



Centre Region Council of Governments OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATION

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TO: Bob Crum, Secretary
Centre County Metropolitan Planning Organization

FROM: James C. Steff, Executive Director
Centre Region Council of Governments (COG)

DATE: February 20, 2008

SUBJECT: COG Transportation Committee Recommendations: Priorities for Centre County MPO Long Range Transportation Plan and 2009-2012 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

As noted in my February 11, 2008 memorandum, the COG Transportation Committee has been reviewing all of the Centre Region projects included in the Centre County Metropolitan Planning Organization's (CCMPO's) Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), and preparing recommendations to the CCMPO for consideration as the 2009-2012 Centre County TIP is developed.

In September 2007, the Transportation Committee approved several recommendations specific to the highway projects listed in the LRTP. Those recommendations, which address only highway projects located within the Centre Region, were detailed in my February 11 memorandum.

The discussion of bridge projects in the Centre Region was initiated in September 2007, and will continue in future months as PennDOT and the CCMPO discuss priorities for state bridges. However, on February 20, 2008, the COG Transportation Committee discussed priorities for municipal bridge projects in the Centre Region, and approved the following recommendation to the CCMPO:

- Add the College Township Route 365 Trout Road Bridge over Spring Creek [a structurally deficient (SD) bridge] to the Centre County LRTP in the 2007-2010 time period, and consider including the Preliminary Engineering phase of the project on the 2009-2012 Centre County TIP in FFY 2009 or FFY 2010. The Transportation Committee further recommends retaining the College Township Route 334 Brush Valley Road Bridge on the LRTP, but acknowledges that the revised LRTP fiscal constraint analysis and updated priorities for SD municipal bridges may shift this bridge from the 2015-2018 time period to a later time period of the LRTP.

Bob Crum, CCMPO Secretary

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The Committee acknowledged that additional information about *state* bridge priorities will be provided to the CCMPO by PennDOT as part of Governor Rendell's new initiative for advancing state bridge projects. The Committee is also aware that the CCMPO staff is preparing a database to help prioritize *municipal* bridge projects, which may impact priorities for municipal bridges on the LRTP. Thus, additional recommendations about bridge priorities for projects in the Centre Region may be considered at future Transportation Committee meetings.

On behalf of the COG Transportation Committee, thank you for considering the recommendations about *municipal bridge* projects in the Centre Region as the 2009-2012 Centre County TIP is developed and the LRTP is updated in 2008.