

MEMO

To: CA-MPO Policy Board
From: Lucinda Shannon – Transportation Planning Manager
Date: July 22, 2020
Re: 2020 Smart Scale applications resolution of support

Purpose: As part of the Smart Scale application process the CA-MPO Policy Board needs to provide resolutions of support for project applications in the MPO area. The purpose of resolutions of support are to ensure that Smart Scale applications are in keeping with regional goals and priorities outlined in the MPO’s Long Range Transportation Plan and the Rural Long Range Transportation Plan. There are two separate resolutions of support for consideration. One resolution for projects that the CA-MPO (*Smart Scale Resolution MPO Submissions*) will apply for on behalf of the localities and another for the projects the City of Charlottesville, Albemarle County, and the TJPDC Commission will be applying for individually (*Smart Scale Resolution Support Local Projects*).

Background: At the 2014 session, the Virginia General Assembly enacted legislation in the form of House Bill 2 (“HB2”) now titled “Smart Scale” (§33.2-21.4), which established a new process for the allocation of transportation funding for projects within the state. The process requires that projects seeking state and federal transportation funding be submitted every two years for consideration by the Commonwealth Transportation Board. The act and subsequent guidance developed a method for scoring projects based on their merits. Projects are scored within VDOT districts or statewide. Scoring is used by the Commonwealth Transportation board to allocate scarce funding resources to the highest ranked projects.

Guidance updated for this year’s applications now limits the number of applications by population. Local governments and regional bodies in the PDC are eligible to submit up to four applications each. The Metropolitan Planning Organization is responsible for a resolution for Urban projects within Charlottesville and Albemarle and is submitting an additional four projects.

Issues: CA-MPO staff worked with local government staff through the Metropolitan Planning Organization and Rural Technical Committee to identify and coordinate Smart Scale applications for the fourth round of Smart Scale. MPO staff have reviewed available project materials and found that all the projects submitted are in keeping with regional goals and policies, as expressed in the LRTP and RLRP and other relevant planning documents.

Action Needed: The Policy Board needs to provide a resolution authorizing the CA-MPO to submit projects and a 2nd resolution in support for local governments applying for their projects. Resolutions are included. If there are any questions please contact Lucinda Shannon, lshannon@tjpd.org.