



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, April 21, 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, Ms. Winton stated that the agenda and materials for this meeting were posted on the LVPC website. She provided directions on how to participate in the virtual meeting and the protocol to allow the meeting to flow smoothly. Ms. Winton also mentioned that this meeting was advertised in the Morning Call on December 30, 2020, as well as the LVPC website and social media outlets. She explained the procedure for public participants to ask questions or make comments and reviewed the meeting agenda.

Mr. Kufro welcomed the members and the public participants and called the meeting to order

Attendees:

LVTS Technical Committee

City of Allentown	Leonard Lightner (Alt)
City of Easton	Dave Hopkins (Alt)
LANta	Brendan Cotter
LVPC	Becky Bradley
PennDOT Central Office	James Mosca

LVTS Coordinating Committee

City of Allentown	Craig Messinger (Alt)
City of Easton	Dave Hopkins (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	Chris Kufro

LVPC Staff Participants

Matt Assad
Brian Hite
Simon Okumu
Jennifer Winton

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

Public Participants

Alan Meyers, Gerry Bogacz, Matthew Szuchyt, Marta Gabriel, Alison Conway, Brian Miller,

Kamlesh Asher, Ethan Baldwin, Jen Ruth, Scott Vottero, Jennifer Swann, Bill Lind, Brian Harman, Jeff Right, Bill Royer, Kevin Kalman, Megan Beste, Jim Brady, Heather Heeter, Kim Schaffer, Scott Slingerland, Ryan Rovkvic, Ralph Eberhardt, Gerry Bogacz, David Eschweiler, Sheila Alvarado, Andy Plank, Max Inkrote, Jim Milot, Kate McMahon, Lee Rackus and Amanda Leindecker.

Courtesy of the Floor

Mr. Kufro 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. Cotter stated that the minutes from the February 17, 2021 LVTS Technical Committee Meeting were in the packet. Mr. Cotter asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Mosca made a motion and Mr. Hopkins seconded it. Mr. Cotter asked if there were any questions or comments; hearing none, he asked Ms. Bradley for a call of votes. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Mr. Kufro stated that the minutes from February 17, 2021 LVTS Joint Technical and Coordinating Committee Meeting were in the packet. Mr. Kufro asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Molchany made a motion to approve the minutes, with a second from Mr. Messinger. Mr. Kufro asked if there were any questions or comments. Hearing none, he asked Ms. Bradley for a call of votes. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Old Business

ACTION ITEM: PennDOT Easter Region, Regional Operations Plan

Mr. Kufro detailed that PennDOT has developed a Regional Operation Plan (ROP). The regional operations plan is a set of combined methods that are used to accelerate the reliability and mobility of existing roadway infrastructure without increasing road capacity. It increases efficiency of the transportation system. The Lehigh Valley Transportation Study, is part of what PennDOT considers the Transportation Systems Management and Operations Eastern Region which consists of District 5 (which we are in) as well as Districts 8, Harrisburg and York areas, and District 4, the Poconos and Scranton/Wilkes-Barre region that makes up the regional operations plan. Mr. Kufro asked for a motion from the Technical Committee. Ms. Bradley made a motion to approve. Ms. Mosca seconded the motion. Mr. Kufro then asked for a motion from the Coordinating Committee Ms. Bradley made a motion. Mr. O'Neil seconded the motion. Mr. Kufro asked if any members of the public had any questions or comments, hearing none he asked Ms. Bradley to call for a vote. Ms. Bradley called for votes and the motion was approved.

PennDOT District 5-0 Highway Projects Report

Ms. Vottero detailed the Highway Projects Report which included US 22 Widening (C-C Frey) MPMS 96384. SR 29, Section of 04S Cedar Crest Blvd, Upgrade (C-R Prophet MPMS 110169. SR 145, Section MLT 7th Street Multimodal Corridor Project (C-R Prophet) MPMS 99697. SR 145, Section 14S Route 145 Signal Improvements (C-R Prophet) MPMS 110170. SR 145, Section 13S Route 145 Safety Improvements (C-M. Fallon) MPMS 109971. SR 309, Section 14M Betterment (C-M Fallon) MPMP 102312. SR 309, & Tilghman Interchange (k. Cox) MPMS 96432. SR 1004 Lehigh – Race Street. Intersection (K. Cox) MPMP 57433. SR 1017, Section 02S Mauch Chunk Signal Improvements (C-R. Prophet) MPMS 110174. Easton Two Way St.

Conversions (R. Rehnert) MPMS 102223. SR 22, Section 03M 22 from Farmersville Rd to 512 (C-M. McGuire) MPMS 110070. SR 248, Section 05S route 248 Realignment (C-M. McGuire) MPMS 86853. And SR 248, Section 06S Route 248 Signal Improvements (C-R. Prophet) MPMS 110176. Mr. Kufro asked if there were any questions. Mr. Hopkins asked on the 2 way conversion project you mentioned 2021 but did not mention the milestone. Mr. Vottero indicated that was for construction would be August in August. Ms. Gabriel asked where in Easton is the two way located. Mr. Vottero stated it was 2nd Street, Ferry Street and Spring Garden Street. Mr. Kufro asked if there were any more questions hearing none moved on to the next agenda item.

PennDOT Tip Program Administrative Actions

Ms. Ruth indicated that Administrative Actions can be found in the meeting packet from pages 18 through 21. There are a total of seven District 5-0 Administrative Actions and five Statewide Administrative Actions with zero Amendments proposed this month. Mr. Kufro asked if there were any questions or comments. Hearing none proceeded on to the next agenda item.

Freight Updates

Ms. Bradley provided details regarding freight in the Lehigh Valley and Eastern Pennsylvania. Further detailed that she will be making phone calls to get a planning session together to build an Industrial Decision Lens for groups of people working in the transportation industry to get relevant information regarding the Industrial market within the Lehigh Valley. The next item is the Freight Plan partnership; our Freight Plan was adopted in 2015 and our first ever. With 30 million square feet of new industrial product approved in the last five years and the pandemic which accelerated the Freight trends; therefore, the Freight Plan will need to be updated. We are working with our neighboring MPO's and putting together a proposal to create a joint freight plan. Freight Advisory Committee is pleased to report we will be kicking off our Safety Plan Update later this summer. Because components of the Safety Plan involve freight but also involve items reviewed by the Multimodal working groups and will put those groups together a mega group so stay tuned. Mr. Kufro asked if there were any questions or comments. Hearing none proceeded to the next agenda item.

New Business

INFORMATION ITEM: LANTA Transportation Improvement Program Administrative Actions.

Mr. Cotter detailed that all five items are Administrative Actions and not Amendments therefore no votes are necessary. These items can be found on page 22 of your meeting packet and Mr. Cotter asked if there were any questions or comments. Mr. Kufro asked again if there were any questions. Jennifer Swann asked when would we be voting on these improvement program amendments? Mr. Cotter stated that they do not meet the threshold requirements based on TIP Funding to be voted on therefore there will be no votes. Ms. Swann further asked how will we question or comment on these items. Mr. O'Neil stated these items are already approved by the TIP and it is basically moving dollars between approved projects and this would be the time to ask your questions. Ms. Swann asked Mr. O'Neil for a meeting at a later date to keep this meeting on target.

Recognition:

Scott Slingerland detailed the award that Coalition of the Appropriate Transportation presented to the LVPC for the *Walk/RollLV* program.

Governor's Award for Local Government Excellence for Innovative Planning + Sound Land Use Practices for *FutureLV: The Regional Plan*. Ms. Bradley stated the award details and read a statement from Dennis Davin Secretary of the Department of Community and Economic Development and thanked everyone from the Technical and Joint LVTS Committees as well as the fan club, municipal governments for their help in making that plan so great.

ACTION ITEM: Cancellation of May 19th Technical Committee Meeting to attend Awards Ceremony. Ms. Bradley stated that the awards ceremony is May 19th at 9:00 am; same time as the monthly LVTS meeting. Ms. Bradley made a motion and Mr. Mosca seconded the motion. Mr. Cottor asked if there were any questions; hearing none asked Ms. Bradley to call for votes. Ms. Bradley called for votes and the motion carries.

TASA Special Committee Meeting:

Mr. Kufro announced the TASA Special Committee Meeting on April 27th from 9-11:00 am. Mr. Mosca indicated that this meeting is the second round from the Transportation Alternative Set Aside. Mr. Kufro gave a brief statement regarding the meeting then asked for questions or comments.

New York Metropolitan Transportation Council Long-Range and Freight Plan Presentation:

Mr. Bogacz, Planning Director, NYMTC and Mr. Meyers, Principal WSP USA gave an informative presentation regarding the New York Metropolitan Transportation Council Long-Range and Freight Plan. Mr. Kufro asked if there are any questions or comments regarding the presentation and thanked them both for their time and presentation.

COVID-19 Pandemic Highway Traffic Monitoring

Mr. Okumu detailed the Covid-19 Traffic and noted we are now into the one-year overlap of the COVID-19 Pandemic Highway Traffic Monitoring at the LVPC. Mr. Okumu noted we are almost back to pre-pandemic traffic volumes and further noted the increased truck traffic. Mr. Kufro asked for questions, hearing none, proceeded to the next agenda item.

Public Engagement and Participation

Mr. Okumu reviewed the upcoming public participation opportunities with the Committee.

Adjournment

Mr. Kufro asked if there was anything for the good of order. Hearing none, indicated the next meeting would be June 16, 2021 at 9:00 am. Mr. Kufro asked for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Molchany made a motion to adjourn. Mr. O'Neil seconded, and the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by,
Becky Bradley, AICP, LVTS Secretary and
Jennifer Winton Executive Secretary