

**Lackawanna/Luzerne MPO
Transportation Study
Technical and Coordinating
Committee Meeting
October 7th, 2025
Minutes**

At 1:00pm, Dean Roberts opened the meeting.

Mr. Roberts noted that, according to the Sunshine Act requirements, the meeting and agenda were advertised in the Scranton Times, Citizens Voice, and Hazleton Standard Speaker and the meeting time and agenda were posted on the LLTS MPO website more than 24 hours prior to the meeting.

1. Public Comment – Discussion of the items not listed on the agenda.

Mr. Roberts asked if there were any public comments or questions. There were no comments made

2. Action Items

- Approval of the [July 8, 2025, Combined Technical and Coordinating Committee Meeting Minutes](#)

Mr. Roberts asked for a motion from the Technical committee to approve the minutes of the July 8th MPO meeting. The motion was made by Susan Hazelton and seconded by Kate McMahon. The motion passed.

Robert Fiume asked for a motion from the coordinating committee to approve the minutes from the July 8th MPO meeting. The motion was made by Rich Roman and seconded by Tom Reilly. The motion passed.

- [2025 TIP](#) and Actions

Mr. Roberts asked if there were any actions to discuss. There were no amendments at this time.

Mr. Roberts stated that there would be a 2025 TIP action for COLTS. Michael Dancek provided a statement stating that there would be an operating cost in addition to the TIP which includes \$5.1 million of 5307 funding. Mr. Roberts stated that the addition of \$5 million would trigger an amendment that needs to be voted on.

Mr. Roberts asked for a motion from the Technical Committee to approve the addition of \$5.1 million in 5307 funding for COLTS operating costs. The motion was made by Mr. Reilly and seconded by Mary Liz Donato. The motion passed

Mr. Fiume asked for a motion from the Coordinating Committee to approve the addition of \$5.1 million in 5307 funding for COLTS operating costs. The motion was made by Mr. Roman and seconded by Mr. Fiume. The motion passed.

➤ Eastern PA Freight Alliance

➤ draft [MOU](#)

Ms. Donato provided an update on the NEPA Freight Alliance plan stating that all other MPO's that are a part of the plan have adopted the MOU and that the LLTS MPO is the last remaining MPO waiting for adoption. Currently the MPO is asking for a vote to approve the MOU as distributed.

Mr. Roberts asked for a motion from the Technical Committee to approve the MOU for the NEPA Freight Alliance. Kathy Bednarek made the motion, seconded by Barbara Idhaw. The motion passed.

Mr. Fiume asked for a motion from the Coordinating Committee to approve the MOU for the NEPA Freight Alliance. The motion was made by Mr. Reilly and seconded by Romilda Crocamo. The motion passed.

3. Discussion Items

➤ Fall Project Commencement

Eric Middleton presented the Fall project commencement for all projects in Lackawanna County and Robert Manzella presented all projects in Luzerne County. There were no further comments or questions.

➤ Update from 2025 Planning Partners

Mr. Roberts provided an update from the 2025 planning partners meeting. The planning partners met from across the state in State college to discuss all transportation updates and programs. Mr. Manzella stated that the MPO's and RPO's met for a caucus on the first day as well as PennDOT districts who held a separate caucus. All meetings seemed to go well with good collaborative conversations.

➤ Safe Streets and Roads for All [SS4A] Progress updates

[Lackawanna](#) County

Ms. Donato stated that Lackawanna County is planning to hold one last steering committee meeting once the draft is complete. The plan is scheduled to be adopted in January of 2026.

[Luzerne](#) County

Dan Reese stated that the third working meeting had just been held and one more safety meeting is scheduled. The survey responses have been completed with positive results. The draft should be completed sometime over the winter.

➤ LLTS MPO website update (and social media) (Dan Reese)

Mr. Reese stated that there has been progress with the website update where the MPO will have a more functional outreach on social media along with an up-to-date website overall.

- NEVI Community Charging Program survey ended July 31

[Final survey results](#) that were turned in.

[Final Guidance](#) can be found here

Mr. Reese stated that the results from the NEVI survey are in and the MPO staff will be looking into the results with the report going out in the coming weeks. There were no further comments or questions regarding the NEVI survey.

- [Long Range Transportation Plan Draft](#)

Presenting draft for MPO approval to release for 30-day comment period. Public comment period will be October 15th to November 15th.

Brian Funkhouser provided an update regarding the LRTP. The draft of the plan should be complete and ready for approval at the January MPO meeting. Until approval there will be final measures taken to make edits, so the plan is ready. There will be 30-day review and comment period starting on 10/15/25. There will also be a public meeting on 10/27/25. Mr. Funkhouser continued to walk board members through the current draft plan and explained the process of how the draft was completed along with requirements that were met. There will be ongoing conversations with FHWA to make certain all requirements are met.

Mr. Reilly asked how the draft would be distributed to the public. Mr. Manzella stated that he and Mr. Middleton would distribute both hard and virtual copies of the draft. Access to the plan will also be advertised via the local newspapers and on the MPO website. There were no further comments or questions regarding the LRTP draft comment period.

- [TIP map/dashboard](#)

Mr. Reese Provided an update on the TIP map/dashboard that was made available. The new map includes all TIP projects and gives an interactive opportunity for looking up projects.

- Funding/Grant Opportunities
-[Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside \(TASA\)](#)

Mr. Manzella stated that the Transportation Alternative Set Aside program provides funding for projects and activities defined as transportation alternatives, including on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities. Final project applications are due on 10/31/25 and will be available for planning partner review on 11/10/25.

4. Progress Reports

- 2026 LLTS MPO Hybrid Meeting Schedule:

- January 13th, 2026
- April 7th, 2026
- July 7th, 2026
- October 6th, 2026

5. Other Business

Mr. Reese stated that there was a meeting at NEPA Alliance between MPO staff NEPA Alliance staff and the turnpike commission. This meeting was regarding the new on and off ramps the turnpike commission will be adding to the turnpike. The turnpike commission was just seeking ideas and asking if there would be any interest in the NEPA MPO and LLTS MPO region.

6. Adjournment

Mr. Roberts asked for a motion from the Technical committee to adjourn the meeting. The motion was made by Mr. Roberts and seconded by Ms. Hazelton. The motion passed.

Mr. Fiume asked for a motion from the Coordinating committee to adjourn the meeting. The Motion was made by Mr. Roman and seconded by Mr. Fiume. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 2:16 PM.

If you need any further information, please contact us at 570.825.1564

Attendee List

Tuesday, July 8, 2025

	MEMBER PRESENT	PROXY PRESENT	ABSENT & NO PROXY
<u>COORDINATING COMMITTEE MEMBERS</u>			
<u>PENNDOT</u>			
Richard N. Roman , District 4-0 District Executive (Committee Vice-Chair)	X		
*Dean Roberts , Transportation Planning Manager, Central Office	X		
<u>LACKAWANNA COUNTY</u>			
Bill Gaughan (Board of Commissioners)			X
*Kristen Magnotta , Director of Planning & Economic Development			X
<u>LUZERNE COUNTY</u>			
Romilda Crocamo, esq. - (Dan Reese , Executive Director Planning & Zoning - Permanent Proxy)	X	X	
<u>CITY OF HAZLETON</u>			
Jeffrey L. Cusat , Mayor - (Joshua Esposito , Barry Isett and Associates - Permanent Proxy)			X
<u>CITY OF SCRANTON</u>			
*Paige Cognetti , Mayor - (Tom Reilly Jr , Reilly Associates - Permanent Proxy)		X	
<u>CITY OF WILKES-BARRE</u>			
*George Brown , Mayor - (Mark Barry , Director of Operations - Permanent Proxy)			X
<u>TRANSIT REPRESENTATIVE - LACKAWANNA COUNTY</u>			
Tim McGrath , COLTS Director	X		
<u>TRANSIT REPRESENTATIVE - LUZERNE COUNTY</u>			
Robert Fiume , LCTA Director, (Committee Chair)	X		
<u>AVIATION REPRESENTATIVE</u>			
*Carl Beardsley , Wilkes-Barre/Scranton International Airport Director (Stephen Mykulyn - Meeting Proxy)	X	X	

NON VOTING MEMBERS			
<u>PA NORTHEAST REGIONAL RAILROAD AUTHORITY</u>			
Larry Malski, President			X
<u>FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION</u>			
*Gene Porochniak, Community Planner			X
<u>FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION (FTA)</u>			
*Timothy Lidiak, Project Manager			X
<u>DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT</u>			
*Chris Chapman, Local Government Policy Specialist			X

Appears on Coordinating and Technical Committee = *

Technical Committee Members	MEMBER PRESENT	PROXY PRESENT	ABSENT & NO PROXY
*Dean Roberts, (Committee Chair) PennDOT Central Office, Transportation Planning Manager	X		
Susan Hazelton, (Committee Vice-Chair) PennDOT District 4-0, Assistant District Executive for Design	X		
Gerard Babinski, PennDOT District 4-0, District Bridge Engineer	X		
*Kristen Magnotta, Lackawanna County, Director of Planning and Economic Development			X
Barbara Idhaw, Lackawanna County, Engineering Consultant, Greenman-Pedersen, Inc.	X		
Mary Liz Donato, Lackawanna County, Planning Department Manager	X		
*Tom Reilly Jr, Proxy for Scranton Mayor Paige Cognito, Engineering Consultant, Reilly Associates	X		
*Mark Barry, Proxy for Wikes-Barre Mayor George Brown, Director of Operations			X
Kathy Bednarek, Luzerne County Transportation Authority (LCTA), Grants Coordinator	X		
Michael Danchek County of Lackawanna Transit System (COLTS)	X		
Stephen Mykulyn, Lackawanna County Aviation Representative	X		
*Carl Beardsley, Luzerne County Aviation Representative	X		
Kate McMahon Proxy for Jeff Box, Northeastern Pennsylvania (NEPA) Alliance Member	X		
Dan Reese Luzerne County Planning and Zoning, Executive Director	X		
Ralph Sharp, Proxy for Hazleton Mayor Cusat, Hazleton Public Transit (HPT) Director			X
Vacant,			X
Larry Malski, Esq., Pennsylvania Northeast Regional Railroad Authority, President	X		

NON VOTING MEMBERS			
*Gene Porochniak, FHWA, Community Planner			X
*Timothy Lidiak FTA, Project Manager			X
*Chris Chapman DCED, Local Government Policy Specialist	X		

LLTS Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) Members

Aaron Whitney, Greater Scranton Chamber of Commerce	
Alan Stout, Luzerne County Convention & Visitors Bureau	
Bernie McGurl, Lackawanna River Corridor Association	X
Christine Dettore, DCNR	X
Denise Corcoran, ARCIL	
Janet Sweeney, Pa Environmental Council	X
Joyce Morrash Zaykowski, W-B City Hall	
Keith Williams, NEPACIL	
Larry West, Scranton City	
Sierra Club	
Mary Malone, Greater Hazleton Chamber of Commerce	
Nina Waskevich, AAA North Penn	
Owen Worozbyt Lackawanna Heritage Valley Association	X
Patrick Williams, Clarks Summit	
Shane Novak, Luzerne County Planning Commission	
Stephanie Milewski, North Pocono Trails Association	
Ted Patton, Martz Trailways	
V. Dan Gavin, TMG Health	
Vivian Williams, Scranton Area Foundation	
Eileen Cipriani, City of Scranton	
Steve Pitoniak, Retired Planner	

Non-Members

Rob Manzella Transportation Planner Luzerne County	X
Emma Pugh, PennDOT District 4-0 Planning and Programming	X
Eric Middleton, Lackawanna County Planning	X
Jessica Edwards, Lackawanna County Planning	X
Joe Corcoran, Lackawanna Heritage Valley Association	X
John Petrini, PennDOT District 4-0	X
Marie Bishop, PennDOT District 4-0 Planning and Programming	X
Steve Fisher, PennDOT District 4-0 Planning and Programming	
Jacob Weinberg, City of Scranton	X
Koren Clark, Scranton Area Foundation	X
John Shaw, NEPA Alliance	X
William Harris	X
Michael Granter	X
Brian Funkhouser, Michael Baker	X
Colleen Connolly, Transportation Planning Luzerne County	X
Lisa Rohland, Martz Bus	X
Jon Shaw, NEPA Alliance	X