

Draft Erie MPO Coordinating Committee
June 9th, 2021 Minutes

A meeting of the Erie MPO Coordinating Committee was held on Wednesday, June 9th at 10:00am 2021. Due to COVID-19, the meeting was held virtually.

For a recording of the meeting, please use the following link: <https://youtu.be/PD8Ee3XMk8A>

Those in attendance were:

Voting Members		Non-Voting Members	
Organization	Representative	Organization	Name
City of Corry	David Mitchell	DEP	None
City of Erie	Jon Tushak	FHWA	Gene Porochniak
	Kathy Wyrosdick	FTA	None
	Jason Sayers (alternate)	HUD	None
	Charles Scalise (alternate)	DCED	None
	Joseph Schember	Guests	
	Renee Lamis	NW RPO	Travis Siegel
County of Erie	Honey Stempka (alternate)	EMTA	Terry Thompson
ECAB	Bill Kuhn	PennDOT Program Center	Matthew Crea
ECATO East	None	Senator Toomey	Ashley Megat Sheila Sterrett
ECATO West	None	Erie County Maintenance	Jim Shaut
EMTA	Dani Duran (alternate)	TranSystems	Brian Krul
ERAA	Derek Martin	Urban Engineers	Charity Stover Bill Petit
EWPPA	None	Elderly and Disabled	Passel Helminski
Fairview Twp	None	SVATS	Matt Stewart
Harborcreek Twp	Tim May (chair)	Edinboro	Kevin Oppe
Lawrence Park Twp	None	Rep. Bizzaro	Joshua Kaufer
Millcreek Twp.	Matt Waldinger John Sebesta (alternate)	Parking Authority	Christopher Friday
PennDOT Program Center	Kevin McCullough Brandon Leach (alternate)	Council of Governments	Jessica Horan-Kunco
PennDOT 1-0	Brian McNulty Tom McClelland (alternate)	PennDOT 1-0	Courtney Lyle Ron Johnson
Summit Twp	Mark Welka Matt Jonas (alternate)		
Wesleyville Boro.	None		

Twelve (12) voting representatives were in attendance plus five (4) voting alternates. A quorum was reached. An additional four (4) alternative voting members were in attendance.

1. Call to Order / Introductions

- Chairman T. May calls the meeting to order at 10:01am.

2. Hearing of the Public

- None

3. Minutes from the March 10th 2021 meeting

- B. Kuhn makes a motion to approve the minutes. It is seconded by M. Waldinger. There is no discussion.

The minutes are approved unanimously

4. 2021 TIP Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

- Fiscal Constraint Charts-Modifications

B. Leach presented administrative modifications. These included items shown at the TAC meeting. Two new changes highlighted were Beckman Rd and I-90 construction phase and Zuck to Chestnut Resurfacing project. There were no questions on the changes.

- Fiscal Constraint Chart--Amendment

B. Leach presented amendment vote. Amendment to add US 20: Zuck to Chestnut - Resurfacing (MPMS #87032) to the Erie MPO 2021 TIP as an Early Action Project for MPMS #99729. \$1,447,000 in Federal NHPP Funds and \$463,347 in State 581 Funds were added to the CON Phase in FFY 2021. \$1,033,000 in Federal NHPP Funds and \$156,653 in State 581 Funds were added to the CON Phase in FFY 2022. US 20: Zuck Road to Chestnut Street (MPMS #99729) was used as the funding source and this project remains fully funded based on the previous estimate. E. Aloiz presented the e-ballot.

The total cast votes are: twelve (12) in favor, and zero (0) opposed and zero (0) abstained.

- FCC-Informational Item

B. Leach presented informational administrative actions. Secretary Aloiz presented the vote results to apply for \$25 application for Federal Earmark funding that was submitted to Senator Casey's office and the vote results. There was no discussion of these items.

The total cast votes were eighteen (18) in favor, zero (0) opposed and zero (0) abstained.

- PennDOT Pathways P3 Initiative

K. McCullough said we are currently on a 1 year extension of the FAST Act for federal funding. Federal meetings are being held to create an INVEST funding bill to replace the FAST Act. At the state level PEL and TROC initiatives are still moving forward. Sen. Langerholc, the chairman of the PA Senate Transportation Committee, opposes P3 Bridge tolling but has introduced DRIVE SMART legislation in committee. B. Leach shared the link <https://www.penndot.gov/about-us/funding/Pages/default.aspx> for more information.

- Local Federal Aid Route

Secretary Aloiz announced an open round of paving funds for locally owned roads that qualify for federal funding in 2022. The deadline is July 26th 2021. Applications materials were shared and timeline were shared.

5. \$5 Local Use Fee Updates

- T. May said there were no updates to Leet Road Bridge
- Secretary Aloiz said there were no updates to Etter Road Bridge in Greene Township, however Elk Creek Township and Waterford Township will publically advertising of an engineering consultant.
- Secretary Aloiz presented the e-ballot vote to reprogram \$165,387 from construction of an access road to the demolition of Kahkwa Ave Bridge. J. Tushak discussed that since the vote, City Council has approved the funding and a project has been created with municipal services. The City's engineering department is in the process of creating an RFP for demolition.

The total cast votes were sixteen (16) in favor, zero (0) opposed and zero (0) abstained.

- J. Tushak reminded the group that there is still \$75,000 that was awarded to the project for a study. In preparation for the demolition, the City mailed residents in the area a survey about the bridge with a 63% response rate. Of the responses 55% wanted to see a bridge with vehicular traffic replaced, 38% wanted pedestrian only bridge, and 7% wanted no bridge at all. J. asked the group if those survey results are sufficient to move forward with replacement in kind. B. McNulty commented that in his opinion if PennDOT was the owner, their response would be to replace what is there. A study would be needed if the type of structure needed to change.
- B. Kuhn asked if it was legal to take money that was given for a study and put it towards funding new construction.
- J. Tushak said they would cancel the study as unnecessary a look to fund a new project to replace the bridge. D. Mitchell said he is comfortable with that approach.
- Secretary Aloiz said that the legal framework is PennDOT's pub 9 document that allows for things like bridge demolition and studies to be funded. The projects that are funded are debated at the \$5 Local Use Fee Subcommittee level and voted on by the Technical Advisory Committee and approved by the Coordinating Committee.

6. Long Range Transportation Plan

- Secretary Aloiz presented the preliminary results of the public survey that closes within two days of the meeting. 477 people took the survey and there were almost as many points map on the wikimap. The survey is reaching a range of locations and ages in the county; however, there is not much diversity.
- K. Wyrosdick asked if the responses to the survey to be correlated to zipcode. E. Aloiz said she believed they could be.
- R. Lamis volunteered to help circulate the survey to minority city communities.

7. Project Updates

- EMTA Updates

D. Duran presented updates on EMTA. The token transit app can now be used to buy bus tickets. The Presque Isle express route is back. They have order 15 new paratransit buses. There are 9 new CNG buses and 8 new will be ordered. T. Thompson discussed the updated EMTA safety plan. They are working with FTA to refine their data. Safety instances have decreased due to the

pandemic. D. Martin made a motion to adopt the safety targets in EMTA's safety plan. The motion was seconded by M. Welka. There was no discussion.

The transit safety targets are adopted by the MPO unanimously.

- PennDOT Project Newsletter

R. Johnson said the Depot Rd project boundaries have been updated moving forward towards a let in the 1st corridor of next year. They are working through storm water, utility and right-of-way to go around an archaeological area. The West 8th Street in the City of Erie corridor is in final review and will be advertised soon.

D. Mitchell commented that the Corry airport acquisition is moving forward so the TIP projects should be able to advance.

T. McClelland mentioned some construction updates. I-90 paving on the first 3 miles from Ohio should be done in mid-July. The next miles from 3.5-10 are ahead of schedule. The bridge over I-90 on 215 was hit by a truck and moved forward. The paving and bridge work is expected to be complete in the end of 2023. The roundabout at Hamot and Oliver should start construction on June 21st. Soldiers and Sailors Bridge started construction over CSX railroad. There will be an archaeological monitor on site. Three traffic signals in Union City Borough are on schedule. East 28th and Pine Ave will be done mid-July. Paving on SR 98 is on schedule. The only project behind schedule is downtown Edinboro due to utility and right of way issues.

K. Oppe asked for an updated schedule for Edinboro and which intersection will be done first. As the project is delayed there are potential conflicts with Edinboro University events including a parade. T. McClelland said the Waterford Road paving would be complete before August, although the preconstruction meeting was scheduled at the same time as the MPO meeting. PennDOT will stay in communication with the Borough to coordinate construction.

8. Other Business

- C. Lyle presented TA set aside application information. Guidance is supposed to be out by the end of the day. The minimum for the project is \$50,000. Municipalities interested in applying can reach out to C. Lyle or Lyndsie DeVito at PennDOT District 1-0 to discuss their projects. B. Leach said the TA set aside application cycle is June 28th until October 8th 2021.
- C. Lyle discussed the 12th Street Corridor project which is updating 12 signals. It was supposed to be let on the 24th of June but it will have to be delayed. Funding needs to be added, specifically for PennDOT signal software and two ITS boards as well as inspection and oversight totaling 2.5 million dollars. The project can receive 1.9 million in HSIP set aside funds, \$590,000 of state fund and \$60,000 of other federal funds. Central Office must vote. If they approve, there will be an e-ballot coming for an MPO vote so the project can be let on August 26th 2021.

9. Adjournment—next meeting is a TAC meeting on August 11th at 10:00am.

- T. May asked about the committee's opinion of meeting in person. A poll was taken. The results were equally split between those who wanted to meet in person and those who wanted to continue meeting virtually, with the most responses of no preference.

- Based on the results, E. Aloiz and H. Stempka will look into the technology needed for hosting a hybrid meeting.
- A motion to adjourn was made by B. Kuhn. It was seconded by M. Welka. The meeting adjourned at 11:10.

For more information or questions please contact Secretary Emily Aloiz (814)-451-7325 or ealoiz@eriecountypa.gov