



# Lehigh Valley Transportation Study

**RICHARD MOLCHANY**  
Chair, Coordinating Committee

**BRENDAN COTTER**  
Chair, Technical Committee

**BECKY A. BRADLEY, AICP**  
Secretary,  
Coordinating Committee +  
Technical Committee

## LVTS TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING Wednesday, July 17, 2024, at 9:00 am Virtual Meeting Agenda

### Roll Call

### Courtesy of the Floor

### Minutes

1. *ACTION ITEM:* Technical Committee approval of the Joint LVTS Technical & Coordinating Committee Meeting Minutes of June 12, 2024
2. *ACTION ITEM:* Technical Committee approval of the Special Meeting Minutes of June 27, 2024

### Old Business

1. *INFORMATION ITEM:* Lehigh Valley Passenger Rail Study
  - a. Next Steps (BB)
2. *DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATION ITEM:* Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Boundaries and Coordination of Transportation Planning and Programming, Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Reading Area Transportation Study (RATS) and LVTS
3. *INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION ITEM:* Coordinated Public Transit – Human Services Transportation Plan

### New Business

1. *INFORMATION ITEM:* Enactment of PA House Bill 797 – Native Vegetation Along Roadways
2. *INFORMATION ITEM:* 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program
  - a. Administrative Actions

### Status Reports

1. PennDOT District 5-0 Highway Project Status Report (SV)
2. Monthly Traffic Report (BH)
3. Eastern PA Freight Alliance – Freight Infrastructure Plan

### Public Engagement, Grants, and Education

1. *INFORMATION ITEM:* Public Engagement (BH)
  - WDIY, 88.1 FM, National Public Radio – Plan Lehigh Valley Radio Show
    - a. Aired July 1: “If we’re not all working together, we’re falling apart” with Lori-Vargo Heffner and Geoff Brace.
    - b. August 5: Next show airs 6:30 PM
      - <https://www.wdiy.org/show/plan-lehigh-valley>
  - Morning Call Business Cycle Column
    - a. June 23: “Lehigh Valley public employees, officials are unsung heroes”

- b. July 28: Next column publishes
  - mcall.com, lvpc.org/news/v
- 2. *INFORMATION ITEM*: Lehigh Valley Government Academy (LVGA)
  - Local technical Assistance Program (LTAP) Virtual Classes (BH)
    - a. July 23: Drones: Municipal transportation Uses, 8 am to noon
    - b. August 6: Geographic Information System (GIS) Basics, 8 am to noon
    - c. August 13: Traffic Signals Basics, 8 am to noon
    - d. August 15: Trucks on Local Roads, 8 am to noon
    - e. August 21: School Transportation Management, 8 am to noon
      - Registration at <https://gis.penndot.gov/LTAP/default.aspx>
- 3. *INFORMATION ITEM*: Grants (BD)
  - Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A)
    - <https://www.transportation.gov/grants/SS4A>
  - Bridge Investment Program (FY 2025)
    - <https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/bridge/bip/>
  - Reconnecting Communities Pilot (RCP) Program
    - <https://www.transportation.gov/reconnecting>

## Adjournment

### Next LVTS Meetings:

LVTS Joint Technical and Coordinating Committee Meeting  
August 21, 2024, at 9:00 am

LVTS Technical Committee Meeting  
September 18, 2024, at 9:00 am

Meetings will be held virtually.

Meeting participation information can be found here:  
<https://lvpc.org/lvts-committee-meetings>

The LVPC/LVTS website, [www.lvpc.org](http://www.lvpc.org), may be translated into multiple languages. Publications and other public documents can be made available in non-English languages and alternative formats, if requested.



# Lehigh Valley Transportation Study

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Secretary,  
Coordinating Committee +  
Technical Committee

## Lehigh Valley Transportation Study Minutes from the Wednesday, June 12, 2024 Joint Technical and Coordinating Committee Meeting

Prior to the call to order, Mr. Dinkel stated the agenda and materials for the meeting were posted on the LVPC website. He provided directions on how to participate in the virtual meeting and protocol for the meeting to flow smoothly. The meeting was advertised in the Lehigh Valley Press on January 10, 2024.

Mr. Rick Molchany chaired the Coordinating Committee portion of the meeting, and Mr. Brendan Cotter chaired the Technical Committee portion of the agenda.

Mr. Molchany welcomed the members and the public participants and called the meeting to order.

### Roll Call

Mr. Dinkel took Roll Call.

### Attendees:

#### Technical Committee

Brendan Cotter	LANTA
Ryan Meyer	LNAA
Becky Bradley, AICP	LVPC
David Petrik	City of Allentown
David Hopkins (Alt)	City of Easton
Jennifer Ruth	PennDOT District 5
David Alas	PennDOT Central Office

#### LVTS Coordinating Committee

Rick Molchany (Alt)	Lehigh County
David Hopkins (Alt)	City of Easton
Becky Bradley, AICP	LVPC
David Petrik (Alt)	City of Allentown
Michael Alkhal (Alt.)	City of Bethlehem
Lamont McClure	Northampton County
Chris Kufro	PennDOT District 5-0
Jim Mosca	PennDOT Central Office
Owen O'Neill	LANTA
Thomas Stoudt	LNAA

### Members Absent:

#### Technical Committee

Matthew Tuerk	City of Allentown
J. William Reynolds	City of Bethlehem
Darlene Heller (Alt)	City of Bethlehem
Salvatore J. Panto Jr.	City of Easton

#### LVTS Coordinating Committee

Matthew Tuerk	City of Allentown
J. William Reynolds	City of Bethlehem

**Staff Present:** Becky Bradley, Hannah Milagio, Evan Gardi, Matt Assad, Brian Hite, Ben Dinkel

**Public Present:** Stephen Reider, Brian E. Harman (Pidcock), Evan Jones, Jay Bradley, Christopher Kufro (PennDOT District 5), Michael Emili, Craig Beavers, Scott Vottero (PennDOT District 5) Sherri Penchishen (City of Bethlehem), Nancy, Steve Turoscy, Brian Hare, Nyomi Evans (PennDOT Central Office), Gene Porochniak (FHWA Pennsylvania Division), Nicki Jacobs, Sheila E. Alvarado, Lee Rackus (Whitehall Twp), David Petrick, Scott Harney (Pennoni), Brett Webber (All Aboard LV), Brian Miller (Upper Milford Twp), Lawrence Peterson, Kerri Cutright (PennDOT District 5)

### **Courtesy of the Floor**

Mr. Molchany asked if there were any additional comments or questions from the public about items not on the agenda, and there were none.

### **Minutes**

Mr. Cotter stated that the last Technical Committee was held on May 15, 2024. Mr. Dinkel noted the actions voted on.

- Minutes from the April 17, 2024, meeting
- Adjournment

Mr. Cotter asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Meyer made the motion and the motion was seconded by Mr. Alas. There were no questions or comments from members or the public. Mr. Cotter asked Ms. Bradley to call for a vote and the motion was approved.

Mr. Molchany moved on to the approval of the minutes from the Coordinating Committee meeting on April 17, 2024. Mr. Dinkel noted the actions voted on.

- Minutes from the February 21, 2024, meeting
- Minutes from the March 27, 2024, Special Passenger Rail Meeting
- 2025-2028 Draft Transportation Improvement Program Amendment – Allentown Bethlehem Easton Airport Northside Logistics and Cargo Complex
- 2025-2028 Draft Transportation Improvement Program Amendment – Allentown Center Square
- Coordinating Committee adoption of the Priority Climate Action Plan for Transportation Decarbonization
- Adjournment

Mr. Molchany asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the Coordinating Committee Meeting on May 15, 2024. Mr. Mosca made the motion, seconded by Mr. Stoudt. Mr. Molchany asked for any questions or comments from the members and the public. Hearing none, Mr. Molchany asked Ms. Bradley to call for a vote and the motion was approved.

Mr. Cotter noted that the Special LVTS Meeting on the Lehigh Valley Passenger Raily Feasibility Study was held on May 15, 2024, and the minutes from that meeting were included in the meeting packet. Mr. Cotter asked for a motion to approve the minutes from that meeting. Mr. Petrik made a motion to approve the minutes from the Special LVTS Meeting on May 15, 2024, and it was seconded by Mr. Hopkins. Mr. Cotter asked if there were any comments from members or the public, and there were none. Ms. Bradley called for the vote, and the motion was approved.

Mr. Molchany noted that the Special LVTS Meeting on the Lehigh Valley Passenger Raily Feasibility Study was held on May 15, 2024, and the minutes from that meeting were included in the meeting packet. Mr. Molchany asked for a motion to approve the minutes from that meeting. Mr. O'Neil made a motion to approve the minutes from the Special LVTS Meeting on May 15, 2024, and it was seconded by Mr. Petrik.

Mr. Molchany asked if there were any comments from members, and Executive McClure asked why the passenger rail next steps were not on the agenda. Chair Molchany explained it will be on the agenda in July so we could focus on the TIP for this meeting. There were no questions from the public. Ms. Bradley called for the vote, and the motion was approved.

## **Old Business**

### ***INFORMATION ITEM: 2023 – 2026 TIP Administrative Modifications***

Ms. Ruth explained there have been 11 Administrative Actions and 3 statewide Actions since the last joint meeting, all of which not requiring a vote.

Chair Molchany asked Ms. Ruth to briefly explain the 14 administrative actions for committee members to be more aware of where the money is moving to and from.

Chair Molchany asked if there were any questions from the committee or public before moving onto the action items. There were no questions or comments.

### ***ACTION ITEM: ITEM: 2023 – 2026 TIP Amendment #1 State Route 22 Safety Corridor (MPMS 121641)***

Ms. Ruth explained it's a new project to the TIP in the amount of 250,000. This project involves the installation of "Safety Corridor – Fines Doubled" Signs along SR 22 from the split with I-78 to SR 33. The funding source is the NHPP de-obligation from the SR 611 Resurface project (MPMS 101572)

Ms. Ruth asked Chair Cotter to hold a technical committee vote.

Chair Cotter asked if there were any questions or comments from the committee or public, and there were none. Ms. Bradley made the motion and Mr. Meyer seconded the motion.

Ms. Bradley called for a vote and the motion passed.

Chair Cotter sent the meeting back to Chair Molchany for Coordinating Committee Approval.

Chair Molchany asked for a motion to approve the amendment. Mr. Stoudt made the motion, and Mr. Petrick seconded it.

Chair Molchany asked if there were any questions or comments from the committee or public, and there were none

Ms. Bradley called for a vote and the motion passed unanimously.

### ***ACITON ITEM: 2023 – 2026 TIP Amendment #2 Allentown Bethlehem Eason Airport Northside Logistics and Cargo Complex (MPMS 121443)***

Ms. Ruth explained Amendment #2 is for a project that will construct a cargo facility, including a dedicated access road and intersection improvements, cargo building, direct truck-to-aircraft operations, and stormwater infrastructure enhancements. The funding source is the Nationally Significant Multimodal Freight and Highway Projects Program (INFRA) grant of \$40,798,046, local match from LNAA of \$29,761,794, and FAA funds of \$4,715,887 for a total project cost of \$75,275,727. It is all new money to

the TIP. Ms. Ruth added the “remarks” column was updated since the initial packet distribution, but no funding or dollar amount was changed

Chair Cotter asked if there were any questions for Jen from the committee or public. Ms. Bradley commented that the “remarks” column was changed since the initial packet distribution, and that Mr. Dinkel sent an updated packet the day before the meeting.

Chair Cotter asked for a motion. Ms. Bradley made the motion, and it was seconded by Mr. Petrick.

Ms. Bradley held a call for votes and the motion passed unanimously.

Chair Cotter sent the meeting back to Chair Molchany for Coordinating Committee Approval.

Chair Molchany asked for a motion. Ms. Bradley made the motion, and it was seconded by Mr. O’Neil.

Chair Molchany asked Mr. Stoudt if he had any comments about the project. Mr. Stoudt said he was excited about the added capacity this project will bring to the airport. The airport has seen an 800% growth in air cargo over the last 10 years.

Ms. Bradley commended the amount of work it took to get the project through the regulatory process and the TIP. She commended the partnerships and noted more grants will coming to LVTS in the future.

There were no other questions or comments from committee members or the public.

Ms. Bradley held a call for votes and the motion passed unanimously.

***INFORMATION ITEM: Draft 2025 – 2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Public Meeting***

Mr. Hite, Mr. Gardi, Mr. Dinkel & Ms. Milagio made the presentation portion of the Draft 25-28 TIP public meeting.

Chair Molchany added the amount of work that went into creating FutureLV, which lead to the development of the draft TIP.

Brian Hare, of the public, commented: “Certainly a great approach to combine Land Use and Transportation Planning! How can LVTS/LVPC share this best practice with the rest of the Commonwealth?”

**New Business**

***INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION ITEM: Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Boundaries and Coordination of Transportation Planning and Programming, Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Reading Area Transportation Study (RATS) and LVTS***

Mr. Dinkel made a presentation on the MOU, and Ms. Bradley added the staff are still working on the MOU and comparing it to the old one from 2013.

Chair Molchany asked the committee and public for any questions or comments and there were none.

***INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION ITEM: Local Technical Assistance Program – Technical Assistance On-Site Visit.***

Mr. Hite made a presentation on LTAP tech assists, which fall into safety assistance or maintenance assistance. LTAP is available at no cost to the municipality.

Mr. Molchany asked if there were any questions from members or the public, and there were none.

**INFORMATION ITEM: Coordinated Public Transit Human-Services Transportation Plan**

Mr. Dinkel explained the purpose of the plan and how it's instrumental for the transportation of seniors and people with disabilities.

Mr. Molchany added the importance of the plan for securing money for LANta and the region.

Mr. O'Neil added this plan a requirement by FTA to meet the needs of seniors and people with disabilities. And in order to be eligible for section 5310 funding, the projects must be identified in this plan.

Chair Cotter emphasized the importance of the plan.

Mr. Molchany asked if there were any questions from members or the public, and there were none.

**Status Reports**

**PennDOT District 5-0 Bridge Project Status Report**

Mr. Vottero made a presentation on bridge project status.

Mr. Molchany added the importance of these reports to understand the progress being made on these projects.

Mr. Vottero explained some processes, like acquiring rights of way, is a very timely legal process. And Permitting is a very timely process as well.

Mr. Molchany asked if there were any additional comments from the LVTS membership and the public, and there were none.

**Monthly Traffic Report**

Mr. Hite gave an update on the continuous traffic counters, explaining new counters and those out of commission.

Mr. Molchany added how important these data are.

Brett Webber from All Aboard Lehigh Valley asked if rail freight traffic is monitored.

Ms. Bradley answered that the data is collected and monitored.

Mr. Molchany asked if there were any other comments from the LVTS membership and the public, and there were none.

**Vision Zero Application**

Mr. Gardi explained the application was started and a vision zero action plan is required to complete the recognition.

Mr. Molchany added the importance of sidewalks for our transportation network

Mr. O'Neil added sidewalks, crosswalks, and bus stop pads are their number one request.

Mr. Molchany asked if there were any questions from members or the public, and there were none.

### **Public Engagement, Education & Grants**

Mr. Assad presented that Becky will be presenting on New York Metropolitan Transportation Council on the evolving megaregion: Revisioning Freight Development and Mobility in Eastern PA

Mr. Assad presented on the next show on Plan Lehigh Valley about the green transportation infrastructure project.

Mr. Assad presented the next business cycle Morning Call column is also on the green transportation infrastructure project.

Mr. Molchany emphasized the importance of communicating with the public.

Mr. Molchany asked if there were any questions from members or the public, and there were none.

Mr. Hite presented PennDOT Connects educational opportunity entitled Maximizing Municipal Funding Through Grant Best Management Practices.

Mr. Molchany emphasized the importance of communicating these educational opportunities with municipalities.

Mr. Dinkel presented five open grant opportunities.

Mr. Molchany asked if there were any questions from members or the public, and there were none.

### **Adjournment**

Mr. Molchany stated that the next LVTS meeting would be a Special joint meeting held on 6/27. The Technical Committee meeting to be held on July 17, 2024 at 9 AM. The next Joint Technical and Coordinating Committee meeting would be held virtually on August 21, 2024, at 9 AM. Mr. Mosca made a motion to adjourn, Ms. Bradley seconded the motion, and the meeting was adjourned.





# Lehigh Valley Transportation Study

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Chair, Coordinating Committee

**BRENDAN COTTER**  
Chair, Technical Committee

**BECKY A. BRADLEY, AICP**  
Secretary,  
Coordinating Committee +  
Technical Committee

## Lehigh Valley Transportation Study Minutes from the Thursday, June 27, 2024 Joint Technical and Coordinating Committee Special Meeting

Prior to the call to order, Mr. Dinkel stated the agenda and materials for the meeting were posted on the LVPC website. He provided directions on how to participate in the virtual meeting and protocol for the meeting to flow smoothly. The meeting was advertised in the Lehigh Valley Press on May 16, 2024.

Mr. Rick Molchany chaired the Coordinating Committee portion of the meeting, and Mr. Brendan Cotter chaired the Technical Committee portion of the agenda.

Chair Molchany welcomed the members and the public participants and called the meeting to order.

### Roll Call

Mr. Dinkel took Roll Call.

### Attendees:

#### Technical Committee

Brendan Cotter	LANTA
Ryan Meyer	LNAA
Becky Bradley, AICP	LVPC
David Petrik	City of Allentown
Jennifer Ruth	PennDOT District 5

#### LVTS Coordinating Committee

Rick Molchany (Alt)	Lehigh County
Becky Bradley, AICP	LVPC
David Petrik (Alt)	City of Allentown
Michael Alkhal (Alt.)	City of Bethlehem
Lamont McClure	Northampton County
Jim Mosca	PennDOT Central Office
Thomas Stoudt	LNAA

### Members Absent:

#### Technical Committee

Matthew Tuerk	City of Allentown
J. William Reynolds	City of Bethlehem
Darlene Heller (Alt)	City of Bethlehem
Salvatore J. Panto Jr.	City of Easton
David Hopkins (Alt)	City of Easton
David Alas	PennDOT Central Office

#### LVTS Coordinating Committee

David Hopkins (Alt)	City of Easton
Matthew Tuerk	City of Allentown
J. William Reynolds	City of Bethlehem
Chris Kufro	PennDOT District 5-0
Owen O'Neill	LANTA

**Staff Present:** Becky Bradley, Evan Gardi, Matt Assad, Brian Hite, Ben Dinkel

**Public Present:** Lee Rackus (Whitehall Twp), Scott Slingerland (Coalition for Active Transportation), Gene Porochniak (Federal Highway Administration Pennsylvania Division), Ralph Eberhardt (Michael Baker International), Nyomi Evans (PennDOT Central Office), Brian Miller (Upper Milford Twp)

**Courtesy of the Floor**

Ms. Bradley announced LVTS chair Richard Molchany is celebrating his birthday day, and LVPC Staff Hannah Milagio had her baby, Javier, last Monday.

Chair Molchany asked if there were any additional comments or questions from the public about items not on the agenda, and there were none.

**Old Business**

***ACTION ITEM: LVTS Adoption of the 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)***

Mr. Dinkel explained the specifics of the TIP, and Mr. Assad presented on the public participation aspect of the development process.

Mr. Gene Porochniak, (Federal Highway Administration - Pennsylvania Division) wanted to provide a point of clarification before the adoption process began. He specified the Air Quality Conformity Report must be adopted before the Air Quality Conformity Resolution because the resolution recognizes the report has been completed and conformity has been run to meet the clean air act and other air quality conformity requirements.

Ms. Bradley added that the LVTS will follow the process outlined by Mr. Porochniak.

**Air Quality Conformity Analysis and Resolution (Report)**

Ms. Bradley reiterated what Mr. Porochniak clarified and added that the Air Quality Conformity Report essentially states that the project list does not make the region's Air Quality worse, and many of the projects will make the air quality better.

Ms. Bradley moved to accept the air quality conformity analysis and report. Mr. Meyer seconded the motion.

There were no questions or comments from the Technical Committee or the public.

Ms. Bradley called for a vote and the motion passed unanimously.

Chair Cotter sent the meeting back to Chair Molchany for Coordinating Committee Approval.

Chair Molchany asked for a motion to approve the amendment. Ms. Bradley made the motion, and Mr. Mosca seconded it.

Chair Molchany asked if there were any questions or comments from the committee or public, and there were none

Ms. Bradley called for a vote and the motion passed unanimously.

**Air Quality Conformity Analysis and Resolution (Resolution)**

Chair Cotter called for a motion to approve the Air Quality Conformity Analysis and Resolution. Jen Ruth made the motion and Ryan Meyer seconded the motion.

Chair Cotter asked if there were any questions or comments from the committee or public and there were none.

Ms. Bradley held a call for votes and the motion passed unanimously.

Chair Cotter sent the meeting back to Chair Molchany for Coordinating Committee Approval.

Chair Molchany asked for a motion. Mr. Stoudt made the motion, and it was seconded by Mr. Mosca.

Chair Molchany asked if there were any questions or comments from the committee or public, and there were none

Ms. Bradley held a call for votes and the motion passed unanimously.

### **Self-Certification Resolution**

Mr. Dinkel presented the Self-Certification Resolution.

Chair Cotter called for a motion to approve the Self-Certification Resolution. Mr. Petrick made the motion and Mr. Meyer seconded the motion.

Chair Cotter asked if there were any questions or comments from the committee or public and there were none.

Ms. Bradley held a call for votes and the motion passed unanimously.

Chair Cotter sent the meeting back to Chair Molchany for Coordinating Committee Approval.

Chair Molchany asked for a motion. Mr. Stoudt made the motion, and it was seconded by Mr. Mosca.

Chair Molchany asked if there were any questions or comments from the committee or public, and there were none

Ms. Bradley held a call for votes and the motion passed unanimously.

### **Metropolitan Planning Organization Procedures for 2025-2028 TIP Revisions**

Mr. Dinkel presented the MPO procedures for TIP Revisions.

Chair Cotter called for a motion to approve the Self-Certification Resolution. Mr. Meyer made the motion and Ms. Bradley seconded the motion.

Executive McClure asked why Nyomi Evans, of PennDOT Central Office, was not able to second the motion on behalf of David Alas, the PennDOT Central Office voting member on the LVTS Technical Committee. Ms. Bradley explained that LVTS bylaws have not allowed proxy votes in the past, and only the voting members or alternates are permitted to vote.

Ms. Bradley held a call for votes and the motion passed unanimously.

Chair Cotter sent the meeting back to Chair Molchany for Coordinating Committee Approval.

Chair Molchany asked for a motion. Mr. Petrick made the motion, and it was seconded by Mr. Stoudt

Chair Molchany asked the committee and public for any questions or comments and there were none.

Ms. Bradley held a call for votes and the motion passed unanimously.

***ACTION ITEM: LVTS Adoption of the 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)***

Chair Molchany said the TIP Made Easy is available in your meeting packet.

Chair Cotter called for a motion to approve the 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program. Mr. Meyer made the motion and Ms. Ruth seconded the motion.

Chair Cotter asked if there were any questions or comments from the committee or public and there were none.

Ms. Bradley held a call for votes and the motion passed unanimously.

Chair Cotter sent the meeting back to Chair Molchany for Coordinating Committee Approval.

Chair Molchany asked for a motion. Mr. Alkhal made the motion, and it was seconded by Mr. Stoudt.

Chair Molchany asked if there were any questions or comments from the committee or public, and there were none

Ms. Bradley held a call for votes and the motion passed with one vote in the negative for Northampton County.

***ACTION ITEM: LVTS 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment***

Ms. Ruth explained the amendment today is for the 309 Center Valley Interchange Preliminary Engineering phase, in the amount of \$2,625,000. The increase is due to the presence of a new historic district and 100-year floodplain. Additional preliminary engineering work on roadway plans, cross-sections, pavement design, lighting design, preliminary right of way plans, additional structure foundation work, structure plans, signing and pavement markings, maintenance and protection of traffic design and additional permitting work is needed.

Funding Source: 309 Center Valley Interchange Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2024 decrease of \$1,700,000 Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality funds, and a decrease of \$425,000 in 581-state highway funds in the Final Design phase. 309 Center Valley Interchange FFY2024 decrease of \$400,000 Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality funds, and a decrease of \$100,000 in 581-state highway funds in the Right of Way phase. Corridor Signal Improvements Line Item FFY 2025 decrease of \$400,000 Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality funds. Lehigh Valley Transportation Study Highway and Bridge Reserve Line Item FFY 2025 decrease of \$100,000 in 581-state highway funds.

Chair Cotter asked if there were any questions or comments from the committee, and Ms. Bradley clarified some of the funds being moved for this project are coming from line items in FFY 2025, as outlined in the Fiscal Constraint Chart.

Chair Cotter called for a motion. Ms. Bradley made the motion and Mr. Meyer seconded the motion.

Ms. Bradley held a call for votes and the motion passed unanimously.

Chair Cotter sent the meeting back to Chair Molchany for Coordinating Committee Approval.

Chair Molchany asked for a motion. Mr. Stoudt made the motion, and it was seconded by Mr. Mosca.

Chair Molchany commented about the increased costs of projects and how amendments are necessary, but they impact future spending. He asked Jen Ruth in future meetings, to provide updates on possible pipeline projects so the committee knows what amendments may come up in the future.

Executive McClue asked why that information would be helpful, and Chair Molchany added that perspective will help us understand the impacts of moving money from one project to another, and how it affects projects down the line. He added with the Center Valley Interchange Amendment, the LVTS moved money from Final Design to Preliminary Engineering, which means a future amendment may be necessary to add money to the Final Design phase.

There were no additional comments or questions.

Ms. Bradley held a call for votes and the motion passed with one vote in the negative for Northampton County.

### **New Business**

#### **Statewide Transportation Improvement Program Public Comment Period**

Mr. Dinkel presented the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) Public Comment Period.

### **Adjournment**

Chair Molchany stated that the next LVTS meeting would be a Technical Committee meeting on July 17, 2024 at 9 AM. The next Joint Technical and Coordinating Committee meeting would be held virtually on August 21, 2024, at 9 AM. Mr. Stoudt made a motion to adjourn, Ms. Bradley seconded the motion, and the meeting was adjourned.

## **MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)**

### **Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Boundaries and Coordination of Transportation Planning and Programming Between the Lehigh Valley Transportation Study (LVTS) and the Reading Area Transportation Study (RATS)**

#### **Background and Purpose**

- A. The Year 2020 Census defined Urban Area (UA) for Lehigh County (Allentown-Bethlehem, PA-NJ UA) extends into Berks County in portions of Greenwich and Maxatawny townships as shown on the attached map. By federal statute, Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs), or coverage by adjacent MPOs, are required where there is an UA.
- B. The Reading Area Transportation Study MPO serves Berks County and the Lehigh Valley Transportation Study MPO serves Lehigh County and Northampton County. All Counties are in Pennsylvania.
- C. By virtue of the UA populations, the Lehigh Valley and Berks County are separate and distinct Transportation Management Areas (TMA), each region having a population of more than 250,000 persons. With TMA status comes additional planning requirements and Surface Transportation Urban (STU) funding which is based on the UA population.
- D. The Berks and Lehigh Valley MPO boundaries have been coincident with the common boundary between Berks and Lehigh counties.
- E. The purpose of this MOU is to establish the MPO boundaries and transportation planning and programming responsibilities as they relate to that portion of the Allentown-Bethlehem, PA-NJ UA that extends into Berks County.

#### **General**

- A. We agree to carry out the transportation planning and programming processes in a cooperative and coordinated fashion, and in compliance with federal planning regulations.
- B. Staff from both MPOs will communicate regularly, share information, and meet as needed to achieve the needed level of cooperation and coordination.
- C. This agreement will be reviewed when either one of the entities identify the need for a review, but no later than December 31, 2033, or when the 2030 Decennial Census UAs are defined.

#### **Specific**

- A. The MPO boundary between RATS and LVTS will remain at the common county boundary between Berks and Lehigh counties.
- B. The RATS MPO will assume primary planning and programming responsibility for the portion of the Allentown-Bethlehem, PA-NJ UA in its county, including:
  - UPWP development and accomplishment
  - Update of the Long-Range Transportation Plan
  - Biennial update of the Transportation Improvement Program
  - Traffic and Highway Performance Monitoring System data collection

- Travel demand modeling (RATS has a model; LVTS MPO uses their own model and/or the services of the Program Center at PennDOT)
  - Air quality conformity modeling
  - Special studies and corridor studies
  - Asset management
  - Congestion Management Processes (CMP) planning and implementation
  - Highway functional classification updates
- C. Long-Range Transportation Plans and Transportation Improvement Programs will continue to be developed by the Berks County Planning Commission for the Reading Area Transportation Study including and limited to Berks County, Pennsylvania; and, the Lehigh Valley Planning Commission for the Lehigh Valley Transportation Study, including and limited to Lehigh County, Pennsylvania and Northampton County, Pennsylvania.
- D. There will be no sharing of STU funds by the two MPOs at this time.
- E. This MOU supersedes and replaces any prior agreement for MPO boundaries and coordination of transportation planning and programming between RATS and the LVTS.

**SIGNATURE PAGE**

Agreed to this 18th day of July, 2024 by the Lehigh Valley Planning Commission by action of its Executive Committee, upon recommendation by the Lehigh Valley Transportation Study.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dr. Chris Amato, Chair  
Lehigh Valley Planning Commission

\_\_\_\_\_  
Christina Morgan, Vice Chair  
Lehigh Valley Planning Commission

\_\_\_\_\_  
Armando Mortiz-Chapelliquen, Treasurer  
Lehigh Valley Planning Commission

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Becky A. Bradley, Executive Director  
Lehigh Valley Planning Commission and  
Secretary, Lehigh Valley Transportation Study

Agreed to this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2024 by the Reading Area Transportation Study by action of its Coordinating Committee.

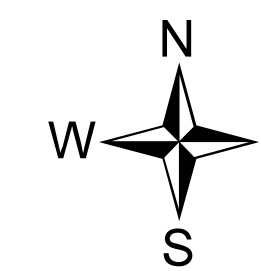
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chris Kufro, P.E., Chair  
RATS Coordinating Committee

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
David Hunter, Planning Director,  
Berks County Planning Commission

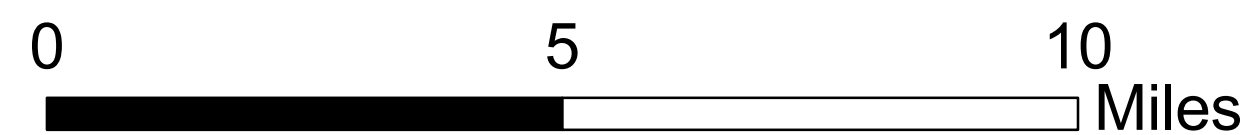
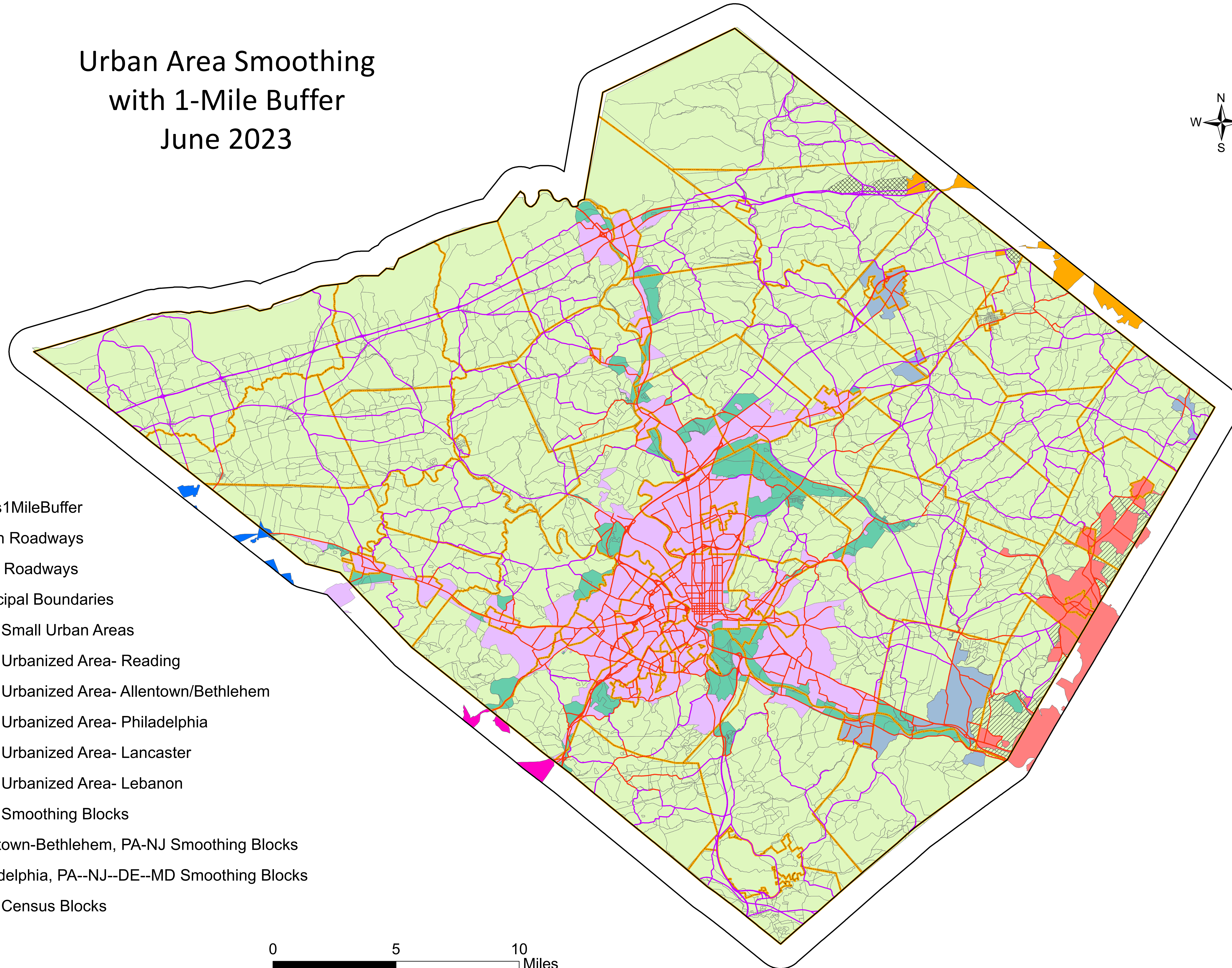


# Urban Area Smoothing with 1-Mile Buffer June 2023



## Legend

-  Berks1MileBuffer
-  Urban Roadways
-  Rural Roadways
-  Municipal Boundaries
-  2020 Small Urban Areas
-  2020 Urbanized Area- Reading
-  2020 Urbanized Area- Allentown/Bethlehem
-  2020 Urbanized Area- Philadelphia
-  2020 Urbanized Area- Lancaster
-  2020 Urbanized Area- Lebanon
-  2020 Smoothing Blocks
-  Allentown-Bethlehem, PA-NJ Smoothing Blocks
-  Philadelphia, PA--NJ--DE--MD Smoothing Blocks
-  2020 Census Blocks



**LVTS Metropolitan Planning Organization**

FISCAL CONSTRAINT TABLE

**FFY 2023-2026 TIP Highway and Bridge Element**

Technical Committee

TIP Modifications from June 1, 2024 through July 5, 2024

MPO Tech Meeting: July 17, 2024

MPO Coord Meeting: August 21, 2024

Administrative Action #1			Fund Type		FFY 2023			FFY 2024			FFY 2025			FFY 2026			FFYs 2027-2030 and Beyond			Total	Remarks						
Project Title	MPMS	Phase	Amts	Fed.	Sta.	Fed. (\$)	State (\$)	Loc/Oth (\$)	Fed. (\$)	State (\$)	Loc/Oth (\$)	Fed. (\$)	State (\$)	Loc/Oth (\$)	Fed. (\$)	State (\$)	Loc/Oth (\$)	Fed. (\$)	State (\$)	Loc/Oth (\$)	Total	Remarks					
South Walnut Street Bridge 7408 - WSB Lehigh County	94680	UTL	Before	BOF	185	40,000	7,500	2,500	0	0	0											50,000.00	Increase to cover new estimate for PPL utilities.				
			Adjust	BOF	185					241,808	45,339	15,113												302,260.00			
			After	BOF	185	40,000	7,500	2,500		241,808	45,339	15,113												352,260.00			
Meadows Road Bridge Removal (Co Br 15) 7210 - MBR Northampton County	116171	CON	Before	BOF																		0.00	Deobligation returned to region for reassignment.				
			Adjust	BOF						(62,859)														(62,859.00)			
			After																					0.00			
Indian Creek Road over Leibert Creek 3016 - 01B Northampton County	12310	UTL	Before																			0.00	Deobligation returned to region for reassignment.				
			Adjust	BOF							(18,488)														(18,488.00)		
			After																						0.00		
Indian Creek Road over Leibert Creek 3016 - 01B Northampton County	12310	PE	Before																			0.00	Deobligation returned to region for reassignment.				
			Adjust	BOF							(123,392)														(123,392.00)		
			After																						0.00		
Bridge Overlay Bundle #2 22 - BOB Northampton County	117154	CON	Before		185						45,888											0.00	Release funds due to being fully covered on the 2021 TIP.				
			Adjust		185																			(45,339.00)			
			After		185							45,888													2,898,250.00		
LVTS Bridge Preservation #7 611 - BRM Northampton County	112231	CON	Before		185									1,400,000		3,052,759						2,852,911.00	Align with anticipated need. Fully carried on draft 2025 TIP.				
			Adjust		185																			297,700			
			After		185																				5,000,000.00		
LVTS Hwy & Bridge Reserve  Line Item Lehigh County	102201	CON	Before	BOF	185				923,288	5,272		113,744	41,121		1,164,417	12,186		38,856,960	28,849,379			69,966,367.00	Partial source.				
			Before	BRIP				129,104				1,437,840			5,097,524			62,784,000						69,448,468.00			
			Before	NHPP				2,720,577				105,130			17,842			36,323,745						39,167,294.00			
			Before	STP	581			121,160			637,828		161,873	292,433		55,576	172,516		26,682,878	37,687,905				65,812,169.00			
			Adjust	BOF	185						(37,069)														(37,069.00)		
			After	BOF	185						886,219	5,272		113,744	41,121		1,164,417	12,186		38,856,960	28,849,379				69,929,298.00		
			After	BRIP				129,104					1,437,840			5,097,524			62,784,000						69,448,468.00		
			After	NHPP				2,720,577				105,130				17,842			36,323,745						39,167,294.00		
			After	STP	581			121,160			637,828		161,873	292,433		55,576	172,516		26,682,878	37,687,905				65,812,169.00			
			Administrative Action #2																								
			SR 29 - Shimersville Hill Safety Imprv 29 - 05S Lehigh County	110183	FD	Before	HSIP	581	89,271	9,919																99,190.00	Increase for ROW revisions/acquisition coordination, permitting, drainage, environmental, and utility coordination.
						Before	NHPP	Toll					0														
Adjust	NHPP	Toll									234,665													234,665.00			
SR 22 Resurface - 15th St to MacArthur Rd 22 - 10M Lehigh County	114349	CON	Before	HSIP	581	89,271	9,919															99,190.00	Deobligation returned to region for reassignment.				
			Before	NHPP	Toll						234,665														234,665.00		
			Adjust	NHPP							(234,665)														(234,665.00)		
Administrative Action #3																											
Transp Alternative Project Management -TEM Lehigh County	89055	PE	Before	STP		75,000			75,000			75,000			75,000							900,000.00	Increase for management of ongoing projects and newly selected statewide projects.				
			Before	STU		115,000				0														115,000.00			
			Adjust	STU						81,000															81,000.00		
611 Retaining Wall Rehab - Easton 611 - RWR Northampton County	110179	CON	Before	STU		75,000			75,000			75,000			75,000							900,000.00	Align with anticipated need.				
			Before	STU		115,000				81,000														196,000.00			
			Adjust	STU						(81,000)			200,000	473,080		118,270	0		81,000			20,250			1,591,350.00		
Urban/Carbon Reduction Program Reserve  Line Item Lehigh County	82810	CON	Before	STU					800,000			473,080			81,000								1,591,350.00	Partial source.			
			Before	CRP						719,000		179,750	473,080		118,270	81,000		20,250							1,159,000.00		
			Before	CRPU								1,747,207			588,000										3,529,358.00		
			Before	STU				42,958					443,531			2,330,290			75,423,615						78,240,394.00		
			Adjust	STU												(81,000)									(81,000.00)		
			After	CRP							42,958			443,531			571,000			75,423,615						1,159,000.00	
After	CRPU									1,747,207			588,000									3,529,358.00					
After	STU																					78,159,394.00					
<b>Before FFY Totals</b>						319,271	17,419	2,500	4,812,087	938,529	200,000	5,128,405	1,733,554	118,270	11,110,800	3,237,461	0	240,671,198	69,687,346			337,976,840	Actions do not affect the project delivery schedules or air quality conformity.				
<b>FFY Adjustment Totals</b>					0	0	0	0	0	0	(5,137)	0	0	0	0	20,250	0	0	0	0	15,113						
<b>After FFY Totals</b>						319,271	17,419	2,500	5,251,491	938,529	194,863	5,128,405	1,733,554	118,270	11,110,800	3,237,461	20,250	240,671,198	69,687,346			338,431,357					

NOTES: Non zero Adjustment due to local match.

**LEHIGH VALLEY TRANSPORTATION STUDY  
HIGHWAY STATUS REPORT  
MEETING JULY 17, 2024**

**US 22, Section WDN Widening (C-C. Frey)**

**Whitehall, South Whitehall, and Hanover Townships, and City of Bethlehem Lehigh County;  
Hanover Township, Northampton County**

**MPMS 96384 - est let N/A**

- Revised Preliminary POA study submitted in late January. Minor comments on narrative issued on February 21, 2024; resubmission anticipated by September 2024
- Preliminary Noise Analysis is being revised to current project limit just west of Airport Road and break-out project strategies discussed with CO and FHWA, resubmission anticipated by September 2024
- Due to anticipated ROW displacements in EJ area, a streamlined Environmental Assessment (EA) will be required for NEPA clearance; due to time restrictions of EA, the EA will be initiated once the Preliminary POA and Preliminary Noise Analysis are closer to approval
- Design team continuing work to identify EJ community leaders (Hispanic, Syrian, and Asian populations) in preparation of public involvement process
- Upon environmental clearance, US 22 Widening will be advanced via a series of breakout projects. First breakout project will be SR 22/Fullerton Interchange (MPMS 117610) anticipated to be let in 2027
- Supplement 10 to restructure design agreement for break project delivery approach executed May 30, 2024

**SR 145, Section MLT 7<sup>th</sup> Street Multimodal Corridor (C-R. Prophet)**

**City of Allentown and Whitehall Township, Lehigh County**

**MPMS 99697 – est let April 1, 2027**

- Final Design is being delayed aligning with funding, currently programmed in FFY 2026

**SR 309, Section 14M Betterment (C-M. Fallon)**

**North and South Whitehall Townships, Lehigh County**

**MPMS 102312 – est let June 5, 2025**

- NPDES and JPA permits resubmitted to District May 7, 2024, and comments received May 24, 2024
- Coordination with Traffic Unit is ongoing
- Structure Foundation Report for Retaining wall resubmitted December 18, 2023, comments received December 27, 2023
- Railroad coordination ongoing
- CE reevaluation document updates in progress, Archeology Phase 1 Addendum submitted March 20, 2024
- Traffic signal plan resubmission on March 25, 2024; comments received April 22, 2024
- Signing Plans and Pavement Marking Plan resubmission on March 25, 2024; comments received March 29, 2024

**SR 309, Section 12M 309 & Tilghman Interchange (A. Samy)**

**North and South Whitehall Townships, Lehigh County**

**MPMS 96432 – est let July 25, 2024**

- ROW Conditional Clearance received
- Utility coordination is 90% complete
- Final Noise report Approved
- Structure Foundation Reports Approved
- Final Structure plans for bridges ongoing, sign structures ongoing, and noise walls Final Structure Plan signed and completed
- 90% Constructability Review to be Completed, project is advertised

**LEHIGH VALLEY TRANSPORTATION STUDY  
HIGHWAY STATUS REPORT  
MEETING JULY 17, 2024**

**SR 378, Section 04M SR 378 Lighting (M. Patel)**

**City of Bethlehem, Lehigh County**

**MPMS 110398 – est let April 1, 2027**

- SFV meeting was held March 18, 2024; SFV submitted to District April 10, 2024; approved May 1, 2024
- Conceptual Plans and summary submitted to District May 24, 2024, for Central Office review
- Survey to be completed July for proposed pole locations
- Utility/URMS coordination is ongoing

**SR 1017, Section 02S Mauch Chunk Signal Improvements (C-M. McGuire)**

**South Whitehall Township, Lehigh County**

**MPMS 110174 – est let May 22, 2025**

- Right of way plans under Department review
- Utility coordination in progress

**SR 22, Section 15M SR 22/SR 191 Interchange Improvements (C-M. McGuire)**

**Bethlehem Township, Northampton County**

**MPMS 117606 – est. let April 1, 2030**

- Continuing with environmental studies
- Continuing to advance traffic modeling for the design year
- Continuing to refine draft alternatives

**SR 191, Section 04S SR 191 Lower Nazareth Intersection Improvements (C-R. Himmelwright)**

**Lower Nazareth Township, Northampton County**

**MPMS 116936 – est. let March 12, 2026**

- Public Meeting held April 10, 2024, at Lower Nazareth Township Building
- Utility Coordination Ongoing
- Working towards CE Clearance and DFV Approval

**SR 248, Section 05S Route 248 Realignment (C-M. McGuire)**

**Bath Borough, Northampton County**

**MPMS 86853 – est let July 11, 2024**

- Traffic Control Plans approved
- Utility clearance issued on May 22, 2024
- Right of Way final clearance issued on April 12, 2024
- Project is advertised for construction

**SR 2018, Section 02S Freemansburg Ave (SR 2018) Safety Improvements (C-J. Besz)**

**Bethlehem Township, Northampton County**

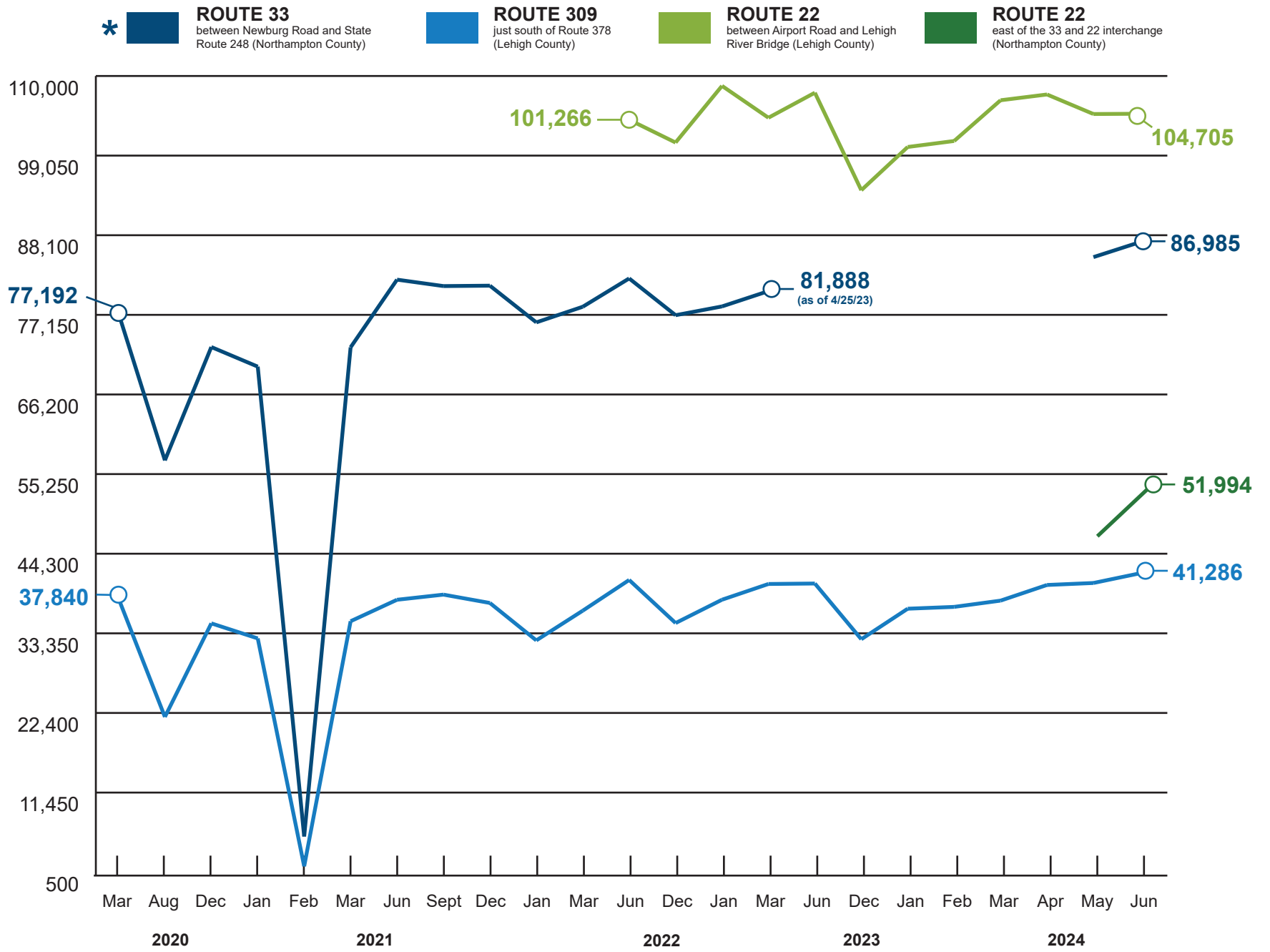
**MPMS 117509 – est let December 4, 2025**

- Utility coordination continues
- The CE was approved on June 6, 2024
- The 30% Constructability Review was submitted and returned as accepted as noted on May 23, 2024
- The Design Field View was submitted on April 4, 2024, and approved July 1, 2024
- The Preliminary ROW Plans were submitted on May 29, 2024, and are under review
- Development of the FD Scope and Fee Proposal are ongoing

**LEHIGH VALLEY TRANSPORTATION STUDY  
HIGHWAY STATUS REPORT  
MEETING JULY 17, 2024**

<b>ACRONYM REFERENCE</b>	
ACM/LBP	ASBESTOS CONTAINING MATERIAL / LEAD BASED PAINT
ADA	AMERICAN WITH DISABILITIES ACT
BRPA	BRIDGE AND ROADWAY PROGRAMMATIC AGREEMENT
CE	CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION
CEE	CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION EVALUATION
CO	CENTRAL OFFICE
CRP	CULTURAL RESOURCES PROFESSIONAL
DCNR	DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES
DEP	DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
DFV	DESIGN FIELD VIEW
DO	DISTRICT OFFICE
E&S	EROSION AND SEDIMENTATION
EJ	ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE
ESA	ENVIRONMENTAL SITE ASSESSMENT
FD	FINAL DESIGN
FHWA	FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION
H&H	HYDROLOGIC AND HYDRAULIC
HOP	HIGHWAY OCCUPANCY PERMIT
HRSF	HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY FORM
JD	JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION
JPA	JOINT PERMIT AGREEMENT
L&G	LINE AND GRADE
LCCD	LEHIGH COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT
LGTS	LINE, GRADE AND TYPICAL SECTION
LOMR	LETTER OF MAP REVISION
MPT	MAINTENANCE AND PROTECTION OF TRAFFIC
NCCD	NORTHAMPTON COUNT CONSERVATION DISTRICT
NOITE	NOTICE OF INTENT TO ENTER
NPDES	NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM
NTP	NOTICE TO PROCEED
PE	PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING
PHMC	PA HISTORICAL AND MUSEUM COMMISSION
PNDI	PENNSYLVANIA NATURAL DIVERSITY INVENTORY
POA	POINT OF ACCESS
PS&E	PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS AND ESTIMATE
ROW	RIGHT OF WAY
RSGER	RECONNAISSANCE SOILS AND GEOLOGICAL ENGINEERING REPORT
SEPS	SUBSURFACE EXPLORATION PLANNING SUBMISSION
SFV	SCOPE AND FIELD VIEW
SHPO	STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
SPMP	SIGNING AND PAVEMENT MARKING PLAN
SUE	SUBSURFACE UTILITY ENGINEERING
T&E	THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES COORDINATION
TCP	TRAFFIC CONTROL PLAN
TIF	TECHNICALLY INFEASIBILITY FORM
TIP	TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM
TS&L	TYPE, SIZE AND LOCATION
USFWS	UNITED STATES FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

# TOTAL VEHICLE TRAFFIC



# TOTAL TRUCK TRAFFIC

