

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

Wednesday, November 14, 2007

9:30 am

College Township Municipal Building

AGENDA

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Approval of Minutes:** *September 12, 2007 Technical Committee meeting*
- 3. Citizens' Comments:** *For items not on the agenda*
- 4. PennDOT District 2-0 Regional Operations Plan (ROP):**
Acceptance of ROP
Action: Recommendation to Coordinating Committee
- 5. Transportation Enhancements/Home Town Streets/Safe Routes to School Program:**
 - a. Philipsburg Front Street Streetscape Phase II Project– presentation from sponsor
No action required
 - b. Project selection process for 2009-2012 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
(candidate projects from Centre Hall Borough and Harris Township)
Action: Recommendation to Coordinating Committee
 - c. PennDOT District 3-0 Transportation Enhancements Program project development process
No action required
 - d. South Atherton Street Path cost increase
Action: Recommendation to Coordinating Committee
- 6. 2007-2010 Centre County Transportation Improvement Program (TIP):**
 - a. Amendments to transit element – November 2007
Action: Recommendation to Coordinating Committee
 - b. Amendments to add Act 44 projects – November 2007
Action: Recommendation to Coordinating Committee
 - c. Amendments to meet federal Year of Expenditure (YOE) regulations – November 2007
Action: Recommendation to Coordinating Committee
 - d. Amendments to highway element – November 2007
(W. Beaver Ave./S. Fraser St. Intersection Realignment and Safety Improvement Project)
Action: Recommendation to Coordinating Committee
- 7. 2009-2012 Centre County Transportation Improvement Program (TIP):**
Project priorities for New TIP
No action required
- 8. FY 2008-09 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP):**
Priorities for UPWP
No action required
- 9. Announcements**
- 10. Adjourn**

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ITEM 4

PENNDOT DISTRICT 2-0 REGIONAL OPERATIONS PLAN (ROP)

Acceptance of ROP

At the September CCMPO Committee meetings, PennDOT District 2-0 and its consultant team from Jacobs Edwards and Kelcey presented information about the draft “Regional Operations Plan (ROP)”. The purpose of the ROP is to identify technologies and institutional arrangements that allow transportation systems to operate more efficiently (signal systems, emergency and incident response, weather monitoring, etc.). The District 2-0 ROP addresses multiple counties in Districts 2-0 and 10-0.

The new ROP builds on PennDOT’s previous initiatives to complete an Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Strategic Plan, and a Transportation Systems Operations Plan (TSOP). The CCMPO has already utilized the ITS Strategic Plan to identify projects for the Centre County Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) and Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

PennDOT has requested that the MPOs and RPOs within each respective ROP area in the Commonwealth adopt their respective Plan. The recommendations in the ROP would be considered for implementation through the LRTP and TIP processes. **At its September 25, 2007 meeting, the Coordinating Committee approved a motion to receive the ROP, for the purpose of considering action on the ROP (*acceptance of the Plan*) in November.**

The consultant team revised the draft ROP, and published the final Plan in October. By memorandum dated October 18, 2007, staff notified all Committee members that the final Plan was available, and provided members with several options for obtaining the document. Staff noted that the complete report would not be included in the agenda package for the November CCMPO meetings. The complete report in PDF form can be downloaded from PennDOT’s Intelligent Transportation Systems website:

- ✓ Go to www.paits.org
- ✓ Select “Regional Operations Plan”
- ✓ Select “District 2-0” (either on map or in text)
- ✓ Under Documents and Presentations, Select “Final Regional Operations Plan 2007”

Attached is:

- Executive Summary from Final ROP (October 2007)

Staff will provide a brief report about the recommendations in the ROP. **The Technical Committee should receive the staff report, and provide a recommendation to the Coordinating Committee about formal “*acceptance*” of the ROP.**

Presented by: Tom Zilla, CRPA

Action: Recommendation to the Coordinating Committee to formally accept the PennDOT District 2-0 ROP.

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ITEM 5.a.

TRANSPORTATION ENHANCEMENTS (TE)/HOME TOWN STREETS (HTS)/SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL (SR2S) PROGRAM

Philipsburg Front Street Streetscape Phase II Project Presentation from Project Sponsor

In 2004, the MPO approved \$137,304 in federal TE funds for the Philipsburg Front Street Streetscape Phase II project, sponsored by Philipsburg Borough. In addition to the TE funds, a total of \$54,900 was committed to the project by Philipsburg Borough, and Centre County contributed \$180,000 in Community Development Block Grant funds.

In September 2005 the MPO deprogrammed Philipsburg Borough's Presqueisle Street Sidewalk HTS/SR2S project, and shifted the \$99,645 committed for the project to the Front Street Phase II project, as requested by Philipsburg Borough. Also at the Borough's request, the MPO shifted \$62,915 from the TE line item on the 2005-2008 Centre County Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to the project.

In January 2006, the CCMPO approved an additional \$157,581 in funding from the TE line item on the 2005-2008 TIP, and PennDOT provided an additional \$197,419 from the statewide discretionary TE fund to address an increase in cost in the relocation of utilities.

A total of \$654,864 in federal TE funds was committed to the project, which was bid in 2006. Construction commenced in late 2006, and was recently completed. Ms. Emily Gette-Doyle, Program Manager, Moshannon Valley Economic Development Partnership (MVEDP), will attend the meeting to provide a presentation about the project on behalf of Philipsburg Borough. The MVEDP managed the project for Philipsburg Borough.

Attached is:

- PowerPoint presentation from project sponsor

The Technical Committee should receive the presentation.

Presented by: Trish Meek, CRPA
Emily Gette-Doyle, MVEDP

No action requested

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ITEM 5.b.

TE/HTS/SR2S PROGRAM

Project Selection Process for 2009-2012 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

(Centre Hall Borough and Harris Township Candidate Projects)

In June 2007, MPO staff received the Financial Guidance for preparation of the new 2009-2012 TIP. The CCMPO's formula allocation of TE funds totals \$1,311,000 in the 2009-2012 TIP. The guidance also stipulates that because of a backlog of TE projects statewide, there will not be a statewide TE application cycle in 2007-2008.

All TE/HTS/SR2S projects previously programmed by the CCMPO will be completed in 2008. Thus, even though there will not be a statewide application cycle, the CCMPO will be able to program new TE/HTS/SR2S projects using Centre County's TE funding allocation for the 2009-2012 TIP.

After considering several options for selecting projects, in September the MPO staff suggested that the two highest-ranked projects submitted in the 2005-2006 application cycle be funded with the TE line items funds in years 2009 and 2010, because the two projects were not able to be funded at that time.

<i>RANK</i>	<i>PROJECT</i>	<i>FEDERAL FUNDING REQUESTED IN 2005-2006 CYCLE</i>
1	Centre Hall Sidewalk Rehabilitation Project	\$441,578
2	Village of Boalsburg Streetscape Improvements	\$172,787

At its September 25, 2007 meeting, the Coordinating Committee approved a motion authorizing staff to formally determine if Centre Hall Borough and Harris Township were interested in advancing their respective projects. Staff has been working with the two municipalities to determine their interest, and to update scope and cost information for the candidate projects.

At the meeting, staff will report on the municipalities' interest in proceeding with the two projects, and will review the action steps presented in September (see table on next page).

Attached is:

- Staff PowerPoint presentation

(Continued)

<i>ITEM</i>	<i>ACTION</i>	<i>TIMEFRAME</i>
1	Present recommended TE Process to Technical Committee	09/12/07
2	Present recommended TE Process to Coordinating Committee	09/25/07
3	MPO staff meets with Centre Hall Borough and Harris Township to determine their interest in advancing the respective projects	10/07
4	Amend the 2007-2010 Centre County TIP to include the following projects as part of the TE line item for 2009 and 2010: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Centre Hall Sidewalk Rehabilitation Project • Village of Boalsburg Streetscape Improvements 	11/27/07
5	Project sponsors execute reimbursement agreements with PennDOT and begin design work	12/07
6	Adopt the Centre County 2009-2012 TIP, which will include the two new TE/HTS projects	06/08

The Technical Committee should receive the staff report, and consider providing the following recommendations to the Coordinating Committee:

- **Formally indicate that the Centre Hall Sidewalk Rehabilitation Project (Centre Hall Borough) and the Village of Boalsburg Streetscape Improvements (Harris Township) be advanced using Centre County's TE funding allocation for the 2009-2012 TIP.**
- **Amend the 2007-2010 Centre County TIP to include the two projects, using funding from the TE line item in 2009 and 2010. This action will allow the two project sponsors to execute reimbursement agreements with PennDOT and begin design activities.**

Presented by: Trish Meek, CRPA

Action: Recommendation to the Coordinating Committee to formally indicate that the Centre Hall Sidewalk Rehabilitation Project (Centre Hall Borough) and the Village of Boalsburg Streetscape Improvements (Harris Township) advance using Centre County's TE funding allocation for the 2009-2012 TIP.

Recommendation to the Coordinating Committee to amend the 2007-2010 Centre County TIP to include the Centre Hall Sidewalk Rehabilitation Project and the Village of Boalsburg Streetscape Improvements projects on the TIP, using funding from the TE line item in 2009 and 2010, in order to allow the project sponsors to execute reimbursement agreements with PennDOT and begin design activities.

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ITEM 5.c.

TE/HTS/SR2S PROGRAM

PennDOT District 3-0 TE Project Development Process

At the September 12, 2007 Technical Committee meeting, members discussed the project development process for TE projects. In response to a question about the process utilized by PennDOT Engineering District 3-0 (Montoursville, Lycoming County) to advance TE projects, PennDOT District 2-0 staff agreed to provide a report to the Technical Committee about District 3-0's process.

The Technical Committee should receive the presentation from PennDOT District 2-0 staff.

Presented by: Vickie Rusnak, PennDOT District 2-0

No action requested

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ITEM 5.d.

TE/HTS/SR2S PROGRAM

South Atherton Street Path Cost Increase

In 2005, the CCMPO approved \$128,225 in federal TE funds for the South Atherton Street Path project, sponsored by Harris Township. In June 2007, the CCMPO approved an additional \$70,707 for the project, because PennDOT's pre-bid estimate of cost was greater than the amount of committed funding.

Bids were opened in late July 2007, and the low bid exceeded the amount of funding programmed for the project by \$78,600. In order to award the bid without reducing the scope of work, and to avoid delaying construction until 2008, Harris Township committed an additional \$29,932 in local funds to the project and the PennDOT Central Office committed the remaining \$48,668 from the statewide TE line item. The 2007-2010 Centre County Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) was amended via telephone ballot in August 2007 to include the additional funding, and the results of the telephone ballot were confirmed by the CCMPO Coordinating Committee at its September 25, 2007 meeting.

The project was bid and constructed in September and October 2007. The final cost is estimated to exceed the available funding by \$33,500. Thus, Harris Township has requested \$22,000 in additional federal TE funds for the project (see attached correspondence). The Township will contribute the remaining balance with local funds.

Additional federal TE funding is available from the Puddintown Road TE project, which was recently completed and did not utilize the full amount of federal funding committed for that project.

The adopted CCMPO *Policy for Approval/Disapproval of TE Project Cost Increases* requires a project sponsor to make a formal presentation to the TE Review Committee if additional funding is requested. The TE Review Committee will meet prior to the Technical Committee meeting to discuss the request. The Review Committee's recommendations will be presented at the Technical Committee meeting.

Attachments include:

- Correspondence from Harris Township requesting additional funding.
- CCMPO *Policy for Approval/Disapproval of TE Project Cost Increases*

The Technical Committee will receive a staff report about the request and the TE Review Committee's recommendation, and should provide a recommendation to the Coordinating Committee.

Presented by: Trish Meek, CRPA
Amy Farkas, Harris Township Manager

Action: Recommendation to the Coordinating Committee about approval of additional funding for the South Atherton Street Path project.

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ITEM 6.a.

2007-2010 CENTRE COUNTY TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP)

Amendments to Transit Element - November 2007

The 2007-2010 Centre County TIP was adopted by the CCMPO in July 2006, and became effective on October 1, 2006 following approval by the Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration. The CCMPO approved amendments to the TIP in 2006 and 2007, and several other administrative actions have also been completed by PennDOT and CATA.

Amendments are being proposed to the Transit Element of the TIP for two projects:

- Addition of \$155,000 in federal funds to year 2008 for improvements to the CATA Operations and Maintenance Facility (exterior landscaping). Other projects on the TIP are not affected by the amendment, because the funds are an additional allocation of federal flex funds being provided by PennDOT.
- Addition of \$120,000 in state funds to year 2008 for improvements to the CATA Operations and Maintenance Facility (interior office, shop, maintenance and equipment). Other projects on the TIP are not affected by the amendment, because the funds are an additional allocation of state Capital Bond funds being provided by PennDOT.

Attached is Transit Sheet #1, which illustrates the details of the proposed amendments.

The Technical Committee should review the proposed amendments, and consider a recommendation to the Coordinating Committee.

Presented by: Tom Zilla, CRPA

Action: Recommendation to the CCMPO Coordinating Committee about approval of proposed amendments to the Transit Element of the 2007-2010 Centre County TIP.

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ITEM 6.b.

2007-2010 CENTRE COUNTY TIP

Amendments to Add Act 44 Projects - November 2007

In July 2007, Pennsylvania Act 44 was approved by the legislature and signed by the Governor. Act 44 increased state funding for highways, bridges and mass transit, and made fundamental changes to the way the mass transit funding is distributed in the Commonwealth. Additional state funding from Act 44 is now becoming available to PennDOT for highway and bridge projects.

The new highway and bridge funding is being distributed to MPOs and RPOs according to the formula specified in the Financial Guidance for allocating TIP funds. Centre County's allocation for highways and bridges is \$3,430,000 in year 2008 of the 2007-2010 Centre County TIP. PennDOT is proposing the following amendments to the Highway Element of the TIP:

- Addition of \$2,455,000 to PennDOT's 711 Pavement Restoration Program, for repaving of various state routes in Centre County.

The 711 Program is a roadway maintenance program that involves only repaving. More extensive improvements are typically programmed through the Betterment Program or as a capital improvement. The 711 Program is financed with 100% state maintenance funds, which historically has not involved MPO approval. PennDOT District 2-0 does annually provide the CCMPO with a list of the state roads scheduled for repaving through the 711 Program.

- Addition of five bridge projects to the TIP.

PennDOT District 2-0 has prepared a new priority list of bridge improvements, which focuses on structurally deficient (SD) bridges and culverts. Amendments are proposed to add the Preliminary Engineering (PE) phase of four bridge improvement projects to the TIP, and the Construction phase of a box culvert improvement:

- ✓ SR 3017 (S. High St.) over Bald Eagle Creek – Port Matilda Borough
- ✓ SR 4002 (Clarence Rd.) over North Fork Beech Creek – Snow Shoe Township
- ✓ SR 2006 (Rock Hill Rd.) over Mackey Run – Harris Township
- ✓ SR 45 (Pine Grove Road) over Spruce Creek – Ferguson Township
- ✓ SR 1002 (Little Marsh Creek Road) over Little Marsh Creek – Boggs Township (maintenance of box culvert)

Attached is Highway Sheet #6, which illustrates the details of the proposed amendments.

The Technical Committee should review the proposed amendments, and consider a recommendation to the Coordinating Committee.

Presented by: Tom Zilla, CRPA

Action: Recommendation to the CCMPO Coordinating Committee about approval of proposed amendments to the 2007-2010 Centre County TIP to add funding from Pennsylvania Act 44.

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ITEM 6.c.

2007-2010 CENTRE COUNTY TIP

Amendments to Meet Federal “Year of Expenditure (YOE)” Regulations

On February 14, 2007, the Federal Highway Administration issued the Statewide and Metropolitan Transportation Planning Final Rule, to implement the provisions of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU).

One of the new planning requirements is to illustrate the cost of all projects on Transportation Improvement Programs (TIPs) and Long Range Transportation Plans (LRTPs) in “Year of Expenditure (YOE)” dollars, by December 11, 2007. The YOE provisions require TIPs and LRTPs to account for revenue growth and inflation, and also require all projects to be aligned on the TIP and LRTP in the years in which expenditures are anticipated to occur.

PennDOT issued guidance to MPOs and RPOs about the YOE requirements in mid-September 2007. Since that time, PennDOT and MPO staff have been working to identify and prepare proposed YOE adjustments to years 2009 and 2010 of the 2007-2010 Centre County TIP. (The YOE adjustments for the Centre County LRTP will be addressed in the 2008 LRTP Update, which will be completed in June 2008, concurrent with the development and adoption of the new 2009-2012 TIP).

Highway Element

Attached are:

- Highway Sheet 7 – illustrates amendments to address YOE for bridge projects
- Highway Sheet 8 – illustrates amendments to address YOE for highway projects

The proposed amendments include:

- Adjustments to the costs of projects to reflect YOE dollars (4% annual increase).
- Revisions in schedules to reflect the most recent anticipated bid letting date.
- Revisions to reflect the most recent bridge priorities from PennDOT District 2-0.
- Funding shifts needed to maintain fiscal constraint in years 2009 and 2010.

The proposed amendments to the Highway Element of the TIP can be summarized as follows:

- Three bridge projects are being removed from the TIP because of changes in priority.
 - ✓ SR 2009 over Penns Creek – Penn Township
 - ✓ SR 3006 over Mill Race – Bellefonte Borough
 - ✓ SR 3032 over Laurel Run – Huston Township
- Funding is being reduced for one highway project that will be carried forward on the new 2009-2012 TIP because of changes in the project development schedule.
 - ✓ SR 45 Betterment near Old Fort – Potter Township

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- Funding amounts and schedules are being changed for two highway projects to address the latest cost estimates and anticipated bid letting dates.
 - ✓ SR 504 Wingate Betterment – Boggs Township
 - ✓ SR 26 Beaver Ave. Betterment – State College Borough

Transit Element

Attached is:

- Transit Sheet 2 – illustrates amendments to address YOE for transit projects

The proposed amendments to the Transit Element include:

- Adjustments to the costs of capital projects to reflect YOE dollars (4% annual increase).
- No revisions to the operating assistance projects are illustrated in years 2009 and 2010. The operating assistance costs illustrated on the TIP represent the maximum level of operating assistance that may be available, and not the actual cost of delivering service. The operating assistance amounts will be revised in the new 2009-2012 TIP to reflect the additional state funds from Act 44, and changes in the level of federal operating assistance.

Staff will provide a presentation about the proposed amendments at the meeting.

The Technical Committee should receive the staff report, review the proposed amendments, and consider a recommendation to the Coordinating Committee.

Presented by: Tom Zilla, CRPA

Action: Recommendation to the CCMPO Coordinating Committee about approval of proposed amendments to the 2007-2010 Centre County TIP to address Year of Expenditure (YOE) requirements.

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ITEM 6.d.

2007-2010 CENTRE COUNTY TIP

W. Beaver Ave./S. Fraser St. Intersection Realignment And Safety Improvement Project

In 2004, the CCMPO approved \$251,850 in federal TE funds for the W. Beaver Ave./S. Fraser St. Streetscape project, sponsored by State College Borough. The Borough applied for \$447,175 in additional funds in the 2005-2006 TE application cycle. The CCMPO ranked this project #3 of the three candidate projects submitted in that application cycle. However, funding was not committed for the project because of fiscal constraints.

The Borough's TE project is part of a larger project to realign the W. Beaver Ave./S. Fraser St. intersection from its current offset configuration to a standard four-way intersection. The entire project is scheduled to be completed by September 2009, concurrent with the construction of the Fraser Centre development.

State College Borough is seeking state and/or federal funding for the street realignment portion of the project. An earmark of federal funds was included in a preliminary Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2008 appropriations bill approved by the U.S. House of Representatives. However, the latest House version of the FFY 2008 appropriations bill does not include the earmark of funds. Although efforts are underway to reinstate the earmark, it is unlikely that the federal funds will be available in FFY 2008. Thus, the Borough is investigating other potential sources of funding for the design and construction of the street realignment project.

As reported at the September CCMPO Committee meetings, if State College Borough secures federal and/or state funds for the project, certain actions may be required by the CCMPO.

In order to preserve the project's eligibility to utilize state and/or federal funds in the future, State College Borough is requesting the CCMPO to add the Preliminary Engineering (PE) phase of the project to the 2007-2010 TIP, using 100% local funds. No projects on the current TIP are affected by this action. The purpose of adding the PE phase is solely to help preserve the project's eligibility to receive federal and/or state funds in the future.

The Technical Committee should review the request, and consider a recommendation to the Coordinating Committee.

Presented by: Trish Meek, CRPA
Tom Zilla, CRPA
State College Borough staff

Action: Recommendation to the CCMPO Coordinating Committee about approval of a proposed amendment to the 2007-2010 Centre County TIP to add the Preliminary Engineering phase of the W. Beaver Ave./S. Fraser St. Intersection Realignment and Safety Improvement Project, using 100% local funds to be provided by State College Borough.

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ITEM 7

2009-2012 CENTRE COUNTY TIP

Project Priorities for New TIP

The Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and the Twelve Year Transportation Program (TYP) are updated every two years, and the update process traditionally takes approximately one year. Final guidance documents for the preparation of the new 2009-2012 TIP and TYP were provided to MPOs and RPOs in June 2007. Updated Financial Guidance was subsequently provided to the MPOs and RPOs in September 2007.

At the September CCMPO meetings, staff provided an overview of transportation issues in Centre County relative to the new TIP. Since that time, PennDOT has been working to update project costs and schedules, in order to determine which highway and bridge projects must be carried forward to the new 2009-2012 TIP. Similar activities will be occurring with CATA relative to the transit element of the TIP.

At this meeting, MPO and PennDOT staff will provide a brief presentation about:

- TIP/TYP update process and schedule
- Priority projects for the new TIP (highway and bridge)

An overview of the Highway Element of the new TIP follows:

- Includes Act 44 revenue:
 - ✓ New Pavement Restoration line item in all four years
 - ✓ Additional bridge projects
- Carries over several highway projects from the 2007-2010 TIP, including but not limited to:
 - ✓ Route 26 Pine Grove Mountain, Route 350 Sandy Ridge, and Route 322 Potter Township safety improvement projects.
 - ✓ North Atherton Street Signal Improvement project
 - ✓ Whitehall Road/University Drive Extension project
 - ✓ Old Fort Park and Ride Lot
- Carries over Betterment projects from the 2007-2010 TIP, including but not limited to:
 - ✓ Route 45 near Old Fort
 - ✓ Route 550 Bishop Street
- Includes a limited number of new highway projects:
 - ✓ Route 26/64 Pleasant Gap Betterment project
 - ✓ Route 150 Congested Corridors Improvement Program project (additional phases)
- Reflects latest PennDOT District 2-0 bridge priorities:
 - ✓ Additional phases of bridge projects being carried forward from 2007-2010 TIP
 - ✓ New projects are being added

(Continued)

- Approaches are being considered for distributing Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) allocation:
 - ✓ Potential line item setaside for public transit projects
 - ✓ Project selection process
- Includes a small portion of funding for the Construction phase of the I-80 Section A18 Local Access Interchange from the base allocation (formula) of funds. The CCMPO is expected to request that spike funds be allocated by the PennDOT Central Office for the Construction phase of the interchange. The latest estimate of cost for the interchange is approximately \$43 million.

The Technical Committee should receive the presentation, and provide comments about project priorities that will assist PennDOT and MPO staff in developing a Preliminary Draft TIP.

A Preliminary Draft TIP will be presented for approval by the CCMPO in January 2008, in order to submit the Preliminary Draft TIP to the PennDOT Central Office in late January.

Presented by: Tom Zilla, CRPA
Vickie Rusnak, PennDOT District 2-0

No action required

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ITEM 8

FY 2008-09 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM (UPWP)

Report about Priorities for UPWP

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 2007-08 UPWP.

In 2005, the Coordinating Committee directed staff to schedule discussions of the upcoming UPWP prior to the February meetings at which the UPWP is adopted, in order to provide more time for discussion of the work tasks on the new program. Thus, the purpose of this agenda item is to review the priorities for the FY 2008-09 UPWP.

A draft FY 2008-09 UPWP will be prepared by staff for presentation to the MPO committees in January 2008. The new UPWP must be adopted by the Coordinating Committee in February.

Attached is:

- Annual "Planning Priorities" letter from the PennDOT Central Office

The Technical Committee should receive the staff report, and provide comments to assist in the preparation of the new UPWP.

Presented by: Tom Zilla, CRPA

No action required

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ITEM 9

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Future Meeting Dates

- a. Coordinating Committee: Tuesday, November 27, 2007, 6:00 pm
College Township Municipal Building
- ⇒ Transportation Enhancements Program
 - ⇒ 2007-2010 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) amendments
 - ⇒ 2009-2012 TIP development
 - ⇒ FY 2008-09 Unified Planning Work Program
 - ⇒ I-80 Toll Conversion Project
- b. Technical Committee: Wednesday, January 9, 2008, 9:30 am (*tentative*)
Location to be announced
- ⇒ 2007-2010 TIP amendments
 - ⇒ 2009-2012 TIP development
 - ⇒ FY 2008-09 Unified Planning Work Program
 - ⇒ Centre County Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) 2008 Update
- c. Coordinating Committee: Tuesday, January 22, 2008, 6:00 pm (*tentative*)
Location to be announced
- ⇒ 2007-2010 TIP amendments
 - ⇒ 2009-2012 TIP development
 - ⇒ FY 2008-09 Unified Planning Work Program
 - ⇒ Centre County Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) 2008 Update

2. Mr. Chris Price, a member of the CCMPO Technical Committee, has announced his resignation as Assistant Director of the Centre County Planning and Community Development Office (CCPCDO), effective November 16, 2007. Chris has accepted the position of Executive Director of the Northern Shenandoah Regional Commission in Front Royal, Virginia.

Prior to his employment at the CCPCDO, Chris was a staff member at the Centre Regional Planning Agency (CRPA). On behalf of the CCMPO Technical and Coordinating Committees, we thank Chris for his work as a staff member at the CRPA and the CCPCDO, and for efforts on the CCMPO Technical Committee while representing Centre County. We wish Chris the very best of luck in his new position.

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3. On October 26, 2007, MPO staff attended the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Whiterock Quarry Rail Spur, a new rail spur serving the Centre Lime and Stone Company quarry near the Village of Pleasant Gap in Spring Township. Completion of the new rail spur included the construction of a new highway bridge on Route 26 (East College Avenue) over the rail spur.

The project was completed through a public-private partnership that included the SEDA-COG Joint Rail Authority, Nittany and Bald Eagle Railroad, Centre Lime and Stone Company, and PennDOT. The CCMPO was also a partner, through the provision of funding for the new highway bridge. Completion of the rail spur will allow shipments of both raw materials and bulk products to move by rail, significantly reducing the number of trucks that otherwise would be using highways in Spring Township and Centre County. An informational flyer about the project is attached.

4. CCMPO staff contact information:

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Bob Crum, Director rcrum@crcog.net
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