

**DRAFT
LANCASTER COUNTY
TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TTAC)
MINUTES**

DATE: February 8, 2010

PLACE: 150 North Queen Street, First Floor, Lancaster, PA 17603

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ray D'Agostino (Chairperson)	Lancaster County Planning Commission
Ralph Hutchison (Vice Chairperson)	Lancaster Inter-municipal Committee
John Ahlfeld	Lancaster County Transportation Authority
David Greineder	Chamber of Commerce
Jeff Glisson	Red Rose Transit Authority
Michael Ridgeway	Bike/Ped Advisory Committee
Dennis Groff	Lancaster County Planning Commission
Leo Lutz	Lancaster County Planning Commission
Nate Bomberger	State Representative Sturla's Office
Dennis Sloand	PennDOT District 8-0
Walt Panko	PennDOT Central Office
Rob Ruth	City of Lancaster
Austin Bieler	Lancaster Airport Authority

GUESTS:

Roni Ryan	Elizabethtown Borough
Mark Stivers	East Hempfield Township
Chris May	Herbert ,Roland & Grubic, Inc.
Lisa Riggs	James Street Improvement District
Bernie Harris	Lancaster Newspapers
Doug Plank	ELA Group, Inc.
Roy Baldwin	McCormick Taylor

STAFF:

James Cowhey	Executive Director LCPC
Dave Royer	Director for Transportation Planning
Carol Palmoski	Senior Transportation Planner
Lauri Ahlskog	Senior Transportation Planner
Harriet Parcels	Senior Transportation Planner
Farah Sadiq	Administrative Secretary
Carey Mullins	PennDOT District 8-0
Paula Jackson	City of Lancaster
Jonathan Crum	Federal Highway Administration
Brandy Heilman	Commuter Services of PA

1. Call to Order:

Chairperson Ray D'Agostino called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m.

2. Minutes of November 9, 2009 Meeting:

Mr. Hutchison made a motion to approve the minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Mr. Groff and passed unanimously.

3. Membership Changes:

Mr. D'Agostino mentioned that the Lancaster County Planning Commission Chair has already nominated me (Ray D'Agostino), Dennis Groff and Leo Lutz. The Lancaster County Planning Commission also nominated Roni Ryan, Elizabethtown Borough Manager as the non Lancaster Inter-Municipal Committee member. The Transportation Citizen Advisory Committee nominated Beth Hinkle from Upper Leacock Township and Chris Snyder as her alternate. He also said that these nominations would become appointments when acknowledged by the MPO Chair at its meeting on February 22, 2010.

Mr. D'Agostino welcomed new member Bob Ruth, Lancaster City Engineer, who is now the City's voting member on TTAC.

4. 2009 TIP Modifications:

Mr. Panko offered two amendments to the transit TIP. The first one relates to the regular federal FTA funding the Department receives - \$9.8 million per year for operation of Amtrak's Keystone Service from Harrisburg to Philadelphia. For the last three years PennDOT has accumulated that money and now plans to apply \$20.29 million of federal 5307 funds and \$5.2 million of state Act 44 funds to all phases of the improvement of the Mount Joy Amtrak Station. The project is anticipated to be let in late 2010.

Mr. Hutchison made a motion to amend the TIP by adding all phases of the Mount Joy Amtrak Station improvements to it. The motion was seconded by Mr. Glisson and was approved unanimously.

Mr. Panko then discussed Governor Rendell's press release in which he released \$25.6 million of federal stimulus funds to continue improvements to the Amtrak Keystone Corridor between Philadelphia and Harrisburg. Closure of all three remaining at-grade crossings (all in Lancaster County) on the 105 mile corridor will be fully or partially funded with these stimulus funds.

Mr. Groff made a motion to recommend adding the federal funds to the TIP for these at grade crossing elimination projects and the motion was seconded by Mr. Hutchison and passed unanimously.

Mr. Panko reviewed the other administrative actions.

5. 2010-2011 Transportation Planning Work Program:

Mr. Royer reported that the UPWP draft for next fiscal year is similar to the current years and that funding has not changed for three years. The UPWP provides \$33,000 in federal funds to RRTA for transit planning work. The total amount of funding is \$476,000. These funds are to be used to cover LCPC and RRTA support staff costs of our transportation planning program. No special study funding is being requested this year. The City Cordon study task has been eliminated. We still have a pending special study (development of a county traffic signal program) funded in this years UPWP which we plan on moving forward soon. There was some discussion of using special study funds for the work of the Smart Transportation Task Force which will meet for the first time next week.

Mr. Hutchison made a motion to recommend approval of the UPWP to the MPO. Mr. Glisson seconded. Mr. D'Agostino and Mr. Ridgeway voted against it.

6. PA 896 Corridor Study:

Mr. Chris May of HRG gave a brief overview of the PA 896 Corridor Study (US 30 to Strasburg Borough). He explained various aspects of the study including: the existing transportation system, existing and future traffic analysis, bridge analysis, improvements and recommendations as well as access management recommendations. He further mentioned that federal earmark funds are available for improvements in the corridor and could be used to advance two high priority recommendations (Rockvale Road intersection signalization and shoulder widening on the Pequea Creek Bridge). Mr. Lutz made a motion to recommend endorsement of the study. Mr. Groff seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

7. Smart Transportation Scrapbook:

Harriet Parcels explained that the scrapbook was a follow-up project from two successful Smart Transportation workshops held on October 7, 2009 by LCPC and PennDOT. The scrapbook opens with a definition of smart transportation and the principles behind it. It then presents, in largely pictorial format, examples of ten categories of smart transportation projects in the county, including; greater road connectivity, transit and Amtrak station improvements, bicycle and pedestrian projects, support of smart growth mixed use developments and others. She asked the members to review and comment on the scrapbook by February 15th. The scrapbook will be a useful resource for municipal officials, planners and other interested individuals.

8. 2011-2014 TIP Update:

Mr. Royer spoke about a map of local initiative intersection and local bridge project candidates contained in the mailing, and indicated some would likely show up on the draft TIP. He said LCPC staff added a couple Harrisburg Pike improvements that are awaiting word on the TIGER grant application which we will be hearing about it on next Wednesday the 17th. He mentioned the multi-use path from the City to Long's Park and the intersection improvement of Harrisburg Pike at North President and Dillerville Road.

These are high priority projects in the moving smarter study. Six traffic signals corridor coordination projects are also being considered for the draft TIP. He said we will have the final draft TIP ready for the April meeting for release for public review and comment, with the final TIP approval anticipated in June.

Mr. Panko mentioned that we have been working with the Red Rose Transit on its TIP.

9. Updates and announcements:

County ITS Project Update: Mr. Sloand gave a power point presentation about the proposed 26 CCTV cameras, 6 highway advisory radio transmitters and 11 message boards – the ITS plan for the county’s limited access highway system. The current economic recovery project installed two cameras (US 30 @ PA 283 and US 30 @ PA 501). Act 44 funding of \$ 1.8 will be used to install 11 additional cameras later this year on locations on US 30, US 222 and PA 283. Service patrols may be considered in the future, and have proven very useful in Harrisburg.

Transportation Authority: Mr. Ahlfeld gave an update on the Lancaster Amtrak Station renovation project. It now includes a privately funded public art component. The artist will be selected by the end of this month who will work on the art component.

Aesthetic and art enhancements for the Lititz pike bridge project were on the authority’s last agenda. He said there will be a letter of recommendation to the MPO Chair and District Executive encouraging this component of the bridge project.

The improvements of the traffic signalization on four corridors are completed and include: the Lititz Pike, Rohrerstown Road, Columbia Avenue and Centerville Road. The Authority will be working on similar projects on the Harrisburg Pike and on PA 230 through Mount Joy Borough. Signal improvements are also under design on the Manheim Pike from the City through East Petersburg.

Amtrak Station: Roni Ryan mentioned that the project is well underway and on schedule.

Transportation Enhancement Projects: Ms Ahlskog reported on the status of transportation enhancement projects. She stated that for the Heritage Trail Bike Path in Manheim Township was re-bid and the new bid was approved. She further gave a brief overview on the City projects and Station Plaza of Downtown Ephrata, Bird in Hand Village Streetscape and Roadway Improvements, Columbia Safe Routes to Schools project, Center Square Renovations in Elizabethtown and Manheim Railroad Station Enhancements.

Commuter Services of PA: Brandy Heilman reported on the study of origins and destinations of its database members and the annual database cleansing cycle.

Mr. Royer reported that 66 traffic signalization LED conversions in 18 municipalities will begin soon using federal DOE stimulus funding and some municipal match funding.

10. Other Business:

There was a roadway functional classification technical correction proposed by Mr. Royer for the Colonel Howard Boulevard/ Spur Road (SR 1040) from local to principal arterial. Mr. Panko pointed out that at least part of it should probably be a “minor arterial”. Mr. Hutchison made the motion to recommend approving a correction which would add it to the federal aid system and a second was made by Mr. Groff and passed unanimously.

Adjournment: Mr. D’Agostino adjourned the meeting at 2:34 p.m.