

# PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD DOCUMENTATION

## Legislative Requirements

The 30 day public comment period for the draft FFY 2025-2028 Transit and Highway Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and draft Air Quality Conformity Determination Analysis (AQCA) Report for Adams County began May 13, 2024 and ended June 13, 2024.

Packets of the Draft 2025-2026 TIP were made available to the following locations to be available for public:

- Adams County Commissioners Office – 117 Baltimore Street, Room 201, Gettysburg, PA 17325
- Adams County Office of Planning and Development – 670 Old Harrisburg Road, Suite 100, Gettysburg, PA 17325
- All Adams County Library Locations
- All Township and Borough Offices.

The Draft 2025 TIP was emailed to all 34 municipalities for their review and feedback on any projects that may lie within their individual jurisdictions. Additionally, the Draft 2025 TIP was emailed to all agencies, citizens and media organizations that receive notice of MPO meetings and those identified as “stakeholders” in ACTPO’s Public Participation Plan (PPP).

The Draft 2025 TIP documentation was also posted on the Adams County Transportation Planning Organization (ACTPO) website, <https://www.adamscountypa.gov/departments/officeofplanninganddevelopment/tip>. Links to this information were also posted on the following websites:

- PA State Transportation Commission – <https://www.talkpatransportation.com/how-it-works/tip>

Advertised public meetings for the TIP was held on June 5, 2024 at 1:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. using a hybrid public meeting format. The in-person meeting component was held at the Adams County Agricultural and Natural Resources Center – Meeting Rooms A1-A3, 670 Old Harrisburg Rd, Gettysburg, PA 17325. The virtual meeting component was held using Microsoft Teams.

## Tribal Contacts

ACTPO contacted the seven Native American tribes with vested interest in Adams County listed below by their preferred method of communication.

- Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma (e-mail)
- Delaware Nation, Oklahoma (e-mail)
- Delaware Tribe of Indians (e-mail)
- Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma (e-mail)
- Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe (mail)
- Seneca Cayuga Tribe of Oklahoma (e-mail)
- Shawnee Tribe (e-mail)

## Legal Advertisement

The legal advertisement for the 30-day public comment period (attached) was sent to the following publications and published as follows:

- Gettysburg Times (May 11, 2024 and May 13, 2024)
- The Hanover Evening Sun (May 12, 2022)
- York Daily Record (May 13, 2024)

## Comments Received

### June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022 (1 p.m.) – Public Meeting (Hybrid Format)

\*Note: This meeting was recorded and posted on ACTPO's webpage for review.

#### Attendees:

- Scott Klunk, Oxford Township resident (virtually)
- Vanessa Sanders, Gettysburg Times
- Carey Mullins, PennDOT District 8
- Kenana Zecirovic, PennDOT District 8
- Emily Osilka, PennDOT District 8
- Ted Sheehe, PennDOT Central Office
- Andrew Merkel, ACTPO
- Sherri Clayton-Williams, ACTPO

#### Comments received:

- Scott Klunk, Oxford Township resident – Mr. Klunk expressed some concern about approving the TIP, particularly with regard to the Eisenhower Extension Project (MPMP #58137). Specifically, he expressed concern regarding the pending litigation over the EIS and discrepancies in the JMT traffic study.

**Response:** Staff indicated that ACTPO and PennDOT were aware of the pending litigation on this project. Staff noted that since the purpose of the TIP is to allocate transportation funding, it was developed to account for Eisenhower Extension project proceeding through the remaining project phases (design, utilities, right-of-way, construction) as planned. However, it was also noted that ACTPO and PennDOT were aware that the TIP may need to be revised if there were impacts to the project schedule based on the outcome of the pending litigation.

### June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022 (6 p.m.) – Online Public Meeting (Hybrid Format)

#### Attendees:

- Emily Osilka, PennDOT District 8
- Andrew Merkel, ACTPO
- Sherri Clayton-Williams, ACTPO

\*Note: This meeting was recorded and posted on ACTPO's webpage for review.

- There was no public participation at this meeting.

## May 13<sup>th</sup> to June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024 – Public Comment Period

The following comments were received during the 30-day public comment period.

- 1) Representative Dan Moul's Office inquired about the Mason Dixon Road over Rock Creek, MPMS #99832, bridge replacement project regarding some outreach regarding adding bicycle/pedestrian facilities to the project.

**Response:** Staff provided an update on the project. Staff also discussed the status of the project design the PennDOT District 8 staff and provided a further update on this project to both Rep. Moul's office and a party local to the bridge.

- 2) Representative Dan Moul's Office inquired about a maintenance schedule for Whitehall Road (SR 2002) beyond sealcoating within the next 1-2 years.

**Response:** Staff provided some background on past repaving projects programmed on the TIP and noted that ACTPO typically relies on PennDOT's engineers and staff to identify candidate repaving projects.

- 3) Marcia Wilson, Mount Pleasant Township Resident, provided a comment in support of the Eisenhower Drive Extension project.

**Response:** Staff acknowledged receipt of the comment, which is included in the full public comment period documentation.

- 4) Andrew Smith, Conewago Township Resident, provided a comment regarding the Eisenhower Drive Extension project. Specifically, Mr. Smith indicated concern that the intersections of PA 116 and roads leading to/from Eisenhower not be overlooked. An example of the PA 116/ Oxford Avenue/Elm Avenue intersection was included with the comment. Mr. Smith also asked to be placed on any notification lists for other transportation updates.

**Response:** Staff acknowledged receipt of the comment, which is included in the full public comment period documentation. Staff responded that there will always be a need to monitor intersections and road corridors to determine if they are operating safely. If there proves to be a need for additional improvements to address safety or other issues, then those will need to be addressed. Staff also added Mr. Smith to the distribution list maintained for ACTPO meeting.

- 5) JoAnn Leonard, Conewago Township Resident, provided a comment regarding the Eisenhower Drive Extension project. She also provided comment in response to the June 11<sup>th</sup> Gettysburg Time article regarding the TIP public meetings held on June 5<sup>th</sup>.

**Response:** Staff acknowledged receipt of the comment, which is included in the full public comment period documentation. Staff provided a detailed list of the outreach activities used to advertise and disseminate information on how to attend the June 5<sup>th</sup> meetings.

## **NOTICE OF PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT PERIOD FOR THE DRAFT 2025-2028 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) AND DRAFT AIR QUALITY CONFORMITY ANALYSIS**

The Adams County Transportation Planning Organization (ACTPO) announces the start of the 30-day public review & comment period for the Draft FFY 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and the Draft Air Quality Conformity Analysis Report (AQCA) for Adams County on **Monday, May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024**. The TIP lists priority highway, bridge, safety, and enhancement projects for the period of October 1, 2024 through September 30, 2028. Comments will be accepted via phone, mail, or email until **4:00 PM on Thursday, June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024**.

The FFY 2025-2028 TIP and related documentation will be available for review and comment at the following locations during regular business hours:

- **Adams County Office of Planning and Development**, 670 Old Harrisburg Road, Suite 100, Gettysburg, PA, (717) 337-9824
- **Adams County Commissioners Office**, 117 Baltimore Street, Room 201, Gettysburg, PA 17325
- **All Adams County Library Locations**
- **All Township and Borough Offices in Adams County**

The FFY 2025-2028 TIP will also be available for review on the **Adams County Website** at: [www.adamscountypa.gov/departments/officeofplanninganddevelopment/tip](http://www.adamscountypa.gov/departments/officeofplanninganddevelopment/tip)

The Adams County Transportation Planning Organization (ACTPO) will hold two public information meetings on **Wednesday, June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024** to present and receive comments on the 2023-2026 TIP. One will be held at **1:00 p.m.** and a second will be held at **6:00 p.m.** Each meeting will be conducted using a hybrid meeting format, with the option for in-person or virtual attendance.

The in-person meeting components will be held at **Adams County Agricultural and Natural Resources Center – Meeting Rooms A1-A3, 670 Old Harrisburg Rd, Gettysburg, PA 17325**. Members of the public wishing to attend the virtual meeting component can access the meeting using the following web link and call-in information:

### **Adams County TIP Online Public Comment Meeting June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024: 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.**

Web link: <https://bit.ly/actpo06052024-tip1>  
Join by phone: +1 929-229-2915  
Phone Conference ID: 963 608 989#

### **Adams County TIP Online Public Comment Meeting June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024: 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.**

Web link: <https://bit.ly/actpo06052024-tip2>  
Join by phone: +1 929-229-2915  
Phone Conference ID: 897 153 278#

A link to the Public Comment Meetings can also be found on the County of Adams website: <https://www.adamscountypa.gov/>

## **NOTICE OF INTENT TO CONSIDER ADOPTION:**

ACTPO intends to consider the Draft 2025-2028 TIP and AQCA report for adoption on **June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 1:00 PM**. This meeting will also be conducted using a hybrid meeting format, with the option for in-person or virtual attendance. The in-person meeting component will be held at Adams County Agricultural and Natural Resources Center – Meeting Rooms A1-A3, 670 Old Harrisburg Rd, Gettysburg, PA 17325.

## **HOW TO PARTICIPATE:**

The public has multiple ways to comment on individual projects or the TIP in general between the dates of May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024 and June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Whichever method you prefer, please include your name and the municipality you live in. If you are commenting on an individual project, please include the project name or ID number for reference.

1. Attend one of the public meetings scheduled to discuss the 2025-2028 TIP.
2. Email your comments to the Adams County Office of Planning and Development c/o:
  - a. Andrew Merkel, AICP – [amerkel@adamscountypa.gov](mailto:amerkel@adamscountypa.gov)
3. Call the Adams County Office of Planning and Development at (717) 337-9824.
4. Mail comments to:

Adams County Office of Planning and Development  
670 Old Harrisburg Road, Suite 100  
Gettysburg, PA 17325

## **DISCLAIMERS:**

1. Public notice of public involvement activities and time established for public review and comment on the TIP satisfies the POP requirements of the Section 5307 Program.
2. The Adams County Office of Planning and Development (ACOPD) and the Adams County Transportation Planning Organization (ACTPO) fully comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987, Executive Order 12898 on Environmental Justice, and all related nondiscrimination statutes and regulations in all program and activities. This assures that no person shall be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination on the grounds of race, color, national origin, religion, or sex in any of ACTPO's services, programs or activities. Furthermore, ACTPO will not, directly or through contractual arrangements:
  - Engage in intentional discrimination because of race, color, or national origin;
  - Use criteria or methods of administration which have the effect of subjecting persons to discrimination because of their race, color, or national origin; or,
  - Intimidate, threaten, coerce, or discriminate against any individual in retaliation for exercising a right or privilege.

ACOPD and ACTPO also comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA). The ADA grants civil rights protections to those with disabilities and guarantees equal opportunities to such individuals regarding employment, transportation, public accommodation, state and local government services, and telecommunications. With advance notification, accommodations may be provided at any meeting open to the public for those with special needs related to language, speech, sight, or hearing.

For more information on the ACTPO Title VI Policy, ADA Policy, and the procedures to file complaints, please call (717) 334-9824, visit the Adams County Office of Planning and Development at 670 Old Harrisburg Rd, Suite 100, Gettysburg, PA 17325, or visit the ACTPO Website for more information about fair treatment under the law.

<https://www.adamscountypa.gov/departments/officeofplanninganddevelopment/titlevi>

Any persons who believe they have been aggrieved by any unlawful discriminatory practice, allege exclusion from participation; denial of benefits or discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, or sex under Title VI or ADA may file a complaint with ACTPO. Any such complaint must be in writing and filed with ACTPO's Title VI and ADA Compliance Manager and/or the appropriate state or federal agency.

If you have a request for a special need, wish to file a complaint, or desire additional information, please contact ACTPO via mail or email to:

Adams County Office of Planning and Development  
670 Old Harrisburg Rd, Suite 100,  
Gettysburg, PA 17325  
(717) 337-9824  
[acopd@adamscountypa.gov](mailto:acopd@adamscountypa.gov)

**From:** [Chris Kimple](#)  
**To:** [Andrew Merkel](#); [Robert Thaeler](#)  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL]: RE: Adams County TIP  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 21, 2024 2:11:22 PM

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Rob and Andrew,

Thank you both very much for the information.

Andrew,

I am not sure if you are aware of the situation on Mason Dixon Road (The Links) and the bridge to be replaced. Rick Klein and Stu Kravits has been emailing Dan and PennDOT regarding this bridge. During the design phase they would like PennDOT to widen the bridge to include a walking/biking lane. Has either of these gentlemen or PennDOT talked to you about the design of the bridge? What affect will this have on the TIP? Have either of these gentlemen attended ACTPO and brought this up during public comment period? Your input is appreciated.

Thanks.

Chris

*Chris Ann Kimple*

District Office Manager  
Representative Dan Moul  
91st Legislative District  
30 W. Middle Street  
Gettysburg, PA 17325  
Phone: 717-334-3010  
Fax: 717-334-8426

“When everything seems to be going against you, remember that the airplane takes off against the wind, not with it.” Henry Ford

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**From:** Andrew Merkel <amerkel@adamscountypa.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 20, 2024 4:08 PM  
**To:** Chris Kimple <Ckimple@pahousegop.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL]: RE: Adams County TIP

Chris,

Just confirming that what Rob indicated below is correct.

**\*Please note, effective December 19, 2022 my email address has changed to [amerkel@adamscountypa.gov](mailto:amerkel@adamscountypa.gov).**

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Andrew D. Merkel, AICP  
Assistant Director / Comprehensive Planning Manager  
Adams County Office of Planning and Development  
670 Old Harrisburg Road, Suite 100  
Gettysburg, PA 17325  
Phone: (717) 337-9824 Fax: (717) 334-0786  
[www.adamscountypa.gov/departments/officeofplanninganddevelopment](http://www.adamscountypa.gov/departments/officeofplanninganddevelopment)

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**From:** Robert Thaeler <[rthaeler@adamscountypa.gov](mailto:rthaeler@adamscountypa.gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 20, 2024 11:39 AM  
**To:** Andrew Merkel <[amerkel@adamscountypa.gov](mailto:amerkel@adamscountypa.gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: Adams County TIP

Andy,  
As discussed.  
Rob

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**Robert Thaeler**  
**Principal Planner**  
**Adams County Office of Planning and Development**  
**670 Old Harrisburg Road, Suite 100**  
**Gettysburg, PA 17325**

**Ph: (717) 337-9824**  
**FAX: (717) 334-0786**  
**Email: [rthaeler@adamscountypa.gov](mailto:rthaeler@adamscountypa.gov)**  
**Web: [www.adamscountypa.gov](http://www.adamscountypa.gov)**

***Please note that on December 19, 2022, my email address will change to [rthaeler@adamscountypa.gov](mailto:rthaeler@adamscountypa.gov). Please update your contact information.***





**From:** Robert Thaeler  
**Sent:** Friday, May 17, 2024 12:10 PM  
**To:** Chris Kimple <[Ckimple@pahousegop.com](mailto:Ckimple@pahousegop.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: Adams County TIP

Hi Chris,

I'm sorry I didn't get back to you more quickly. I didn't realize when I was told that you were going to email me that you were hoping for a response by Noon.

I don't have a strong working knowledge of the TIP. As you indicated in your email, Andrew and Sherri are much more involved in the content and with transportation planning in general.

That said, it appears that a Bridge Replacement project on SR 3002 (Mason Dixon Road) over Rock Creek is listed in the Draft TIP for 2025-2028. Information has an Estimated Let Date of December 11, 2025 with an Estimated Year of Construction of 2026. I can provide the costs and funding sources if you need them.

Draft 2025-2028 TIP can be viewed here...

[https://www.adamscountypa.gov/getmedia/154d254d-a457-4acc-914c-d56e1117e18e/DRAFT\\_2025-2028\\_TIP\\_AdamsMPO.pdf](https://www.adamscountypa.gov/getmedia/154d254d-a457-4acc-914c-d56e1117e18e/DRAFT_2025-2028_TIP_AdamsMPO.pdf)

I trust that this is the information you were looking for. It would be worth confirming this information with Andrew as he has a much, much better working knowledge of the TIP than I do. Regardless, if you need any follow-up, please let me know.

Rob

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**Robert Thaeler**  
**Principal Planner**  
**Adams County Office of Planning and Development**  
**670 Old Harrisburg Road, Suite 100**  
**Gettysburg, PA 17325**

**Ph: (717) 337-9824**  
**FAX: (717) 334-0786**  
**Email: [rthaeler@adamscountypa.gov](mailto:rthaeler@adamscountypa.gov)**  
**Web: [www.adamscountypa.gov](http://www.adamscountypa.gov)**

***Please note that on December 19, 2022, my email address will change to [rthaeler@adamscountypa.gov](mailto:rthaeler@adamscountypa.gov). Please update your contact information.***



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**From:** Chris Kimple <[Ckimple@pahousegop.com](mailto:Ckimple@pahousegop.com)>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 17, 2024 11:32 AM  
**To:** Robert Thaeler <[rthaeler@adamscountypa.gov](mailto:rthaeler@adamscountypa.gov)>  
**Subject:** Adams County TIP

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Rob,

I know that Andrew handles most things related to the TIP and he and Sherri are out at a conference. I have a question about the projects that are on the TIP and a bridge repair/replacement on Mason Dixon Rd, (the Links). Is this bridge on the TIP? If so, when is it planned for repair/replacement? If this is not on the TIP, does it mean that PennDOT's repair/replacement will not affect the projects that are on the TIP?

If you can get back to me as soon as possible as I am leaving today at noon and need to send an email regarding this project.

Thank you for your help.  
Chris

*Chris Ann Kimple*

District Office Manager  
Representative Dan Moul  
91st Legislative District  
30 W. Middle Street  
Gettysburg, PA 17325  
Phone: 717-334-3010  
Fax: 717-334-8426

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**From:** [Andrew Merkel](#)  
**To:** [Chris Kimple](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Whitehall Rd - Bonneauville to Littlestown  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 10:58:00 AM  
**Attachments:** [3d - 2024 Adams County Active Construction Projects.pdf](#)  
[Functional Class.png](#)  
[Classification Matrix.pdf](#)

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Chris,

There are two primary paths that maintenance of state roads can proceed.

The first path is through PennDOT Department Forces work. This work is done out of the PennDOT Adams County Maintenance Office. Attached is the 2024 construction schedule map we got from PennDOT. The green lines represent the Department Forces work for this construction season (i.e. sealcoat / tar and chip). In the past PennDOT would move randomly around the county each year. Now, they rotate around the county and focus in one specific area. In 2023 the focus was on the NW part of the County. This year the focus is on the SW corner. I would venture a guess that the focus in 2025 would be the SE corner, which would mean that Whitehall Road could be a sealcoat/tar and chip candidate.

The second path is through the TIP. ACTPO has traditionally relied on PennDOT to develop the list of maintenance candidates for the TIP for more in depth repair work. Given the funding challenges ACTPO has had for many years, most of the TIP level repaving work has been focused on the National Highway System (NHS) roads (US 15, US 30, PA 94) and arterial roads (PA 97, PA 116). For example, the draft 2025 TIP contains two repaving projects, US 15 (MD Line to PA 394) and PA 94 (from Gun Club Road to Mud Run).

Now, certainly if road conditions warrant or traffic patterns change on a minor arterial or major/minor collector road, then it could be advanced on the TIP. However, ACTPO would still rely on feedback from PennDOT's engineers to determine the best course of action.

For reference, Whitehall Road is a Major Collector (see attached map). I have also attached the matrix that ACTPO (and the York County MPO) use when evaluating the functional class of roads.

**\*Please note, effective December 19, 2022 my email address has changed to [amerkel@adamscountypa.gov](mailto:amerkel@adamscountypa.gov).**

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Andrew D. Merkel, AICP  
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[www.adamscountypa.gov/departments/officeofplanninganddevelopment](http://www.adamscountypa.gov/departments/officeofplanninganddevelopment)

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**From:** Chris Kimple <[Ckimple@pahousegop.com](mailto:Ckimple@pahousegop.com)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 9:20 AM  
**To:** Andrew Merkel <amerkel@adamscountypa.gov>  
**Subject:** Whitehall Rd - Bonneauville to Littlestown

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Good morning Andrew,

I have a question about the TIP. We received an email from a constituent regarding the maintenance schedule for Whitehall Rd. The info I received back is that it is scheduled for tar and chip in the next 1-2 years, but no paving. I do not drive on Whitehall and have no idea as to its condition. Is this maintenance of this road something that can be placed on the TIP? How is it decided what and what is not placed on the TIP?

Thanks.

Chris

*Chris Ann Kimple*

District Office Manager  
Representative Dan Moul  
91st Legislative District  
30 W. Middle Street  
Gettysburg, PA 17325  
Phone: 717-334-3010  
Fax: 717-334-8426

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**From:** [Marcia Wilson](#)  
**To:** [Andrew Merkel](#)  
**Subject:** Eisenhower Drive Extension  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 11, 2024 8:37:05 AM

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My husband and I are in favor of the planned extension, having lived in Mount Pleasant Township for more than 30 years and experienced the congestion, driver and resident frustration, and overall unsafe conditions on the local roads. Once the environmental concerns are properly addressed, we look forward to being able to travel more safely and conveniently in the McSherrystown/Hanover area.

Marcia & Charles Wilson  
386 Hill Road  
Hanover PA 17331  
Home telephone 717-633-6230

**From:** [Andrew Merkel](#)  
**To:** [Andrew Smith](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Tip Public Comment  
**Date:** Thursday, June 13, 2024 9:00:00 AM

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Mr. Smith,

Thank you for your comment!

We do maintain a distribution list for announcements about [Adams County Transportation Planning Organization \(ACTPO\)](#). I will add your email to that list. Additionally, [PennDOT District 8](#) (which covered all of South Central PA) also offers an option to subscribe to notices about upcoming construction and maintenance activities. You can do so through the PennDOT link in the previous sentence.

Regardless of if/when the Eisenhower Drive Extension project is completed, there will always be a need to monitor intersections and road corridors to determine if they are operating safely. If there proves to be a need for additional improvements to address safety or other issues, then those will need to be addressed. If/when it moves forward, it may take some time for new traffic patterns to show once the Eisenhower Drive Extension is in place.

I do know that there have been multiple discussions about the 116/Oxford Avenue/Elm Avenue and 116/3<sup>rd</sup> Street intersections with both Borough and Township officials over the past 25+ years. Balancing improvements with the limited space available without impacting structures or business access points has always been one of the trickiest issues along the entire 116/Elm Avenue corridor in this area.

**\*Please note, effective December 19, 2022 my email address has changed to [amerkel@adamscountypa.gov](mailto:amerkel@adamscountypa.gov).**

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Andrew D. Merkel, AICP  
Assistant Director / Comprehensive Planning Manager  
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Gettysburg, PA 17325  
Phone: (717) 337-9824 Fax: (717) 334-0786  
[www.adamscountypa.gov/departments/officeofplanninganddevelopment](http://www.adamscountypa.gov/departments/officeofplanninganddevelopment)

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**From:** Andrew Smith <[ostman4200@comcast.net](mailto:ostman4200@comcast.net)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 12, 2024 3:24 PM  
**To:** Andrew Merkel <[amerkel@adamscountypa.gov](mailto:amerkel@adamscountypa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Andrew Smith <[ostman4200@comcast.net](mailto:ostman4200@comcast.net)>  
**Subject:** Tip Public Comment

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Mr. Merkel,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide public comment regarding the Eisenhower Drive Extension project noted in the TIP documentation.

I would like to express my concern that the impact on intersections of State Route 116 and roads leading to/from the Extension not be overlooked or under-considered. I suspect that the change in traffic patterns will impact both the roads between the Extension and 116 more than thought, and in particular, the intersections with 116 will be considerable.

As one example, the intersection of State Route 116/Third Street, McSherrystown's Main Street, West Elm, and North Oxford will likely see a significant increase of traffic to and from the Extension. Travelers on 116/Third Street heading (north)west on 116 and needing to turn left (as indicated in the attached image) to stay on 116/Main Street already face significant delays during heavy traffic periods. With the potential for increased traffic on Oxford Avenue from the Extension heading SE into Hanover, that left turn for those hoping to stay on 116 West may become unmanageable without a dedicated left turn signal.

As a side note, while I am on the email list specifically for the Extension, if there is a notification list for the TIPs or other transportation updates, I would like to be placed on it.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Andy Smith  
344 3rd Street, Hanover, PA 17331  
Conewago Township, Adams County  
(717) 451-4181  
[ostman4200@comcast.net](mailto:ostman4200@comcast.net)



Andy Smith  
[ostman4200@comcast.net](mailto:ostman4200@comcast.net)  
<https://read.cv/visualrealia>

Visual Realia Studio  
[www.visualrealia.com](http://www.visualrealia.com)



**From:** [Andrew Merkel](#)  
**To:** [Joann Leonard](#)  
**Bcc:** [Sherri Clayton-Williams](#); [Steve Nevada](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Eisenhower Bypass  
**Date:** Thursday, June 13, 2024 8:50:00 AM

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JoAnn,

Thank you for reaching out.

The June 5<sup>th</sup> meeting was not a meeting about only the Eisenhower Drive project. It was a meeting to discuss and receive comment on the draft [2025 Adams County Transportation Improvement Program \(TIP\)](#) as part of the required 30-day public comment period on the TIP. The TIP covers projects across all of Adams County, not just Eisenhower Drive.

The meeting was advertised in the Gettysburg Times, Hanover Evening Sun and the York Daily Record. The York Daily Record was added to this TIP update cycle at the request of a previous public comment we received on the 2023 TIP regarding this very issue. The paid advertisements were published at the beginning of the 30-day public comment period as follows:

Gettysburg Times – 5/11 and 5/13 (the Times ran it twice because their Monday edition is digital-only and we wanted to ensure that the ad was included in a print version as well)

Hanover Evening Sun – 5/12

York Daily Record – 5/13

In addition to the paid advertisements in those papers, we sent follow-up contacts about the meeting directly to reporters at the Times, Evening Sun and Daily Record. Of those three, only the Times ran a follow-up article (front page of the 5/23 edition).

Beyond the newspapers, the meeting notice and access information was published on the front page of the County government website. Physical copies were placed in all six public libraries in Adams County. The meeting notice and draft 2025 TIP document were also provided electronically to all 34 municipalities in Adams County with a request to share those documents with municipal elected officials and Planning Commissions. I know that some municipalities included this announcement on their meeting agendas.

Finally, the meeting notice and draft 2025 TIP were also sent to the distribution list we maintain for the [Adams County Transportation Planning Organization \(ACTPO\)](#), the entity responsible for developing (in coordination with PennDOT) and adopting the TIP. This distribution list is open to any resident who wishes to receive updates on ACTPO's meetings. If you, or anyone else, would like to be added to that distribution list, please let me know and I will add them.

Personally, after 26 years with Adams County I've lost count of the number of Supervisor, Borough Council, Planning Commission and other public meetings I've attended. I enjoy them and I do sincerely wish that there was more public engagement/participation at all public meetings. I also believe that most public officials would welcome more input and participation. However, in reality

attendance at these meetings is often been very sparse unless there was something controversial on the agenda.

**\*Please note, effective December 19, 2022 my email address has changed to [amerkel@adamscountypa.gov](mailto:amerkel@adamscountypa.gov).**

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Andrew D. Merkel, AICP  
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Gettysburg, PA 17325  
Phone: (717) 337-9824 Fax: (717) 334-0786  
[www.adamscountypa.gov/departments/officeofplanninganddevelopment](http://www.adamscountypa.gov/departments/officeofplanninganddevelopment)

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**From:** Joann Leonard <joannl10622@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 12, 2024 5:17 PM  
**To:** Andrew Merkel <amerkel@adamscountypa.gov>  
**Subject:** Eisenhower Bypass

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Mr. Merkel,

My name is JoAnn Leonard, I live at 106 Wappler Dr. Conewago Township, Adams County. I recently read about the "meeting" that was held on June 5th regarding comments about the Eisenhower Bypass, that only 1 person "attended" virtually. Could the reason only 1 person "attended" be a lack of advertisement regarding this meeting? Certainly you should know how many people are against such a project, especially by the large number of people that previously attended a "protocol meeting" at SAVES Fire Department a few years ago. How convenient it is to have no notice of this "meeting" advertised in the Gettysburg Times of when, where & how to attend. And yet you state, "we don't typically see a lot of public involvement. This is, unfortunately, common." And you still cannot understand why it's so common? Again, lack of advertisement just could be the reason.

Here are my comments for you regarding this bypass. Hanover & McSherrystown have totally land-locked themselves over the course of many years, loving all the tax money from developments and everything else they've collected on. And now they want a bypass to run through farmland and areas where wildlife live, knocking

down homes, and creating roadways where run-off will ruin small streams & creeks. Not to mention air & noise pollution from diesel trucks 24/7. I'm wondering how you would like that in your backyard?

NO BUILD, and I hope the pending lawsuit ties this thing up in the courts till the Second Coming of Christ!

# Still time to comment on Eisenhower Extension

By Vanessa Pellechio Sanders  
Times Staff Writer

Despite the low turnout at public meetings on the 2025-28 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) last week, residents still have time to comment on the draft document through 4 p.m. Thursday.

An Oxford Township resident was the only person from the public to attend one of the two meetings, held last Wednesday, according to Andrew Merkel, assistant director of the Adams County Office of Planning and Development.

“We don’t typically see a lot of public involvement,” Merkel said. “This is, unfortunately, common.”

(See TIP on Page A1)

## TIP

(Continued from Page A1)

Scott Klunk, who attended the afternoon meeting virtually, shared concerns about the Eisenhower Drive Extension project.

Listed among highway projects, the Eisenhower Drive Extension was proposed as a solution to rush hour traffic congestion west of Hanover, which the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) analysis concluded also results in a high number of wrecks.

The project, estimated to cost \$93.1 million, will connect Eisenhower Drive from High Street to Pa. Route 116 in Conewago Township, according to the document.

Merkel said the project is in the design phase, but there is a pending lawsuit related to environmental impacts.

Since PennDOT is moving forward with designing the project, the TIP is moving forward “as if the project is proceeding,” according to Merkel.

If something changes with

the pending litigation, Merkel said adjustments to the TIP would be made in cooperation with PennDOT.

The Eisenhower Drive Extension was the first ever project added to the TIP back in 2001-2004, according to Merkel.

Addressing all modes of transportation, “the TIP is developed by the Adams County Transportation Planning Organization (ACTPO)” and the local Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO),

according to the website.

ACTPO members plan to adopt the 2025-2028 draft TIP at the June 26 meeting at 1 p.m.

The draft TIP showed \$65.2 million in transportation projects planned in various phases over the next four years, according to the 145-page document.

“The types of eligible projects include repaving projects, bridge rehabilitation projects, major interchange upgrades, intersection improvements, and new road alignments,” the document reads.

The 2025-28 TIP has an increase of \$8.7 million from 2023-26, according to Merkel.

About \$2.6 million of the increase is coming from the new Carbon Reduction Program, which “was established in the 2021 Infrastruc-

ture Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), most commonly known as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL),” Merkel said.

The 2025 TIP update included 21 carryover items from the 2023 TIP, the document reads.

The carryover safety projects are listed as East Berlin Road and Stoney Point Road intersection in Reading Township, Hanover Street and Red Hill Road intersection in Oxford Township, Biglerville Road and Goldenville Road intersection in Butler Township, and East Berlin Road and Peepytown Road intersection in Reading Township.

“The 2025-2028 TIP takes effect on October 1, 2024,” Merkel said.

ACTPO “prioritizes and allocates federal, state, and local transportation funds for roads, bridges, bicycle/pedes-

trian safety, and public transit,” according to the county website.

Formed in 1999, ACTPO was first a Rural Planning Organization that covered all of Adams County before becoming a Metropolitan Planning Organization in 2013 “due to the expansion of the Hanover Urbanized Area into Adams County,” according to the website.

Those interested in more information can visit [adamscountypa.gov/TIP](http://adamscountypa.gov/TIP) and the comment period ends 4 p.m. Thursday. Comments can be sent to the Adams County Office of Planning and Development, located at 670 Old Harrisburg Road, Suite 100, Gettysburg.

Readers may contact Vanessa Sanders at [vsanders@gettybstimes.com](mailto:vsanders@gettybstimes.com).

# Future transportation topic for public meets

By Vanessa Pellechio Sanders  
*Times Staff Writer*

Adams County residents will pave the way for a draft 2025-28 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) at two public meetings in June.

The 30-day public review period for the TIP started last week and comments will be

accepted by phone, mail or email through 4 p.m. June 13, according to the county website.

“The TIP is one of two documents, the other being the Long Range Transportation Plan, that combine to shape how federal and state transportation funds are allocated in Adams

**(See TOPIC on Page A7)**

## Topic

**(Continued from Page A1)**

County,” said Andrew Merkel, assistant director of the Adams County Office of Planning and Development. “It represents the most efficient way of advancing and addressing local and regional transportation needs and priorities to implementation via construction.”

Addressing all modes of transportation, “the TIP is developed by the Adams County Transportation Planning Organization (ACTPO)” and the local Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), according to the website.

ACTPO is hosting two public meetings on June 5, at 1 p.m. and 6 p.m., using a hybrid format “with options for in-person or virtual attendance,” according to officials. The in-person meeting will be held at the Adams County Agricultural and Natural Resources Center, Meeting Rooms A1-A3, at 670 Old Har-

risburg Road, Gettysburg.

ACTPO members plan to adopt the 2025-2028 draft TIP at the June 26 meeting at 1 p.m.

The draft TIP showed \$65.2 million in transportation projects planned in various phases over the next four years, according to the 145-page document.

“The types of eligible projects include repaving projects, bridge rehabilitation projects, major interchange upgrades, intersection improvements, and new road alignments,” the document reads.

The 2025-28 TIP has an increase of \$8.7 million from 2023-26, according to Merkel.

About \$2.6 million of the increase is coming from the new Carbon Reduction Program, which “was established in the 2021 Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), most commonly known as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL),” Merkel said.

“The remainder is slight

increases from federal/state funding sources as well as funding for the Eisenhower Drive Extension project,” Merkel said.

Listed among highway projects, the Eisenhower Drive Extension was proposed as a solution to rush hour traffic congestion west of Hanover, which PennDOT’s analysis concluded also results in a high number of wrecks.

The project, estimated to cost \$93.1 million, will connect Eisenhower Drive from High Street to Pa. Route 116 in Conewago Township, according to the document.

Last August, officials announced the Eisenhower Drive Extension project could displace residents and businesses located within its right-of-way plans. Construction for the project is slated to begin in mid-2026 because it is “going to take a couple years” to go through the right-of-way pro-

cess, officials said previously.

The 2025 TIP update included 21 carryover items from the 2023 TIP, the document reads.

Of the carryover projects, it entailed work on 11 bridges, four safety projects, three highway projects, and one each of a regional transportation system, delivery assistance line item, and reserve line item, according to the document.

Some of the bridge projects include Carlisle Road (Pa. Route 34) bridge in Menallen Township, Pa. Route 116 over the tributary to Marsh Creek in Highland Township, Hunterstown Hampton Road over Conewago Creek in Straban and Reading townships, Red Bridge Road over Conewago Creek in Straban Township, and Alloway Creek Bridge in Germany and Mount Joy townships, the document reads.

Other highway projects showed U.S. Route 15 preservation northbound in Cumberland,

Freedom, Mount Joy and Straban townships and Carlisle Pike (Pa. Route 94) resurface 2 in Hamilton and Reading townships, according to the document.

The carryover safety projects are listed as East Berlin Road and Stoney Point Road intersection in Reading Township, Hanover Street and Red Hill Road intersection in Oxford Township, Biglerville Road and Goldenville Road intersection in Butler Township, and East Berlin Road and Peepytown Road intersection in Reading Township.

“The 2025-2028 TIP takes effect on October 1, 2024,” Merkel said.

ACTPO “prioritizes and allocates federal, state, and local transportation funds for roads, bridges, bicycle/pedestrian safety, and public transit,” according to the county website.

Formed in 1999, ACTPO was first a Rural Planning Organization that covered all of Adams

County before becoming a Metropolitan Planning Organization in 2013 “due to the expansion of the Hanover Urbanized Area into Adams County,” according to the website.

Comments can be sent to the Adams County Office of Planning and Development, located at 670 Old Harrisburg Road, Suite 100, Gettysburg.

For those who wish to attend the June 5 daytime meeting through Microsoft Teams, the web link is <https://bit.ly/actpo06052024-tip1> or +1 929-229-2915 by phone with conference ID: 963-608-989#.

The evening meeting link is <https://bit.ly/actpo06052024-tip2> or by phone at +1 929-229-2915 and conference ID: 897-153-278#.

Individuals can view more information about the draft plan at [adamscountypa.gov/TIP](https://adamscountypa.gov/TIP).

Readers may contact Vanessa Sanders at [vsanders@gettyburgtimes.com](mailto:vsanders@gettyburgtimes.com).