



Thomas C. Hoffman
Chairman

David K. Bossart
Vice-Chairman

ERIE AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY • METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

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**Erie MPO Coordinating Committee
November 15, 2006 Minutes**

A meeting of the Erie MPO Coordinating Committee was held on Wednesday, November 15, 2006 at 10:00 AM at the Erie Intermodal Transportation Center, 2nd Floor Conference Room, 208 East Bayfront Parkway, Erie, PA.

1. Call to Order / Introductions

Mr. Hoffman called the meeting to order, and attendees introduced themselves.

Those in attendance were:

Name	Representing
<u>Voting Members / Alternates:</u>	
Dave Bossart	Harborcreek Township / MPO Vice Chair
Jake Welsh	Erie County Planning / MPO Secretary
Bob Hannigan	PENNDOT Program Center
Dick Gebhardt	City of Erie
Gerry Dahl	City of Corry
Richard H. McGuire	Borough Association
Mark J. Corey	Township Association
Bill Buseck	City of Erie
Jon Tushak	City of Erie
Ray Schreckengost	Erie-Western PA Port Authority
Dan Harmon	City of Erie
Ed Kissell	City of Erie
Rick Morris	Millcreek Township
Lorene McGuire	EMTA
Mariah Hanson	PENNDOT

Coordinating Committee Voting Members represented – 15 of 21; quorum present

Guests:

Adam Grimes	PENNDOT
Tom Alcorn	PENNDOT
Brian Smith	PENNDOT
Mike DePaoli	PENNDOT
Erin Wiley	PENNDOT
Randy Brink	PENNDOT
Charity Stover	Urban Engineers
Bob Cronmiller	Erie Resident
Tom Renshaw	Lawrence Park Township
Ron Desser	Erie County Convention Center Authority
Phil Scrimenti	Governor's Center for Local Government Services
Regina Smith	US Representative Phil English's Office
Lorene McGuire	EMTA
Ed Lesser	Erie Area COG
Mark DiVecchio	Erie County Executive
Mary Ann McDaniels-Kulesa	Erie County Resident
Beerly Davis-Magliaccio	CRZ
Jacob Boyle	Erie County Planning
Mat Elwell	Erie County Planning
Dan Walston	PENNDOT

2. August 2, 2006 Meeting Minutes – MPO Approval

Mr. Bossart asked that the committee members review the meeting minutes. Being no comments or corrections noted; Mr. Bossart asked for the motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Gebhardt made the motion; the motion was seconded by Mr. Kissell and approved unanimously.

3. 2007 TIP Amendments – MPO Approval

Mr. Walston reviewed several amendments for November 2006, involving allocation of the scenic byways dollars from the state for the following: Gateway Planning Design; Seaway Trail Birding Project; Seaway Trail Kiosks; Erie Bayfront Trail Access; Gateway @ Erie Bluffs Park; and Maritime Heritage Map. A motion was made by Mr. Buseck; seconded by Mr. Schreckengost; and approved.

4. 2007 Safety Line Item

Ms. Hanson reviewed the transfer of funds from 12th Street 5th Lane/Pittsburgh – Asbury; Erie Rural-Urban Corridor; and Route 8/Parade Street Study into the Highway Bridge Line Item Reserve and the transfer of funds from the Safety Line Item – 2007 back into the three previously named contributing projects. Thus establishing a net gain to the general fund of \$400,000. A motion was made by Mr. Schreckengost; seconded by Mr. Buseck; and approved.

5. Special Studies

Mr. Welsh commented on the final draft of the Executive Summary concerning US 19 Corridor land use. Comments/questions were also stated concerning accidents along the corridor and steps already taken or to be taken to improve the safety of this area, i.e. repainted lines; center line rumble strips; and repaving. Concerns/responses were stated involving the increased traffic along Route 97 due to the opening of the MTR racetrack, the installation of a roundabout at the intersection of Routes 19 and 97; congestion at I-90 and Interchange Road and the Route 97 and Marsh Road area.

Mr. Boyle stated that the progression of the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Update was continuing with the assistance of our consultants and should be complete over the next couple of months.

Ms. Stover of Urban Engineering discussed the current status of the LRTP review and update process.

6. 2007-2008 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

Mr. Welsh and Mr. Boyle commented on the need for ideas for special studies for the coming year. The following suggestions were provided: Robison Road being used as a short cut from Route 19 to Route 97 once the casino opens; traffic passing through the trailer court as another means of a short cut to the casino; US 6N between I-79 and Edinboro.

7. Other Business

Mr. Boyle stated that the meeting notice for next year will be mailed. Also, that at the first meeting in 2007 officers would be elected. He also commented on the bylaws, it is moving forward and will be brought to the technical meeting.

8. Public Comment

Intersection of 12th and Plum Streets - Mr. Cronmiller and Mr. Tushak discussed the intersection of 12th and Plum Streets regarding the ineffectiveness of the cameras, Mr. Tushak stated the cameras were being repaired and would be back in place and working correctly very soon.

Pennsylvania speed limit – A member of the public questioned the probability of the State speed limit being increased. Mr. Brink responded stating he was not aware of any movement to raise the speed limit.

Flatts Road bridge replacement – Mr. Corey stated the community's number one priority was the replacement of the bridge on Flatts Road and the urgency of

which the transfer of funds needs to be approved, preferably at this meeting or the next. Ms. Hanson commented on the number of projects being considered at the moment and the need to prioritize them. Mr. Gebhardt commented on the length of the detours around the bridge available should there be an emergency. Mr. Welsh explained that approval of the transfer of funds need not take place at a meeting but that a ballot can be mailed to the voting members for their approval in order to speed up the process.

Improvements for pedestrians – Ms. McDaniels-Kulesa stated concerns / suggestions for pedestrian crossings at various points along the Bayfront / Bayfront Connector. Mentioned were a pedestrian bridge for those crossing the Bayfront Connector from Broad Street; signs directing pedestrians to points of interest at the foot of State Street; a PSA on traffic buttons at crosswalks; and free trolley rides to/from Waterford, Union City and Corry areas. She also stated the difficulty she and others have had turning left on Shannon Road since the left turn signal light has been turned off. Mr. Lesser responded by stating that signage is in progress along the Bayfront and State Street corridor, i.e. zoo, knowledge park, etc.

9. Adjournment

Mr. Schreckengost motion for the meeting to be adjourned; motion was seconded by Ms. McGuire; meeting was adjourned.