

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

Wednesday, February 14, 2007

9:30 am

College Township Municipal Building

Please note the time and location!

AGENDA

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Election of Officers**
3. **Approval of Minutes:** *January 10, 2007 Technical Committee meeting*
4. **Citizens' Comments:** *For items not on the agenda*
5. **Final Draft FY 2007-08 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP):**
Review Final Draft UPWP for adoption
Action: Recommendation to Coordinating Committee
6. **Centre County Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) 2007 Update:**
Draft Public Participation Plan
Action: Recommendation to Coordinating Committee
7. **PennDOT District 2-0 Bridge Program Presentation**
No action required
8. **Funding for Pennsylvania's Transportation System:**
Presentation about recent proposals
No action required
9. **Announcements**
10. **Adjourn**

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ITEM 2

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The Technical Committee should elect officers for 2007. In 2006, Kent Baker served as Chair, and Hugh Mose as Vice-Chair of the Technical Committee.

Voting members of the Technical Committee include:

Centre County	Bob Jacobs
Centre County	Chris Price
Benner Township	Doug Weikel
College Township	Kent Baker
Ferguson Township	David Modricker
Halfmoon Township	Karen Brown
Harris Township	Paul Weener
Patton Township	Brent Brubaker
Spring Township	Bill MacMath
State College Borough	Amy Story
Penns Valley Planning Region	Ray Hankinson
Lower Bald Eagle Valley Planning Region	Xochi Confer
Upper Bald Eagle Valley Planning Region	open
Moshannon Valley Planning Region	John Knowles
Mountaintop Planning Region	Michele Barbin
Centre Area Transportation Authority	Hugh Mose
Centre Regional Planning Commission	Bob Crum
PennDOT Central Office (Harrisburg)	Harold Nanovic
PennDOT District 2-0 Office (Clearfield)	Karen Michael

Non-voting members of the Technical Committee include:

Bellefonte Borough	Sue Hannegan
Pennsylvania State University	Teresa Davis
Federal Highway Administration	Matt Smoker
Federal Transit Administration	Karen Roscher

Presented by: Tom Zilla, CRPA

Action: Election of officers for 2007.

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ITEM 5

FY 2007-08 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM (UPWP)

Review Final Draft UPWP for Adoption

Each year in February, the MPO adopts a UPWP for the fiscal year which begins on July 1 of that year and ends on June 30 of the following year. The UPWP lists the work tasks to be completed by the CRPA and the CCPO on behalf of the CCMPO. The MPO staff is currently operating under the FY 2006-07 UPWP.

At the November 2006 MPO meetings, staff presented PennDOT's priorities for the FY 2007-08 UPWP, and also presented potential tasks that may be completed with supplemental planning funds, beyond the normal allocation of funding for the UPWP budget. A first draft FY 2007-08 UPWP was then prepared and reviewed at the January 2007 MPO meetings, with particular focus on the potential supplemental planning funds projects.

On January 23, 2007, the Coordinating Committee reviewed the first draft UPWP, and approved a motion to request supplemental planning funds for two projects in the FY 2007-08 UPWP:

#1 Priority Coordination of Comprehensive Land Use Planning and Transportation Planning

#2 Priority Assessment of Public Transportation Services [Centre Area Transportation Authority (CATA) and Centre County Office of Transportation (CCOT)]

The candidate supplemental planning funds projects were submitted to the PennDOT Central Office. Candidate projects compete on a statewide basis for funding. The PennDOT Central Office will meet prior to the February 14 Technical Committee meeting to consider approval of supplemental planning funds projects. At the Technical Committee meeting, staff will report on PennDOT's decision about funding for the two candidate supplemental planning funds projects.

Staff will also provide a brief presentation about key projects, but will not review the UPWP in detail.

The final draft FY 2007-08 UPWP will be considered for adoption by the Coordinating Committee on February 27, 2007. The adopted UPWP must be submitted to the PennDOT Central Office on March 1, 2007.

The Technical Committee should review the final draft UPWP, and provide a recommendation to the Coordinating Committee about adoption of the FY 2007-08 UPWP.

Presented by: Tom Zilla, CRPA

Action: Recommendation to the Coordinating Committee about adoption of the FY 2007-08 UPWP.

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ITEM 6

CENTRE COUNTY LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN (LRTP) 2007 UPDATE

Draft Public Participation Plan

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) federal transportation legislation, by the July 2007 deadline for compliance.

As part of the adoption of the new LRTP, the CCMPO noted that several items identified during the public comment period would be addressed in the 2007 update, along with other elements required by SAFETEA-LU and the proposed federal transportation planning rulemaking.

In November 2006 and January 2007, staff provided reports about the items to be addressed in the 2007 update. One of the required items is the preparation of a new Public Participation Plan. Because the draft Public Participation Plan (PPP) must be advertised for a 45-day public review period, staff is presenting a draft PPP review in February 2007 in order to facilitate approval of the PPP prior to the adoption of the 2007 LRTP Update.

The Technical Committee should review the draft PPP, provide comments to staff, and make a recommendation to the Coordinating Committee about advertising the draft PPP for the required 45-day public comment period.

Presented by: Trish Meek, CRPA

Action: Recommendation to the Coordinating Committee to advertise the draft Public Participation Plan for the required 45-day public comment period.

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ITEM 7

PENNDOT DISTRICT 2-0 BRIDGE PROGRAM PRESENTATION

One of the elements of the 2007 update of the adopted Centre County Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) is the potential addition of nine (9) state bridge projects to the LRTP. These bridge projects were identified as priorities by PennDOT in fall 2006, as a result of the most recent cycle of bridge inspections.

As MPO and PennDOT staff discussed how to prioritize the candidate bridge projects using the CCMPO's approved project ranking criteria, staff members agreed that it would be beneficial for the MPO Committees to receive a presentation about PennDOT District 2-0's process for identifying high priority candidate bridge projects, and the management of the District's bridge program.

At this meeting, PennDOT District 2-0 staff will provide a presentation about the bridge program.

Although no formal action is required, the Technical Committee should receive the presentation and provide comments to PennDOT and MPO staff that will help in evaluating and prioritizing candidate bridge projects for the 2007 update of the LRTP, and future LRTP updates.

Presented by: Karen Michael, PennDOT District 2-0

No action required

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ITEM 8

FUNDING FOR PENNSYLVANIA'S TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM

Presentation about Recent Proposals

In 2005, highway funds were flexed to public transportation operators across Pennsylvania, including CATA, to address shortfalls in transit funding. Additional highway and bridge funding was also made available at that time. In response to the transportation funding issues, Governor Ed Rendell established a "Transportation Funding and Reform Commission (TFRC)" to provide recommendations about how to address the issues, and set a November 15, 2006 deadline for the TFRC to provide recommendations about how to address the issues.

In August 2006, the TFRC released a report with its initial findings entitled *Investing in Our Future: Addressing Pennsylvania's Transportation Funding Crisis*. The TFRC solicited public comments about the initial findings through a series of statewide listening sessions, including a session held in Centre County on September 13. MPO Chair Dan Klees and Vice-Chair Elizabeth Goreham provided testimony, along with other local and county officials and citizens.

Following the listening sessions, the TFRC completed and released its final report in November 2006. The report was circulated to the Governor and state legislators. On February 6, 2007, Governor Rendell outlined a plan to address funding for the Commonwealth's transportation system as part of his annual budget address.

Attached are:

- Overview of Governor Rendell's proposal
- Executive Summary of the TFRC report

At this meeting, staff will provide a brief presentation about the Governor's proposal, and key points in the TFRC final report. A similar presentation will be provided to the Coordinating Committee on February 27.

The Technical Committee should receive the staff report.

Presented by: Tom Zilla, CRPA

No action required

The TFRC report may be accessed on the web at www.dot.state.pa.us/tfrc

Also, please note that 10,000 Friends of Pennsylvania and several other interest groups commissioned a study about transportation investments in Pennsylvania. A report entitled *Investing in Transportation: A Benchmarking Study of Transportation Funding and Policy* was completed by the Pennsylvania Economy League (PEL) in 2006, and is available on the PEL's website at <http://www.issuespa.net/publications/17673/>.

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ITEM 9

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Future Meeting Dates
 - a. Coordinating Committee: Tuesday, February 27, 2007, 6:00 pm
Patton Twp. Municipal Building
 - ⇒ FY 2007-08 Unified Planning Work Program
 - ⇒ Centre County LRTP – 2007 Update – Public Participation Plan
 - ⇒ Presentation about bridge projects by PennDOT District 2-0
 - ⇒ TFRC Report
 - b. Technical Committee: Wednesday, March 14, 2007, 9:30 am
College Twp. Municipal Building
 - ⇒ Centre County LRTP – 2007 Update
 - ⇒ Schedule for 2009-2012 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
2. Each year, PennDOT District 2-0 provides the CCMPO, Centre County, and affected municipalities with a list of the roadway pavement improvement projects on state roadways that are scheduled to be completed in the upcoming fiscal year using state funds from the 711 maintenance program that does not fall under the purview of the MPO. Attached are a map and list illustrating the projects to be completed in the state Fiscal Year 2007-08.
3. In late January 2007, PennDOT's Program Management Committee approved a request to use \$300,000 from the state's Emergency Highway and Bridge Fund to repair the sinkhole on the stream bank of Slab Cabin Run near the Mount Nittany Expressway Bridge over Slab Cabin Run and Puddintown Road in College Township. The repairs were completed using funds from PennDOT's Centre County Maintenance Budget, thus, the emergency repair funds will be used to replenish the County Maintenance Budget. No actions are required by the CCMPO, because state maintenance program funds do not fall under the purview of the MPO.