

FEBRUARY 23, 2010 MEETING

ITEM 4

MARION TOWNSHIP REQUEST FOR MEMBERSHIP

Discuss Request for Membership

On January 26 2010, the CCMPO received correspondence from Marion Township requesting membership on the MPO Committees. Section IV of the CCMPO's Bylaws addresses requests for membership as follows:

j. Changes in Membership Structure

Proposed changes in membership structure for either the Coordinating or Technical Committees must be presented to the Coordinating Committee via a written request. By majority vote, the Coordinating Committee will decide whether to consider the request, and will also determine the process for making a decision about the request.

The Coordinating Committee should decide whether to consider Marion Township's request. If the vote is in favor of considering the request, a process should be established for making a decision.

If the CCMPO decides to consider the request, potential process options include:

- a. Consider the request in the broader context of a performance review of the countywide MPO.

The MPO expansion proposal approved in November 2003 included a provision to complete a performance review, which was to address representation for Marion and Walker Townships. When expansion was approved, the MPO acknowledged that no form of direct representation was provided for Marion and Walker Townships. The two municipalities were to be informally represented by Benner and Spring Townships, and Bellefonte Borough; the other municipalities in the Nittany Valley Planning Region. A performance review was initiated in 2006. However, work on the review was suspended in 2008 following preparation and adoption of bylaws.

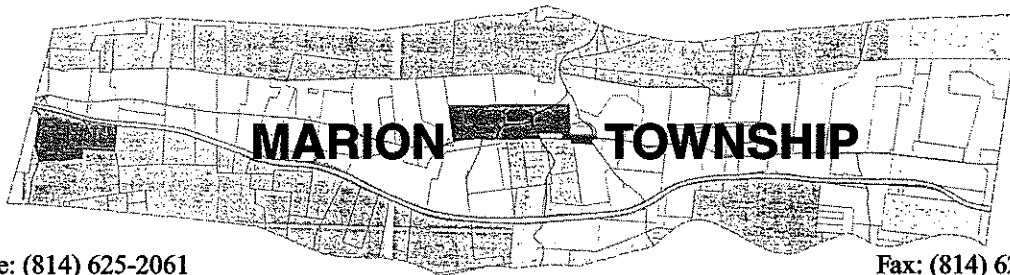
- b. Consider the request in the context of representation for Marion and Walker Townships, and the Nittany Valley Region, but independent of a broader performance review.
- c. Consider the request on an individual basis (Marion Township only).

Attached are:

- Correspondence from Marion Township dated January 6, 2010
- Proposal for Expansion of the Centre Region MPO to a Countywide Organization (Approved November 2003)
- Map of Centre County Planning Regions

Presented by: Tom Zilla, CRPA

Action: Determine whether to consider a request from Marion Township for membership on the CCMPO.



Phone: (814) 625-2061

Fax: (814) 625-9186

CENTRE COUNTY

4337 Jacksonville Rd.
Howard, PA 16841

January 6, 2010

JAN 07 2010

Thomas P. Zilla, AICP
Transportation Planner
Centre Regional Planning Agency
2643 Gateway Drive, Suite #4
State College, PA 16801

Dear Mr. Zilla,

At the meeting of the Marion Township Board of Supervisors it was voted to request that Marion Township be admitted as a member of the Centre County Metropolitan Planning Organization and the Technical Committee affiliated with it.

Please accept this letter as the official request to become members of the above organizations.

If further information is needed, please contact any one of the Supervisors or me.

Thanking you in advance for your time and consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Ellie Trulick
Secretary/Treasurer

cc: Jack Aberegg
Ray Gutshall
Ken L. Roan

**Proposal for Expansion of the
Centre Region Metropolitan Planning Organization (CRMPO)
to a Countywide Organization**

As Approved by MPO Coordinating Committee - 11/20/03

Area	The CRMPO should expand the current MPO area to include all of Centre County.																												
Timing	Expansion to a countywide MPO shall become effective in January 2004.																												
Representation	<p>a. Add five (5) municipal elected officials as voting members on the Coordinating Committee to represent the municipalities outside of the current MPO area, with one new voting member to come from each of the following planning regions (map is attached):</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">Moshannon Valley Planning Region Mountaintop Planning Region Upper Bald Eagle Valley Planning Region Lower Bald Eagle Valley Planning Region Penns Valley Planning Region</p> <p>b. Until the municipal elected officials in these areas can appoint a representative, a Centre County Planning Commission member representing the respective planning region may serve as an interim voting member of the MPO.</p> <p>c. Change the status of Penn State University to a non-voting member until such time as the University's payment-in-lieu-of-taxes agreement with Centre County is approved, which will address the issue of Penn State providing a financial contribution to the MPO Budget.</p>																												
Composition of MPO Committees	<p>The Expansion Subcommittee recommends that the MPO Technical Committee membership be a "mirror image" of the MPO Coordinating Committee.</p> <p><u>The Technical and Coordinating Committees would be comprised of the following voting members (19):</u></p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">Centre County Government (2)</td> <td style="width: 50%;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Benner Township</td> <td>College Township</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ferguson Township</td> <td>Halfmoon Township</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Harris Township</td> <td>Patton Township</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Spring Township</td> <td>State College Borough</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Moshannon Valley Planning Region</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mountaintop Planning Region</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Upper Bald Eagle Valley Planning Region</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lower Bald Eagle Valley Planning Region</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Penns Valley Planning Region</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Centre Area Transportation Authority (CATA)</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Centre Regional Planning Commission</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>PENNDOT Central Office</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>PENNDOT District 2-0 Office</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p><u>Non-voting members would include:</u></p> <p>Bellefonte Borough Penn State University Federal Highway Administration Federal Transit Administration</p>	Centre County Government (2)		Benner Township	College Township	Ferguson Township	Halfmoon Township	Harris Township	Patton Township	Spring Township	State College Borough	Moshannon Valley Planning Region		Mountaintop Planning Region		Upper Bald Eagle Valley Planning Region		Lower Bald Eagle Valley Planning Region		Penns Valley Planning Region		Centre Area Transportation Authority (CATA)		Centre Regional Planning Commission		PENNDOT Central Office		PENNDOT District 2-0 Office	
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Proposal for Expansion of the Centre Region MPO to a Countywide Organization

As Approved by MPO Coordinating Committee - 11/20/03

(Continued from Previous Page)

Performance Review	<p>A performance review must be completed not later than two years after implementation of the expanded MPO to evaluate the effectiveness of the expanded MPO, and to address representation, staffing and budget issues.</p> <p>The performance review should address issues raised about representation for Marion and Walker Townships in the Nittany Valley Planning Region.</p>
Staffing	<p>Staffing for the expanded MPO would be provided by the Centre Regional Planning Agency (CRPA) and the Centre County Planning Office, with CRPA being the lead agency.</p> <p>Support would also be provided by the Centre Area Transportation Authority (CATA) and the PENNDOT District 2-0 and Central Offices.</p>
Budget	<p>Federal, State, and local funding would be utilized for the MPO Budget, which would continue to be managed by CRPA through the MPO portion of the Centre Region Council of Governments (COG) Budget.</p> <p>One new staff position will be added at the Centre County Planning Office.</p> <p>The addition of a second new staff position at CRPA will be deferred until after the issue of Penn State University's local share contribution is resolved.</p> <p>Local funding shares to support the expanded MPO are illustrated on the attached sheet. These local funding shares would provide the required match for the Federal and State funds provided annually through the MPO's Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) (base funding).</p> <p>However, the local shares illustrated on the attached sheet do <i>not</i> include matching funds for supplemental Federal funding which is periodically added to the MPO's UPWP for special projects (e.g. supplemental funding is being utilized for preparation of the new Centre County Long Range Transportation Plan).</p>

PLANNING REGIONS

Centre County

