Introduction

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1. Planning Catalyst Team
2. Planning & Engineering 360
3. *PennDOT Connects*
4. The Secretary’s Perspectives
5. Meeting of the Minds
# Planning Catalyst Team Kick-Off – October 2013

## Planning Partners
- Tim Reardon
- Tom Zilla
- Tom Klevan
- Becky Bradley
- Chris Puchalsky
- Mike Boyer
- Jon Fitzkee

## PennDOT
- Leo Bagley
- Jim Ritzman
- Mike Kaiser
- Bill Petit
- Mike Rebert
- Cheryl Moon
- Chris King
- Angela Watson
- Hugh McGowan
- Brian Hare

## Others
- Denny Puko
- Matt Smoker
- Rob Henry
Planning Catalyst Team – Key Categories

- Planning Policy Establishment;
- Resource Capacity Building;
- Collaborative Planning; and
- Enhanced Training
Planning Catalyst Team – Key Categories

A. Aligning Transportation Planning w/ Land Use/Community Vision
   a) Future Update to Regional Long Range Transportation Planning Guidance

B. Staffing and Financial Resources
   a) Planner In Every District Initiative
   b) Planning and Engineering 360

C. Interagency Planning
   a) Interagency Land Use Team
Planning Catalyst Team – Key Categories

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   a) Interagency Land Use Team
Planning and Engineering Collaboration

Community Development

- Vision, Values and Aspirations
- Quality of Life & Livability
- Sense of Place & History
- Community Vitality
- Land Use
Planning and Engineering Collaboration

Project Development & Delivery

- Transportation Choices
- Safety & Operations
- Asset Management
- Mobility & Access
Planning and Engineering Collaboration

Community Development
Vision, Values & Aspirations
Quality of Life & Livability
Sense of Place & History
Community Vitality
Land Use

Project Development & Delivery
Transportation Choices
Safety & Operations
Asset Management
Mobility & Access
Planning & Engineering 360°

Community Conditions

Better Communities
- Collaboration Opportunities
  - Corridor Studies/Plans
  - Long-Range Transportation Plan
  - Linking Planning and NEPA
  - Comprehensive Planning

Better Transportation Systems

Project Development & Delivery
- Transportation Choices
- Safety & Operations
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Transportation System Performance
SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION
LESLIE S. RICHARDS
PennDOT Connects

- Identify needs of communities and related issues early in project planning
- Link Planning and NEPA
- Consider community transportation needs
  - Bicycle and pedestrian accommodations
  - Transit access
  - Stormwater management
  - Green infrastructure
PennDOT Connects

- Community transportation needs assessment based on:
  - Comprehensive plans
  - Other local planning studies
- Local government must demonstrate features are a (documented) element of the community vision
- Cost is a consideration, but not reason enough to disregard improvements
**Pedestrians**

Dedicated pedestrian facilities should be evaluated for all highway projects. Depending on the project’s context, these may include elements like a multiuse trail, sidewalk, and crosswalks with supportive elements like HAWK beacons. In rural areas, a walkable shoulder can serve as a very basic pedestrianway, provided it is connected to accessible curb ramps.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pedestrian facilities will be accommodated:</th>
<th>Pedestrian facilities will NOT be accommodated because (at least one):</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>□ Shared roadway/walkable shoulder</td>
<td>□ Location is greater than .25 mile from any existing pedestrian facility or public transit stop, and is not recommended for a pedestrian connection in any local, county, or regional plan.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Sidewalks</td>
<td>□ Location has unique site constraints, such as steep slopes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Multi-use trail</td>
<td>□ Safe pedestrian accommodations would drastically increase the overall anticipated project cost (in such cases, consider opportunities to ensure future pedestrian accommodations are not precluded by the design)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Additional element(s): _______________</td>
<td>□ Additional reasons(s) and notes:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PennDOT Connects

- Costs must be weighed against the full range of benefits to communities
  - Improved mobility
  - Economic competitiveness
  - Access to work
  - Quality of life
- Communities may have no other opportunities to realize these improvements in the foreseeable future
PennDOT Connects

PennDOT is committed to enhancing community collaboration in our planning process.

• District and Planning Partner staff meet with local staff on all new projects added to the 2017 TIP

  • Required for all projects that had no project phase included on a prior TIP

  • Required for all projects that have not started PE or started PE since July 1, 2016.
PennDOT Connects

• If justified, incorporate transportation needs into scope of work
• Document issues and justification (or lack of) in the LPN form
• Program Center staff responsible to QA TIP process
• Program Center Open End Agreements are available to support:
  ▶ Meetings or field view coordination
  ▶ Meeting minute documentation
  ▶ Completion of LPN forms
SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION
LESLIE S. RICHARDS
“State DOTs are no longer just held accountable for the transportation system; they are also held accountable for how the system supports and improves quality of life for communities.”

MEETING OF THE MINDS: OPPORTUNITIES FOR SUCCESS
Meeting of the Minds

Leveraging Roles & Partnerships

Aligning Resources

Changing Culture
Meeting of the Minds: Leveraging Roles & Partnerships

To make the most of the complementary strengths of:

- PennDOT
- MPO/RPOs
- Municipalities
- Consultants
- Advocates, community and regional resources

We must . . .
Meeting of the Minds: Aligning Resources

What are the challenges, opportunities and priorities for . . .

• Funding
• Organizations’ staff and time
• Systems and processes
• Data- and information-sharing
• Knowledge and skill-building
Meeting of the Minds: Changing Culture

What cultural changes are necessary to support . . .

• Collaborative planning
• A focus on community quality of life
• Effective policy implementation
• Innovative problem-solving
Questions?

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Community Conditions

Better Communities
- Collaboration Opportunities
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Better Transportation Systems

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Transportation System Performance
PLANNING & ENGINEERING 360°
Course Structure

Module 1: The Value of Planning
- Collaboration Opportunities
  - Corridor Studies/Plans
  - Long-Range Transportation Plan
  - Linking Planning and NEPA
  - Performance-Based Outcomes

Module 2: Program Development (Pre-TIP)
- Critical Activities for Planners
- Collaboration Opportunities
- Critical Activities for Engineers
- Stakeholder Engagement

Module 3: Project Delivery (Post-TIP)
- Engineers Learn about Planner Role
- Active Discovery of Collaboration Opportunities
- Planners Learn about Engineer Role
- Planners and Engineers Learn How to Engage Stakeholders

Better Communities
Better Transportation Systems
Module 1: The Value of Planning

- Introduction
- What is Planning?
  - Understanding Planning
  - Local Comprehensive Planning
  - Data Collection
- Changing Our Culture
- Action Plan
Module 1: Sample Activity

Examples of excellent local comprehensive plans

Montgomery County Comprehensive Plan

Dormont Borough Comprehensive Plan
Module 2: Program Development (Pre-TIP)

- Introduction
- Roles and Ramifications during Pre-TIP
  1. Problem Assessment
  2. Project Proposal Identification
  3. Project Proposal Evaluation
  4. Project Addition to TIP/STIP
- Changing Our Culture
- Action Plan
Module 2: Sample Activity

Problem Assessment Phase
Case Study:

SR 3018 Whitehall Road/University Drive Widening
College and Ferguson Townships
State College Borough
Centre County
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Critical Activities for Planners</th>
<th>Collaboration Opportunities to Mitigate Problems and Maximize Success</th>
<th>Critical Activities for Engineers</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1) PROBLEM ASSESSMENT</strong></td>
<td><strong>2) PROJECT PROPOSAL IDENTIFICATION</strong></td>
<td><strong>4) ADDITION TO THE TIP/STIP</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Prepare Community &amp; Transportation Plans</td>
<td>• Identify proposed projects that are locally sponsored</td>
<td>• Update regional model</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Consider the following:</td>
<td>• Meet with municipal stakeholders</td>
<td>• Perform Air Quality Conformity analysis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Existing/desired community character</td>
<td>• Obtain local sponsor commitment</td>
<td>• Prioritize projects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Existing/future land use and growth areas</td>
<td>• Review proposal(s) with MPO/RPO committees</td>
<td>*Complete LPN Level 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Anticipate changes in traffic and mode</td>
<td>• Advocate to design project to support community context and vision, as well as accommodate all users (bike, ped, transit, freight)</td>
<td>• Encourage early and consistent collaboration between MPO/RPO and PennDOT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Public input</td>
<td>• Refine proposed project scope</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Concerns of local officials</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Categorize problems and needs for highway, bridge, safety, multimodal, maintenance, etc.</td>
<td>• Complete LPN Level 1</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Analyze problems and needs with a broad perspective and qualitative emphasis</td>
<td>• Begin LPN Level 2</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Obtain local municipal input</td>
<td>• Prioritize proposed projects</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Review proposal(s) by MPO/RPO committees</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Fill out project screening forms (then the project is considered for LRP, TIP, etc.)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Identify funding strategy based on all available funding options and types of projects (TAP, multimodal program, bridge, highway safety, transit)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3) PROJECT PROPOSAL EVALUATION</strong></td>
<td>• Prioritize proposed projects</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Complete LPN Level 1</td>
<td>• Review proposal(s) by MPO/RPO committees</td>
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<td>• Begin LPN Level 2</td>
<td>• Fill out project screening forms (then the project is considered for LRP, TIP, etc.)</td>
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<td>• Prioritize proposed projects</td>
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<td>• Fill out project screening forms (then the project is considered for LRP, TIP, etc.)</td>
<td>• Coordinate early during TIP update process</td>
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<td>• Identify specific data proactively to help justify funding</td>
<td>• Develop engineering and construction cost estimates</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Provide data (IRI, LOS, Delay, condition, and performance)</td>
<td>• Complete LPN Level 1</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Complete LPN Level 2</td>
<td>• Prioritize projects</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Prioritize proposed projects</td>
<td>• Complete LPN Level 2</td>
<td>• Maintain LPN Level 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Estimate costs</td>
<td>• Prioritize projects</td>
<td>• Refine program budget</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Identify specific data proactively to help justify funding</td>
<td>• Complete LPN Level 2</td>
<td>• Commit funding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Provide data (IRI, LOS, Delay, condition, and performance)</td>
<td>• Prioritize projects</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>5) ADDITION TO THE TIP/STIP</strong></td>
<td>• Coordinate early during TIP update process</td>
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<td>• Update regional model</td>
<td>• Develop engineering and construction cost estimates</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Perform Air Quality Conformity analysis</td>
<td>• Complete LPN Level 2</td>
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<td>• Prioritize projects</td>
<td>• Complete LPN Level 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Encourage early and consistent collaboration between MPO/RPO and PennDOT</td>
<td>• Prioritize projects</td>
<td>• Refine project scope</td>
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Module 3: Project Delivery (Post-TIP)

• Introduction
• Roles and Ramifications during Post-TIP
  5. PE/NEPA Decision
  6. Final Design & Construction
• Changing Our Culture
• Action Plan
Module 3: Sample Activity

Final Design & Construction Phase Case Study:

Route 322
Potters Mill Gap
Potter Township
Centre County
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Critical Activities for Planners</th>
<th>5) PE/NEPA DECISION</th>
<th>6) FINAL DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Critical Activities for Planners</td>
<td>• Inform design to respect context/previous planning&lt;br&gt;• Provide multimodal reviews&lt;br&gt;• Maintain project status&lt;br&gt;• Track project commitments (environmental, stakeholder, local issues)&lt;br&gt;• Screen LPN Level 3 (if required)&lt;br&gt;• Remain primarily regionally focused&lt;br&gt;• Help identify who owns adjacent ROW&lt;br&gt;• Help identify potential conflicts&lt;br&gt;• Review Smart Transportation Guidebook (Land Use and Road Typologies)</td>
<td>• Monitor project status&lt;br&gt;• Establish and initiate a review of performance measures&lt;br&gt;• Collect and review performance data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collaboration Opportunities to Mitigate Problems and Maximize Success</td>
<td>Refine/finalize project scope&lt;br&gt;Hold 1:1 discussions with stakeholders&lt;br&gt;Participate in environmental scoping meetings&lt;br&gt;Work together to finalize environmental documents&lt;br&gt;Share updated economic development, land use and multimodal data&lt;br&gt;Share cost and schedule information&lt;br&gt;Display plans</td>
<td>Shape design to respect context and previous planning&lt;br&gt;Participate in HOP meeting&lt;br&gt;Share cost and schedule information&lt;br&gt;Participate in public meetings&lt;br&gt;Provide condition data&lt;br&gt;Share performance data&lt;br&gt;Participate in performance critique</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Critical Activities for Engineers</td>
<td>• Conduct public meetings&lt;br&gt;• Refine/validate problem statement using traffic counts, O&amp;D Study, etc.&lt;br&gt;• Focus on specific environment impacts and constraints&lt;br&gt;• Complete LPN Level 3 (if necessary)&lt;br&gt;• Fulfill NEPA process&lt;br&gt;• Determine right of way needs (primary role)&lt;br&gt;• Coordinate utilities (primary role)</td>
<td>• Design project&lt;br&gt;• Prepare contract documents, project cost E5:U5, and schedule&lt;br&gt;• Submit application to review agencies, site view, drawings for approval of HOP&lt;br&gt;• Prepare plans, schedule, and cost&lt;br&gt;• Manage construction (inspection, QA/QC, scheduling, environmental commitments, etc.)&lt;br&gt;• Monitor effectiveness of project&lt;br&gt;• Collect data&lt;br&gt;• Analyze performance (pavement condition, traffic flow, etc.)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Emphasis on Application

Throughout the course, participants will be encouraged to think about how to apply the collaboration opportunities to current and/or upcoming projects.

In some cases, participants can share a project challenge and the group will brainstorm collaborative solutions.
Course Outcomes

• Committing to work together
• Being open to collaboration opportunities
• Being creative in finding ways to work together
• Leveraging one another as resources
• Informing leadership of new approaches
• Aligning participant follow-up with pending policy
Success: What Does it Look Like?

- **Expanded leadership role for MPO/RPOs**
  - PennDOT seen as a leader
  - Willingness to modernize laws to support new transportation trends or adopted national standards
  - Condition of our assets don’t decline
  - Agreement on key planning issues for our facility

- **Community satisfaction**
  - Shared responsibility/ownership (results)
  - Agreed-upon expectations
  - New R/W should be municipal or partner’s (public transportation provider)

- **Better communication/response from municipalities**
  - Quantitative: cost/benefit analysis
  - Expanded skills (education process – all levels)
  - AAR – continue learning – assess value-add
  - Better communication/response from municipalities

- **Improved project delivery and more accurate programming**