

*These notes are not verbatim but intended to capture the overall meeting discussions.*

In Attendance: Lackawanna County Steve Pitoniak  
Tina Bauman  
Mary Liz Donato  
Luzerne County Chris Chapman  
Jay Schectman  
PENNDOT Steve Fisher  
Emma Pugh  
Julianne Lawson  
Susan Hazelton  
John Petrini  
Dean Roberts  
Kristin Mulkerin  
Rich Roman

The purpose of the meeting was to review the 2023-2026 Draft Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and discuss projects on the program and future projects as well.

Sue Hazleton discussed the TIP process. The process begins in late August, gathering information, getting estimates up to date, get let dates in order, also confirming all scope of work. The various data is then dumped into excel with existing program information. The next step is the application of financial guidance to get to a draft TIP program.

The District will apply guidance that was recently introduced. Data from all other issues, such as draft TIP candidate list, bridge list, geotechnical list and asset management list are gathered. This data will compare the existing program to what allocations are available. This information will be used, as well as a priority list and other considerations to look for openings for projects.

Steve Fisher mentioned that financial guidance and general cuts will also determine advancing some projects. The analysis will consider MS4 projects, advance construct, local funding as well as rail service resumption. Kristin Mulkerin noted that other factors will be considered in the new TIP formula.

It was noted that funding adjustments will made due to less funding, which means future projects may also be delayed.

The MPO's Regional Priorities:

- MPMS #102030 State Route 2002 San Souci Parkway reconstruction from Township Road to State Route 2005 in Hanover Township. \$44M, estimated let date 2-24.

- MPMS #114271 State Route 309 (North Cross Valley Expressway) Bridge rehabilitation over SR 2004 (River St.) and Susquehanna River. Asset management line item project. The bridge needs a deck replacement.
- MPMS #115819 State Route 1009 (Market Street) over Susquehanna River Bridge preservation in Wilkes-Barre City and Kingston Borough, estimated let date 1-23
- MPMS #84368 State Route 6011 (Green Ridge Street) over Lackawanna River Bridge Replacement in City of Scranton \$16M. Let 2-18-21.

Other projects came up during our discussions that are not currently programmed on the TIP:

- Four bridge projects in Scranton, Lackawanna County bundled. The North Main Avenue Bridge is a priority as an unexpected event would create major delays if out of service for an extended period.

The bridges under consideration are:

MPMS #7911 North Main Avenue Bridge over Leggett’s Creek  
 MPMS #7925 Parker Street Bridge over the Lackawanna River  
 MPMS #106314 Elm Street Bridge over the Lackawanna River  
 MPMS #7764 West Lackawanna Avenue Bridge over the Norfolk Southern Railroad.

- MPMS #61813 Lackawanna Valley Industrial Highway, LVIH (Casey Highway), Route 6 will use 2023 NHS funding. This is a preservation project for the entire length of LVIH. Work will include primarily diamond grinding, bridge surface restoration and resurfacing. The project will also address dips in the road and some slab restoration with sub base repair as needed.
- MPMS #9067 Flyover ramp SR 115 is not funded yet. This is an interchange improvement that will add southbound access to I-81 from SR 115 South with construction of a flyover ramp. The project will be funded through the federal “STP” funding (SPIKE) funding.

The final draft for the TIP is estimated to be complete for December 2021. A complete TIP list should be available for April of 2022. A public input period is proposed for June 2022 with approval estimated for early July 2022.

## LLTS MPO TIP 2023-2026 Update Meeting

October 13, 2021

Minutes

In Attendance:

Lackawanna County:	Brenda Sacco
	Steve Pitoniak
Luzerne County:	Chris Chapman

PennDOT: Jay Schectman  
Julianne Lawson  
Susan Hazelton  
Emma Pugh  
Dean Roberts  
Steve Fisher  
FHWA: Matt Smoker

(Sue Hazleton)

The purpose of the meeting to establish a timeline for TIP update for December 2021  
Work is progressing on a fiscally constrained draft available for December 2021, there is a  
a balancing to consider needs of the MPO.

Steve Fisher noted that the Federal Transportation Bill (IIJA) is anticipated to pass by October 31.  
A continuing resolution to fund the program through October 31 and the transportation appropriations  
bill has been extended to a date in December. There is an allowance in the TIP for projects that are  
ready in design to be considered if a Transportation Bill becomes law.

(Sue Hazelton)

Bridges are a priority, a complete bridge review of all bridge conditions has been assembled in quarterly  
reports. The reports show priority by need. The bridges are addressed by closed, posted, good and poor.  
There are counts of each bridge condition. Bridge inspections are used to determine priorities.

Bridges have a rating priority of zero through five. Zero needing immediate attention (within 7 days).  
Heavy rains create many scour and debris problems under bridges and need to address quickly.

There are 59 bridges in Lackawanna County in priority one condition and 121 bridges in Luzerne County  
in priority one condition.

There is a discussion of whether to repair a bridge or wait on design phase. The analysis of roadway  
condition is used to determine if the priority should change on the TIP or possibly added to the TIP if not  
listed. Roadways, embankments and safety conditions work into the analysis as well.

(Julie Lawson)

Planning Documents:

Review of 12 Year Plan to update projects when they will be delivered and what projects need to be  
added where needed. Add any priority project that needs to be added. The planning process reviews all  
categories and priorities. The State momentum is toward highway projects as District 4-0 needs money  
for bridges. The present TIP shows overspending of \$58M. There is a need for \$20M in 2023, \$17M in  
design for 2025 and \$112M in construction for 2026.

2021 and 2022 show construction in process. Later projects are planned with money behind them for  
2023 and later. Funding is shown in the TIP program list. Overspending for 2023 is \$58M from planning  
aspect. Non funding is included to 2026 only for project identification purposes.

(Dean Roberts)

Look for a draft document by the end December to include details of the proposed projects, examples  
such as the graphs and charts in this presentation. Sue suggested adding photos and other details  
Chris Chapman asked if current information is based on current funding not the anticipated  
Transportation Bill.

Sue reiterated that the funding shortfalls shown on the summaries are using current funding. New funding from a Transportation Bill would clear up most of the shortfall. Many items could change the priorities, such as harsh winter, flooding and unseen repairs. Make sure that all identified needs are on the program.

Partners are cutting TIPs, defined as reprogramming. Some projects in design phase will carry on and some may be put on hold. There will be reallocation of funds to bridges. We still need a Transportation Bill to pass. Negative numbers on the worksheets, would be resolved by a new Transportation Bill. Long-Range projects that can progress will be included in TIP.

The current ongoing major projects are:

- Casey Highway in Lackawanna County
- Slab replacement and diamond grinding in Lackawanna County
- SR 309 Bridge over the Susquehanna River in Luzerne County

Most projects in Luzerne and Lackawanna County are on the TIP such as:

- Route 115 Flyover Ramp to Route 81 South
- San Souci Roadway project
- The Scranton Bridges (bundle)

There has been collaboration between the MPO and City of Scranton.

Main Street and Parker Street bridges may be packaged together on 12 year plan so one contractor can manage the project as part of a 4 bridge program.

There is a consultant to determine the draft purpose and need for repair or replacement of the Fort Jenkins Bridge and the Water Street Bridge in Pittston. A full bridge inspection is in the works and it is estimated one year will be needed to complete the analysis.

PennDOT is continuing to pursue interstate funding to address the needs that we have. Our needs could use anticipated new federal funding.

Dean Roberts asked about carryover SPIKE funding. SR 115 ramp project has carryover SPIKE funding.

PennDOT needs the information in MPMS formatting, converted from spreadsheets. Chris noted that we do need the worksheets presented during this meeting.

Steve Fisher stated at this point they have loaded first 8 years of 2023 TYP, not fiscally constrained. New items need to be considered. Suggested that another call around end of December, when more information is available.

Meeting adjourned.

## LLTS MPO TIP Update Meeting

December 29, 2021

1:00 PM

Minutes

## In Attendance:

Chris Chapman, Marie Bishop, Steve Fisher, Mary Liz Donato  
Jay Schectman, John Petrini, Julianne Lawson, Robert Kenney

The meeting was arranged to prep for the TIP program review meeting with PennDOT Central Office.

An overview of funding from the Transportation bill was presented.

There will be a summary of Regional TIP projects.

The changes from the new Transportation Bill will be discussed, including changes in funding allocations over a five year period.

The process of prioritization for new projects will be outlined by Sue Hazleton and John Petrini.

Steve Fisher and John Petrini will discuss the changes on the 2023 program such as what is added and what is being removed.

A Presentation of Transportation Performance Measures will be offered. HSIP, PAMS/BAMS, AQ, and Transit will be included.

The process of categorizing performance measures will be outlined.

Major projects will be listed and discussed to include:

Green Ridge Street Bridge

Fort Jenkins Bridge

Blackman Street Ramp

SR6 Robert Casey Highway

San Souci Parkway