

H A T S
Technical Committee Meeting
Capital Area Transit
Dick Miller Board Room, 2nd Floor
Meeting # 262
June 11, 2010 9:00 AM
DRAFT

The June 2010 HATS Technical Committee meeting began at 9:00 AM. Mr. Szymborski welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked members, staff, and guests to introduce themselves.

Attendance

Members and guests present are noted on the attached attendance sheet.

1. Meeting Minutes

The minutes from the April 09, 2010 Technical Committee meeting were reviewed.

- #262-1: Mr. Panko moved to accept the minutes as submitted; Mr. Harpster seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.

The minutes from April 23, 2010 Coordinating Committee meeting were available for review.

2. TIP Modifications (FFY 2009 – 2012)

a. Amendments - Transit

Mr. Panko noted the purchase of 14 replacement paratransit vehicles at a total cost of \$750,000 were added to the TIP.

- #262-2: Mr. Stoner moved to recommend adoption of this amendment to the Coordinating Committee; Mr. Memmi seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.

b. Administrative Actions

Mr. Panko provided an overview of the TIP Administrative Actions since the last meeting (*see HATS MPO FFY 2009-2012 TIP Modifications from 4/9/10 to 6/11/10 for details*).

- US 22 median barriers and left turn lanes from PA 39 to Lebanon County line project was added to the TIP.
- #262-3: Mr. Memmi moved to recommend to add this project to the TIP as an amendment since this is a new project; Mr. Harpster seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.
 - Mr. Stoner asked why the project priority list was not used to identify a new project. Mr. Panko responded that the project was on the list of projects that could not be done due to the lack of Act 44 money from tolling.
- Paradise Road final design was removed from the TIP due to lack of funds.
- Mechanicsburg Borough Federal Safe Routes to School project was modified – remove design phase in FFY 2010 and the funds moved to PE phase in FFY 2010.

- Craighead Bridge cost increase of \$85,000 with additional funds from the HATS Bridge Reserve and locals providing the local match.
- PA 743/US 422 intersection project cost increase of \$918,000 to address construction costs in the current estimate which includes \$345,000 in enhancements (lighted bollard and ornamental railings) that were previously approved by HATS during the TIP amendment discussion last fall. The project will be obligated in July and let on September 2nd, therefore will not impact the FFY2011-2014 TIP update.

3. Adopt FFY 2011-2014 TIP Update

a. Disposition of public comments

Mr. Kmiecinski noted HATS conducted a public comment period from May 7th to June 7th for the TIP update. He also noted the Patriot News did an article on the TIP update focusing on the York Split project. Most of the public comments received pertained to the York Split project timeline and the effect on local roads.

- #262-4: Mr. Harpster moved to accept the response provided to the public comments; Mr. Panko seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.

b. 2030 RTP amendment approval

Ms. Myers-Krug requested the current RTP be amended to add the York Split project. It was included as part of the air quality conformity modeling for the 2011 TIP update, and fits within the fiscal constraint of the long range plan.

- #262-5: Mr. Stoner moved to add the project to the RTP; Mr. Jones seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.

c. Highway/Bridge, Transit, Interstate TIPS

Ms. Myers-Krug informed the committee that through the 2011-2014 TIP, projects totaling \$322 million would be constructed: 80 highway projects totaling \$165 million; 80% of Highway and Bridge funds are used for highway projects; and 20 projects completed in the next four years of the 12-year plan, totaling \$248 million. Two projects on the Interstate TIP total \$35 million. \$52 million is allocated to the Transit TIP.

- #262-5: Mr. Memmi moved to recommend the TIP to the Coordinating Committee for adoption; Mr. Harpster seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.

4. Presentations

a) Corridor Two

Mr. Ward of MTP made a presentation on Corridor Two. The findings of the study include:

- Commuter rail is operationally, but not financially feasible
- Premium bus service, with limited stops, smart card fare collection, and services like wifi is operationally and more affordable than rail in this corridor
- Premium coach service from Harrisburg to Lebanon would include some BRT-type road and signal improvements
- The next step is to develop a planning committee. Mr. Adams asked if there was a funding plan in place, Mr. Ward said there were several identified funding sources but no plan has been formally developed.

b) Cumberland County Enhanced Bus Study

Mr. Stoner noted HATS approved a Bus Study in 2007 to look into near term and implementable transit alternatives. He introduced Mr. McGinley of Michael Baker Inc. who made a brief presentation on the Cumberland County Enhanced Bus Study.

- The goal of the Study is to develop premium bus service in Cumberland County.
- The study identifies two routes with 3 alternatives.
- Locations of stations/stops would be based on demographics.
- Ms. Stowell asked if the bus service would serve downtown Harrisburg. Mr. McGinley said the alternatives included that option.
- Mr. Szyborski commended the effort and indicated there are also potential connections for residents of Lebanon County to commute to Cumberland County..
- Mr. Panko asked what the cost was to conduct the Study. Mr. Stoner replied it was around \$50,000.
- With no objections stated, the Committee agreed to support the process and welcomed ideas and suggestions.

5. Resolutions

a) TIP Modification Procedures

Ms. Myers-Krug reviewed proposed revisions to the TIP modification procedures. The threshold for amendments is at \$2 million for Highway and Bridge projects, or changes in costs exceeding 50%, and \$5 million for Interstate Maintenance projects. She also noted the information was made available during the public comment period and was a part of the public review process.

- #262-6: Mr. Turner moved to recommend the proposed TIP modification procedures; Mr. Harpster seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.

b) Air Quality

Mr. Sundara noted the HATS TIP and RTP were subjected to air quality analysis as per EPA regulations and the findings show the TIP and RTP are in conformity.

- #262-7: Mr. Jones moved to recommend endorsement of the air quality resolution; Mr. Turner seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.

c) Self Certification

Mr. Szyborski reviewed the self certification resolution, stating the HATS MPO planning process is carried out in conformance with applicable federal requirements.

- #262-8: Mr. Jones moved to recommend endorsement of the self certification resolution; Mr. Panko seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.

6. 2035 Regional Transportation Plan

a) Draft project list/estimated costs

Ms. Myers-Krug provided information about the project list and estimated costs. Mr. Ames went over illustrative projects. Mr. Adams asked why the Walnut Street Bridge is on the list of projects, HATS position was not to spend money on the project. Ms. Myers-Krug noted HATS

never took such official action and Transportation Enhancement money was programmed on the project. Mr. Link noted the City of Harrisburg supported the project as per West Shore's request.

b) Draft revenue projections

Ms. Myers-Krug noted, based on the projected revenues, there is a funding gap of about \$2.7 billion in an optimistic case scenario and a funding gap of \$3.3 billion in a worst case scenario. The Committee suggested adding earmarks and spike funding as sources of funding to help address the potential shortfall.

7. Status Reports

PennDOT (Mr. Sloand)

- The Rt. 743/422 project in Hershey let date moved to July
- 5th St./University Drive project near Penn State Harrisburg to be let on June 24th
- The 7th St. widening project in Harrisburg to be let in October. The utility issues are not yet resolved.
- US 15/PA 581 contract 1 almost complete
- Linglestown Square is ahead of schedule. A local detour is in place to alleviate some local congestion. Ms. Herigan of Representative Marsico's office thanked PennDOT on behalf of the local community for addressing the local traffic issues.

FHWA

- Mr. Crum offered to make a presentation on Livability and Sustainable Communities. The Committee agreed this would be beneficial to all concerned.

Capital Area Transit (Mr. Jones)

- April 2010 average weekday ridership increased 6.58% over April 2009 ridership
- May 2010 average weekday ridership was 7.12% greater than that of May 2009 ridership
- CAT was notified earlier this week by PennDOT of the reduction of the amount of FY Act 44, Section 1513 operating assistance for the current FY which ended June 30, 2010. The State wide reduction for each transit system is 3.7%. The dollar amount for CAT's reduction is \$236,744, which will be deducted from the June payment. The loss of funding will have a very significant impact on CAT's continued operations.
- The bicycle racks on buses are being installed.
- CAT is working on implementing real time passenger information. The Avego Technology Pilot Project is being implemented on the Hershey Route.

SARAA (Mr. Spaulding)

- 16% increase in seats as four airlines are increasing their service from Harrisburg International Airport.
- 7% ridership increase in May.
- Cargo handling increased by 27%
- American Eagle to provide direct service to Chicago and Air Tran to provide direct service to Atlanta.

- United Airlines increased daily flights to Chicago and Delta increased daily flights to Detroit.

Commuter Services (Ms. Heilman)

- Regional Transit Service Coordination Study - consultant was selected: PB America & Michael Baker teamed together; project kick-off meeting at the end of June; tentative end date for the Study will be May 2011.
- Recently held a very successful outreach event at the Dept. of Defense base in New Cumberland on June 9-10; collected 191 new commuter applications and now have 996 employees in the database out of the total 2,000 employees that are on base; also been working with CAT on a survey to determine how to best serve base employees by looking at the routes that go to and within the base.
- Bike to Work Week in late May - 64 total bicycle commuters biked 4,400+ miles; 20 participants from Dauphin County biked almost 500 miles and 12 participants from Cumberland County biked almost 1,900 miles (so about 50% of the participants and 55% of the miles biked were from these 2 counties).
- Commuter Services and PennDOT have agreed to make FFY 2010-2011 Year one of the JARC vanpool project and CS withdrew their Year two application, which was submitted through the York MPO (YAMPO). CS will revise and resubmit the Year two application next year.

Norfolk Southern (Mr. Fesen)

- Mr. Szymborski suggested NS consider providing the local match of about \$4 million for the Lemoyne Connector project, if TIGER II funds is pursued and secured, as it would be much less than the construction cost of building the at-grade crossing (\$13 million) itself if TIGER II funding is not pursued.
- Mr. Fesen requested HATS send a formal letter to NS regarding the Lemoyne Connection project and possible TIGER II funding.
- Crescent Corridor project is higher priority for NS.
- Mr. Stoner noted Lemoyne Connector project is the number one priority on list of HATS projects and should be supported by NS.

TCRPC

Regional Growth Management Plan (Mr. Szymborski)

- The Roundtable Event was conducted. Public input will be provided on the website when compiled in report form..
- Staff is currently preparing plan element drafts and addressing project task force comments.

Park and Ride Project (Mr. Ames)

- Conceptual PE is completed and the project team is on schedule to present final recommendations within the next few months.
- The FY 2011 UPWP needs to be amended to include the remaining funds programmed for the project at the end of June. The Technical Committee unanimously recommended that amendment be approved.

Bike-Ped-Passenger Task Force (Mr. Kmiecinski)

- Attendance at the Task Force meetings is growing. He explained HATS process to the task force.
- Next meeting August 4th

8. Other Business

- Mr. Szymborski conveyed that the York County MPO is an ex-officio voting member on the HATS Technical Committee. HATS transferred the responsibilities to plan and program for the portion of Harrisburg urbanized area in York County to York MPO. Based on conversation with York MPO staff, he recommended that York MPO status on HATS Technical Committee be changed to ex-officio and non-voting member, and would request York MPO to nominate a new delegate and alternate. He also suggested inviting Lebanon MPO to the HATS Technical Committee as an ex-officio member without voting status.
- Mr. Szymborski noted he gave a testimony of behalf of Dauphin and Perry Counties at the House Committee Hearings and Mr. Stoner gave a testimony on behalf of Cumberland County.
- Delta Development has requested a letter of support from HATS to federal legislators for the Allendale Road project to help secure federal funding. The project is being considered for the fiscally-constrained list of projects for the RTP, but the RTP is currently in draft form. Mr. Ames asked the committee how to respond to a request for a letter of support for a project that is not part of an adopted RTP.
 - #262-9: Mr. Stoner moved to submit a letter stating that the project is on the proposed draft RTP; Mr. Harpster seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.

9. Adjourn

- 262-10: Mr. Jones made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

10. Attendance

Name	Affiliation
Technical Committee Members Present	
Technical Committee Officers	
James Szymborski, AICP, Chairman	Dauphin County
Timothy Reardon, AICP, Vice-Chairman*	HATS Planning Staff
Mike Kmiecinski, Secretary*	HATS Planning Staff
Technical Committee Members	
Kirk Stoner, AICP	Cumberland County
Jody Harpster	Cumberland County
Steve Naylor	Perry County
Bill Jones	Capital Area Transit
Skip Memmi	Dauphin County
James Turner	Perry County
Dennis Sloand	PennDOT District 8-0
Walt Panko	PennDOT Office of Planning
Candace H. Stowell, AICP	City of Harrisburg
Will Clark	York County Planning Commission
Other Attendees	
Diane Myers-Krug, AICP	HATS Planning Staff
Alfred Sundara, AICP	HATS Planning Staff
Drew Ames	HATS Planning Staff
Tim Smith	HATS Planning Staff
David Spaulding	Susquehanna Area Regional Airport Authority
Michael Fesen	Norfolk Southern
Jon Crum	FHWA
Drew Lyons	Rep. Sheryl Delozier
Terry Adams	Michael Baker
Brandy Heilman	Commuter Services of PA
Pat Herigan	Rep. Ron Marsico
Joseph V. Link	Parsons Brinckerhoff
Daniel Flint	Lower Allen Township
Lou Roth	Delta Development Group
Bill Peterson	Center for Community Building Inc.
Carey R. Mullins	PennDOT District 8-0
Brent Salhamer	Delta Development Group
Jeff Bergsten	Michael Baker
Stephen McGinley	Michael Baker
Julie Shade	MTP
John Ward	MTP
Fran Strouse	L. R. Kimball

* Non voting member