

WATS Coordinating Committee Members
Williamsport City Council
Mayor, City of Williamsport
River Valley Transit Authority
Williamsport Regional Airport
SEDA-COG Joint Rail Authority
PennDOT Engineering District 3-0
Lycoming County Board of Commissioners
Lycoming County Borough Representative
Lycoming County Association of Township Officials
PennDOT Center for Program Development & Management



WATS Technical Committee Members
STEP, Inc.
City of Williamsport
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Williamsport Regional Airport
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Lycoming County Planning Commission
Lycoming County Planning & Community Development
PennDOT Center for Program Development & Management

WILLIAMSPORT AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY TECHNICAL COMMITTEE TELECONFERENCE PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

January 27, 2025 Technical Committee Teleconference Public Meeting: Held at 33 W. Third Street, Lyco. Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Williamsport, PA 17701 and various locations via teleconference.

CALL TO ORDER (Regular WATS Technical Committee Public Meeting)

At 10:02 AM Justin Batiuk called the meeting to order and also mentioned that this meeting will be recorded, Sal performed the roll call, and the Technical Committee had quorum.

MINUTES

Justin asked if there were any issues with the minutes from the previous meeting on November 18, 2024. No issues were found. Motion to approve was by Shannon Rossman, 2nd by Joe Reighard. Motion carried to approve the minutes

There was no public comment.

ACTION ITEMS

Re-affirm e-Ballot WATS 2025-2028 TIP Amendment adding MPMS 110772 Montour Street Airport Rd. Connector:

Sal explained that this MPMS project was adding a construction phase, pedestrian enhancements, and engineering items to the Montour Street Connector project. Chris King clarified that the project was on the 2023-2026 TIP, but needed to be brought over to the 2025-2028 TIP. Chris and Justin Batiuk stated that the project is still funded by an earmark, but because the dollar amount exceeded an Administrative Action, a TIP amendment was needed. Joe Reighard made a motion to re-affirm, Dan Merk 2nd. Motion unanimously approved.

WATS MPO 2025-2027 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Adoption:

Austin Daily informed the Committee that the WATS 2025-27 UPWP public comment period ended in January 2025, and the UPWP is now ready to be moved forward for adoption. Austin reviewed the timeline of the 2025-27 UPWP preparation. The first coordination meeting with PennDOT, FHWA, WATS, etc. occurred in August 2024. The agencies worked throughout the fall and November 1 – 30 was the FHWA and FTA comment/review period. The WATS 2025-27 UPWP public comment period ran December 10, 2024 – January 10, 2025.

Austin informed the Committee that today's request is to move the 2025-27 UPWP to the WATS Coordinating Committee for adoption. Austin pointed out the current and upcoming planned work load to include the 2026-2029 WATS TIP update. Austin reviewed one of the bigger changes to this UPWP is combining the work tasks into four (4) work task from the 9 tasks in previous UPWP's. Austin highlighted the US 220 Safety Project Impact Study in the 2025-27 UPWP as one of the main projects the MPO will be working on.

Austin explained that the MPO and RVTA worked together to combine the transit tasks for the 2025-27 UPWP. Austin explained that the MPO did not receive any public comment for the UPWP, other than one municipality stating they had no comments. Sal Vitko informed the Committee on the public outreach efforts that the MPO took (multiple MPO social media posts, public notice in the Williamsport Sun-Gazette, emails and letters as well as reminder emails and letters).

Justin Batiuk with PennDOT Program Center and Kenana Zejcirovic with FHWA stated that the communication between the MPO was very helpful in pulling together this UPWP, and that they appreciated the quick turn-around on edits/changes to the UPWP. Scott Williams informed the Committee that he believes the entire UPWP update process went very smoothly and that Austin did a very good job being his first time lead on the UPWP update process.

Hearing no other comments, Justin called for a motion to recommend to the Coordinating Committee to adopt the WATS 2025-27 UPWP. Motion to adopt was by Shannon Rossman, 2nd by Cameron Serafini. Motion carried to adopt the 2025-2027 WATS MPO UPWP.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Modal Updates

Richard Howell updated the Committee on the airport. The airline began a new schedule on January 1st with an overnight flight to cater to business flyers. Richard stated that the Airport Board is seeking a replacement for Richard as he is retiring.

Cameron Serafini stated Todd and himself attended the tri-annual review training. Also, RVTA sent out customer satisfaction survey and the surveys found that 98% of respondents said they are satisfied or highly satisfied with RVTA services.

Dan Merk from STEP stated that all the bids for construction of the new STEP, Inc. transportation garage are in. The next step is to confirm a notice to proceed and project start date.

Steve Beattie stated that the PennDOT RTAP funding was released in mid-December. One of the projects funded is a shale shed in the Newberry rail yard for track upgrades. He stated that JRA also received approx. \$2 million for rail bridge repairs in Mifflin County.

Management Action Report

Chris King stated that the MA Reports were primarily small budget adjustments to various projects. Chris stated that the MA's on this report primarily add phases to different projects with a couple that add final design. Chris stated that the two TIP amendments approved at the November 2024 Technical Committee meeting are at the end of this Management Action Report.

Sal reminded and informed the Committee that the MPO will be reaching out in 2025 to everyone to get updated contact information for their organization's Committee representatives. This is an annual process so that WATS has the correct contact information for everyone.

Justin asked if there was any other business or public comment. Hearing none, Justin called for a motion to end the meeting. Joe Reighard motioned to end the meeting, and Gerald Wertz 2nd, motion carried and the meeting ended at 10:25 a.m.

Respectfully, Submitted,

Emily Mrochko
Acting WATS Secretary