

Northeastern Pennsylvania Metropolitan Planning Organization

Transportation Programming for the Counties of: Carbon ✧ Monroe ✧ Pike ✧ Schuylkill

June 17, 2025, Joint Technical Planning Committee and Policy Board Business Meeting Summary and Minutes

Attendees:

Rocky Ahner*
Chris Barrett^
Marie Bishop
Roger Christman*
John Christy*
Kerri Cutright
Toby Fauver
Steve Fisher*
Brian Funkhouser
Micah Gursky*^
AJ Jordan*
Sara Lizambri
John Malinchok*
Robert Manzella
Mike Mrozinski*
Larry Peterson*

Organization:

Carbon County
PMVB
PennDOT District 4
Ross Township
Monroe County
PennDOT District 5
Rockland Planning
PennDOT District 4
Michael Baker Intl.
St. Luke's
LANTA
Rockland Planning
Schuy. Planning Comm
Luzerne Co. Planning
Pike Co. Planning
PennDOT District 5

Attendees:

John Petrini
Emma Pugh
Nick Raio*
Daniel Reese
Valerie Saveri
Rich Schlameuss*
Joseph Sebelin^
Susan Smith*
Brian Snyder*
Mark Tobin^

Nettie Ginocchetti
Kate McMahon
Sean Papke
Jonathan Shaw
Daniel Yelito

Organization:

PennDOT District 4
PennDOT District 4
PennDOT Central
Luzerne Co. Planning
Carbon County
MCTA
NEPA Board
Schuylkill Co. Planning
Pike Co. Planning
PennDOT Central

NEPA Alliance
NEPA Alliance
NEPA Alliance
NEPA Alliance
NEPA Alliance

*Technical Committee members who voted at this meeting

^Policy Board Members who voted at this meeting

Summary of Actions Taken by the NEPA MPO Technical Planning Committee:

During this meeting, the MPO Technical Committee voted on the following actions:

Action 1: Mr. Gursky requested a motion from the Policy Board to approve the minutes from the December 17, 2024 Joint Technical Committee and Policy Board Meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Sebelin, seconded by Mr. Tobin, to approve the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

Action 2: Ms. McMahon requested a motion from the Technical Committee to approve the minutes from the May 20, 2025 Technical Committee Meeting. A motion was made by Ms. Smith, seconded by Mr. Schlameuss, to approve the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

Action 3: Ms. McMahon requested a motion from the Technical Committee to approve an amendment to add the PE Phase of the SR 6 and SR 434 Intersection Project to the TIP. A motion was made by Ms. Smith, seconded by Mr. Christy, to approve the amendment. The motion passed unanimously.

Action 4: Mr. Mrozinski requested a motion from the Technical Committee to recommend the 2025 Transit Planning MOU to the Policy Board for adoption. A motion was made by Mr. Schlameuss, seconded by Mr. Christy, to recommend the MOU to the Policy Board. The motion passed unanimously.

Action 5: Mr. Gursky requested a motion from the Policy Board to adopt the 2025 Transit MOU. A motion was made by Mr. Sebelin, seconded by Mr. Tobin, to adopt the MOU. The motion passed unanimously.

Action 6: Mr. Mrozinski requested a motion from the Technical Committee to recommend the Eastern PA Freight Alliance MOU to the Policy Board for adoption. A motion was made by Ms. Smith, seconded by Mr. Snyder, to recommend the MOU to the Policy Board. The motion passed unanimously.

Action 7: Mr. Gursky requested a motion from the Policy Board to adopt the Eastern PA Freight Alliance MOU. A motion was made by Mr. Sebelin, seconded by Mr. Tobin, to adopt the MOU. The motion passed unanimously.

Action 8: Mr. Mrozinski requested a motion from the Technical Committee to recommend the Active Transportation Plan to the Policy Board for adoption. A motion was made by Mr. Jordan, seconded by Ms. Smith, to recommend the Active Transportation Plan to the Policy Board. The motion passed unanimously.

Action 9: Mr. Gursky requested a motion from the Policy Board to adopt the Active Transportation Plan. A motion was made by Mr. Sebelin, seconded by Mr. Tobin, to adopt the Active Transportation Plan. The motion passed unanimously.

Action 10: Mr. Mrozinski requested a motion from the Technical Committee to recommend the Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan to the Policy Board for adoption. A motion was made by Mr. Jordan, seconded by Mr. Schlameuss, to recommend the Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan to the Policy Board. The motion passed unanimously.

Action 11: Mr. Gursky requested a motion from the Policy Board to adopt the Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan. A motion was made by Mr. Sebelin, seconded by Mr. Tobin, to adopt the Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan. The motion passed unanimously.

Action 12: Mr. Mrozinski requested a motion from the Technical Committee to submit the NEVI Community Charging Rankings to Central Office. A motion was made by Mr. Ahner, seconded by Mr. Raio, to submit the rankings. The motion passed unanimously.

Action 13: Mr. Mrozinski requested a motion from the Technical Committee to approve the 2025-2026 NEPA MPO Technical Committee meeting dates. A motion was made by Mr. Ahner, seconded by Mr. Raio, to approve the dates. The motion passed unanimously.

Action 14: Mr. Gursky requested a motion from the Policy Board to approve the 2025-2026 NEPA MPO Policy Board meeting dates. A motion was made by Mr. Sebelin, seconded by Mr. Tobin, to approve the dates. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Gursky called meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Ms. McMahon chaired the Technical Committee meeting in the absence of the chairperson and vice-chairperson.

1) Business Items

a) Policy Board Approval of Minutes from the December 17, 2024 Joint Technical and Policy Board Business Meeting

Mr. Gursky requested a motion from the Policy Board to approve the minutes from the December 17, 2024, Joint Technical Committee and Policy Board Meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Sebelin, seconded by Mr. Tobin, to approve the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

b) Technical Committee Approval of Minutes from the May 20, 2025 Technical Committee Business Meeting

Ms. McMahon requested a motion from the Technical Committee to approve the minutes from the May 20, 2025 Technical Committee Meeting. A motion was made by Ms. Smith, seconded by Mr. Schlameuss, to approve the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

2) TIP Amendments and Administrative Actions

a) District 4-0 2025-2028 TIP Amendment and Administrative Actions

Information was included in the meeting packet which highlighted administrative actions on the 2025 TIP for District 4. Mr. Fisher presented the actions for District 4.

Amendment 1 – SR 6 & 434 Intersection Improvement – Adding \$500,000 to PE phase to begin design. The source is the NEPA 4-0 Highway Line Item.

Ms. McMahon requested a motion from the Technical Committee to approve an amendment to add the PE Phase of the SR 6 and SR 434 Intersection Project to the TIP. A motion was made by Ms. Smith, seconded by Mr. Christy, to approve the amendment. The motion passed unanimously.

Action 1 – SR 6 over Wallenpaupack Creek – Increase CON phase per estimate. The source is the NEPA 4-0 Highway Line Item.

b) District 5-0 2025-2028 TIP Administrative Actions

Information was included in the meeting packet which highlighted administrative actions on the 2025 TIP for District 5. Mr. Peterson presented the actions for District 5.

Action 1 – SR 1021 over RBM&N Railroad – Increase to cover PS&E estimate. The sources are Jim Thorpe Wall Rehabilitation, 209 & 33 NB over Appenzell Creek, and the NEPA Highway & Bridge Regional Line Item.

Action 2 – Long Pond over Tunkhannock Creek – Increase to cover AUC. The sources are County Bridge #8 – Foundry Rd T-231, Long Pond Rd over Tunkhannock Creek PE Phase, Mill Pond Road over Pohopoco Creek, Kunkletown Road over Princess Run, 209 Holy Cross Road to Hollow Road, and the NEPA Highway & Bridge Regional Line Item.

Action 3 – Country Club Rd. over Mahoning Creek – Increase to cover estimate. The sources are Brockton Mountain Road over Locust Creek and the NEPA Highway & Bridge Regional Line Item.

Statewide Action 1 – 209 Middle Smithfield Elementary Drive to Portuguese Lane – Increase to cover PS&E estimate. The source is the HSIP Set Aside Reserve Line Item.

Interstate Action 1 – I-80/Exit 308 Realignment – Increase for modified MPT plan, tiltmeters, asphalt scratch course, changeable message boards, crane costs, contaminated soil mitigation, pipe, shoulder widening, trench restore, unforeseen obstructions, additional state police and railroad flagging. The source was the Interstate Contingency Line Item.

Interstate Action 2 – I-80 Sec 17M Breakout – Cash flow to align with anticipated need due to let date moving out to November 8, 2029. The balancing source was the Interstate Contingency Line Item.

Interstate Action 3 – I-80 Reconstruction-Monroe – Cash flow to align with anticipated need due to let date moving out to December 16, 2032. The balancing source was the Interstate Contingency Line Item.

Interstate Action 4 – I-80 Sec 17M Breakout #1 – Increase to cover CON estimate. The balancing source was the Interstate Contingency Line Item.

3) Transportation Planning & Programs

a) Current Project Status Update – Bridge Projects

Ms. McMahon requested that due to the length of the bridge project report and the number of items on the agenda, that the districts did not need to go through each project listed on the Bridge Project Report and asked if anyone had any questions about the projects. Ms. Smith asked if there was any update on the SR 209 BCB – NEPA Box Culvert Bundle, regarding contact with Shenandoah Borough. Ms. Cutright stated that District 5 recently held a project status meeting and has had trouble contacting the borough to investigate ownership. Ms. Smith asked if the issue could hold up the other projects in the bundle. Ms. Cutright said that the district is planning to break out the projects after PE phase. Ms. Smith stated that she will attempt to reach out to a contact at the borough.

Mr. Mrozinski joined the meeting and began chairing the Technical Committee.

b) 2025 Transit Planning MOU Revision

Ms. McMahon stated that one of the recommendations from FHWA and FTA from the STIP Planning Finding was to update the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the MPO and transit providers. NEPA staff created a draft MOU that updates the language of the agreement and adds all three fixed route transit providers in the region. A draft of the MOU was provided at the May MPO meeting for the committees to review.

Mr. Mrozinski requested a motion from the Technical Committee to recommend the 2025 Transit Planning MOU to the Policy Board for adoption. A motion was made by Mr. Schlameuss, seconded by Mr. Christy, to recommend the MOU to the Policy Board. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Gursky requested a motion from the Policy Board to adopt the 2025 Transit MOU. A motion was made by Mr. Sebelin, seconded by Mr. Tobin, to adopt the MOU. The motion passed unanimously.

c) Eastern PA Freight Alliance MOU

Ms. McMahon stated that the Eastern PA Freight Infrastructure Plan has been finalized and approved by all of the participating MPOs. A website for the EPFA has been developed and contains the plan, information about the EPFA, and online mapping of the plan. The website can be accessed at <https://epennfa.org>. The EPFA has also drafted an MOU to formalize the alliance and begin work on implementation. The MOU was provided in the agenda ahead of the MPO meeting for the committees to review.

Mr. Mrozinski requested a motion from the Technical Committee to recommend the Eastern PA Freight Alliance MOU to the Policy Board for adoption. A motion was made by Ms. Smith, seconded by Mr. Snyder, to recommend the MOU to the Policy Board. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Gursky requested a motion from the Policy Board to adopt the Eastern PA Freight Alliance MOU. A motion was made by Mr. Sebelin, seconded by Mr. Tobin, to adopt the MOU. The motion passed unanimously.

d) Active Transportation Plan

Mr. Funkhouser provided a presentation on the development and recommendations of the Active Transportation Plan. The presentation slides are attached. Ms. McMahon stated that NEPA MPO staff are developing an Active Transportation landing page to add to the NEPA Alliance website. The 9/11 Memorial trail is performing a feasibility study for the Anthracite Connector. NEPA staff provided the Bicycle and Pedestrian Level of Stress information to the study's consultant, and they are using the data to help determine trail alignment. Mr. Gursky asked if the Centre County MPO's sidewalk study included evaluation of the condition of the sidewalk. Mr. Funkhouser stated that the Centre County MPO received an SS4A grant to do a detailed analysis of specific boroughs in the county to evaluate condition and accommodation of sidewalks. Ms. McMahon stated that looking into application for SS4A grants in the

future are a recommendation of the Active Transportation Plan. Ms. Smith asked if the MPO can be an applicant for SS4A. Ms. McMahon stated that the MPO can be an applicant. Ms. Smith asked if there is a plan to coordinate and educate municipalities in the implementation of the plan. Ms. McMahon stated that the MPO plans to form an implementation task force which will help determine how to best approach municipalities. Mr. Jordan asked if municipalities or agencies should reach out to Mr. Funkhouser or the MPO to request technical assistance with implementation. Ms. McMahon stated that municipalities should reach out to the MPO, and that LTAP could help provide technical assistance. Mr. Ahner asked if municipalities would be required to document implementation or create mapping. Ms. McMahon stated that municipalities would be encouraged but not required to pursue implementation. Mr. Ahner asked if municipalities should be the lead applicants for funding or if the county should be. Ms. McMahon stated that projects typically happen at the local level, but that the lead applicant could be the county if the county is working with the municipality. Mr. Ahner stated he would coordinate with Weissport and Lehighton about working with the county on an implementation project.

Mr. Mrozinski requested a motion from the Technical Committee to recommend the Active Transportation Plan to the Policy Board for adoption. A motion was made by Mr. Jordan, seconded by Ms. Smith, to recommend the Active Transportation Plan to the Policy Board. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Gursky requested a motion from the Policy Board to adopt the Active Transportation Plan. A motion was made by Mr. Sebelin, seconded by Mr. Tobin, to adopt the Active Transportation Plan. The motion passed unanimously.

e) Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan

Mr. Fauver provided a presentation on the development and recommendations of the Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan. The presentation slides are attached. Ms. Saveri stated that Carbon County has been looking into transit services to recovery centers, and thanked Mr. Jordan for his assistance in adding a LANTA stop at the County Children and Youth and Drug and Alcohol offices. Ms. Saveri stated that the county has seen time constraints in the fixed route bus schedule and asked if anyone had advice for pursuing funding to add services. Mr. Fauver stated that PennDOT has several programs that pilot service expansions. Several of the programs require a study phase before the pilot is funded. Many of the programs require a local match but can be combined with federal funding in certain cases. If the pilot is successful, the cost of the project can be rolled into the state funding formula. PennDOT also has guidelines for microtransit funding, and voucher programs are an option. Mr. Fauver noted that there is more to extend service hours than just increasing driver hours. Dispatchers, office staff, and mechanics can make extending hours cost prohibitive. Mr. Petrini asked if the study phase could be funded through the UPWP. Ms. McMahon stated that it has not been pursued before, but that the MPO could be eligible. Mr. Fauver stated that funding could be pursued through the PennDOT Bureau of Public Transportation (BPT). Mr. Jordan stated that BPT prefers that the studies go through the transit agencies. Mr. Jordan asked if the steering committee would meet to assign recommendations from the plan to regional agencies. Ms. McMahon stated that the MPO had a transit subcommittee that would be reactivated to develop strategies and pursue recommendations. Mr. Fauver stated that the MPO was fortunate to have Mr. Jordan's participation in the development of the Coordinated Transit Plan.

Mr. Mrozinski requested a motion from the Technical Committee to recommend the Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan to the Policy Board for adoption. A motion was made by Mr. Jordan, seconded by Mr. Schlameuss, to recommend the Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan to the Policy Board. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Gursky requested a motion from the Policy Board to adopt the Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan. A motion was made by Mr. Sebelin, seconded by Mr. Tobin, to adopt the Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan. The motion passed unanimously.

f) SR 2001 Section 405 Alternatives Study

Mr. Funkhouser provided an update on the current status of the SR 2001 Section 405 Alternatives Study. The management team has been involved in stakeholder engagement, including Delaware Township, the school district, National Park Service, and Pike County Road Task Force. The team is looking at low-cost minor capital safety improvement projects, including discouraging trucks from using SR 2001. A meeting with District 5 staff is scheduled for June 23rd to review potential projects. The management team has also developed cost estimates for 5 major segments in the corridor. A meeting with District 4 leadership will be scheduled to review recommendations, cost estimates, and findings from the study. Mr. Mrozinski asked if the traffic counts being performed by Monroe County in mid-July could be included in the final report. Mr. Funkhouser stated that they would be included. Mr. Mrozinski stated that he is coordinating with Delaware Township to perform traffic control.

g) Route 611 Corridor Study

Ms. McMahon stated that the NEPA MPO's amendment to add the study to the 2025-2027 UPWP has been approved and that the study will kick off around July. The Scope of Services has been finalized and shared with the committees. A steering committee including the townships, MCTA, the Pocono Mountains Visitor Bureau, and the Pocono Mountains Economic Development Corporation will be established. The study will take about a year to complete. Mr. Raio stated that the UPWP will need to be formally amended after July 1st, which could cause a slight delay. Mr. Christy asked if the study limits were the Lifeline Rd to SR 715. Ms. McMahon confirmed those were the project limits. Ms. Smith asked why the SR 611 Study was funded off the UPWP, while the Cressona Borough Study was funded off the TIP. Ms. McMahon stated that District 5 had indicated that money was available off the TIP for funding, but 611 was pursued as supplemental funding through Central Office. District 5 is leading the Cressona Borough Study. Mr. Raio stated that studies funded through the TIP may lead directly to a project. Mr. Fisher stated that an alternatives analysis was conducted through the TIP in Northern Tier that lead directly to a project, but that SR 2001 was funded through the UPWP because the district was not sure what to do with the corridor. Ms. Cutright stated that the Cressona Study would be put out for bid in the early fall. Ms. Smith requested to participate in the study development. Ms. Cutright stated that she will make the study project manager aware of her interest.

h) NEVI Community Charging Program

Ms. McMahon stated that the National Electric Vehicle Charging Program (NEVI) project rankings and types of charging rankings were shared with the Technical Committee at the May MPO meeting. We are seeking approval from the Technical Committee to submit the rankings to Central Office for consideration for future NEVI funding.

Mr. Mrozinski requested a motion from the Technical Committee to submit the NEVI Community Charging Rankings to Central Office. A motion was made by Mr. Ahner, seconded by Mr. Raio, to submit the rankings. The motion passed unanimously.

i) 2025-2026 NEPA MPO Meeting Dates

Ms. McMahon stated that tentative meeting schedule for 2025-2026 program year was shared with the committees at the May MPO meeting. A joint Technical Committee and Policy Board meeting is scheduled in December to accommodate the SR 2001 Study and approval of a new open-end consultant contract. Another joint meeting is scheduled for June 2026 to adopt the TIP.

Mr. Mrozinski requested a motion from the Technical Committee to approve the 2025-2026 NEPA MPO Technical Committee meeting dates. A motion was made by Mr. Ahner, seconded by Mr. Raio, to approve the dates. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Gursky requested a motion from the Policy Board to approve the 2025-2026 NEPA MPO Policy Board meeting dates. A motion was made by Mr. Sebelin, seconded by Mr. Tobin, to approve the dates. The motion passed unanimously.

4) Other Business

None.

5) Adjournment

There being no further business, the NEPA MPO Technical Planning Committee meeting adjourned at 10:50 a.m.