscally constrained and will be putting it out for advertising in June; Ms. Snee noted it will be 35 days back from July 24, 2014.

Mr. Roberts stated since there was no one in attendance from Transit; he put together the Transit TIP; it was all based on information he received from COLTS HPT and LCPA. He will email them to verify; also be included with the public comment documents, and what will go out for public comment will be a public comment version which breaks all the projects in a paragraph form when the TIP is approved.

Mr. Pitoniak noted the TIP, other than the projects that have been taken off, is basically the same and one of the reasons is the uncertainty on what will happen with federal funding. He noted increasing of funding in some of the categories with ACT 89, which was passed by the legislature, and there are still some items that are waiting for guidance.

He commented the TIP isn't an over ambitious TIP, due to the funding issues; the draft will be forwarded to the Coordinating Committee.

Mr. Pitoniak entertained a motion to forward the draft to the Coordinating Committee; Mr. Cavil made the motion, Ms. Hazelton seconded and the motion carried.

ITEM #4 TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVE PROGRAM APPLICATION EVALUATION/RANKING

Mr. Pitoniak noted the Transportation Advisory Committee met last Wednesday, May 14, 2014; received seven applicants from Luzerne County and two from Lackawanna County. He noted there was a third Lackawanna County Project that was deemed ineligible when it was viewed in Central Office. The applicants came in; were given presentation time and they were all good. The ranking is based on the criteria based on what Central Office advised to use. All applicants were ranked, and two projects were tied for first. The Lackawanna County Project – River Walk, Carbondale PA and

Luzerne County Project – DL Trail, and the third project is located in Pittston, PA. The projects will be forwarded to the Coordinating Committee; and sent to Harrisburg. He noted the applicants will have two funding rounds that they could receive since considered a large MPO, their eligible to go through the state wide round and be funded through the state wide program.

Ms. Snee reviewed the TAP Projects: the Transportation Alternative Program which is similar to Transportation Enhancement Funds or Safe Route to School Funds. Funds that are used primarily for trails and sidewalks; were generally the applications that were received. She noted they were all good projects and presentations but only have a limited amount of money. She will send their rankings down to Central Office; they have to be in by June 4, 2014 and Central Office will make the ultimate decision on which projects get funded.

Mr. Roberts noted statewide there are 181 projects.

Ms. Snee confirmed with Mr. Roberts – larger MPOs could receive state money.

Mr. Pitoniak entertained a motion to move the TAP Program onto the Coordinating Committee.

Mr. Cavil made the motion; Mr. Pocius seconded and the motion carried

ITEM #5 OTHER BUINSESS

Mr. Pitoniak asked if there any items to discuss – no other business to discuss.

He noted there was one item in December 2013, a presentation by Commuter Services. He has been in discussion with them via email along with Ms. Snee, and Mr. Roberts. They have found is the \$327,000.00 budget they requested for four years is firm; they're not willing to negotiate. They have contacted Lehigh Valley and NEPA, their in a holding pattern, waiting for Commuter Services to contact them. Nothing has been received, and there is no action to take. He is unsure if they will have anything for the Coordinating Committee in two weeks. He wanted to update the committee on where it currently stands, and internally had some discussion to do it in-house rather than contracting with Commuter Services. It is an option on the table depending upon what will happen with Commuter Services.

Ms. Snee asked if their doing it in house is they looking at both counties. Mr. Pitoniak confirmed.

Mr. Pitoniak reported on the Long Range Plan – is due to be updated; been working with Central Office to use McCormick Taylor, who did the original Long Range Plan, and to update the plan using the open ended contract and be in place by July 1, 2014.

Mr. Roberts noted in the past it was always needed to do a Conformity Analysis for Air Quality for Lackawanna and Luzerne County Air Shed; due to reassessment of the air shed in Lackawanna/Luzerne County MPO – this area is considered a maintenance area; therefore, a conformity report is not needed.

No other business noted.

ITEM #6 CLOSE THE MEETING

Next Meeting:

He noted there will be a combined meeting of the Technical Committee Meeting and Coordinating Meeting – Wednesday, July 23, 2014; the Coordinating Meeting will meet on June 4, 2014

Mr. Pitoniak entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting; Ms. Frati made the motion, Mr. Cavil seconded, and motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

LACKAWANNA-LUZERNE TRANSPORTATION
STUDY MEETING
TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
May 21, 2014

	<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., Acting ADE	X		
Gerard Babinski, District Bridge Engineer			X
Dean Roberts, Transportation Planning Manager	X		
<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>			
Christopher J. Belleman, P.E., 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)			X
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TRANSIT REPRESENTATIVE – LACKAWANNA COUNTY

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

Stanley Strelish, Director		X	
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TRANSIT REPRESENTATIVE – CITY OF HAZELTON

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
 Peggy Voldenberg, PennDOT District 4-0
 Samantha Antosh, PennDOT District 4-0
 Chris Chapman, Lackawanna County Planning