

WATS Coordinating Committee Members

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



WATS Technical Committee Members

Lycoming County Planning & Community Development
PennDOT Engineering District 3-0
City of Williamsport
River Valley Transit
Williamsport Regional Airport
Lycoming County Planning Commission
PennDOT Center for Program Development & Management

The WATS MPO is staffed by the Lycoming County Department of Planning & Community Development

**WILLIAMSPORT AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY MPO TRANSIT ADVISORY
COMMITTEE PUBLIC MEETING**

DATE: Thursday, November 18, 2021
TIME: 2:00 PM
PLACE: Virtual Meeting
Dial-In Number: 1 (267) 332-8737
Conference Code: 102 803 184#

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER Vitko

MINUTES:
May 13, 2021 Vitko

PUBLIC COMMENT Vitko

AGENDA ITEMS:

- Introductions / Meeting Purpose Vitko
- 2022 Transit Advisory Meeting Dates Vitko
- River Valley Transit Service Update Wright
 - F.R.I.T.S. Project Update
 - PennDOT Act 44 Report
 - Rider Promotions/Satisfaction Survey
 - Service Updates
- STEP, Inc. Service Update Merk
 - STEP's Find My Ride application process
 - Find My Ride reservations, anticipated January-February 2022
 - STEP Title VI Policy Update
 - Lycoming County Diversability Committee
 - Service Update
- Consumer Comments Group
- Next Scheduled Meeting Date Group

OTHER BUSINESS / PUBLIC COMMENT..... Vitko

ADJOURN..... Vitko

All meeting materials also available on [WATS MPO Website \(http://www.lyco.org/WATS-MPO/Committees\)](http://www.lyco.org/WATS-MPO/Committees)

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48 W. Third St, Williamsport PA 17701 • (570) 320-2130



WILLIAMSPORT AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY TRANSIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE TELECONFERENCE PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

May 13, 2021 Transit Advisory Committee Teleconference Public Meeting: Held at various locations via teleconference.

CALL TO ORDER (WATS Transit Advisory Committee Teleconference Public Meeting)

Sal Vitko called the meeting to order at 2:01 P.M.

MINUTES

December 10, 2020 Transit Advisory Committee Public Meeting

Sal Vitko asked if there were any issues or questions on the **December 10, 2020** meeting minutes. Sal explained the request is to approve the meeting minutes to ensure the meeting minutes were a fair and accurate representation of what occurred at the meeting, and that a vote to approve the minutes was not needed. Committee members shared no changes or concerns with the December 10, 2021 meeting minutes and the meeting minutes were approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

AGENDA ITEMS

Introductions / Meeting Purpose

Sal Vitko asked all members to state their names and organizations who attended the meeting. Sal Vitko gave a brief overview of the WATS Transit Advisory Committee's purpose and the partnership with River Valley Transit (RVT) and STEP, Inc.

RIVER VALLEY TRANSIT SERVICE UPDATE

F.R.I.T.S. Project

Todd Wright introduced Chris Clark, River Valley Transit (RVT) fleet manager to go over the Fixed Route Intelligent Transportation System (F.R.I.T.S.) project. Chris stated that F.R.I.T.S. will be in the RVT fixed route vehicles and encompasses information technology and a video package. Chris informed the Committee that the system has high-resolution video and will assist in reporting/evaluating customer service, accidents, and other scenarios. Currently, RVT is mid-project and Chris stated that by July 4, 2021 the F.R.I.T.S. project should be completed. Chris informed the committee that from a passenger standpoint the F.R.I.T.S. project will allow for mobile payment and other amenities for users.

Act 44 Review

Todd stated that the Act 44 Performance Review for RVT is in progress. Todd informed the Committee that the Review started in April 2021 and that there are four (4) metrics that RVT is being evaluated on (Passengers per Revenue Vehicle Hour, Operating Costs per Revenue Vehicle Hour, Operating Revenue per Revenue Vehicle Hour, and Operating Cost per passenger). PennDOT suspended the review targets because of how ridership has been impacted by COVID-19.

Todd stated that RVT is scheduled to receive a draft report by the end of May 2021 and there will be a public comment period to gather any public comments prior to the final report being issued. Todd stated that based on the report's findings, RVT will have five-years to develop an action plan for any corrective actions and RVT is permitted to work with PennDOT on a quarterly basis to achieve the action plan goals.

Todd informed the Committee that RVT's local match funding has not been adjusted in a number of years, and that RVT will be reaching out to the County regarding the fifteen percent (15%) local match RVT is required to contribute.

Clinton County Service

Todd Wright reminded the Committee that RVT, at the request of PennDOT, suspended the pilot service to Clinton County in December 2020. Todd informed the committee that RVT has continued operating on Fridays and Saturdays, and Todd sees that continuing into the beginning of the next fiscal year. Todd stated that Lock Haven University is looking at RVT to provide shuttle service in fall 2021. Todd stated that there might be an opportunity for micro-transit options in Clinton County and perhaps in the Muncy/Hughesville area.

STEP, INC. SERVICE UPDATE

COVID-19 Vaccination Transportation

Dan Merk updated the Committee that STEP, Inc.'s ridership has increased. Dan stated that since February 2021 STEP has performed 395 trips for COVID vaccinations alone.

Find My Ride Transit Eligibility System

Dan stated that the online eligibility system allows customers to apply for every public transportation program that STEP, Inc. operates. Dan stated that on Monday, May 17, 2021 STEP, Inc. would be going live with the eligibility system. Dan informed the Committee that the goal is to have a link on STEP's website for customers to use. The new system is a lot easier than some of the older applications and the new system can link with STEP, Inc.'s software.

On-line Reservation System

Dan informed the Committee that STEP, Inc. began their on-line reservation system in July 2020 and currently are at seventeen-hundred (1,700) online reservations. Dan stated that both systems are yet another way to increase access to public transportation. Dan stated that by July 1, 2021 the Transit Eligibility System would be fully activated.

Lycoming County Divers-ability Awareness Committee

Dan Merk informed the Committee about the Lycoming County Divers-ability Committee that Commissioner Metzger is assisting in spearheading. Dan stated the Divers-ability Committee meets monthly with the goal of better enhancing transportation services for clients in the divers-ability community. Dan stated that the Divers-ability Committee had a meeting and that staff from PennDOT were part of the meeting.

Sal Vitko asked if there were any members of the Williamsport Accessibility Advisory Commission on the Divers-ability Committee. Dan stated that he was not entirely sure, but some organizations that serve the community were represented, like Center for Independent Living. Mark Murawski asked if Dan had a list of committee members for the Divers-ability Committee. Dan stated that he can get a copy of that list and will send it to Sal.

CONSUMER COMMENTS

There were no consumer comments.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING DATE

Sal stated that the next scheduled WATS Transit Advisory Committee meeting will be **Thursday, November 18, 2021** at 2:00 p.m. Sal stated that currently, the MPO is hopeful that the November meeting will be in-person, but that they will have to wait and see. If the meeting will not be in-person, the MPO will set up a virtual meeting. . Dial-In Number: 267-332-8737, Conference Code: 102 803 184#.

OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Steve Herman from SEDA-COG MPO stated that Rabbit Transit has started designated stop service routes in Columbia, Montour, Northumberland, and Union counties. Rabbit Transit has opened the service up to the public and schedules the service a day in advance.

ADJOURN

Hearing no further business or public comment, Sal called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dan Merk gave the motion and Todd Wright seconded. Sal adjourned the meeting at 2:32 p.m.

Respectfully, Submitted,
Scott Williams
WATS Secretary

WATS Transit Advisory Committee

SIGN IN SHEET (Please **PRINT** clearly)

LOCATION: Due to the current public health emergency the meeting was held

DATE: 5/13/2021

Via teleconference, Dial-in # (267) 332-8737 Conference Code: 372140235#

	Name	Organization	E-mail	Phone Number
1	Carey Mullins	PennDOT Center for Program Development & Management	mailto:dlmerk@stepcorp.orgcmullins@pa.gov	717-783-2265
2	Dan Merk	STEP, Inc. Transportation Manager	mailto:twright@ridervt.comdlmerk@stepcorp.org	570-601-9675
3	Todd Wright	River Valley Transit, Contract Services Manager	twright@ridervt.com	570-326-2500
4	Chris Clark	River Valley Transit, Fleet Manager	mailto:srossman@lyco.org	570-326-2500
5	Steve Herman	SEDA-COG MPO	sherman@seda-cog.org	570-524-4491
6	Jason Fink	Williamsport-Lycoming Chamber of Commerce	mailto:swilliams@lyco.orgjfink@williamsport.org	570-320-4213
7	Scott Williams	PCD/WATS MPO	swilliams@lyco.org	570-320-2138
8	Mark Murawski	PCD/WATS MPO	mailto:brianp@ncsight.orgmmurawski@lyco.org	570-320-8117
9	Sal Vitko	PCD/WATS MPO	mailto:svitko@lyco.orgsvitko@lyco.org	570-320-2140
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WATS Transit Advisory Committee

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WILLIAMSPORT AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY TRANSIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

2022 PUBLIC MEETING DATE SCHEDULE

DATE	TIME
May 12, 2022	2:00 PM
November 17, 2022	2:00 PM

MEETING LOCATION ADDRESS (if in-person meetings will be held):

Lycoming County Executive Plaza Building
Commissioner's 1st Floor Board Room
330 Pine Street
Williamsport, PA 17701

In the event that an in-person meeting is not feasible, the WATS MPO will provide detailed information on a virtual meeting option.

Dates and locations are subject to change with advance advertised public notice. All meetings are open to the public.