

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

Wednesday, April 11, 2007

9:30 am

College Township Municipal Building

AGENDA

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Approval of Minutes:** *March 14, 2007 Technical Committee meeting*
3. **Citizens' Comments:** *For items not on the agenda*
4. **Centre County Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) 2007 Update:**
Draft Plan Elements
Action: Recommendation to Coordinating Committee
5. **Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan**
Status Report
No action required
6. **Air Quality Conformity – State Implementation Plan (SIP)**
Memorandum of Agreement between PennDOT, PA DEP, and the CCMPO
Action: Recommendation to Coordinating Committee
7. **2009-2012 Centre County Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)**
Process and schedule for preparation of 2009-2012 TIP
No action required
8. **Announcements**
9. **Adjourn**

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ITEM 4

CENTRE COUNTY LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN (LRTP) 2007 UPDATE

Draft Plan Elements

At its September 26, 2006 meeting, the CCMPO Coordinating Committee adopted the new Centre County LRTP 2030. As the new LRTP was being considered for adoption, staff noted that several updates would be needed for the plan to be in full compliance with the requirements of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act – A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU), and federal transportation planning rulemaking by July 2007.

At each meeting since November 2006, staff has reported about items to be addressed in the 2007 update of the LRTP. In March 2007, the Coordinating Committee took action relative to two major items being addressed in the 2007 Update:

- a) Authorized the advertisement of a new Public Participation Plan for a 45-day public comment period.
- b) Accepted the technical ranking of candidate Transportation Enhancements (pedestrian/bicycle) and Bridge projects.

Work continues on several remaining items:

- Environmental Mitigation
- Consistency of Plan with Planned Growth and Development Plans
- Operational and Management Strategies

At the meeting, staff will provide a brief presentation about the revisions being made to chapters of the LRTP to address these items.

Attached are:

- Staff PowerPoint presentation
- Example of a draft environmental resource map – Agricultural Security Areas
- Revised Chapter VIII – Implementation and Update

Revisions to Chapter V – Project Evaluation Process will be discussed at the meeting.

A draft LRTP 2007 Update must be advertised for a required 30-day public comment in May 2007, in order to be presented to the CCMPO in June for adoption and to meet the July 1, 2007 deadline for SAFETEA-LU compliance.

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The Technical Committee should receive the staff presentation, provide comments about the revisions to the LRTP documents, and make a recommendation to the Coordinating Committee about advertising the draft LRTP 2007 Update for the required 30-day public comment period.

Presented by: Trish Meek, CRPA
Mike Bloom, CCPCDO

Action: Recommendation to the Coordinating Committee to advertise the draft LRTP 2007 Update for the required 30-day public comment period.

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ITEM 5

COORDINATED PUBLIC TRANSIT - HUMAN SERVICES TRANSPORTATION PLAN

Status Report

The CCMPO's current FY 2006-07 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) includes supplemental planning funds to prepare a Jobs Access Reverse Commute (JARC) Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan.

As reported at the March CCMPO meetings, PennDOT's Bureau of Public Transportation (BPT) has established a deadline of May 31, 2007 for the adoption and submission of Coordinated Plans, in order to ensure that eligible project sponsors can access federal funds from the JARC (low income individuals, reverse commuters), New Freedom (persons with disabilities), and Section 5310 (senior citizens) Programs in the current fiscal year.

Staff prepared the following project schedule, which was presented to the Coordinating Committee on March 27:

<i>Mid-March/Mid-April</i>	Assemble Coordinated Plan foundation: -Basic demographic information -List of transportation providers -List of candidate projects
<i>March 27</i>	MPO Coordinating Committee approves formation of stakeholder committee
<i>Late March/Early April</i>	Contact members of stakeholder committee
<i>Mid-April</i>	Coordinated Plan foundation complete
<i>April 20</i>	30-day public comment period begins
<i>Late April/Mid-May</i>	Stakeholder committee meetings (2-3)
<i>May 9</i>	Status report to Technical Committee
<i>May 18</i>	30-day public comment period ends
<i>May 22</i>	Anticipated adoption of Coordinated Plan
<i>May 31</i>	Deadline for plan submission
<i>June 30</i>	Anticipated grant award(s)

PennDOT's BPT also directed that the preparation of Coordinated Plans be completed using input from existing transportation stakeholder groups, and be focused on existing candidate projects to the extent possible. In March, the CCMPO Coordinating Committee authorized the formation of a stakeholders advisory committee, and staff is currently contacting stakeholders to form the advisory committee.

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Staff also compiled socioeconomic data to document target populations, and identified potential candidate projects from the CCMPO's adopted 2007-2010 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), CATA's Strategic Plan, and from priorities of the Centre County Office of Transportation (CCOT).

At this meeting, staff will present a brief status report about the formation of the advisory committee, the compilation of socioeconomic data, and potential candidate projects. The draft Plan that will be prepared and advertised for public comment on April 20 will be presented to the Technical Committee on May 9, and a final draft Plan will be presented to the Coordinating Committee for adoption on May 22.

Refinements to the Plan may be made after May 31, 2007, with additional work to be closely coordinated 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.

The Technical Committee should receive the staff presentation.

Presented by: Tom Zilla, CRPA

No action required

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ITEM 6

AIR QUALITY CONFORMITY STATE IMPLEMENTATION PLAN (SIP)

Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between PennDOT, PA DEP, and the CCMPO

In 2004, new Federal regulations for conformance with air quality standards were instituted. As a result, Centre County was designated as a non-attainment area for ozone. The designation as a non-attainment area requires that an air quality conformity analysis be prepared for the CCMPO's Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP).

The conformity analysis for the CCMPO's TIP and LRTP must be completed and approved by the Federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), and Federal Transit Administration (FTA). PennDOT and the CCMPO are responsible for the conformity analysis, using a process specified in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Transportation Conformity **State Implementation Plan (SIP)**. Pennsylvania's Conformity SIP is the responsibility of the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), which works in close partnership with PennDOT on the preparation of the SIP.

The Commonwealth's Conformity SIP is being revised to meet the requirements of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act – A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU). The legislation specified that all states revise their Conformity SIPs and have them approved by the U.S. EPA within two years of the enactment of SAFETEA-LU, which occurred in August 2005.

The Commonwealth's Conformity SIP includes a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between non-attainment MPOs, PennDOT and DEP. The MOA formalizes the relationship between the three entities, and serves as the legal basis for ensuring and enforcing compliance with the provisions of the SIP relative to the conformity process.

The CCMPO is not an official party to the current MOA because the agreement was executed prior to the designation of Centre County as a non-attainment area in 2004. However, because Centre County is now a non-attainment area, the CCMPO must execute the MOA as part of the revisions to the Conformity SIP.

PennDOT has requested that the MOA be executed and submitted by May 25, 2007, because of the timetable for the Commonwealth's execution of the MOA and submission to U.S. EPA for approval prior to the August 2007 deadline.

In order to complete this process, two actions will be needed from the CCMPO Coordinating Committee:

- Adoption of a resolution authorizing the Coordinating Committee Chair and Vice-Chair to execute legal agreements on behalf of the CCMPO.
- Adoption and execution of the MOA

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Attached are:

- Draft resolution authorizing the Coordinating Committee officers to execute legal agreements
- Draft MOA for the Conformity SIP

Staff will provide a brief presentation about the MOA.

The Technical Committee should receive the presentation, and make recommendations to the Coordinating Committee about adoption of a resolution authorizing officers to execute legal agreements, and approval of the MOA for the revised Conformity SIP.

Presented by: Tom Zilla, CRPA

Actions: Recommendation to the Coordinating Committee to adopt a resolution authorizing officers to execute legal agreements.

Recommendation to the Coordinating Committee to approve the MOA for the revised Conformity SIP.

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ITEM 7

2009-2012 CENTRE COUNTY TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP)

Schedule for Preparing New TIP

On January 3, 2007, staff attended a statewide Planning Partners Meeting, which included discussion about the schedule and guidance for preparation of the new 2009-2012 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and Twelve Year Transportation Program (TYP). The TIP and the TYP are updated every two years, and the update process traditionally takes approximately one year.

Staff will report on significant work tasks in the update process, including but not limited to:

- Preparing an overview of issues for the State Transportation Commission Public Hearing
- Administering the next application cycle for the Transportation Enhancements/Home Town Streets/Safe Routes to School Programs (*if another cycle is authorized by PennDOT*)
- Developing and submitting a Preliminary Draft TIP to PennDOT
- Preparing and advertising the Final Draft TIP and holding the required formal public comment period
- Completing the required air quality conformity analysis
- Adopting the TIP

Attached is:

- Schedule for key steps in the update process.

The Technical Committee should receive the presentation.

Presented by: Tom Zilla, CRPA

No action required

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ITEM 8

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Future Meeting Dates

- a. Coordinating Committee: Tuesday, April 24, 2007, 6:00 pm
College Twp. Municipal Building
- ⇒ Centre County LRTP – 2007 Update
 - ⇒ JARC Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan
 - ⇒ Air Quality Conformity SIP Memorandum of Agreement
 - ⇒ Schedule for 2009-2012 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Please note that to facilitate the adoption of the CCMPO's Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan by the May 31, 2007 deadline, the CCMPO Committees will meet in May.

- b. Technical Committee: Wednesday, May 9, 2007, 9:30 am
College Twp. Municipal Building
- ⇒ Adoption of JARC Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan
 - ⇒ Centre County LRTP – 2007 Update
- c. Coordinating Committee: Tuesday, May 22, 2007, 6:00 pm
College Twp. Municipal Building
- ⇒ Adoption of JARC Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan
 - ⇒ Centre County LRTP – 2007 Update

2. CCMPO staff contact information:

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