

**CENTRE COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (CCMPO)  
TECHNICAL COMMITTEE**

**Wednesday, February 12, 2025  
9:30 a.m.  
Hybrid Meeting**

**Minutes**

**Voting Members**

Ray Stolinas	Centre County Planning & Community Development Office (CCPCDO)
David Lomison	Centre County Office of Transportation
Ron Seybert	Ferguson Township
Don Franson	College Township
Peggy Johnson	Harris Township
Doug Erickson	Patton Township
Mark Lively	Upper Bald Eagle Valley Planning Region
Robert Zeigler	Penns Valley Planning Region
Miran Yang	Centre Area Transportation Authority (CATA)
Mike Tylka	Centre Regional Planning Commission (CRPC)
Frank Hampton	PennDOT Central Office
Eric Murnyack	PennDOT District 2-0

**Non-Voting Members**

Rick Ward	The Pennsylvania State University (PSU)
Gene Porochniak	Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)

**Others Present**

Jim Saylor	Centre County Metropolitan Planning Organization (CCMPO)
Anne Messner	CCMPO
Greg Kausch	CCMPO
Marcella Hoffman	CCMPO
Reagan Mann	Centre Regional Planning Office
Brian Funkhouser	Michael Baker International
Kevin James	Michael Baker International
Mark Schultz	PennDOT District 2-0
Daniel Szekeres	Michael Baker International
Deborah Cleeton	
Leigh Woolridge	PennDOT District-2
Cindy Kunes	Congressman Glen Thompson Office

**1. Call to Order**

Mr. Tylka called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. with a round of introductions acting as roll call.

**2. Election of Officers (00:04:00)**

Mr. Tylka opened the floor for nominations for the Technical Committee Chair.

*Motion was made by Mr. Seybert, seconded by Mr. Lively to nominate Mr. Lively for the 2025 Technical Committee Chair. No other nominations were made. The motion carried 12-0.*

Mr. Lively opened the floor for nominations for the Technical Committee Vice-Chair.

*Motion was made by Mr. Lively and seconded by Mr. Seybert to nominate Mr. Seybert for the 2025 Technical Committee Vice Chair. No other nominations were made. The motion carried 12-0.*

**3. Safety Moment: Older Driver Awareness (00:07:00)**

Ms. Messner brought attention to Older Driver Awareness giving the Committee a brief overview, providing an educational video to the Committee to review.

**4. Public Comments (00:06:30)**

There were no comments from the public.

**5. New Agenda Items (00:07:59)**

No new agenda items were requested.

**6. Consent Agenda (00:08:05)**

**a. Approval of Minutes**

*Motion was made by Mr. Seybert and seconded by Mr. Hampton to approve the minutes of the November 2024 Technical Committee meeting, as presented. The motion carried 12-0.*

**7. State College Area Connector (SCAC) Project (00:08:00)**

Mr. James provided the Committee with an update on the SCAC project. As mentioned at the November meeting, the last public meeting was in August of 2024. A lot of feedback was gathered from that public meeting, and a summary report is in review with FHWA. There is anticipation of receiving approval to release the summary report to the public on the project as well as a press release. CATA provided feedback in the report on ways to respond to certain transit-related input, this information will be included as well. Additionally, the team has worked on refinement of the alternatives that were presented at the August public meeting and have updated the potential impacts. In December Mr. James and his team met with the MPO Safety Subcommittee in relation to the western interchange near PA 45 and US 322. A single point urban interchange was presented at the meeting, with other alternatives also presented to the subcommittee. Follow up information will be provided through the Environmental Impact Memo. It is anticipated that more information will be provided to the public in late Spring and early Summer to share the refined alternative information as well as a recommended preferred alternative to move forward with. Mr. James' team has worked with FHWA and other supporting agencies to update the project schedule to be in compliance for completion. Mr. James is looking to get the final environmental impact statement and record of decision by July of 2026.

**8. 2025 Centre County Major Projects Update (00:14:41)**

Mr. Murnyack presented the Committee with an update of major projects in Centre County.

Mr. Murnyack provided information on several Active Construction Projects, including;

- SR80-B38 I-80 Bridge Replacements
- SR80-B18 Bellefonte Interchange
- SR26-147 Jacksonville Road Betterment
- SR45-TSA Pine Grove Mills Bike/Ped

- T-633 Lower Georges Valley Rd – Potter Run Bdg.

Mr. Murnyack went on to provide information on several projects in the design phase, including:

- SR322-RMB Rumble Strips
- SR3006-A04 Mill Race Structure in Bellefonte
- SR26-P53 Over Spring Creek, near Houserville Rd
- SR26-TSA College Twp TASA
- SR4005-A02 Bridge over I-80
- SR3014-154 Atherton Street Phase IV
- SR150-N40 Phoenix Ave Study in Bellefonte
- SR322-D10 State College Area Connectors (SCAC)
- SR45-STY SR 45 Study

The Committee thanks Mr. Murnyack for the update but offered no questions or comments.

**9. 2025-2028 Centre County Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) Revisions (00:33:55)**

**a. Centre County Concrete Preservation**

Mr. Saylor presented the amendment summary for the Centre County Concrete Preservation on the TIP, also called the Sinking Slab Project that Mr. Murnyack mentioned, that would reallocate funding for I-99 locations back to the reserve line item. PennDOT applied for and received money through the interstate management program to complete work at the I-99 location. PennDOT is proposing to return the funding originally allocated to the I-99 location back to the Regional Poor Bridge/ Betterment line item.

*Motion was made by Mr. Seybert and seconded by Mr. Lomison to approve the TIP revisions as presented. The motion carried 12-0.*

**b. 322 Rumble Strip Project**

Mr. Saylor presented the amendment summary for the 322 Rumble Strip project that adds additional funding to address more locations (SR 26, SR 144, SR 504, Alt US 220). PennDOT went back and reviewed additional data to identify these other locations to install the rumble strips.

*Motion was made by Mr. Erikson and seconded by Mr. Seybert to approve the TIP revisions as presented. The motion carried 12-0.*

**10. 2025 Centre County MPO Committee Workplan (00:37:00)**

Mr. Saylor presented an overview of the 2025 CCMPO Workplan to the Committee. The workplan is a high-level outline of what the CCMPO anticipates accomplishing in 2025. The workplan consists of table overviews of the accomplished 2024 tasks, the 2025 meeting schedule, and major plan updates for 2025, by plan and month. Other components in the workplan include major work areas like safety planning, planning studies, transit planning, agenda items by meeting for the Coordinating and Technical Committees, as well as roughly five opportunities for public comment. When public comment periods arise information will be shared ahead of time with the Committees. Lastly, possible focus areas

for the Technical Committee meetings was presented. This allows the Technical Committee members to suggest items they would like to focus on more. This is a rough outline of what the CCMPO will be doing over 2025.

**11. Long Range Transportation Plan Update (00:43:18)**

Mr. Szekeres presented the Committee with an LRTP 2055 update. Mr. Szekeres highlighted some of the data sources that could be integrated into the LRTP. One of the items is a demand travel model that had been used to forecast traffic volumes, travel time, and travel patterns for the SCAC. INREX is a provider of travel time data, including travel speeds and congestion. PennDOT has purchased INREX for statewide use. Another tool being used is Replica, which brings together all these data sources to allow different ways to analyze the data and extract it. Mr. Szekeres stated that the INRIX data source will be very valuable to LRTP, specifically using it to analyze congestion in the area. Mr. Szekeres provided a map of 2024 Average Weekday Congestion in the area, highlighting hotspots. The Committee was provided with a link to the online mapping tool to see how the different data is shown. Another visualization provided through a graph was Saturday Football Weekend congestion by date, showing specific hotspot times. The last graph was a 2024 Regional Daily Delay Totals, showing congestion on certain days and months. Some notable hotspots with significant results are students coming back from holiday breaks. The next steps for data integration with the LRTP is to identify what needs to be included (congestion, highlighting traffic growth, impacts on travel) and identifying what can be future action items in the LRTP.

Mr. Funkhouser briefly presented the National Highway Freight Network Map, showing how Centre County is connected and being served to the network as well as the USA Freeway System. PennDOT receives a little over \$50 million a year to help support these systems in Pennsylvania. Mr. Funkhouser visualized the Annual Average Daily Traffic to the Committee, along with visualizations of Electric Vehicles in the County, Federal Aid Roads and Functional Classification. Mr. Funkhouser briefly reviewed the LRTP schedule, stating that it is on schedule. Looking ahead to upcoming tasks, a majority of time will be spent on developing strategic directions, developing a financial plan and project prioritization over the next several months. Financial guidance reports for the LRTP anticipated to come out in the spring. These numbers will provide a forecast the amount of revenue that the MPO will receive.

**12. Projects Committee Update (01:03:00)**

Ms. Hoffman reported that the Projects Committee met on January 30, 2025, for its reorganizational meeting. The 2025 Chair and Vice Chair are Commissioner Concepcion from Centre County and Mr. Rishel, Interim CATA CEO and Executive Director, respectively. The Projects Committee also reviewed its 2025 work plan, which includes the 2025 Committee meeting schedule, expected reports and action items for each meeting, a proposed schedule of activities, and opportunities for input on funding/planning programs. The Projects Committee also reviewed and discussed the initial results of the project prioritization exercise. Staff used the Committee's input from the August and October meetings to weigh the criteria in each project category and conducted an initial scoring exercise to ensure the data associated with each criterion was adequate to score each project. Staff scored sample projects in the following categories: Safety-Congestion, Technology, Major Highway-Capacity Adding, Resiliency, and Transit-Rail-Aviation. The active transportation matrix is dependent on data from the Centre County Active Transportation Plan, and staff are still working on gathering the data. In addition, staff

presented the draft Bridge Criteria Matrix to the Projects Committee at its January meeting. Staff will work on scoring bridge projects for review at a future meeting.

Overall, the Projects Committee believes that the projects are scoring adequately and accurately; however, the Committee provided several comments for staff to consider related to changes to the matrices. There were several minor edits to the scoring mechanisms, but more notably, the Projects Committee directed staff to create a separate matrix for study specific projects. While scoring projects, staff noticed that study projects scored considerably lower than construction projects, making prioritizing studies difficult. In addition, the Projects Committee directed staff to review the list of projects and set aside the projects that were “stale” or had not “moved” in several Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) updates. Staff will review the project list and work with the municipalities or sponsors of the “stale” projects to either renew the projects with updated data or remove the project from the list altogether.

Mr. Hoffman also presented the Committee with a grant agreement update.

**Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A):** Staff continue working with the Federal Highway Administration to develop and execute a grant agreement for the Centred on Safety Planning Grant to enhance and expand the Centre County Active Transportation Plan. Because of the freeze on federal grant programs, staff expects a delay in the obligation of these funds.

**Bridge Investment Program (BIP):** Staff worked diligently with Centre County, PennDOT, and a consultant team to write a grant application for the SR 4005 Snow Shoe Bridge replacement project. The application was submitted on November 1, 2024. Staff expects award announcements to take place in mid-2025 or later.

**Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-Saving Transportation (PROTECT):** The PROTECT grant program opened on October 25, 2024, and applications are due February 24, 2025. Staff are working with Michael Baker to develop a grant application for a Resilience Improvement Plan, focusing on several areas in the County that experience severe flooding issues during significant weather events. Staff proposes developing a grant application to support a three-phase approach for a Resilience Improvement Plan. The first phase identifies locations, issues, disruptions, and overall vulnerabilities within the transportation system. The second phase prioritizes projects based on the assessments conducted in the first phase and initiates preliminary engineering for the highest-priority projects. The third phase will encompass the implementation and permitting processes. This phase will also include creating a funding plan to facilitate the construction of prioritized projects while ensuring coordination with relevant partners and stakeholders. Essentially, the three phase approach will help the municipalities to move into the implementation phase for Safe Streets and Roads for All.

**13. Safe Streets and Roads for All Update (01:12:04)**

Ms. Messner provided the Committee with an SS4A update. There is an RFQ posted on the MPO website to work through the SS4A grant awarded last year. The two main components are to develop sidewalk inventories in the borough and borough like areas. Many of the boroughs do not have inventory, and Ms. Messner stated staff feels this is a good way to facilitate the work. These locations will receive communication from Ms. Messner in the

upcoming weeks to determine if they would like to opt into this project. The second part of the RFQ is reviewing and analyzing the highest types of crashes in Centre County lane departures. PennDOT Central office is currently reviewing several location and staff would like to expand upon that to see where else safety counter measures can be implemented elsewhere. The following is the upcoming RFQ schedule for selection of a consultant.

- RFQ Released: Wednesday, January 22, 2025
- Proposals Due: Friday, March 7, 2025, 2:00 pm
- Review by Evaluation Committee: Week of March 16, 2025
- Interviews/Discussions (if selected): Week of March 23, 2025
- Recommendation to COG Finance Committee: April 10, 2025
- COG General Forum Recommendation for Approval: April 28, 2025
- Contract Start Date: Week of June 1, 2025

The Selection Committee is looking for a Technical Committee member to participate. Frank Hampton volunteered.

**14. Draft National Multimodal Network (01:15:57)**

Mr. Saylor presented the Committee with the draft National Multimodal Freight Network (NMFN). The NMFN is a network of highways, railroads, waterways, marine ports and airports that are critical to freight movement, as well as domestic and international supply chains. The only mode designated through Centre County is the highway, the Department of Transportation is accepting comments on the designation through February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Current freight networks included in Centre County are Interstate 80, Interstate 99, portions of SR 26, SR 144 and 322, no airports or railroads are included. Staff recommends removing SR 144 and add US 322 from Interstate 99 to SR 144 to the NMFN. The Committee offered one comment on the possibility of adding rail freight to the model

**15. Member Reports (01:27:11)**

Mr. Seybert reported that the traffic signals arms have been shipped for Science Park Road. There were no other member reports.

**16. Announcements (01:27:45)**

Mr. Saylor stated to the Committee federal funds are being added to the Potter Township Roadmap Bridge.

Mr. Saylor reported that Act 13 funds will be added to the bridge bundle to keep that project moving forward.

Staff will host an MPO 101 Orientation which will be held on March 26<sup>th</sup> for those interested.

The next Technical Committee meeting will be held on April 9<sup>th</sup>, at 9:30 a.m.

**17. Adjourn**

The February 12, 2025 meeting of the Technical Committee was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.