

**Centre County Metropolitan Planning Organization (CCMPO)
Coordinating Committee Meeting**

Tuesday, May 22, 2007

6:00 pm

College Township Municipal Building

AGENDA

- 1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance**
- 2. Approval of Minutes:** *April 24, 2007 Coordinating Committee meeting*
- 3. Citizens' Comments:** *For items not on the agenda*
- 4. Member Reports:** *(Please note that this is a new item!)*
Report about a significant transportation-related item(s) from each member (approximately 1 minute)
No action required
- 5. Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan:**
Adoption of Coordinated Plan
Action: Adopt Coordinated Plan
- 6. State Funding for Pennsylvania's Transportation System:**
Comments from CCMPO
Action: Approve comments for Governor Ed Rendell and state legislators
- 7. 2007-2010 Centre County Transportation Improvement Program (TIP):**
TIP Administrative Actions
No action required
- 8. Announcements**
- 9. Adjourn**

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ITEM 4

MEMBER REPORTS

Significant Transportation-Related Item(s) of Interest

On March 27, 2007, the MPO Performance Review Committee provided a status report about its recent activities to the Coordinating Committee. The report noted that several actions will be implemented to improve information sharing and communication relative to MPO activities. One action is to include a “member report” on the MPO agendas, for representatives to briefly report on transportation-related items of interest within their organization, municipality, or planning region (voting and non-voting members).

Committee members are asked to limit their reports to a significant transportation-related item(s) of interest. The reports should be approximately one minute in length. In the future, the Committee may revisit how the member report item is structured on the agenda (e.g. length of time; should the report be on every agenda, etc.).

Voting members of the Coordinating Committee include:

Centre County	Chris Exarchos
Centre County	John Saylor
Benner Township	John Elnitski
College Township	Dan Klees
Ferguson Township	George Pytel
Halfmoon Township	Bob Neff
Harris Township	Chris Lee
Patton Township	Jeff Luck
Spring Township	Frank Royer
State College Borough	Elizabeth Goreham
Penns Valley Planning Region	Bob Corman
Lower Bald Eagle Valley Planning Region	Tom Poorman
Upper Bald Eagle Valley Planning Region	Jadine Reese
Moshannon Valley Planning Region	Jack Shannon
Mountaintop Planning Region	John Yecina
Centre Area Transportation Authority	John Spsychalski
Centre Regional Planning Commission	Ron Buckalew
PennDOT Central Office (Harrisburg)	Tom TenEyck
PennDOT District 2-0 Office (Clearfield)	Kevin Kline

Non-voting members of the Coordinating Committee include:

Bellefonte Borough	Frank Halderman
Pennsylvania State University	Rob Cooper
Federal Highway Administration	Matt Smoker
Federal Transit Administration	Karen Roscher

Presented by: Committee members

No action required

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ITEM 5

COORDINATED PUBLIC TRANSIT - HUMAN SERVICES TRANSPORTATION PLAN

Draft Coordinated Plan

The CCMPO's FY 2006-07 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) includes supplemental planning funds to prepare a Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan. The "Coordinated Plan" must be adopted by the CCMPO in order for eligible project sponsors such as CATA and the Centre County Office of Transportation (CCOT) to access federal funds from the Jobs Access Reverse Commute (low income individuals, reverse commuters), New Freedom (persons with disabilities), and Section 5310 (senior citizens) programs.

In January 2007, PennDOT's Bureau of Public Transportation (BPT) established a deadline of May 31, 2007 for MPOs to adopt and submit Coordinated Plans, in order to ensure that all transit operators are eligible to receive federal funds in the current fiscal year. Recognizing the compressed timeframe for this activity, the BPT directed that Coordinated Plans be focused on candidate projects already included in adopted Long Range Transportation Plans and Transportation Improvement Programs.

Staff provided presentations about the Coordinated Plan to the CCMPO in March and April. In March, the Coordinating Committee authorized the formation of a stakeholder advisory committee, which held three meetings in May to provide input about the Coordinated Plan.

Tuesday, May 1, 2007
State College Borough Municipal Building

Thursday, May 10, 2007
Central Pennsylvania Institute of Science and Technology (CPI)

Thursday, May 17, 2007
6:00 – 9:00 pm
Rush Township Municipal Building

Based on the guidance received from BPT, staff prepared a draft Coordinated Plan that was advertised for a 30-day public comment period which began on April 20 and concluded on May 18. The focus of the draft Plan is the socioeconomic data used to identify target populations, and potential candidate projects from the CCMPO's adopted LRTP and TIP and strategic plans of transportation providers. A copy of the draft Coordinated Plan was circulated to the Technical and Coordinating Committees in late April.

Because of the compressed timeframe and deadline, two of the three stakeholder advisory committee meetings were held following the Technical Committee's May 9 meeting. Thus, the Technical Committee was not able to provide a formal recommendation to the Coordinating Committee about adoption of a Coordinated Plan.

(Continued)

Using comments and input provided by the Technical Committee and the stakeholder advisory committee, final recommendations for the Coordinated Plan have been developed and will be presented to the Coordinating Committee at the meeting. Staff will also report about any comments received during the public input period. No public comments were received as of May 15, 2007.

The Coordinating Committee should receive the staff presentation about the final recommendations for the Coordinated Plan, and take action to adopt a Coordinated Plan.

Refinements to the Coordinated Plan may be made after May 31, 2007, with additional work to be closely linked with the completion of the CATA/CCOT assessment of public transportation services. Supplemental planning funds for the CATA/CCOT assessment were approved in the FY 2007-08 UPWP.

Presented by: Greg Kausch, CRPA

Action: Adopt the Coordinated Public Transit - Human Services Transportation Plan.

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ITEM 6

STATE FUNDING FOR PENNSYLVANIA'S TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM

Comments from CCMPO

In 2005, highway funds were flexed to public transportation operators across Pennsylvania, including CATA, to address shortfalls in transit funding. At the same time, additional funding was made available for highway and bridge projects. In response to the shortfall of funding for public transportation and the growing need for highway and bridge improvements, Governor Ed Rendell established a "Transportation Funding and Reform Commission (TFRC)" to provide recommendations about how to address the state transportation funding issues.

In November 2006, the TFRC released a final report entitled *Investing in Our Future: Addressing Pennsylvania's Transportation Funding Crisis* to the Governor and state legislators. The report included several recommendations about increasing state funding for transportation projects and programs. On February 6, 2007, Governor Rendell responded with a plan to address state funding for the Commonwealth's transportation system as part of his annual budget address.

On February 27, 2007, MPO staff provided an overview of the TFRC's recommendations and the Governor's proposal to the Coordinating Committee. On March 20, 2007, several Coordinating Committee members attended a public forum at which Governor Rendell reviewed his funding proposal. At its April 24, 2007 meeting, the Coordinating Committee agreed to consider comments in May that could be provided to the Governor and state legislators about the various proposals and recommendations to increase state transportation funding.

The Coordinating Committee Chair and Vice-Chair and MPO staff have prepared the following attachments:

- Draft correspondence to Governor Rendell and state legislators representing Centre County.
- List of discussion topics intended to guide the Coordinating Committee in the development of comments that could be attached to the correspondence.

Also attached is:

- Overview of Governor Rendell's proposal

The Coordinating Committee should review the draft correspondence and discussion topics, and consider whether to provide correspondence and comments to the Governor and legislators.

Presented by: Tom Zilla, CRPA

Action: Approval of correspondence and comments to be provided to Governor Ed Rendell and state legislators about state transportation funding proposals.

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ITEM 7

2007-2010 CENTRE COUNTY TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP)

TIP Administrative Actions

The 2007-2010 Centre County TIP was adopted by the CCMPO in July 2006, and became effective on October 1, 2006 following approval by the Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration. The CCMPO approved amendments to the TIP in November 2006 and January 2007.

The CCMPO's adopted *Procedures for TIP Modifications* permits project sponsors to complete certain TIP administrative actions without requiring formal approval by the Coordinating Committee. The Procedures specify that the administrative actions be reported to the CCMPO Committees for information purposes.

Staff will briefly review the attached list of the administrative actions that have been taken by PennDOT and CATA. The majority of the administrative actions are focused on efforts to advance the Route 504 (Business Route 220) Betterment project near the Village of Wingate in Boggs Township to construction.

Presented by: Tom Zilla, CRPA
PennDOT District 2-0

No action required

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ITEM 8

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Future Meeting Dates
 - a. Technical Committee: Wednesday, June 13, 2007, 9:30 am
College Twp. Municipal Building
 - ⇒ CCMPO Public Participation Plan (PPP)
 - ⇒ Centre County LRTP 2007 Update
 - ⇒ 2009-2012 Centre County TIP
 - b. Coordinating Committee: Tuesday, June 26, 2007, 6:00 pm
College Twp. Municipal Building
 - ⇒ Adopt CCMPO PPP
 - ⇒ Adopt Centre County LRTP 2007 Update
 - ⇒ 2009-2012 Centre County TIP
2. Attached is correspondence from John Yecina, the Mountaintop Planning Region representative, announcing his resignation from the CCMPO Coordinating Committee effective May 30, 2007. On behalf of the MPO staff and the Coordinating Committee members, we express our appreciation to Mr. Yecina for his service. Mr. Kenneth Hall, a Snow Shoe Township resident, has been nominated to represent the Mountaintop region on the Coordinating Committee. The municipalities in the Mountaintop Region are currently considering the nomination.
3. Attached is correspondence from Rush Township requesting the CCMPO to incorporate a proposed interchange on Interstate 80 that would serve an industrial park and landfill into the Centre County Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) and Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). (*An 11" x 17" map attached to the correspondence has been provided to Coordinating Committee members only*). In March 2006, the Coordinating Committee approved a motion to not consider a request by Rush Township to add the interchange to the LRTP until the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) issued a permit for the landfill.
4. The 2007 Update of the Centre County LRTP was advertised for a 30-day public comment period, which began on April 30, 2007 and will conclude at 5:00 pm on June 4, 2007. A public meeting is also scheduled for:

Thursday, May 31, 2007
College Township Municipal Building
Second Floor Meeting Room
5:00 pm – 8:00 pm
Presentation at 6:00 pm

The CCMPO will consider the final draft LRTP for adoption in June.

The public comment period for the CCMPO's draft Public Participation Plan (PPP) is currently underway, and will conclude on May 24, 2007. The PPP will also be considered for adoption in June.

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5. PennDOT District 2-0 is in the process of preparing a “Regional Operations Plan (ROP)” for a multi-county area in District 2-0, and one county in District 10-0. The purpose of the ROP is to identify technologies and institutional arrangements that allow transportation systems to operate more efficiently (signal systems, emergency and incident response, weather monitoring, etc.). The ROP will build on PennDOT’s previous initiatives to complete an Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Strategic Plan, and a Transportation Systems Operations Plan (TSOP). The CCMPO has already utilized the ITS Strategic Plan to identify candidate projects for the Centre County LRTP and TIP.

Staff members from the MPOs and RPOs within District 2-0 are participating in workshops and meetings about the ROP, along with staff from transit operators, emergency services providers (police, fire, ambulance, 911 dispatching), public works departments, and other key entities. PennDOT District 2-0 anticipates the completion of an ROP in mid-summer 2007. A presentation about the ROP will be provided to the CCMPO Committees later in 2007.

6. In the past few years, representatives from various cabinet-level agencies of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania worked with a diverse group of representatives from the public and private sectors to identify strategies to improve the integration of transportation, land use, and economic development in the state. In May 2005, a regional conference on the topic was held in Williamsport PA, which resulted in the identification of objectives for addressing the issue in the central region of Pennsylvania.

The Commonwealth subsequently began working with SEDA-COG to develop an action plan to implement the strategies and work toward meeting the objectives from the regional conferences. In late 2006, SEDA-COG began work on a Regional Strategic Action Plan (RSAP) for the central region of Pennsylvania, including Centre County. Staff is participating on the Steering Committee for the project. In upcoming months, SEDA-COG will be scheduling public meetings to obtain input from local officials and citizens about the RSAP. Meeting dates, times, and locations will be announced in the future.

7. CCMPO staff contact information:

Centre Regional Planning Agency	Telephone:	814-231-3050
2643 Gateway Drive	Fax:	814-231-3083
State College, PA 16801		

Bob Crum, Director	rcrum@crcog.net
Tom Zilla, Transportation Planner	tzilla@crcog.net
Trish Meek, Transportation Planner	tmeek@crcog.net
Greg Kausch, Transportation Planner	gkausch@crcog.net or gkausch@catabus.com
Lori Shingler, Administrative Assistant	lshingler@crcog.net

Centre County Planning Office	Telephone:	814-355-6791
420 Holmes Street – Willowbank Office Building	Fax:	814-355-8661
Bellefonte, PA 16823		

Bob Jacobs, Director	rbjacobs@co.centre.pa.us
Chris Price, Assistant Director	cmprice@co.centre.pa.us
Mike Bloom, Transportation Planner	dmbloom@co.centre.pa.us