

TROC April 15, 2021 Meeting 2 Minutes



DRAFT



The Transportation Revenue Options Commission (TROC) held its second meeting virtually on April 15, 2021. The meeting began promptly at 1:00 P.M., and was conducted via Zoom; it was also accessible to the public through Zoom.

The session agenda follows:

1. Commission Chair's Opening Remarks
2. Meeting Objectives
3. Schedule/Milestone Review
4. Meeting 1 Recap (March 25, 2021)
 - Benefits of Transportation
 - Consequences of Inaction
 - Major Considerations
 - Approaches to the TROC Charge
 - Guiding Principles
 - Q&A Responses
5. TROC Survey Results
 - Response Rate
 - Priorities for Potential Solutions
 - Alternative Funding Options
 - Scenarios and Initial Evaluation
6. Meeting Summary and Public Comments
7. Commission Chair's Closing Remarks

Meeting Objectives

After welcoming Commission members, other guests, and the public, session co-facilitator Paul Caulfield reviewed the interactive features of the virtual platform and presented the following meeting objectives:

- To review the data received from the Commission survey on alternative funding options.
- To initially assess the level of support and impact of various funding options and scenarios.
- To engage Commission members in determining the funding options with the greatest potential for success and the steps necessary for further evaluation.

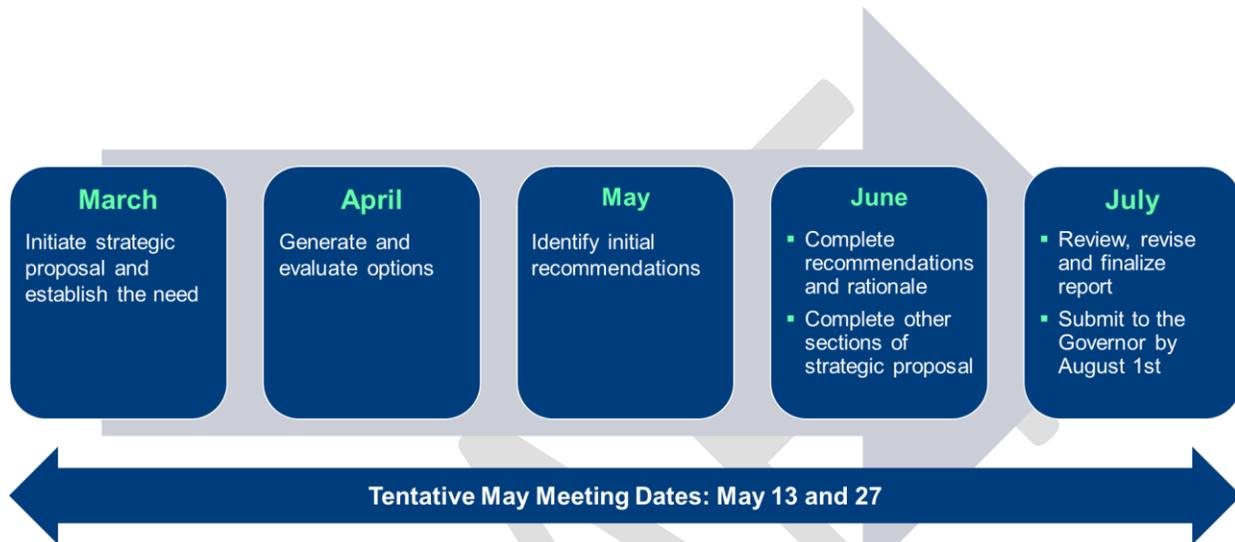
Commission Chair's Opening Remarks

PennDOT Secretary Yassmin Gramian, Commission Chair, formally opened the meeting by recognizing Commission members for their many contributions in the initial meeting. She also expressed appreciation for the numerous offers of assistance she has received from fellow Commission members as the TROC works toward fulfilling its charge.

As a first order of business, the Secretary asked for and received a motion to accept the minutes of the prior meeting, which was given, seconded and approved by all without objection.

Schedule/Milestone Review

Next, the Commission reviewed the high-level TROC schedule as reflected below. The facilitator emphasized the tight timetable for the Commission's activities and the importance of defining the preferred alternatives in time to compile the final report and submit it to the Governor by August 1, 2021.



Meeting 1 Recap (March 25, 2021)

Session co-facilitator Keith Chase then presented the compiled and prioritized highlights of Commission members' Meeting 1 polling input on the following topics:

- Benefits of Transportation
- Consequences of Inaction
- Major Considerations
- Approaches to the TROC Charge
- Guiding Principles

Caulfield noted that the Q&A responses from Meeting 1 had been provided in advance of this meeting.

TROC Survey Results

Next, Commission members examined the results from the Commission-wide survey that had closed the day prior to the meeting. In total, 36 Commission members (82%) completed the survey. The results of the survey were presented for the following major categories:

- Mileage-Based User Fees
- Accelerated PSP Funding Reduction
- Three Major Sources (Full Tolling, Vehicle Registration Fee, Congestion Pricing)
- Mid-range Revenue Sources
- Remaining Revenue Sources
- “Top 5” and “Top 10” Priorities (based on level of support in survey)

Following the review of survey results, Commission members participated in a series of Mentimeter input activities to surface opportunities and challenges associated with the revenue options under consideration. The group also reviewed the summarized results from the open-end survey item on additional opportunities for consideration. The results were presented in the following categories (reflecting the sources of these alternative revenues):

- User Fees
- Commonwealth (Statewide Policies or Programs)
- Private Sector
- Local/Regional
- Individual
- Federal
- Transit
- Aviation

Meeting Summary and Public Comments

The session concluded with a brief summary of the input received and an overview of the next steps in evaluating proposed options. A period for public comment was opened to provide an avenue for members of the public to participate who were not otherwise able to submit their input through the public Zoom platform. No additional comments were voiced.

- Commission Member Roles
- Expectations
- TROC Charter Concept

Commission Chair's Closing Remarks

In closing, Secretary Gramian noted several ways by which members can help support the TROC's success, including:

- Participating actively in meetings
- Communicating with constituents about the work of the Commission
- Considering both the long-term future of transportation funding and the short-term needs of the entire transportation system
- Being open-minded to a variety of alternatives to address the need
- Thinking innovatively about the solution

The meeting closed a few minutes before the stated 3:00 adjournment time, given the absence of public comments.