

H A T S
Coordinating Committee Meeting
Capital Area Transit
Dick Miller Board Room, 2nd Floor
Meeting # 184
January 25, 2008
9:00 AM

Attendance

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

Welcome & Introductions

Representative Keller called the meeting to order at 9:04 AM by welcoming everyone to the Capital Area Transit Offices. He then asked attendees to introduce themselves.

1. Election of Officers

Mr. Szymborski stated 2008 officers needed to be selected.

- 184-01: Mr. Memmi nominated Representative Keller to continue as Chairman; Commissioner Haste to continue as Vice Chairman; and Commissioner Barclay to continue as Secretary. Mr. Link seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

2. Minutes of the December 2007 Coordinating Committee and January 2008 Technical Committee meetings

Representative Keller asked if anyone had any comments about the December 21st HATS Coordinating Committee minutes, there were none.

- #184-02: Commissioner Barclay motioned for the minutes to be accepted. Mr. Link seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Representative Keller noted the January 11th Technical Committee minutes had been included in the agenda packets for informational purposes.

3. SRTP Commuter Services Program

Brandy Heilman, Director of Commuter Services of South Central PA, provided an update about the Program. The SRTP service area consists of Adams, Cumberland, Dauphin, Lancaster, Lebanon, Perry and York Counties. Approximately 90% of the estimated 823,000 regional commuters ride in Single-Occupant Vehicles (SOV) each workday; the goal of the program is to reduce the number of SOV riders by 1%. Even this small reduction in the number of commuting vehicles would provide measurable benefits to all commuters. The Commuter Services Program promotes transit, carpools, and vanpools, offers TransitChek; encourages biking and walking, promotes telecommuting and altered scheduling (e.g. stagger shifts), and offers pre-tax benefits. Primary outreach tools include employer contacts, event participation, the Program's website, media relations, partnering with other organizations, and advertising. The rideshare database has grown to 5,000 applicants, doubling in size in just over a year; a total of 1,731 commuters working and/or living in Cumberland, Dauphin and Perry Counties are currently enrolled, most of whom are in a carpool or vanpool. Sixteen key area employers promote the program, and over 300 employers were contacted in 2007.

Susquehanna Polling & Research (SP&R) conducted a commuter survey in November 2007; 97% of respondents said they are either very or somewhat concerned about gas prices, 42% said they have had to make cutbacks in other necessities because of increased commuting costs, and 68% said they would like to have available commuter options such as carpooling or transit to get to work, even if they can only use them occasionally. In addition, 71% think it is good public policy for government to invest tax dollars to promote commuter options, and 29% considered changing jobs to reduce commuter costs in the past. Future program initiatives include an improved Emergency Ride Home Program, vanpools (to begin Feb. 1), roadway signs (to be installed in the spring) notifying the public about the Program, and a partnership with PennDOT District 8-0 to offer the program services to their employees. Ms. Heilman thanked Representative Keller and Mr. Szymborski for their ongoing support.

4. 2007 HATS Annual Report

Mr. Sundara briefly reviewed the draft report and asked the Committee to provide any input by February 8th.

- #184-03: Commissioner Barclay motioned, and Mr. Memmi seconded, report approval and distribution contingent on additional input prior to February 8th. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Panko noted the report quality, stating it included the right amount of detail. Representative Keller lauded HATS and PennDOT staff for their contributions.

5. Regional Goods Movement Forum (RGMF) Resolution

Ms. Green asked for approval of a resolution to continue the work of the goods movement study, primarily development of a public-private Forum. She indicated public sector membership recruitment is almost complete, and Co-Chair/PennDOT Deputy Secretary Madden and the State Chamber of Business and Industry are assisting with identifying and contacting prospective private sector members. A public sector pre-meeting will be held February 5th, with the goal of a full RGMF meeting in March.

- #184-04: Commissioner Barclay motioned for resolution approval, Mr. Link seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

6. FFY 2007-2010 TIP

Administrative Actions

Mr. Panko reviewed the administrative actions taken (*see FFY 2007-2010 TIP Modifications from 12/7/07 to 1/11/08 for details*). Federal funds were added to the HATS Highway Reserve (\$1.07 million) and Bridge Reserve (\$311,000) using deobligated funds from the close-out of six Dauphin County projects. Construction costs were increased on the following projects using funds from the HATS Act 44 reserve: Spring Road (Perry), Raccoon Valley Road (Perry), and Hershey Park Drive (Dauphin). Final Design (FD) costs were increased on the Mountain Road Bridge (Cumberland) and Linglestown Square (Dauphin), using Section 582 Maintenance funds and funds from the 7th Street Widening project, respectively. The 7th Street Widening project funding will be restored in the next TIP. The Farm Road RR Crossing project (Cumberland) was added to the TIP from the HATS reserve, while the Manada Bottom Road project (Dauphin) was removed, with funds applied to the HATS Act 44 reserve.

7. FFY 2009-2012 TIP Update

a. Project Sponsor Letter

Mr. Ames highlighted a letter that will be sent to municipalities and other potential project sponsors, reminding them that despite their potential efforts in planning future projects, HATS funding may not be available for design or construction. Representative Keller asked for final input; Mr. Memmi added there was no intent to devalue or withdraw support for projects, rather a reinforcement of limited funding moving forward. Representative Keller agreed and encouraged all to keep communication lines open.

- #184-05: Mr. Memmi made a motion to approve and send the letter. Commissioner Barclay seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

b. Highway/Bridge

Mr. Panko referenced a January 2nd meeting between HATS staff, District 8-0, and the Program Center to review the draft TIP and FFY 2009-2010 Interstate Management Program (*see HATS Draft FFY 2009-2012 Highway TIP, Status of TIPs Dated 1/2/08*). The following Interstate Management Program projects within the HATS area were recommended to be included on the TIP:

- Exit 44 Improvements – included in the FFY 2009 TIP for \$28.6 million; this is a companion project to the locally-funded, \$13.2 million Exit 44 project on the HATS draft FFY 2009-2012 TIP;
- I-81 Wade Bridge Rehabilitation – included for \$31.8 million with estimated let date of fall 2009; and
- I-83 South Bridge Rehabilitation – originally in the FFY 2007-2010 TIP, not included in the FFY 2009-2012 TIP. This project will be included in a future TIP.

The HATS Highway TIP will consist of carryover projects with strong emphasis to repair, rehabilitate or replace Structurally Deficient (SD) bridges and improve rideability of regional roadways. The District provided the following comments on the draft TIP:

- A total of \$116.6 million in federal and state bridge funds are being applied to the TIP to improve 49 SD bridges. HATS' funding allocation only covers \$82 million of this total; \$34 million is being covered by other sources.
- A total of \$124 million is being applied to the TIP for roadway projects to resurface (\$80 million) and add capacity (\$44 million). Of this amount, \$91 million is coming from the HATS allocation and \$33 million is coming from Act 44 funds.
- Candidate spike and Economic Development (ED) projects include the US 15/PA 581 project, Contract #1 (\$16.5 million spike funds), I-83 Eastern Section (\$6.8 million spike funds), and US 422/Lingle Avenue intersection (\$960,000 ED funds).

The following is a summary of issues still to be addressed (*see Use of Spike Funds in the FFY 2009-2012 TIP*):

- Spike funding from FFY 2007-2010 TIP for US 15/PA 581 Contract #1 will be applied on the FFY 2009-2012 TIP.
- Costs for SD bridges under US 15/PA 581 Contract #2 need to be identified; the projects may be a candidate for possible spike funding.
- The previously requested spike funds for the I-83 Eastern Section project will be removed from the TIP. The project is not ready for funding at this time.

- Adjust state highway and bridge TIP funding to be consistent with Financial Guidance.
- Move utility phase for US 422/Lingle Avenue intersection and construction phase for Nyes Road to FFY 2009 or 2010.
- Add Shippensburg Signals project to TIP using local funds for design and construction.
- Three projects are proposed to not be carried over into FFY 2009-2012 TIP: Burd Street Bridge, PA 39/West Hanover Widening, and Southern Gateway Project. The first two projects are expected to be bid this year and use FFY 2008 funding, while scheduling issues for the Southern Gateway Project need to be addressed.

Mr. Panko explained the Technical Committee's January 11th recommendations. The Technical Committee recommended including the Burd Street Bridge and PA 39/West Hanover Widening on the FFY 2009 TIP, adding the final design phase (which are earmarked funds) for the Southern Gateway Project to the TIP, and adding a \$150,000 park-and-ride study from Perry and northern Dauphin Counties to the TIP. The park-and-ride study would be funded using CMAQ funds.

Mr. Panko summarized all the proposed changes to the draft TIP. Those changes included:

- A total of \$16.6 million in FFY 2007-2010 TIP spike funds for the US 15/PA 581 Contract #1 project will be requested to be applied to the FFY 2009-2012 TIP. If the spike funding change is approved, a total of \$3.16 million in HATS STU funding will be freed up for use on other projects.
- A total of \$2.8 million in FFY 2007-2010 spike funds will be requested for the US 15/PA 581 Contract #2 project.
- A total of \$5.9 million of freed up STU funds will be added to the HATS reserve. If the Burd Street Bridge and/or PA 39/West Hanover Widening projects are not bid in FFY 2008, these reserve funds could be used on either or both projects.
- A total of \$17.6 million in new spike funds will be requested for the US 15/PA 581 Contract #2 project to improve structurally deficient bridges.
- If spike funds are allocated to the US 15/PA 581 Contract #2 project, the freed up HATS HRST and STU reserves will be used to move up the utility phase of the US 422/Lingle Avenue project and the construction phase of the Nyes Road project from FFY 2012 to FFY 2009. The freed up funds will also be used to advance the design phases for six structurally deficient bridges; total design cost for these six bridges is about \$4 million.
- An additional \$1 million in state economic development funds will also be requested for the construction phase of the US 422/Lingle Avenue project.
- The Southern Gateway Project final design phase, which has a \$5.4 million earmark, will be added to the TIP. City personnel and higher level PennDOT staff will work together to ensure the project continues to progress.
- The total \$17.6 million spike funding request depends on how much spike funds are spent by other MPO/RPOs.

Representative Keller clarified the contingencies involved, and noted potential future project cost overages and underages as additional contingencies to be considered. Mr. Panko agreed and asked for a motion to approve his recommendations.

- #184-06: Mr. Bugaile made a motion to approve and Commissioner Barclay seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

8. UPWP Special Planning Studies

a. Regional Growth Management Plan Update

Mr. Reardon introduced an \$80,000 proposal to update the 2003 Regional Growth Management Plan. The funding would be phased over two years, State Fiscal Years 2009 and 2010. The current Plan has been incorporated in the subsequent Cumberland, Dauphin and Perry County Comprehensive Plans, and the revised plan will continue to meet PennDOT's goal regarding the land use/transportation link. He requested approval of \$32,000 in FHWA supplemental funds in SFY 2009, with \$40,000 expected from PA DCED and the final \$8,000 in local funds (*see Supplemental Funding (Special Studies) – Regional Growth Management Plan*).

- #184-07: Mr. Turner made a motion to approve and Commissioner Barclay seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

b. Harrisburg Southern Gateway Project

Mr. Leppo introduced a \$2.7 million proposal to develop a specific plan for the Southern Gateway project. The plan will assess the 20-year economic development, quality of life, and other impacts and is consistent with the MPC's guidance to link multiple land use patterns to transportation (*see Supplemental Funding (Special Studies) – Harrisburg Southern Gateway*). A total of \$2.3 million has already been secured for the study, so the request would be for \$400,000 in supplemental funds in over a two year period, in State Fiscal Years 2009 and 2010.

- #184-08: Mr. Hoffer made a motion to approve and Mr. Gillespie seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

9. Status Reports

Lemoyne Connector

Representative Keller stated he sent a letter to Secretary Biehler requesting to meet before the end of January to discuss the current status of the Lemoyne Connector project. The Representative has not yet heard back from Secretary Biehler.

PennDOT (Mr. Gillespie)

- US 15/PA 581: Contract #1 was awarded to Walsh Construction on January 8th. A pre-construction meeting has been scheduled for February 4th and a Notice to Proceed has been issued.
- The Clarks Ferry Bridge parapet work is expected to be completed in February.
- The Nyes Road project is currently under design; construction is expected to begin in 2009.
- The US 322 Bridges project was bid in December; the total cost is \$1.2 million.
- The Trindle Road (PA 641) project is scheduled to be bid on February 7th.
- George Wade Bridge (I-81) rehabilitation project is currently in PE, construction is expected to begin in fall 2009.

Mr. Bugaile asked about the status of the PA 743 bridge project in Hershey; Mr. Gillespie noted the project is scheduled for a 2009 replacement with interim repairs this year. Hershey Foods estimates a \$1 million impact of closing the bridge for repairs/rehab. Mr. Memmi indicated the parties involved are working to move up the let date.

FHWA (Mr. Walston)

- FHWA has been receiving TIP Year of Expenditure Reports and is reviewing Long-Range Plan projects.
- FHWA provided HATS with a copy of 2007 Freight Facts & Figures.
- It was noted funding is available for congestion management and truck parking studies and projects.

City of Harrisburg (Mr. Link)

- The City's traffic signal upgrades have been completed; the project still needs to be closed out.

Capital Area Transit (Mr. Hoffer)

- Hegins Valley Lines is working with CAT to transition its northern Dauphin County line to CAT; the transition is expected to occur soon.
- An agreement is being finalized with Hollywood Casino (Penn National) to provide CAT service.

SARAA (Mr. Spaulding)

- Commercial passenger traffic at HIA was up nearly 10% in 2007.
- The airport is averaging an 80% load factor on all flights.
- Rather than aim for similar 2008 increases (unrealistic), focus is on adding flights, aircraft and international business.

U.S. Representative Platts (Mr. Reilly)

- Congress is in early stages of reviewing FY 2009 budget.
- The Federal Infrastructure Report recommends strong Federal guidance including traditional 40% share of highway financing and raising Federal gas tax 25-40 cents (with future-year indexing) to cover shortfalls. The Bush Administration favors user pricing over gas tax increases.
- SAFETEA-LU Correction Bill includes Shippensburg Signal project. The bill is "stuck" in the Senate, but there appear to be no objections to the signal project's inclusion in the bill.

Mr. Adams asked if the Lemoyne Connector project was included in the bill; Mr. Reilly said it was not. Representative Keller asked for any suggestions regarding this issue; there were none offered. He also thanked Representative Perry's staff (Mr. Brinton) for attending.

Amtrak – No report this month.

Norfolk Southern – No report this month.

PA Motor Truck Association – No report this month.

PA Turnpike Commission – No report this month.

TCRPC

St. Johns Church Road (CLASH) Circulation Study (Mr. Millard)

- McCormick Taylor and the Study Steering Committee held an open house public meeting on January 23rd at the Hampden Township Emergency Services Building..

- A short, formal presentation was made at 6 PM, and a pre-meeting for locally elected officials and HATS committee members was held from 4-5 PM. State Senator Vance, State Representatives Nailor and Grell, and Commissioner Barclay were among the elected officials who attended the pre-meeting.
- A total of 22 intersections on four primary corridors were examined, and concepts for building a full interchange in the PA 641/St. John's Church Road area were also displayed.
- It is likely there will be a HATS Technical Committee presentation about the study in the spring.
- Mr. Adams noted many of the improvements examined were small scale in nature, and may be more cost effective than completing the interchange.

Bike/Pedestrian/Passenger Task Force (Mr. Millard)

- HATS Task Force meeting took place on January 15th (next meeting is April 15th).
- Bicycle/pedestrian improvements on Front Street in Susquehanna Township, car and bicycle parking issues at the Harrisburg Transportation Center, and issues regarding the HIA railroad station project were discussed.
- West Shore pedestrian needs are being identified, particularly east-west corridor needs.

ITS Regional Advisory Panel (Mr. Millard)

- District 8-0 has created county-level incident management task forces;
- District 8-0 staff has developed a Rest Area Parking Information Delivery System (RAPIDS) proposal and is seeking Federal funding;
- The D-8 Traffic Management Center is under development, and Mr. Szymborski and Mr. Reardon have toured the facility.

10. Other Business

Mr. Adams introduced Carey Mullins as a new District 8-0 staff person; Mr. Mullins transferred from District 5-0.

11. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 10:23 AM.

ATTENDANCE

**Harrisburg Area Transportation Study
Coordinating Committee Meeting
January 25, 2008**

Affiliation		Member Name	Attending
Voting Members:			
<u>PennDOT</u>			
PennDOT Office of Planning:		Jim Ritzman	<u>X</u>
	Alternate:	Robin Metz	
Staff: (non-voting member)		Walt Panko	<u>X</u>
District 8-0 Office:		Scott Christie	
	Alternate:	Mike Gillespie	<u>X</u>
Staff: (non-voting member)		Terry Adams	<u>X</u>
<u>Cumberland County</u>			
Commissioner:	Secretary	Bruce Barclay	<u>X</u>
	Alternate:	Gary Eichelberger	
Voting Member:		Don Mowery	
<u>Dauphin County</u>			
Commissioner:	Vice-Chairman	Jeff Haste	
	Alternate:	Skip Memmi	<u>X</u>
PA House of Representatives:		Ron Marsico	
	Alternate:	Eric Bugaile	<u>X</u>
<u>Perry County</u>			
PA House of Representatives:	Chairman	Mark Keller	<u>X</u>
	Alternate:	John Amsler	
Planning Commission:		Jim Turner	<u>X</u>
	Alternate:	Bob Shaffer	
<u>Harrisburg City</u>			
Mayor:		Stephen Reed	
	Alternate:	Jim Close	
City Engineer:		Joe Link	<u>X</u>
	Alternates:	Dan Leppo	<u>X</u>
<u>Capital Area Transit</u>			
Member:		Frank Pinto	
	Alternate:	Jim Hoffer	<u>X</u>
Advisory Members:			
<u>TCRPC</u>			
		Jim Szyborski	<u>X</u>
		Tim Reardon	<u>X</u>
		Diane Myers-Krug	<u>X</u>
		Chip Millard	<u>X</u>

Al Sundara	<u>X</u>
Karen Green	<u>X</u>
Drew Ames	<u>X</u>

Other Persons Attending (Guests):

Planning Partners

Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)	Dan Walston	<u>X</u>
Susquehanna Area Regional Airport Authority	Dave Spaulding	<u>X</u>

Congressional/Legislative Reps:

U.S. Representative Todd Platts' Office	Bob Reilly	<u>X</u>
PA Representative Scott Perry's Office	David Brinton	<u>X</u>

Other Organizations:

PennDOT District 8-0	Carey Mullins	<u>X</u>
Center for Community Building, Inc.	Bill Peterson	<u>X</u>
Delta Development Group	Jason Yakelis	<u>X</u>
Harrisburg Bicycle Club	Tom Helm	<u>X</u>
Lower Paxton Township	George Wolfe	<u>X</u>
Silver Spring Township	Don Seiple	<u>X</u>
Sierra Club	Larry Joyce	<u>X</u>