



C/O LEHIGH VALLEY PLANNING COMMISSION
 961 MARCON BOULEVARD, SUITE 310
 ALLENTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA 18109
 (610) 264-4544

The Lehigh Valley Transportation Study Technical Committees met on Monday, March 28, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. at the Lehigh Valley Planning Commission, 961 Marcon Boulevard, Suite 310, Allentown, PA. In attendance were:

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

<u>Name</u>	<u>Representing</u>
Steve Neratko*	City of Allentown
Darlene Heller*	City of Bethlehem
Dave Hopkins*	City of Easton
Brendan Cotter*	LANta
Ryan Meyer*	LNAA
Michael Donchez*	LVPC
Liesel Dreisbach	
Brian Hite	
George Kinney*	
Ray Green*	PennDOT Central Office
Kerry Fields	PennDOT District 5-0
Christopher Kufro*	
Kevin Milnes	

PUBLIC PRESENT

Matt Assad	Morning Call
Tom Beil	Upper Saucon Township
Chris Boehm	Macungie Borough
Jim Brady	STV Inc.
Anthony Branco	Fountain Hill Borough
Joanne Conley	URDC
Bryan Cope	Northampton County
Randy Cope	South Whitehall Township
Matthew Dorner	City of Bethlehem
Ilene Eckhart	Allen Township
Eric Erb	Upper Macungie Township
Joe Geib	Upper Saucon Township
Eugene Goldfeder	Catasauqua Borough
Laura Giguere	City of Allentown

Carol Halper	U.S. Congressman Charlie Dent
Heather Heeter	Borton-Lawson
Gordon Heller	Northampton County
Chad Helmer	Taggart Associates/Borough of Catasauqua
Chris Howsare	HNTB
Bob Ibach	South Whitehall Township
Nathan D. Jones	Bethlehem Township
Matt Malozi	Rettew Associates
Jennifer McKenna	City of Allentown
Roger Mellon	Palmer Township
Brian Miller	Upper Milford Township
Ken Mohr	Coopersburg Borough
Laura Montgomery	McCormick Taylor/PennDOT
Tim Paashaus	Coopersburg Borough
Scott Pasterski	Upper Macungie Township
Mike Policelli	URDC
Bill Royer	State Representative Ryan MacKenzie
Kim Schaffer	Community Bike Works
Scott Slingerland	Coalition for Appropriate Transportation (CAT)
Bryan Smith	South Whitehall Township/Macungie Borough
Chris Strohler	Wildlands Conservancy
Steve Strella	State Representative July Harhart
Steve Turoscy	County of Lehigh
AnnMarie Vigilante	Langan Engineering/Palmer Township
Tiffany Wells	City of Bethlehem

*Denotes voting member

Mr. Green chaired the LVTS Technical Committee meeting.

MINUTES

Mr. Cotter moved for approval of the minutes from the February 29, 2016 LVTS Technical Committee meeting. Mr. Hopkins seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

TIP AMENDMENTS

Ms. Fields presented the TIP amendments. The TIP amendment is on page 5 (of 6) of the Fiscal Constraint Table (attached). The TIP amendment is for Route 222/Schantz/Route 863 Improvements.

A combination of final design, right-of-way and utilities cost increase make it an amendment. Ms. Fields explained the changes in the amendment.

Mr. Donchez asked if the funding for the cost increase are coming from the construction phase of the same project in future years and from the safety line item so this will have no impact on any other project. Ms. Fields confirmed this.

Mr. Cotter moved to approve the TIP amendment. Mr. Hopkins seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Draft Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

Mr. Kinney presented the draft *Unified Planning Work Program (UPW)* (attached). It is our work program and is in essence our contract with the State for planning projects. It runs on a two year cycle and we are in the middle of updating that program for the next two years.

Mr. Kinney said the UPWP is a bi-annual work program identifying the planning priorities that will be carried out within the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). These are the activities we will conduct over the next two years. The UPWP includes a description of the planning work and the resulting products in the form of deliverables. MPOs are required to develop UPWPs under Federal law. The Lehigh Valley UPWP utilizes the State procedural guidance to put it together to insure that all state and federal elements are included. The Lehigh Valley UPWP also has our deliverables as it relates to work tasks for federal, state and local funding sources. We receive funds from the state that goes towards the UPWP contract and we deliver the projects in anticipation of that funding source.

Mr. Kinney reviewed details of the current UPWP with the Technical Committee. The updated document has been streamlined into a table for the tasks: Task I – Administration; Task II – Public Information; Task III – Surveillance/Asset Management; Task IV – System Planning; Task V – TIP Development and Maintenance; and Task VI – Special Studies and LTAP.

Mr. Cotter moved to approve the Draft UPWP. Ms. Heller seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

Transportation Investments Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) Grant Update

Mr. Donchez said last year we submitted an application for funding under the Transportation Investments Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grant program. This is a national application where we compete with all other areas of the country for transportation improvements funding. The application last year for Riverside Drive from Allentown along the Lehigh River into Whitehall Township was not selected for funding. However, earlier this month, Ms. Bradley attended a meeting

at which she received a debriefing from the Federal Highway Administration on that application cycle to find out what some of the strengths were in our particular application and to find out what some of the weaknesses were. As a result of that we are going to re-apply for the TIGER grant through this cycle. The deadline for that is in April 2016. We will re-submit the application with revisions to strengthen our chances.

A discussion about how the grant came about followed. The application came about by the efforts between LVPC, Jaindl and PennDOT.

Transportation Alternatives Program Projects

Mr. Donchez said the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) has been a long standing program under various names over the years dating back to the early 1990s when it was called Transportation Enhancements. This is essentially the same program but called Transportation Alternatives Program. It provides funding to eligible applicants for off road trail and bike type transportation improvements. This round of funding was announced in November 2015. The application cycle opened November 2, 2015 and closed January 8, 2016. The Lehigh Valley allocation is \$1,270,000. That covers a two year period. We received over \$9,000,000 in applications for the funds. It will be a competitive application cycle. There are two aspects to TAP. The first is the local aspect which is the LVTS aspect which is \$1,270,000 and LVTS has sole discretion over how that is awarded. The second aspect is the statewide funding which is about \$9,000,000 available.

Mr. Donchez said in this cycle we will be considering projects for the \$1,270,000 in funding. Projects that are not awarded in the \$1,270,000 can then compete for the statewide funds.

Mr. Donchez said the application cycle closed January 8, 2016. PennDOT held a TAP kickoff webinar November 16, 2015. The LVPC followed that up on November 19, 2015 with a TAP kickoff meeting where we invited all potential applicants in learn about this TAP application cycle.

Mr. Donchez said there are evaluation criteria and eligibility criteria. For the local LVTS component of the TAP program there are four category/project components that we decided we were not going to award for funding. Those are: outdoor advertising; stormwater management; wildlife mortality; or vegetation management. They can still apply for the statewide TAP funding.

Mr. Donchez said we received 23 applications. Statewide there were 128 applications. We decided to invite the applicants to make presentations today so the committee can become more informed and give them an opportunity to ask questions. On April 6, 2016 the LVTS Coordinating Committee will meet and they will decide which applicants to award for funding for the \$1,270,000. The Technical Committee members in attendance today will be responsible for informing their Coordinating Committee counterparts. We will convene after the presentations to further discuss in depth the presentations. Some of the community members are not included because their communities have submitted applications.

Because we have 23 applications, it will be a long meeting and Mr. Green brought his timer. Everyone will be limited to five minutes. Mr. Green said presenters' sum up time will be at the one minute mark and you will see an orange flash. You will stop when the timer turns red.

The following applications were presented:

- Covered Bridge Rehabilitation, Lehigh County – presented by Steve Turoscy
- Bike Education, City of Allentown – presented by Kim Schaffer
- Streetscape Enhancements (trail and park connections), City of Allentown – presented by Steve Neratko and Jennifer McKenna
- Signalized Cross-Walk, Upper Macungie Township – presented by Scott Pasterski and Eric Erb
- Pedestrian Bridges, Upper Macungie Township – presented by Scott Pasterski and Eric Erb and Bryan Smith
- Jordan Creek Greenway Extension, South Whitehall Township – presented by Randy Cope
- Pedestrian Walkway (Safe Routes to School), Upper Saucon Township – presented by Tom Beil and Joe Geib
- Pedestrian/Bicycle Recreation Bridge, Upper Saucon Township – presented by Tom Beil and Joe Geib
- Streetscape Enhancements (lighting, trees, pavers, median), Macungie Borough – presented by Chris Boehm and Bryan Smith
- Streetscape Enhancements (crosswalks, lighting, trail extension), Cooperburg Borough – presented by Tim Paashaas and Ken Mohr
- Pedestrian/Bicycle Enhancements, Catasauqua Borough – presented by Eugene Goldfeder and Chad Helmer
- Fencing and Sidewalk Replacement, City of Easton – presented by Dave Hopkins
- Sidewalk Replacement, City of Easton – presented by Dave Hopkins
- Streetscape Enhancements (pedestrian ramps, crossings), Fountain Hill Borough – presented by Anthony Branco
- Trail Gap Connection, Northampton County – presented by Bryan Cope
- Trail Improvements (vegetation, gates, and signs), Northampton County – presented by Gordon Heller, Joanne Conley and Mike Policelli
- Crosswalk Replacement, City of Bethlehem – presented by Matthew Dorner
- Intersection Upgrades (crosswalks, ramps, ped signals), City of Bethlehem – presented by Tiffany Wells
- Radar Speed Detection Signage Units, Allen Township – presented by Ilene Eckhart
- Enhancements (bus shelters and sidewalks), Palmer Township – presented by Roger Mellon and AnnMarie Vigilante
- Bike Trail Safety Enhancements, Palmer Township – presented by Cindy Carman
- Rail Trail Resurface, Bethlehem Township – presented by Nathan Jones
- Streetscape Enhancements (ramps, crosswalks) and Traffic Signal, Pen Argyl Borough – presented by a representative of Pen Argyl Borough

CORRESPONDENCE

None.

COURTESY OF THE FLOOR

None. `

There being no further business, Mr. Green adjourned the LVTS Technical Committee.

Submitted by,

Alice Lipe for
Becky A. Bradley
LVTS Technical Committee

BAB:ajl
Finalized 04/20/16

Attachments: