

KYOVA INTERSTATE PLANNING COMMISSION  
POLICY MEETING

400 Third Avenue  
Huntington, WV 25701

September 26, 2025  
12:00 P.M.

MINUTES

AGENDA ITEM #1: Call to Order and Introductions – DeAnna Holliday, Chair

- Attendees present for the Policy Board Meeting (via Zoom Video Conferencing) are as follows:

Barry Adkins  
Mark Bates  
Laura Brown  
Liza Caldwell  
John Callihan  
Brian Carr  
Paul Davis  
Beau Evans  
Jason Foster  
Jeff Gaskins  
DeAnna Holliday  
Charles Jackson  
Blake Jones  
Ralph Kline

Patrick Leighty  
John Mandt, Jr.  
Jennifer Piercy  
John Rogers  
Kelli Sobonya  
Kevin Sullivan  
Scott Thompson  
James Turner  
Katherine Utsinger  
Rob Watson  
Patricia Wetzel  
Jason Workman  
Thomas Witt

AGENDA ITEM #2: Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting (May 2, 2025)

- ❖ Motion Sobonya / Mandt to approve as presented by affirmation; motion passed.

AGENDA ITEM #3: Update on Surface Transportation Reauthorization Bill – Caryn Moore Lund, Senior Professional Staff Member, Committee on Environment & Public Works, U.S. Senate

- Chris Chiles introduced Karen Moore Lund, a senior Senate staff member who provided insights into ongoing Transportation Reauthorization Bill negotiations and funding challenges. Ms. Lund outlined three key principles guiding the negotiations: investing with impact, modernizing programs, and ensuring the bill reflects the diversity of communities across the country. The committee is working to address

funding challenges, with a potential \$145 billion shortfall for a 5-year bill, and is collaborating with other Senate committees to identify ways to pay for the legislation.

AGENDA ITEM #4: Executive Director's Report – Chris Chiles, KYOVA

- Ohio House of Representatives MPO Reform Bill
  - Mr. Chiles discussed a recent Ohio bill proposing reforms for metropolitan planning organizations, which will be monitored closely.
- WV TRAIL Regional Meeting
  - Mr. Chiles updated members about an upcoming West Virginia Trail Regional meeting to be held at Valley Park Conference Center, Hurricane, on November 5, 2025, at 6:00 PM.
- AASHTO 2025 America's Transportation Awards – Ashland's Winchester Avenue Streetscape Improvements
  - Mr. Chiles discussed the Winchester Avenue project's nomination for a national award through ASHTO.
- Chesapeake Bypass Project Update
  - Mr. Chiles stated progress continues moving forward.
- Downtown Huntington Streetscape Project
  - Mr. Chiles stated the Downtown Huntington Streetscape Project plans to revitalize the central business district in downtown Huntington. The project is 30% complete and includes public engagement opportunities through an interactive website.
- Update on KYOVA Transportation Studies
  - Mr. Chiles briefly mentioned the various transportation studies KYOVA staff are currently involved with and directed members to KYOVA's YouTube channel for more information.
    - KYOVA Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Grant
    - Law US-52/Ashland Bridge Intersection Study
    - Cabell-Wayne County Transportation Land Use Study
    - Bus Stop Inventory and Assessment
    - KYOVA Regional Freight Plan
    - KYOVA Congestion Management Process & Travel Demand Model
    - Beech Fork Connector Road Study (new)
    - Barbourville CSX Underpass Drainage Study (new)
    - US 52/SR 93 Storms Creek Feasibility Study (new)

AGENDA ITEM #5: FY 2025 Performance & Expenditure Completion Report - Chris Chiles, KYOVA

- Mr. Chiles stated this Report summarizes all KYOVA staff activity that occurred in Fiscal Year 2025 and aligns with activities described in the Unified Planning Work Program.
  - Resolution #2026-001
    - ❖ Motion Caldwell / Bates to approve as presented; motion passed.

AGENDA ITEM #6: Title VI Implementation Plan and Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Language Assistance Plan – Chris Chiles, KYOVA

- Mr. Chiles informed members this was a federal requirement, updated on an annual

Basis.

- Resolution #2026-002
  - ❖ Motion Mandt / Davis to approve as presented; motion passed.

AGENDA ITEM #7: KYOVA Participation Plan Update – Chris Chiles, KYOVA

- KYOVA Interstate Planning Commission’s Participation Plan serves as the official policy for the provision of meaningful participation in transportation planning and related activities. Mr. Chiles informed members this was a federal requirement, updated every 4 years.
  - Resolution #2026-003
    - ❖ Motion Bates / Caldwell to approve as presented; motion passed.

AGENDA ITEM #8: Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Program Eligibility & Funding Request – Chris Chiles, KYOVA

- Mr. Chiles stated a request for STBG grant funds to be submitted for this intersection improvement project using an innovative R-CUT design.
  - US 23 and Caroline Road Intersection Improvement – KYTC Sponsor
  - Resolution #2026-004
    - ❖ Motion Utsinger / Callihan to approve as presented; motion passed.

AGENDA ITEM #9: Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Report – Paul Davis, TAC Chair

- Transit Systems Update
  - Mr. Davis, General Manager of the Tri-State Transit Authority, gave a Transit update for the Huntington area. He discussed KYOVA’s Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting held on Tuesday, September 23, 2025. He stated the Huntington, Ashland, and Ironton bus systems had their Tri-Annual review and all received zero findings. He discussed the increase in ridership, hiring of new employees, and the Transportation Improvement Plan that members would be voting on.
- Amendment #1 to the FY 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program
  - Resolution #2026-005
    - ❖ Motion Bates / Caldwell to approve as presented; motion passed.

AGENDA ITEM #10: KYTC Strategic Highway Investment Formula for Tomorrow (SHIFT) Project “Boost” Update – Terri Sicking, KYOVA

- No Action Required
  - Ms. Sicking presented updates on the SHIFT project, highlighting three priority projects in Boyd, and Greenup Counties.

AGENDA ITEM #11: Annual Listing of FY 2025 Federally Obligated Projects (West Virginia and Ohio) – Chris Chiles, KYOVA

- No Action Required
  - Mr. Chiles explained this is a list of projects with obligated federal funds in Fiscal Year 2025 for Ohio and West Virginia. The deadline for the list of projects in Kentucky is different from Ohio and West Virginia, and that list will be presented at the next KYOVA Board Meeting in December.

AGENDA ITEM #12: Federal and State Updates

- Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) – Jason Workman
  - Mr. Workman stated he attended the recent meeting on the Huntington Streetscape project. He stated he was impressed with public attendance and input into the project.
- West Virginia Division of Highways (WVDOH) – Brian Carr
  - Mr. Carr discussed ongoing highway projects on I-64.
- Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC) – Thomas Witt
  - Mr. Witt discussed the SHIFT 6-Year Highway Plan, and upcoming Boyd and Greenup County Projects.
- Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) – Scott Thompson
  - Mr. Thompson gave a brief overview of Lawrence County projects.

AGENDA ITEM #13: Old Business

- None

AGENDA ITEM #14: New Business

- Access Ohio 2050 Public Meeting
  - October 29, 2025, 4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. Ohio University, Southern Campus
- Future KYOVA Policy Committee Meeting Dates
  - Friday, December 12, 2025

AGENDA ITEM #12: Adjournment