

Meeting Agenda
State College Borough Transportation Commission
October 8, 2019
Room 304 / 12:15 p.m.

I. Call to Order

II. Roll Call

Transportation Commission

Ray Najjar, Chair

Richard Garis, Vice-Chair

Rick Gilmore

Mieke Haeck

Paul Jovanis

Diana Malcom

Hugh Mose

III. Approval of Minutes – August 13, 2019 [Pages 3-6]

IV. Public Hour – Hearing of Citizens

V. Discussion Items

2020 Work Plan

A copy of the 2019 work plan is included [Page 7] for review and to provide guidance in preparation of the 2020 work plan. Staff is looking for any suggestions or other initiatives that the Commission would like to consider for addition to the work plan for next year. A comprehensive review of the traffic counts and street classifications is one area that has been discussed during the past year. Of note, the Borough has already received the special activity application for the Allen Street pedestrian mall which is under review prior to going to Borough Council for review and approval.

2020 Operating Budget

The operating budget will be transmitted to Borough Council next week to begin the Council review and public outreach and input period prior to Council adoption in December. This time would be when the Transportation Commission members are able to review and provide input to Borough Council.

2020 Appointments

Based upon initial information, the Commission will have openings for appointment in 2020. If you know of a Borough resident with the interest or expertise in transportation matters and a willingness to serve, please refer them to the Borough website to guide them through the application process.

VI. Liaison Reports

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| A. <u>MPO/CRPA/COG Transportation</u> | Tom Zilla/Trish Meek |
| B. <u>Centre Area Transportation Authority</u> | Jackie Sheader |
| C. <u>Penn State Transportation</u> | Ryan Givens |
| D. <u>PennDOT</u> | Albert Carlson |
| E. <u>Borough Planning Commission</u> | Ed LeClear |
| F. <u>Borough Engineering</u> | Ray Sassaman |
| G. <u>Environmental Coordinator</u> | Alan Sam |
| H. <u>Parking Office</u> | Patrick Ward |
| I. <u>State College Police</u> | Kevin Winkelblech |

VII. Upcoming Meeting Date

Tuesday, November 5, 2019 at 12:15 p.m.

VIII. Adjournment

**Meeting Minutes
State College Borough Transportation Commission
August 13, 2019**

The State College Borough Transportation Commission (TC) met on Tuesday, August 13, 2019, in Room 304 of the Municipal Building. Raymond Najjar, Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m.

Members Present

Raymond Najjar, Chair; Richard Garis, Vice-Chair; Rick Gilmore; Hugh Mose; and Diana Malcom

Members Absent

Paul Jovanis and Mieke Haeck

Others Present

Amy Kerner, Borough Engineer; Douglas Shontz, Communications Specialist; Kayla Irvin, Communications Assistant; Lt. Kevin Winkelblech, State College Police; Tom Zilla, Transportation Planner/CCMPO; Greg Garthe, Senior Planner; Cecily Zhu, UPUA Representative; and Stacy Hall, Administrative Assistant

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Najjar asked if there were any corrections to the June 11, 2019 minutes. Mr. Mose made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Mr. Garis seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Public Hour – Hearing of Citizens

No one wished to speak during the public hour.

Discussion Items

Borough Bikeshare Survey

Ms. Hoag reported community members were invited to complete a Bikeshare Survey on the Engage State College website. She said 67 people participated and attached to the agenda was the general report that displayed the overall results. She added the purpose of the survey was to engage residents regarding their feelings towards the Borough's future participation in the Bikeshare Program. Mr. Shontz gave an overview of the results to the members.

Mr. Mose asked how many Bikeshare stations would the Borough have? Mr. Ward answered, at this time, the number of stations had not been determined. He added a one-year pilot program would take place with one station across from the Bill Welch

Plaza to start out, and after it was observed how much the station was used, a recommendation would be given to move forward.

Ms. Malcom commented drivers in the Borough needed to pay attention to bike lanes. She was also concerned about bikes being left all over the place with the Bikeshare Program. She said some people using them would not understand the biking laws.

Pennsylvania State University (PSU) and Borough Bikeshare

Ms. Hoag said the Borough partnered with Penn State University Park Undergraduate Program (UPUA) to launch a pilot Bikeshare program with a one-year agreement for a station at the Municipal Building directly adjacent to the Bill Welch Plaza. She added the purpose of the pilot program would be to help determine the long-term viability of a partnership between the Borough and Penn State for a Bikeshare Program.

Ms. Zhu stated the station would be installed soon. She added the university was entering the last year of the contract with Zagster and user feedback from the survey showed users wanted to look at what else was on the market. She noted PSU and the Borough would be working together as one unit looking for a lower cost module.

Mr. Najjar asked if the bikes were to be brought back to the station after use. Ms. Zhu stated there would be an extra fee if the bikes were not brought back to the station but would not want that used on a regular basis. She explained the ways bikes could be locked when away from the station.

Mr. Mose thought it was a positive step forward to integrate the Borough into what PSU was doing. He asked how many bike stations PSU had. Ms. Zhu answered 17 but would soon have 21.

Mr. Gilmore asked if there had been efforts to reach out to the larger apartment building owners to see if there would be any interest in taking part in the Bikeshare Program. Ms. Zhu stated there was a team of UPUA members who had been reaching out to all of the upcoming developments downtown. She noted only one responded positively and stated it would depend on who they ended up leasing their commercial space to because if it was a restaurant who needed outdoor seating, there would not be enough space for a bike station.

Mr. Gilmore asked if the provision of bicycle infrastructure played into the review process for new property developments. Ms. Kerner answered the Land Development Ordinance did not have anything specific to that, but the Borough did have the Complete Streets Policy that would review the project.

Ms. Malcom suggested the station across from the Municipal Building have a message board posted listing the frequently broken rules of bicycling so any inexperienced riders would have some helpful guidelines. Mr. Shontz said Jasmine Fields, AmeriCorps Representative, had been doing educational outreach regarding bicycle safety and he would pass along the idea of a message board.

Mr. Najjar asked Mr. Shontz if he was satisfied with the number of survey responses and he stated he was. Mr. Najjar acknowledged the new Bikeshare station would be paid for by PSU but asked how much it would cost. Ms. Zhu answered it was around \$12,000.

Liaison Reports

MPO/CRPA/COG Transportation – No report given.

Centre Area Transportation Authority – No report given.

Penn State Transportation – No report given.

PennDOT – No report given.

Borough Planning Commission – No report given.

Borough Engineer - Ms. Kerner reported the Atherton Street update, Section 152, was underway with approval to extend down to including Curtin Road. She stated the contract was extended for the last bit of work to be finished next summer. She noted two temporary traffic signals were in the construction zone and pedestrians had a marked detour. She reported Section 153 would go all the way to the Parkway but had been delayed due to the amount of utility work that needed done. She noted staff was working to incorporate the Streetscape Grant which included streetlights, benches and sidewalk improvements.

Regarding the PSU West Campus, Ms. Kerner stated she attended a meeting with the Neighborhood Coalition and representatives from PSU on August 5th. She noted the meeting gave everyone understanding as to where the process was at.

Mr. Mose voiced his concern about TC members not being invited to the meeting on August 5th. He asked what the TC needed to do to be involved. Ms. Kerner stated PSU was asked by the Neighborhood Coalition to meet and she did not know details about the invite process. Mr. Mose asked staff to consider inviting someone from the TC to meetings of that nature in the future. Ms. Mose stated he was concerned about the one access point and thought it would work for the short term, but not necessarily for the long term considering future major developments in Ferguson Township. Ms. Kerner stated the design of the new building was such that it could be reconfigured in the future if deemed necessary. Mr. Mose commented he knew the traffic engineers had sophisticated models and it would be interesting to understand what the impacts were with the one approach area versus two approach areas.

Mr. Mose applauded the Borough staff for the new curb ramps being installed.

Environmental Coordinator - No report given.

Parking Office - Mr. Ward reported the electric vehicle charging stations were up and running at the Beaver Garage. He gave an update on the Highlands Pilot Parking

Program stating there had been two major events and two small event weekends thus far. He said there was not enough data gathered yet to provide a report. He noted 71 users had signed up for parking passes and 34 event permits had been sold.

Mr. Mose asked if the Zipcars across from Saints Cafe had been redeployed. Mr. Ward explained Zipcars to the members and said they were relocated near apartment complexes within the Borough at the users' request.

State College Police – Lt. Winkelblech discussed upcoming traffic changes related to student move in. He added this year's plan had been developed over the past year with the main goals of minimizing traffic delays and maximizing safety. He said some of the traffic patterns would be changed in order to keep traffic moving safely.

Upcoming Meeting Date

Tuesday, September 10, 2019 at 12:15 p.m.

Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Najjar adjourned the meeting at 1:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy Hall
Administrative Assistant

STATE COLLEGE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION WORK PROGRAM FOR 2019

Approved by Transportation Commission on : November 6, 2018

Approved by Borough Council on : _____

Key: I= Initiate Discussion, IP= In Progress,
 C=Complete, R/C=Review and / or Comment,
 BC=Refer to Council

Transportation Matters Referred by Council									
		Priority	Council Goals	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	Comments	Staff
1	2020-2024 Capital Improvement Program	H	1, 3, 5, 6	I	R/C	R/C			Hoag
2	2020 Operating Budget	H	2, 3, 5, 6				R/C		Hoag
Pedestrian and Traffic Safety Issues									
		Priority	Council Goals	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	Comments	Staff
3	Evaluate the need and identify locations for potential traffic signals, center islands, or other pedestrian safety improvements that may be implemented with PENNDOT's proposed improvements to Atherton Street - section 153	H	1, 3, 5, 6				I	Timing dependent upon PennDOT	Kerner
4	Work with Penn State and evaluate potential to expand bike share program into the Borough	M	3,5	I	R/C			Penn State is seeing success while program in its infancy	Hoag & Sam
5	Fraser Centre TIS traffic mitigation plan implementation	M	1,3,5		I	IP		Developer funded with installation required by 12/31/2020	Kerner
6	Review and update the Vehicle and Traffic Ordinance	M	1,5,6	IP & R/C	BC				Kerner
7	Work with the DID, planning commission, businesses and adjacent property owners to evaluate the feasibility of closing the 100 block of Allen Street to vehicular traffic on a periodic basis	L	1, 3, 5, 6	IP			R/C	Review Downtown Master Plan and transportation priorities	Sam
8	Evaluate need for and make recommendation for pedestrian/bike connector along University Drive between Foster Avenue and Hastings Road	L	1, 5	I			R/C	Awaiting projects by others due to PennDOT Highway	Sam
Parking Strategies, Alternative Transportation and TDM									
		Priority	Council Goals	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	Comments	Staff
9	Evaluate Commuter Zone, Residential Zone , and other on-street parking non-metered parking, as well as fees and fines, and recommend changes	H	1, 5, 6	IP	BC				Ward
10	Prepare and evaluate information related to a 2019 parking study: Areas of concern are long term strategies for the replacement of off-street parking, Long term parking meters and their usage, and an update of the 2015 study as it relates to parking supply and demand.	H	1, 5, 6	IP	BC			Placed in 2019 budget	Ward
11	Evaluate the need and make a recommendation for a shared use path along Blue Course Drive between Whitehall Road and Orchard Park bike path.	L	1, 3, 5	IP				Project included in CIP but deferred until funding in place.	Kerner & Sam
Transportation Policy Issues									
		Priority	Council Goals	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	Comments	Staff
12	Develop work plan and priorities for transportation items within the Downtown Master Plan (vehicular movement, safety, pedestrian amenities, bicycle facilities, on-street parking, delivery vehicles, transit facilities and taxi stands)	H	1, 3, 5, 6	IP			Ongoing	Review Downtown Master Plan and transportation priorities	Sam & Kerner
Street Classification System and Policy									
		Priority	Council Goals	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	Comments	Staff
13	Evaluate results from annual neighborhood traffic counts and speed data. Make recommendations for traffic volume or speed mitigation.	M	1, 5		I	R/C			Kerner