

Northeastern Pennsylvania Metropolitan Planning Organization

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

June 16, 2026, Joint Technical Planning Committee and Policy Board Business Meeting Summary and Minutes

Attendees:

Davis Alas
Tony Bandiero
Chris Barrett^
Marie Bishop
David Bodnar
Jennifer Borino
John Christy*
Brendan Cotter*
Jonathan Eboli
Steve Fisher*
April Hannon
Patrick Kopacz
Robert Manzella
Gary Martinaitis*
Christine Meinhart-Fritz*
Mike Mrozinski*
Matthew Osterburg*^
Ken O'Brien

Organization:

PennDOT Central
EP-ACT
PMVB
PennDOT District 4
Carbon Co. Planning
PennDOT District 4
Monroe Co.
LANTA
PennDOT District 4
PennDOT District 4
PennDOT District 4
PennDOT District 4
Luzerne Co. Planning
STS
Monroe Co. Planning
Pike Co. Planning
Pike County
HDR

Attendees:

Larry Peterson
John Petrini
Nick Raio*
Daniel Reese
Rich Schlameuss*
Susan Smith*
Jared Soto^
Nate Staruch
Steve Thomas
Mark Tobin^
Scott Vottero

Organization:

PennDOT District 5
PennDOT District 4
PennDOT Central
Luzerne Co. Planning
MCTA
Schuylkill Co. Planning
Carbon Co. Chamber
Monroe Co. Planning
Michael Baker Intl.
PennDOT Central
PennDOT District 5

Nettie Ginocchetti
Kate McMahon
Sean Papke
Jonathan Shaw
Daniel Yelito

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 and Policy Board voted on the following actions:

Action 1: Mr. Barrett requested a motion from the Policy Board to approve the minutes from the December 16, 2026, Joint Technical Committee and Policy Board Meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Soto, seconded by Mr. Tobin, to approve the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

Action 2: Mr. Mrozinski requested a motion from the Technical Committee to approve the minutes from the May 19, 2026, Technical Committee Meeting. A motion was made by Ms. Meinhart-Fritz, seconded by Mr. Cotter, to approve the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

Action 3: Mr. Barrett requested a motion from the Policy Board to approve the 2026-2027 NEPA MPO Policy Board meeting dates. A motion was made by Mr. Soto, seconded by Mr. Tobin, to approve the dates. The motion passed unanimously.

Action 4: Mr. Mrozinski requested a motion from the Technical Committee to approve the 2026-2027 NEPA MPO Technical Committee meeting dates. A motion was made by Ms. Smith, seconded by Mr. Cotter, to approve the dates. The motion passed unanimously.

Action 5: Mr. Mrozinski requested a motion from the Technical Committee to recommend the 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program Air Quality Conformity Analysis Reports for Carbon County and Monroe County for Adoption by the NEPA MPO Policy Board. A motion was made by Mr. Raio, seconded by Mr. Christy. The motion passed unanimously.

Action 6: Mr. Barrett requested a motion from the Policy Board to Adopt 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program Air Quality Conformity Analysis Reports for Carbon County and Monroe County. A motion was made by Mr. Soto, seconded by Mr. Tobin. The motion passed unanimously.

Action 7: Mr. Mrozinski requested a motion from the Technical Committee to recommend 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program Air Quality Conformity Analysis Resolution for Adoption by the NEPA MPO Policy Board. A motion was made by Ms. Meinhart-Fritz, seconded by Mr. Cotter. The motion passed unanimously.

Action 8: Mr. Barrett requested a motion from the Policy Board to Adopt 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program Air Quality Conformity Analysis Resolution. A motion was made by Mr. Tobin, seconded by Mr. Soto. The motion passed unanimously.

Action 9: Mr. Mrozinski requested a motion from the Technical Committee to Recommend the 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program Community Demographic Assessment for Adoption by the NEPA MPO Policy Board. A motion was made by Ms. Smith, seconded by Mr. Schlameuss. The motion passed unanimously.

Action 10: Mr. Barrett requested a motion from the Policy Board to Adopt the 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program Community Demographic Assessment for Adoption by the NEPA MPO Policy Board. A motion was made by Mr. Tobin, seconded by Mr. Soto. The motion passed unanimously.

Action 11: Mr. Mrozinski requested a motion from the Technical Committee to Recommend 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program Amendments & Administrative Actions Guidelines & Procedures MOU for Adoption by the NEPA MPO Policy Board. A motion was made by Mr. Raio, seconded by Mr. Cotter. The motion passed unanimously.

Action 12: Mr. Barrett requested a motion from the Policy Board to Adopt 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program Amendments & Administrative Actions Guidelines & Procedures MOU. A motion was made by Mr. Tobin, seconded by Mr. Soto. The motion passed unanimously.

Action 13: Mr. Mrozinski requested a motion from the Technical Committee to Recommend 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program for adoption by the NEPA MPO Policy Board and Submission of TIP Package to PennDOT. A motion was made by Mr. Christy, seconded by Mr. Cotter. The motion passed unanimously.

Action 14: Mr. Barrett requested a motion from the Policy Board to Adopt 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program and Authorize Submission of the TIP Package to PennDOT. A motion was made by Mr. Soto, seconded by Mr. Tobin. The motion passed unanimously.

Action 15: Mr. Mrozinski requested a motion from the Technical Committee to Recommend 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program Self-Certification Resolution for Adoption by the NEPA MPO Policy Board. A motion was made by Ms. Smith, seconded by Ms. Meinhart-Fritz. The motion passed unanimously.

Action 16: Mr. Barrett requested a motion from the Policy Board to Adopt the 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program Self-Certification Resolution. A motion was made by Mr. Tobin, seconded by Mr. Soto. The motion passed unanimously.

Action 17: Mr. Mrozinski requested a motion from the Technical Committee to approve the Long-Range Transportation Plan Scope of Work. A motion was made by Ms. Meinhart-Fritz, seconded by Mr. Raio, to approve the Scope of Work. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Barrett called meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

1) Business Items

a) Policy Board Approval of Minutes from the December 16, 2026, Joint Technical and Policy Board Business Meeting

Mr. Barrett requested a motion from the Policy Board to approve the minutes from the December 16, 2026, Joint Technical Committee and Policy Board Meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Soto, seconded by Mr. Tobin, to approve the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

b) Technical Committee Approval of Minutes from the May 19, 2026, Technical Committee Business Meeting

Mr. Mrozinski requested a motion from the Technical Committee to approve the minutes from the May 19, 2026, Technical Committee Meeting. A motion was made by Ms. Meinhart-Fritz, seconded by Mr. Cotter, to approve the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

c) Policy Board Approval of the 2026-2027 Policy Board Meeting Schedule

Mr. Barrett requested a motion from the Policy Board to approve the 2026-2027 NEPA MPO Policy Board meeting dates. A motion was made by Mr. Soto, seconded by Mr. Tobin, to approve the dates. The motion passed unanimously.

d) Technical Committee Approval of the 2026-2027 Technical Committee Meeting Schedule

Mr. Mrozinski requested a motion from the Technical Committee to approve the 2026-2027 NEPA MPO Technical Committee meeting dates. A motion was made by Ms. Smith, seconded by Mr. Cotter, to approve the dates. The motion passed unanimously.

2) 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program

a) Review and approve 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program Air Quality Conformity Analysis Reports for Carbon County and Monroe County

Ms. McMahon stated that as part of the 2027 TIP, air quality conformity analyses are conducted for projects in Carbon County and Monroe County. The reports were advertised as part of the 2027 TIP package. Mr. Mrozinski requested a motion from the Technical Committee to recommend the 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program Air Quality Conformity Analysis Reports for Carbon County and Monroe County for Adoption by the NEPA MPO Policy Board. A motion was made by Mr. Raio, seconded by Mr. Christy. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Barrett requested a motion from the Policy Board to Adopt 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program Air Quality Conformity Analysis Reports for Carbon County and Monroe County. A motion was made by Mr. Soto, seconded by Mr. Tobin. The motion passed unanimously.

b) Review and approve 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program Air Quality Conformity Resolution

Ms. McMahon stated that the Air Quality Conformity Resolution accompanies the Air Quality Conformity Analysis reports and certifies that the NEPA MPO is in compliance with the applicable federal regulations.

Mr. Mrozinski requested a motion from the Technical Committee to recommend 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program Air Quality Conformity Analysis Resolution for Adoption by the NEPA MPO Policy Board. A motion was made by Ms. Meinhart-Fritz, seconded by Mr. Cotter. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Barrett requested a motion from the Policy Board to Adopt 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program Air Quality Conformity Analysis Resolution. A motion was made by Mr. Tobin, seconded by Mr. Soto. The motion passed unanimously.

c) Review 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program Development and Highlights

Ms. McMahon stated that the 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program has been developed over the past year with extensive collaboration with PennDOT and the MPO counties. The draft TIP package was advertised for a 30-day public comment period through emails, social media and newsletters. A public hearing was held in May on the TIP in four in person locations and online. Outreach was conducted to federal tribes to provide an opportunity to comment.

d) Review and Approve 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program Community Demographic Assessment

Ms. McMahon stated that the NEPA MPO conducted a Community Demographic Assessment to determine how TIP projects are distributed in areas with minority populations, white/non-Hispanic populations, below poverty populations and above poverty populations. The assessment also reviews asset condition for bridges and highways as well as crashes.

Mr. Mrozinski requested a motion from the Technical Committee to Recommend the 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program Community Demographic Assessment for Adoption by the NEPA MPO Policy Board. A motion was made by Ms. Smith, seconded by Mr. Schlameuss. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Barrett requested a motion from the Policy Board to Adopt the 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program Community Demographic Assessment for Adoption by the NEPA MPO Policy Board. A motion was made by Mr. Tobin, seconded by Mr. Soto. The motion passed unanimously.

e) Review 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program Comments and Responses

Ms. McMahon stated that only one comment was received from Mr. Ahner during the public comment period. The comment raised concerns about county bridges, a new project that was added to the TIP in Weissport, utilizing CMAQ funds, and a LANTA project expanding bus service in Carbon County. NEPA and PennDOT staff met with Carbon County Commissioners in May to address issues with county bridges and the Weissport project. Staff have also been communicating with LANTA about scheduling a meeting to discuss extending night and weekend service. A formal response was provided to Commissioner Ahner and it is attached to the TIP package.

f) Review and Approve 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program Amendments and Administrative Actions Guidelines & Procedures MOU

Ms. McMahon stated that the TIP Amendments and Administrative Actions Guidelines and Procedures MOU outlines how changes to the 2027 TIP should be made. The MOU is signed by a number of parties including NEPA, PennDOT and the transit providers.

Mr. Mrozinski requested a motion from the Technical Committee to Recommend 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program Amendments & Administrative Actions Guidelines & Procedures MOU for Adoption by the NEPA MPO Policy Board. A motion was made by Mr. Raio, seconded by Mr. Cotter. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Barrett requested a motion from the Policy Board to Adopt 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program Amendments & Administrative Actions Guidelines & Procedures MOU. A motion was made by Mr. Tobin, seconded by Mr. Soto. The motion passed unanimously.

g) Adopt the 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program

Mr. Mrozinski requested a motion from the Technical Committee to Recommend 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program for adoption by the NEPA MPO Policy Board and Submission of TIP Package to PennDOT. A motion was made by Mr. Christy, seconded by Mr. Cotter. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Barrett requested a motion from the Policy Board to Adopt 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program and Authorize Submission of the TIP Package to PennDOT. A motion was made by Mr. Soto, seconded by Mr. Tobin. The motion passed unanimously.

h) Review and Approve the 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program Self-Certification Resolution

Ms. McMahon stated that the self-certification resolution affirms that the NEPA MPO is meeting of the applicable federal transportation statutes and regulations.

Mr. Mrozinski requested a motion from the Technical Committee to Recommend 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program Self-Certification Resolution for Adoption by the NEPA MPO Policy Board. A motion was made by Ms. Smith, seconded by Ms. Meinhart-Fritz. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Barrett requested a motion from the Policy Board to Adopt the 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program Self-Certification Resolution. A motion was made by Mr. Tobin, seconded by Mr. Soto. The motion passed unanimously.

3) TIP Amendments and Administrative Actions

a) 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 183/SR901 Cressona Intersection – Increased to match negotiated agreement. The sources are PA 611 Retaining Wall Repairs and PA 443 Roadway Improvements.

Action 2 – Delaware Ave Signal Improvements – Increased to match current estimate. The sources is the Urban Regional Reserve Line Item.

Action 3 – SR 903 over Mud Run – Increase to cover PS&E estimate. The source is the NEPA Highway & Bridge Regional Line Item.

Action 4 – SR 903 over Mud Run – Advance SXF funding to align with FMS requirement.

Action 5 – Sterling Rd Safety Improvement Area 1 – Release funds to match current estimate. SR 209 Mt. Nebo to Holy Cross Rd – Cash flow to align with anticipated need. The NEPA Highway & Bridge Regional Line Item and the Safety Line Item Reserve were used as a balancing source to maintain fiscal constraint.

Action 6 – Upper Smith Gap Road over Aquashicola Creek – Sugar Hollow Road over Sugar Hollow Creek – Increase to add structure bat assessment and RDA document. The source is Berne Drive over Red Creek Bridge

Interstate Action 1 – I-380 Bridge Improvements – PE cost increase to match estimate. Due to adding an access road and expanding the roadway reconstruction length, the scope will be increased for the wetland, surveys, cross sections, traffic control plan, and signing and pavement marking plan tasks. The source is the Interstate Contingency Line Item.

4) Transportation Planning & Programs

a) Current Project Status Update – Bridge Projects

Mr. Fisher provided an update on bridge projects in District 4. Mr. Vottero provided an update on Bridge projects in District 5.

b) Long Range Transportation Plan

Ms. McMahon stated that the draft Scope of Work for the development of Long Range Transportation was reviewed with the Technical Committee at the May meeting. Comments on the scope of work have been addressed. Chambers of Commerce have been added to the list of Stakeholder Interviews, and potential topics of discussion were added to the District Strategy Day meeting which will be held in person with both PennDOT districts. A kickoff steering committee meeting for the LRTP will be held in the coming weeks.

Ms. Smith asked if NEPA staff were still planning on doing the public outreach component of the LRTP. Ms. McMahon stated that staff is planning to do public outreach during community events in the late summer and fall. Michael Baker will develop an online survey tool that NEPA staff can bring to community events and meetings to engage the public.

Mr. Mrozinski requested a motion from the Technical Committee to approve the Long Range Transportation Plan Scope of Work. A motion was made by Ms. Meinhart-Fritz, seconded by Mr. Raio, to approve the Scope of Work. The motion passed unanimously.

c) Eastern PA Freight Alliance

Ms. McMahon stated that a coordination meeting has been scheduled on June 29, 2026 to review the plan recommendations and prioritize action items for the group moving forward. Ms. Meinhart-Fritz asked if all of the MPOs in the alliance have been engaged in the EPFA. Ms. McMahon stated that LVTS has hired new staff who are getting up to speed on the plan development, but they are expected to take the lead in meeting coordination. All of the MPOs in the alliance and PennDOT have been engaged in the coordination meetings. Ms. Smith asked if the EPFA plans to address land use and zoning ordinance change recommendations. Ms. McMahon stated that the counties will be engaged if the EPFA addresses land use and zoning since the NEPA MPO is not a planning commission.

d) 2027-2029 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

Ms. McMahon stated that the current NEPA MPO UPWP will expire on June 30, 2027. Development of the 2027-2029 UPWP will begin in the near future. The PennDOT UPWP Work Group has been meeting for the past two months to develop the 2027-2029 UPWP Guidance Document. The guidance is expected to be issued soon. PennDOT is also expected to provide guidance on submitting Supplemental Planning Funds requests for special studies. NEPA has been successful in securing these funds for studies such as the PA 611 Corridor Study. She stated that anyone with ideas for additional studies for the 2027-2029 UPWP should reach out. Engagement of the NEPA UPWP Steering Committee is expected in August to begin discussions about tasks for inclusion in the UPWP. A draft of the UPWP will be required by October to allow ample time for review by FHWA and FTA. Adoption of the 2027-2029 UPWP by the Technical Committee and Policy Board is expected at the joint December 15th meeting.

e) SR 611 Corridor Study

Mr. Thomas stated that the Route 611 Corridor Study recommendations were shared during the May MPO meeting. The study has been reviewed by the Steering Committee, and the study report is being finalized. It will be completed by the end of June. The corridor study recommendations will be considered during the development of the NEPA MPO Long Range Transportation Plan. Ms. McMahon stated that the township involved in the PA 611 study have been meeting on the implementation of their municipal comprehensive plan and we plan to utilize those meetings to discuss implementation of the PA 611 Corridor Study.

5) Other Business

Ms. Smith asked if functional classification maps could be made available for reference. Ms. Ginocchetti stated that the maps are depreciated due to ESRI discontinuing the version the maps are based on. NEPA staff will work on recreating the maps for future use.

6) Adjournment

There being no further business, the NEPA MPO Joint Technical Planning Committee and Policy Board meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.