

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

Wednesday, March 14, 2007

9:30 am

College Township Municipal Building

Please note the time and location!

AGENDA

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Approval of Minutes:** *February 14, 2007 Technical Committee meeting*
3. **Citizens' Comments:** *For items not on the agenda*
4. **Centre County Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) 2007 Update:**
Final Draft Public Participation Plan
Action: Recommendation to Coordinating Committee
5. **Centre County Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) 2007 Update:**
 - a. Project Ranking – Bridge and Transportation Enhancements Projects
Action: Recommendation to Coordinating Committee
 - b. Status Report - Other update items
No action required
6. **Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan**
Status Report and Advisory Committee
Action: Recommendation to Coordinating Committee
7. **Announcements**
8. **Adjourn**

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ITEM 4

CENTRE COUNTY LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN (LRTP) 2007 UPDATE

Final 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), and federal transportation planning rulemaking by July 2007.

In November 2006, January and February 2007, staff identified the items to be addressed in the 2007 update of the LRTP, including the preparation of a new Public Participation Plan. Because a draft Public Participation Plan (PPP) must be advertised for a 45-day public review period, staff presented a first draft PPP in February in order to facilitate the process for approving a PPP prior to the July deadline.

Based on comments received from the CCMPO Committees in February and from the Federal Highway Administration, a final draft PPP has been prepared.

At this meeting, staff will review the key elements of the final draft PPP. Attached is:

- Final Draft PPP

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

Presented by: Trish Meek, CRPA

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

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ITEM 5.a.

CENTRE COUNTY LRTP 2007 UPDATE

Project Ranking – Bridge and Transportation Enhancements Projects

As noted previously, several items are being addressed in the 2007 LRTP Update. One of the items is the prioritization of additional air quality- exempt bridge and transportation enhancements projects for possible inclusion in the Plan.

As part of the adoption of the LRTP in September 2006, the CCMPO agreed to consider 24 new transportation enhancements projects that were proposed during the public comment period for the Plan. Also, nine state bridge projects were submitted by PennDOT for consideration in the 2007 Update, based on the results of the most recent cycle of bridge inspections.

The CCMPO's Project Ranking Committee (PRC) evaluated and ranked the candidate projects, and met on February 28, 2007 to discuss the results. Based on the results of the technical ranking process and fiscal constraint analysis, the PRC made the following recommendations to the Technical Committee:

- Forward the technical ranking of bridge and transportation enhancements projects to the Coordinating Committee. Consideration should be given to rank adjustments for the bridges based on the latest information from PennDOT's bridge assessment.
- Forward a recommendation to reevaluate the CCMPO's project ranking criteria related to bridge projects in Fall 2007, following adoption of the 2007 Update.

Attached are:

- Staff PowerPoint presentation
- Bridge project list (fiscal constraint list)
- Transportation Enhancements project list (fiscal constraint list)
- Municipal correspondence related to the candidate projects

The Technical Committee should receive the staff presentation, review the PRC's recommendations, and consider making a recommendation to the Coordinating Committee.

Presented by: Mike Bloom, CCPCDO
Trish Meek, CRPA

Action: Recommendation to the Coordinating Committee about the ranking of candidate bridge and transportation enhancements projects for the 2007 LRTP Update, and the reevaluation of the CCMPO's project ranking criteria related to bridge projects.

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ITEM 5.b.

CENTRE COUNTY LRTP 2007 UPDATE

Status Report – Other Update Items

In addition to the Public Participation Plan and the ranking of bridge and transportation enhancements projects, staff has identified other items that must also be addressed to ensure that the LRTP is SAFETEA-LU compliant. The final federal transportation planning rulemaking has now been completed, and the rulemaking specifies certain items that must be addressed to make the LRTP fully compliant. The remaining items to be addressed in the LRTP 2007 Update include:

- Environmental Mitigation
- Consultations with Resource Agencies
- Consistency of Plan with Planned Growth and Development Plans
- Operational and Management Strategies
- Visualization Techniques in Plans and TIP Development

Staff will provide an update about the process for addressing these items.

The Technical Committee should receive the staff presentation, and provide comments to staff.

Presented by: Mike Bloom, CCPCDO
Trish Meek, CRPA

No action required

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ITEM 6

COORDINATED PUBLIC TRANSIT - HUMAN SERVICES TRANSPORTATION PLAN

Status Report and Advisory Committee

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. A Coordinated Plan must be adopted by the CCMPO in order for eligible project sponsors to access certain types of federal funds for public transportation services.

On January 23, 2007, the CCMPO Coordinating Committee amended the FY 2006-07 UPWP to change the completion date of the JARC Coordinated Plan from June 30, 2007 to March 31, 2008. This action would allow staff sufficient time and latitude to prepare a detailed Coordinated Plan that meets the parameters prescribed by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA).

However, PennDOT's Bureau of Public Transportation (BPT) has now specified an advanced timeline for the preparation of Coordinated Plans across the Commonwealth. The BPT has established a deadline of May 31, 2007 for the adoption and submission of Coordinated Plans, in order to ensure that all transit operators in the Commonwealth are eligible to receive JARC and other federal funds for the current fiscal year.

In the interest of minimizing redundancy of effort, the BPT has 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. Thus, MPO staff is preparing a scope of work that fits within these parameters, and which will yield a Coordinated Plan that can be adopted by the May 31, 2007 deadline. *(Please note that additional CCMPO Committee meetings will be scheduled in May to facilitate the adoption of a Coordinated Plan.)*

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

At this meeting, staff will present a brief report about the status of, and proposed timeline for, preparation of the Coordinated Plan. Staff will also present information about the stakeholders that should be included on the advisory committee that will be utilized to provide input about the Plan.

The Technical Committee should receive the staff presentation, and make a recommendation to the Coordinating Committee about the formation of an advisory committee to provide input about the preparation of the Coordinated Plan.

Presented by: Greg Kausch, CRPA

Action: Recommendation to the Coordinating Committee to form an advisory committee to provide input about the preparation of a Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan.

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ITEM 7

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Future Meeting Dates

a. Coordinating Committee: Tuesday, March 27, 2007, 6:00 pm
College Twp. Municipal Building

- ⇒ Centre County LRTP – 2007 Update – Public Participation Plan
- ⇒ Centre County LRTP – 2007 Update – Project Ranking
- ⇒ Centre County LRTP – 2007 Update – Status Report
- ⇒ JARC Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan
- ⇒ Status report from MPO Performance Review Committee

b. Technical Committee: Wednesday, April 11, 2007, 9:30 am
College Twp. Municipal Building

- ⇒ Centre County LRTP – 2007 Update – Recommended Revisions
- ⇒ JARC Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan
- ⇒ 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, CCMPO Committee meeting schedule is being revised to include meetings in May. The specific dates, times, and locations will be announced.

2. Attached, ***for Committee members only***, is a copy of the latest newsletter from PennDOT about the I-99 Acid Rock Drainage (ARD) remediation efforts. *(Please note that PennDOT provided copies of the newsletter to staff several weeks ago. However, staff inadvertently omitted the newsletter from the February MPO meeting agenda packages.)*