



I-81 CORRIDOR COALITION

VISION

The I-81 Corridor Transportation Network supporting both freight and passenger movement will be safe, efficient, environmentally sensitive, seamless and intermodal. The network will support economic development and encourage coordinated land use policy.

MISSION

We will work together in the I-81 Corridor to improve freight and passenger movement through the corridor. This will be accomplished through the sharing of information and coordinated decision making, management and operations.

CASE STATEMENT

The transportation corridor defined by Interstate 81 from the Canadian border to Knoxville, Tennessee is a nationally strategic asset. Transportation issues along this corridor have tremendous economic and security implications for the entire country – given its proximity to our nation’s largest metropolitan markets and Washington, D.C.

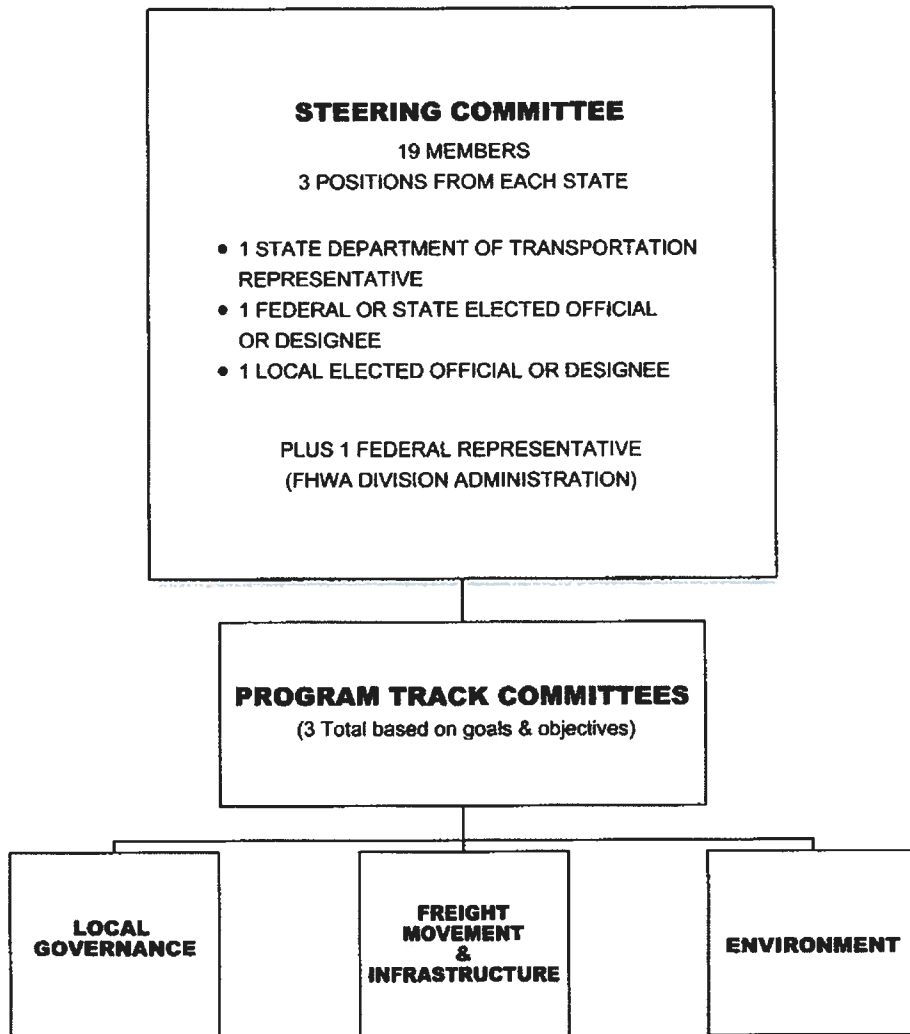
The corridor and its highway, rail and aviation network offers vital connections from Canada, the Northeast and Atlantic Seaboard through interstate and rail connections to the Midwest, Southeast and Gulf Coast. Ever increasing volumes of freight, critical to the prosperity of two countries, are transported through the corridor via the highways and rail lines. As economically beneficial as this is, a myriad of challenges and issues have risen.

It is of great importance that planning and decision making in the corridor be integrated. Issues such as freight movement and infrastructure, economic development, environment and land use, and safety and security must be dealt with in a comprehensive manner. Ensuring that scarce public resources, whether federal, state or local, are expended in such a coordinated fashion will bring maximum value to the public health, safety and welfare.

The Interstate 81 Corridor Coalition has been established to address these concerns. The coalition members - comprised of federal, state and local government officials and private sector partners from New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland, West Virginia, Virginia and Tennessee - intend to work cooperatively to identify common concerns, and develop and execute common visions and strategies to address issues along the I-81 corridor.



Corridor Coalition





I-81 CORRIDOR COALITION **Roanoke, VA Conference Synopsis**

The Coalition will seek Congressional support for Federal Fiscal Year 2011 (commencing Oct. 1, 2010). We will request sufficient funds (\$1.7 million) to support operations for 2011 and 2012. Congressional input has indicated that the next multi-year transportation reauthorization will be in place by that time. The initial proposal Chairman Oberstar has offered includes a specific line item to support multi-state, corridor-wide planning efforts. The initial "Bridge" request will be directed to U.S. Senators Specter and Casey from the Commissioners of the eight affected counties in Pennsylvania. We will seek letters of support from all Senators and Representatives whose districts are in the I-81 Corridor for Senators Specter and Casey's request. If that request is favorably acted on, we will be putting initial staff positions in place in late autumn of 2010.

The Interstate 95 Corridor Coalition has requested that a permanent liaison be established between our organizations. It is our hope to coordinate efforts and collaborate on initiatives. They also have generously offered staff assistance in developing unified incident management protocols in the Corridor.

2010 Work Plans

Freight Movement and Infrastructure Committee:

- Development of a transportation vision for freight movement in the I-81 Corridor. Prepare a paper to detail for use in future planning and lobbying efforts.
- Development of coordinated planning for adequate truck parking facilities along the highway.
- Development of an RFP to fill in gaps of knowledge with current planning studies.
- Establishment of coordinated incident management protocols and practices, and work zone information in the Corridor, with the Local Governance Committee hosting educational workshops.
- Identification of infrastructure improvement projects that will affect two or more states.

Local Governance Committee:

- Work with the trucking associations to offer driver education programs on driving safety in mixed passenger / freight movement vehicular traffic.
- Development of a "Road Show" presentation that sells the idea of the I-81 Corridor via the Corridor Coalition.
- This position paper can then be reformulated into an application to a "Corridors of the Future" or related program.
- Further development of the I-81 Corridor Coalition website to include links to websites of all participating entities.

Environmental Committee:

- Identification of pollution “hotspots” along the Corridor and documentation of non-attainment areas. Place this information on a page on the website.

- Development of an educational outreach process to disseminate information on Best Practices to mitigate air pollution. Educational outreach to include:
 - Local Governments / School Districts
 - Business Communities
 - Local Service Organizations
 - Environmental Groups

- Development of an opportunity / constraint map of the Corridor to include:
 - Sensitive areas along the Corridor
 - Wetlands / Floodplains
 - Air quality non-attainment areas
 - Steep slope areas
 - Historic Districts and Battlefields

This information will be shared with all strategic transportation infrastructure planning efforts.



I-81 Corridor Coalition Participants

**Federal Highway Administration
Federal Railroad Administration
Environmental Protection Agency
Appalachian Regional Commission
New York Department of Transportation
Pennsylvania Department of Transportation
Maryland Department of Transportation
West Virginia Department of Transportation
Virginia Department of Transportation
Tennessee Department of Transportation
Capital Corridor Coalition (New York)
Greater Binghamton Coalition (New York)
Syracuse Metropolitan Transportation Council (New York)
Broome County Economic Development (New York)
North East Pennsylvania Alliance (Pennsylvania)
Northern Tier Regional Planning & Development Commission (Pennsylvania)
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania MPO (HATS)
Cumberland County (Pennsylvania)
Lebanon County (Pennsylvania)
Franklin County (Pennsylvania)
Shippensburg University (Pennsylvania)
Washington County (Maryland)
Berkeley County (West Virginia)
Eastern Panhandle Regional Planning & Development Council (Maryland & West Virginia)
Northern Shenandoah Regional Commission (Virginia)
New River Valley Planning District Commission (Virginia)
Roanoke Valley - Allegheny Regional Commission (Virginia)
Mount Rogers Planning District Commission (Virginia)
Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission (Virginia)
New River Valley Planning District Commission (Virginia)
Roanoke County (Virginia)
Virginia Tech Transportation Institute (Virginia)
East Tennessee Development District (Tennessee)
Kingsport MPO (Tennessee)
Knoxville Regional TPO (Tennessee)
City of Kingsport (Tennessee)**

*** Numerous other local jurisdictions and private groups are participating at conferences and on working committees.**



I-81 Corridor Coalition Annual Funding Process

I-81 Corridor Coalition Internal Activities

The Coalition's Steering Committee develops an annual budget (projects, administrative expenses, etc.). The annual budget is submitted to Federal Highway Administration for approval and funding.

Public Agency Activities

Once the Coalition's annual budget is approved by Federal Highway Administration and upon their receipt of annual appropriations, the funding becomes available. Based on the approved annual budget, the funds are made available to:

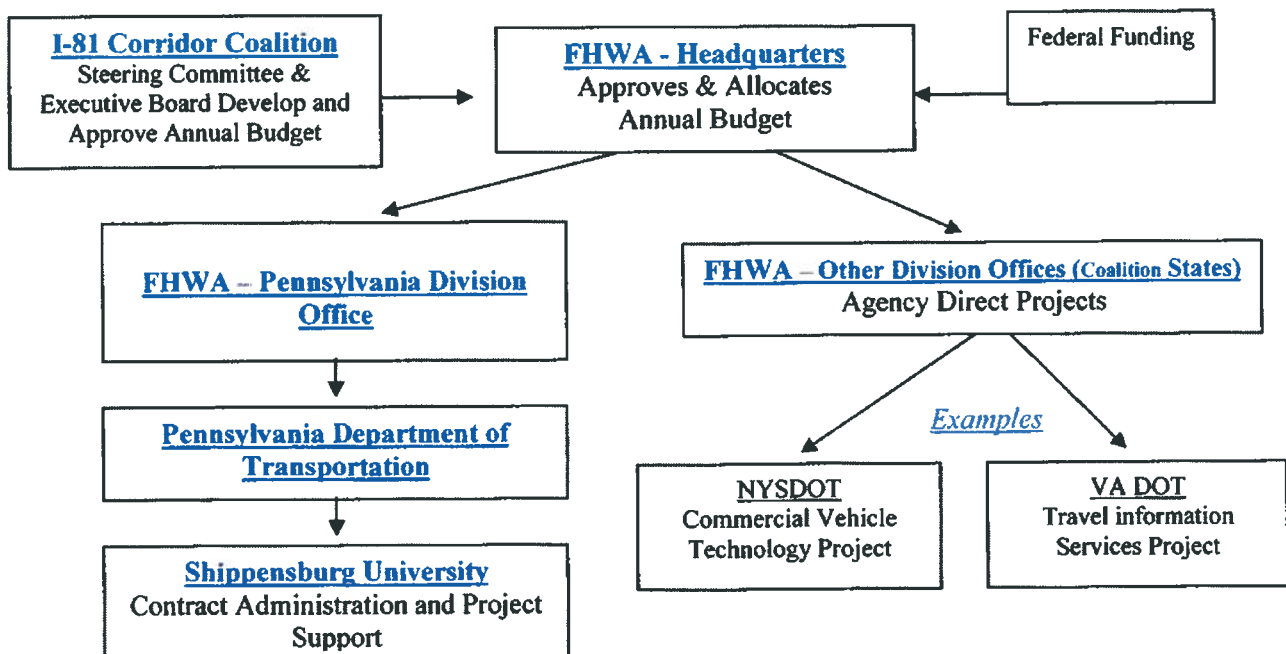
- the State DOT member agencies through their respective FHWA Division Offices to support specific agency projects, and
- Shippensburg University through the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, for contract administration and project support.

Contract Administration Activities

Shippensburg University, through funding designated to the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, provides the following services:

- Administers the Coalition's consulting services and associated contracts.
- Provides Coalition Administration Services: develops and coordinates Coalition files; develops and maintains a project database; disseminates, collects, and redistributes project quarterly report data; and collects, files, and tracks the Coalition's federal partnership agreements.
- Provides human resources support for Coalition staff.

Funding Flowchart



STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACCOUNTING STANDARDS AND POLICIES OF SHIPPENSBURG UNIVERSITY IN RELATION TO THE
"INTERSTATE 81 CORRIDOR COALITION"

About Shippensburg University

Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania, founded in 1871, is a comprehensive public regional university offering undergraduate and graduate degree programs to approximately 6,700 undergraduate and 1,200 graduate students. Located in Shippensburg, the university is one of fourteen universities in the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education (PASSHE) and was initially accredited in 1939. In April 2009, the Middle State Commission on Higher Education reaffirmed this accreditation and stated that the university "continues to meet the eligibility requirements in *Characteristics of Excellence*."

External Funding Policies and Procedures

The university houses an Institute for Public Service and Office of Sponsored Programs (IPS/OSP) that administers all policies and procedures concerning external funding for research and scholarly activities. The IPS/OSP is well equipped and experienced in administering external funds and in the last five years alone it has funded or processed over \$35 million in grant awards. In addition to the IPS/OSP Director and Office Associate, other qualified professionals involved in processing external funds include a Grant Accounting Manager and Grant Fiscal Assistant. The financial statements of the University are audited annually by Parente Randolph, LLC and consistently receive an unqualified opinion. In conjunction with the other PASSHE universities, the university uses SAP accounting software. A detailed Grants Handbook and a Program Planning and Budget Guidelines handbook provide further details on policies and procedures. These are available upon request from the IPS/OSP.

Proposed Reporting Standards and Policies for the Interstate 81 Corridor Coalition

A dedicated fund and appropriate accounts will be created on behalf of the Interstate 81 Corridor Coalition, depending on the nature of the contribution and how the funds are designated for use. A contract will be developed to document the specific terms for the use of the funds and any other conditions or restrictions. Upon receiving funds, a receipt will be issued to the contributing party and mailed to the address provided. A record will be made of all transactions related to the account. IPS/OSP and the grant accounting office have a strong system of internal controls to assure that the funds are properly expensed within the terms of the contract.

A protocol for approving expenditures of account funds will be developed and approved by the Interstate 81 Corridor Coalition Steering Committee. Such a protocol will guarantee that funds are withdrawn for approved and appropriate expenses.

In a regular and timely fashion (i.e., monthly, quarterly or semi-annually), detailed financial reports will be issued and provided to all Interstate 81 Corridor Coalition members.

Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania
Grant Accounting (OM 112)
1871 Old Main Drive
Shippensburg PA 17257
www.ship.edu
Telephone: (717) 477-1106
Tax id no. 23-2500361

Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania
Institute for Public Service and Office of Sponsored
Programs (HH 207)
1871 Old Main Drive
Shippensburg, PA 17257
<http://webspace.ship.edu/ipssp/index.html>
Telephone: (717) 477-1251

Statement prepared by George Pomeroy, Director of the Center for Land Use and Professor of Geography, Shippensburg University, with the assistance of the Institute for Public Services and Grant Accounting offices at Shippensburg University. George Pomeroy is the university representative for the Interstate 81 Corridor Coalition.