



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 Wednesday, October 7, 2020
Joint Technical and Coordinating Committee Meeting
DUE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC THIS MEETING WAS HELD VIA
WEB AND/OR CALL

Prior to the meeting being called to order, Mr. Doyle stated that the agenda and materials for this meeting were posted on the LVPC website. He provided directions on how to participate in the virtual meeting and the protocol to allow the meeting to flow smoothly. Mr. Doyle also mentioned that this meeting was advertised in the Morning Call on October 2, 2020, as well as the LVPC website and social media outlets. He explained the procedure for public participants to ask questions or make comments. Ms. Bradley reviewed the meeting agenda.

Mr. Rebert welcomed the members and the public participants. He then called the meeting to order and asked Ms. Bradley to take attendance.

Attendees:

LVTS Technical Committee

City of Allentown	Leonard Lightner (Alt)
City of Bethlehem	Darlene Heller (Alt)
City of Easton	Dave Hopkins (Alt)
LANta	Brendan Cotter
LNAA	Ryan Meyer
LVPC	Becky Bradley
PennDOT Central Office	James Mosca
PennDOT District 5	Chris Kufro

LVTS Coordinating Committee

City of Allentown	Craig Messinger (Alt)
City of Easton	Dave Hopkins (Alt)
City of Bethlehem	Michael Alkhal (Alt)
LANta	Owen O'Neill
Lehigh County	Rick Molchany (Alt)
LNAA	Tom Stoudt
LVPC	Becky Bradley
Northampton County	Michael Emili (Alt)
PennDOT Central Office	Brian Hare
PennDOT District 5	Michael Rebert

LVPC Staff Participants

Matt Assad
Charles Doyle
Carol Halper
Brian Hite

Simon Okumu
Bethany Vazquez

Mr. Rebert asked members of the public to state their names.

Public Participants

David Alas, Rick Ames, Megan Beste, Jennifer Crobak, Ralph Eberhart, Amanda Leindecker, Jeff Rai, Jen Ruth, Kim Schaffer, Scott Slingerland and Matt Szuchyt

Courtesy of the Floor

Mr. Rebert opened the floor to the public participants who wished to comment or ask questions about an issue not on the agenda. Hearing none, he moved on to the minutes.

Minutes

Mr. Kufro stated that the minutes from the September 2, 2020 LVTS Technical Committee Meeting were in the packet. Mr. Kufro asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Cotter made a motion and Mr. Meyer seconded it. Mr. Kufro asked if there were any questions or comments; hearing none, he asked Ms. Bradley for an abbreviated roll call vote. Before the roll call vote, Ms. Bradley read the results of the roll call votes from the September 2, 2020 meeting, then conducted an abbreviated roll call. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Mr. Rebert stated that the minutes from July 15, 2020 LVTS Joint Technical and Coordinating Committee Meeting were in the packet. Mr. Rebert asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Molchany made a motion to approve the minutes, with a second from Mr. O'Neill. Mr. Rebert asked if there were any questions or comments. Hearing none, he asked Ms. Bradley for an abbreviated roll call vote. Ms. Bradley read the roll call votes from the July 15, 2020 meeting, then conducted an abbreviated roll call. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Old Business

PennDOT District 5 Highway Status Report

Mr. Kufro reviewed the Highway Status Report with the Committees. He asked if there were any questions or comments from the voting members or from the public participants. No comments or questions were posed.

PennDOT District 5-0 Transportation Improvement Program Modifications

Ms. Ruth stated that since the July 15, 2020 Technical and Coordinating Committee Meeting, there were thirty-one District 5-0 Actions, one Statewide Administration Action and two Amendments. Ms. Rebert stated that on August 18, 2020, the members of the Technical and Coordinating Committees received an email ballot request for two TIP Amendments, the first for the 309 Tilghman Street Final Design Amendment and the second for the Hill to Hill Bridge Preliminary Engineering Amendment. These Amendments were previously voted upon and motioned for approval, with no actions required at this time.

Traffic Counts and COVID-19 Impacts

Mr. Hite reviewed the impacts COVID-19 and Tropical Isaias on traffic counts. The report indicated that traffic levels have steadily returned to pre-pandemic conditions, with truck traffic numbers being higher than pre-pandemic levels.

State Transportation Improvement Program Status Update

Mr. Hare reported that the State Transportation Improvement Program was adopted by the State Transportation Commission.

New Business

PennDOT Temporary Personnel Reassignments

Mr. Rebert reported that he has been temporarily reassigned as District Executive to District 6. This reassignment should last about nine months; therefore, he will have to resign as the Chair of the LVTS Coordinating Committee. The LVTS Bylaws require that the floor be open for nominations. At this point, Mr. Rebert nominated Mr. Kufro, who will serve as the acting District 5-0 Executive, for the position of Chair of the Coordinating Committee. Mr. Kufro stated that if he is selected, this would leave the chairmanship of the Technical Committee open and that he would like to nominate Mr. Cotter as Chair of the Technical Committee and Mr. Mosca to fill the opening as Vice-Chair.

Ms. Bradley reviewed the current officers of both committees. Starting with coordinating Committee, Ms. Bradley reiterated that Mr. Rebert nominated Mr. Kufro as Chair. Mr. Molchany seconded the nomination. Mr. Kufro accepted the nomination. Mr. Rebert asked if there were any other nominations; there were none. The motion passed and Mr. Kufro was named the new Chair of the Coordinating Committee.

Moving on to Technical Committee Chair vacancy, Ms. Bradley reiterated that Mr. Kufro nominated Mr. Cotter as Chair of the Technical Committee. Mr. Hopkins seconded the nominations. Mr. Cotter accepted the nomination. Mr. Rebert asked if there were any other nominations; there were none. The motion passed and Mr. Cotter was named the new Chair of the Technical Committee.

Moving on to Technical Committee Vice Chair vacancy, Ms. Bradley reiterated that Mr. Kufro nominated Mr. Mosca as Vice Chair of the Technical Committee. Mr. Hopkins seconded the nominations. Mr. Mosca accepted the nomination. Mr. Rebert asked if there were any other nominations; there were none. The motion passed and Mr. Mosca was named the new Vice Chair of the Technical Committee.

LANTA Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan

Mr. Cotter presented information on the LANTA Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan, which can be found on page 39 of the October 7 LVTS packet and on the LVPC website. The deadline for this plan is December 31, 2020. Mr. Cotter noted that the plan has to be reviewed on an annual basis. The plan was approved by the LANTA Board of Directors in September.

CARES Act Grant Awards

Mr. Meyer reported on the CARES Act Grant Awards. The Airport Authority received 6.2 million dollars in CARES Act funding back in May. To date, LVIA has received 2.3 million of the granted 6.2 million dollars.

PennDOT Multimodal Transportation Fund Open Application Period

Mr. Doyle reported that in early September, PennDOT announced an opening round for the Multimodal Transportation Fund. Grant applications will be accepted by PennDOT through November 6, 2020. Mr. Doyle explained that this grant is different from the Department of

Community and Economic Development program. Mr. Doyle also noted that while the LVPC and LVTS encourage application to these grants, as an organization the LVPC is prohibited from sponsoring or directly support grant proposals due to the staff's affiliation with the LVTS MPO. Mr. Doyle concluded with a review of applicant requirements.

Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act Continuing Resolution Update

Ms. Beste, of Congresswoman's Susan Wild's office, presented an update on the FAST Act Continuing Resolution. The FAST Act Continuing Resolution has past and gives 13.6 billion dollars to the Highway Trust Fund for another year.

Communication + Correspondence

LANTA Comprehensive Operations Analysis

Mr. Cotter presented information on the LANTA Comprehensive Operations Analysis. As development is building along the Route 33 corridor, LANTA is taking an assessment of their services in Easton and all areas north of the Bethlehem Transportation Center. Community members can make a difference in their communities by filling out the LANTA survey at www.surveymonkey.com/r/Route33COA. The survey will be open through November 1, 2020.

Carol Halper's Retirement Announcement

Ms. Halper announced her retirement on October 15, 2020. Ms. Halper shared her sentiments with the board members.

Adjournment

Mr. Rebert asked if there was anything for the good of order. Hearing none, he asked for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Molchany made a motion to adjourn.

Submitted by,
Becky Bradley, AICP, LVTS Secretary and
Bethany Vazquez, Program Associate