



Lehigh Valley Transportation Study

MICHAEL REBERT
Chair, Coordinating Committee

CHRISTOPHER J. KUFRO, P.E.
Chair, Technical Committee

BECKY A. BRADLEY, AICP
Secretary,
Coordinating Committee +
Technical Committee

**Lehigh Valley Transportation Study
Minutes from the February 5, 2020
Joint Meeting of the LVTS Technical and Coordinating Committees
Lehigh Valley Planning Commission Office**

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Rebert. Mr. Rebert invited the attendees to introduce themselves.

Attendees

LVTS Technical Committee:

City of Allentown	Leonard Lightner (Alt.)
City of Bethlehem	Darlene Heller (Alt.)
City of Easton	Dave Hopkins (Atl.)
LANTA	Brendan Cotter
LNAA	Ryan Meyer
LVPC	Becky Bradley
PennDOT District 5	Chris Kufro

LVTS Coordinating Committee:

City of Allentown	Craig Messinger (Alt.)
City of Bethlehem	Mike Alkhal (Alt.)
City of Easton	Dave Hopkins (Alt.)
LANTA	Owen O'Neil
Lehigh County	Richard Molchany (Alt.)
LNAA	Thomas Stoudt
LVPC	Becky Bradley
Northampton County	Mike Emili (Alt.)
PennDOT Central	Brian Hare
PennDOT District 5	Michael Rebert

Absentee

LVTS Technical Committee:

PennDOT Central	Jim Mosca
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LVPC Staff Present:

Matt Assad
Michael Donchez
Charles Doyle
Carol Halper
Brian Hite
Simon Okumu
Tracy Oscavich

Public Present:

Eric Berg, John Caperilla, Sarah Cassi, Bob Elbich, George Kinney, Amanda Leindecker, Brian Miller, Gene Porochniak, Lee Rackus, Jen Ruth, Kim Schaffer, Tom Shortel, Scott Slingerland, Chris Stanford, Matt Szuchyt, Steve Turoscy

Minutes

Mr. Rebert stated that the minutes from the January 8, 2020 Joint LVTS Technical and Coordinating Committee Meeting are in the packet. For the Technical Committee, Mr. Kufro asked if there were any comments. Hearing none, Mr. Cotter made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Meyer seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

Mr. Rebert asked if there were any comments from the Coordinating Committee. There were none, so Mr. Messinger made a motion to approve the minutes, with a second from Mr. Hopkins. The minutes were approved.

Old Business

PennDOT District 5 Bridge Status Report

Mr. Kufro reviewed the handout in the packet. There were no comments or questions.

PennDOT District 5 Transportation Improvement Program Modifications

Ms. Ruth referred to the handout in the packet. She reviewed the two amendments to the TIP, concerning State Route 1004 Bridge over tributary to Oughoughton Creek and US 22 Resurfacing (15th Street to SR 309), that needed to be voted on by the committees. Mr. Kufro asked for questions or comments. Mr. Molchany asked for some clarification concerning the Route 22 Resurfacing Project. Mr. Rebert and Mr. Kufro confirmed that it is a series of bridges, not a single bridge and the funding for the project would come from the reserve line items on the TIP. Ms. Bradley made a motion to approve the amendments for the Technical Committee. Mr. Cotter seconded the motion, which was approved.

Mr. Rebert asked for questions or comments. Since there were none, Mr. Molchany made a motion to approve the amendments. Mr. Emili seconded the motion, which passed.

Transportation Improvement Program Schedule (TIP)

Mr. Doyle reminded the committees that the 2021-2024 TIP was forwarded to Central Office after formal motions were voted on and passed by both committees in January. The goal is to have the approval of the LVTS at the June 3rd Joint Meeting. Prior to that, there will be a public comment period after the agencies' approvals, possibly from April 1st to May 1st.

FutureLV: The Regional Plan

Ms. Bradley brought to the attention of the committees that the final copy of *FutureLV: The Regional Plan* was provided with the packet of each voting member of the committees. It will be a few more weeks until more copies are available.

New Business

Transit Planning & FutureLV: The Regional Plan

Mr. O'Neil made a presentation regarding LANta's transit network and *FutureLV: The Regional Plan*. He reviewed the vital role transit plays within the region. The presentation included highlights of transit planning over the last ten years, with the development of the transit network and the needs going forward. Ms. Bradley added that as an after-action, as related to *FutureLV*, LANta and LVPC are planning to meet with communities on the Enhanced Bus/Bus Rapid Transit line to discuss where opportunities are, where existing density is and move towards implementation.

Draft PennDOT 2020 Public Participation Plan Public Comment Period

Mr. Hare referred to the handout in the packet which is the press release that went out when the public comment period commenced on January 27, 2020. This was the start of the 45-day public comment period which will close on March 11th. Mr. Hare noted that every few years, PennDOT updates its Public Participation Plan and is committed to outreach with the public regarding the Statewide Transportation Plan. Citizens can read the document and make comments on-line at www.PennDOT.gov/PublicParticipation. There are also hard copies located at specific sites, including the LVPC office and the district offices. Comments can be left there as well.

Walk/RollLV: Active Transportation Public Comment

Mr. Doyle reported that the comments received during the public comment period are being reviewed. The LVPC received approximately 150 comments covering a myriad of topics from about 35 individuals. The LVPC staff is working with consultants to integrate the comments into the two year plan.

Title VI Environmental Justice Workshop

Mr. Donchez reported that on January 23rd, PennDOT held the first of three statewide workshops regarding Environmental Justice (EJ). They discussed how transportation impacts the minority and low income populations and the need to comply with Federal regulations. An EJ analysis has to be done as part of the updates of both the Transportation Improvement Program and the Long Range Transportation Plan. Mr. Doyle added that our region is a highlighted example of best practices, exceeding the minimum requirements.

Transportation Research Board Annual Meeting + Presentation Review

Ms. Bradley stated that the LVPC was invited by Federal Highway Administration to make a presentation to the Transportation Research Board at a conference in Washington DC. regarding freight and the impact in the Lehigh Valley. They presented alongside the Atlanta Regional Commission, as they are moving away from just looking at urban freight issues and starting to look at suburban freight and the larger impacts on rural and suburban areas. There are two research projects which include the Lehigh Valley. Mr. Doyle added that there were about 13,000 people in attendance at the TRB Annual Meeting, many of which have some of the same issues the Lehigh Valley is dealing with. Many topics were covered and partnerships were created which will be beneficial as we move forward.

Statewide Truck Parking Update

Mr. Hare explained that a freight working group was developed at Central Office about two years ago. In 2018, the LVPC helped support an Eastern Freight Summit which had an emphasis on truck parking. Out of the summit, PennDOT created a truck parking team. The consultant support team has expertise in truck parking and has worked with FHWA. PennDOT is planning to update the *State Freight Plan*, which will include truck parking, and has participated in truck parking roundtables, with a roundtable event expected to be in the Lehigh Valley later this year. There will also, hopefully, be another freight summit later in the year.

Communication + Correspondence

None

Public Engagement and Participation

Mr. Assad brought to the members' attention the brochure at their seats detailing the upcoming programs being held at the LVPC, including WorkshopLV: Freight. Ms. Bradley pointed out the WorkshopLV: Housing meeting being held on February 13th. Mr. Hite reviewed the upcoming LTAP meetings. Mr. Rebert mentioned two flyers in the packet detailing events regarding the Bridge Preservation Partnership, October 5th to 7th and Autonomous Vehicle Summit, October 26th to 28th.

Courtesy of the Floor

Mr. Rebert asked again if anyone had any comments. Mr. Molchany noted that there was 100% participation from both committees at today's meeting.

Adjourn

Mr. Molchany made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Mr. Hopkins. Mr. Rebert adjourned.

Submitted by,
Becky Bradley, AICP, LVTS Secretary and
Carol Halper, Senior Advisor