



LAMONT G. MCCLURE, JR.
Chair, Coordinating Committee

BRENDAN COTTER
Chair, Technical Committee

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

**Lehigh Valley Transportation Study
Minutes from the Wednesday, November 16, 2022
Technical 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. Milagio 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. The meeting was advertised in the Lehigh Valley Press on Wednesday January 5, 2022.

Mr. Brendan Cotter chaired the meeting.

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

Ms. Milagio took Roll Call.

Attendees:

Technical Committee

Brendan Cotter	LANTA
Ryan Meyer	LNAA
Becky Bradley, AICP	LVPC
Darlene Heller, AICP (Alt)	City of Bethlehem
David Hopkins (Alt)	City of Easton
Jennifer Ruth	PennDOT District 5
David Alas	PennDOT Central Office

Members Absent: Matt Tuerk, Mark Hartney, William Reynolds, Sal Panto

Staff Present: Matt Assad, Becky Bradley, Brian Hite, Hannah Milagio, Joey Dotta

Public Present: Nathaniel Mitchell, Michael Dee, Brian Miller, Phil Doherty, Scott Slingerland, Seemon Georges, Joshua Ortiz, Vanessa Koenigkramer, Heather Heeter, Amanda Leindecker, Scott Harney, Jen Crobak, Greg Shiffler, Michael Emili, Bernie Bydlon, Brian Harman, Ralph Eberhardt, Sarah Cassi

Courtesy of the Floor

Mr. Cotter opened the floor for public comments not included on the agenda, and there were none.

Minutes

Mr. Cotter stated that the last Technical Committee was held jointly with the Coordinating Committee on August 17, 2022. Ms. Milagio noted the actions voted on.

- Minutes from the September 21, 2022, meeting
- Adjournment

Mr. Cotter asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the Technical Committee Meeting on October 26, 2022. Mr. Alas made the motion for approval of the Technical Committee Meeting minutes, seconded by Mr. Meyer. Mr. Cotter asked for any questions or comments from the members and the public. Hearing

none, Mr. Cotter asked Ms. Bradley to call for a vote. The motion carried, with one abstention from Ms. Heller and the rest of the members voting in the affirmative.

Old Business

PRESENTATION ITEM: PennDOT District 5-0 Bridge Status Report

Mr. Cotter highlighted the PennDOT District 5 TASA and Multimodal Projects Status Report in the meeting packet, and noted that Ms. Ruth was going to review those projects. These include:

- Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, City of Allentown
- Two Rivers Trail Gap 9A, Northampton County
- Coalition for Appropriate Transportation Bike Education
- Bogert's Bridge Rehabilitation, City of Allentown
- Coopersburg Streetscape Phase 6, Borough of Coopersburg
- 100 Steps Restoration Project, Borough of Slatington
- Jordan Creek Greenway in Covered Bridge Park, South Whitehall Township
- Ironton Rail-Trail Crosswalk Improvements, North Whitehall Township
- Pedestrian Safety Project Phase 3, Lafayette College, City of Easton
- Hamilton Boulevard, Lower Macungie Township
- SR 873 & Walnut Street Improvements, Borough of Slatington
- Wood Avenue, City of Easton
- Iron Works Catasauqua Streetscape, Borough of Catasauqua
- Wilson Borough Improvements, Borough of Wilson
- Air Products Global Headquarters, Upper Macungie Township
- 15th Street Traffic Signal Improvements, City of Allentown
- SR 222 and Grange Road, Upper Macungie Township
- S. Church and Hickory Street Connections, Borough of Macungie

Ms. Ruth asked if there were any questions on the projects described. Mr. Cotter asked if the funds returned by Lower Macungie Township for the Hamilton Boulevard project would be returned to the region for reallocation. Ms. Ruth stated that, because the Hamilton Boulevard project is a multimodal project, the funds would be returned to the Central Office pot and would not be returned to the region. Mr. Cotter asked if there were any more questions from members and the public and there were none.

PRESENTATION ITEM: PennDOT District 5-0 Transportation Improvement Administrative Actions

Ms. Ruth noted that, from October 14 – November 4, 2022, there were 2 statewide and 3 District 5 administrative actions. Ms. Ruth asked if there were any questions on the administrative actions and there were none.

INFORMATION ITEM: Lehigh Valley Passenger Rail Study Project Update

Ms. Bradley provided an update on the Lehigh Valley Passenger Rail Study. She noted that PennDOT is finalizing its internal review for the work order. Ms. Bradley reminded attendees that the Passenger Rail Analysis will study the potential for a route connecting the Lehigh Valley and Philadelphia, and for a route connecting the Lehigh Valley and Northern New Jersey. She also shared that this study will be conducted at the level needed to determine eligibility for federal funding. Mr. Cotter asked if there were any questions or comments and there were none.

INFORMATION ITEM: Monthly Traffic Report

Mr. Hite noted that, in August, there was an expected uptick in traffic across the four continuous traffic counters collecting volume data. Route 22 between Airport Road and the Lehigh River Bridge showed 106,282 vehicles at the end of October. Route 33 near Route 248 registered 81,444 vehicles. Interstate 78 near Route 309 reported 72,481 vehicles, and Route 309 near Coopersburg in Lehigh County had 39,749 vehicles. Mr. Hite stated that two counters collect classification data which showed commercial

trucks. Interstate 78 near 309 had 22,336, and Route 22 had 13,848 trucks. Mr. Cotter asked if there were any questions and there were none.

New Business

INFORMATION ITEM: Public Engagement and Participation

Mr. Assad shared that the most recent Plan Lehigh Valley radio show focused on climate action with Northampton County Commissioner Tara Zrinski and LVPC Regional Planner Julie Benco. The conversation focused on the Regional Greenhouse Gas Inventory and the steps Northampton County is taking to protect the environment including farmland, park land, and open space preservation. The show is now streaming at www.wdiy.org.

Mr. Assad congratulated Adrian Chavez of Nazareth Area High School and Siddhant Khandelwal of Parkland High School for being chosen to participate in Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful's Young Ambassador Program.

Mr. Hite reviewed the upcoming virtual classes through the Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP). Upcoming classes include Guiderrails (December 1, virtual, 11 AM – noon), Winter Maintenance (December 7, South Whitehall Township, 9 AM – noon), Bridge and Culvert Inspections for Municipalities (December 13, virtual, 8 AM – 11 AM), Roadway Resurfacing and the ADA (January 5, 2023, virtual, 11 AM – noon), and Erosion and Sediment (January 24, 2023, virtual, 8 AM – noon). All are free and anyone can sign up at lvpc.org/ltap or contact Brian Hite.

Adjournment

Mr. Cotter stated that the next Technical Committee meeting will be held during the next Joint Technical and Coordinating Committee meeting on December 21, 2022 at 9 AM. Ms. Heller made a motion to adjourn and Ms. Bradley seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.