

Regional Vision • Collaborative Leadership • Professional Service

MPO Technical Committee Meeting

Draft Minutes, July 20, 2021

VOTING MEMBERS & ALTERNATES		STAFF	
Alex Ikefuna, Charlottesville	Х	Jessica Hersh-Ballering, TJPDC	Х
Jeanette Janiczek, Charlottesville	Х	Sandy Shackelford, TJPDC	х
Rory Stolzenberg, Charlottesville PC	Х	Lucinda Shannon, TJPDC	х
Kevin McDermott, Albemarle	Х	Gretchen Thomas	х
Dan Butch, Albemarle	Х		
Tim Keller, Albemarle PC	Х	NON-VOTING MEMBERS	
Chuck Proctor, VDOT	Х	Tony Cho FTA	
Stacy Londrey, VDOT (alternate)			
Christine Jacobs, TJPDC	Х		
Stephen Johnson, Jaunt	Х	GUESTS/PUBLIC	
Bill Palmer, UVA	Х		
Patrick Clark, UVA (alternate)			
Juwhan Lee, CAT	Х		
Wood Hudson, DRPT	Х		
Sara Pennington, Rideshare	Х		
Richard Duran, FHWA			
Jeanette Janiczek, Charlottesville	Х		

Note: The City of Charlottesville has declared a local state of emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the nature of this declared emergency makes it impracticable or unsafe for the Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission to assemble in a single location in the city. This meeting was held utilizing electronic virtual communication with the Zoom software application, and in accordance with virtual meeting provisions contained in Code of Virginia § 2.2-3708.2. A recording of the meeting was made available to the public on July 20, 2021 at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=akg0-qNwJu0.

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The MPO Technical Committee Chair, Rory Stolzenberg, presided and called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m. Jessica Hersh-Ballering took attendance by roll call, and certified that a quorum was present. Mr. Stolzenberg read the Notice of Electronic Meeting and Commissioner and Public Protocol.

2. MATTERS FROM THE PUBLIC:

a. Comments by the Public: None

b. Comments provided via email, online, web site, etc.: None

3. Approval of Draft Meeting Minutes:

Motion/Action: Christine Jacobs said in the info regarding the date the meeting was posted needs to be changed from March to the May date. On a motion by Chuck Proctor, seconded by Tim Keller, the committee unanimously approved the minutes, with the changes noted, of the May 24, 2021 meeting.

4. ELECTRONIC MEETING POLICY:

Ms. Shackelford presented the remote meeting policy to the board for their adoption. Ms. Jacobs moved to adopt the policy as presented with a second from Kevin McDermott. The motion was passed unanimously.

5. SMART SCALE APPLICATION RECOMMENDATIONS (MINUTE 0.00):

Ms. Shackelford reviewed the timeline of the application process and reviewed the projects to be considered. She also presented the projects recommended by Staff.

Motion/Action: After much discussion, a motion was made by Kevin McDermott that the four projects recommended by Staff (the District Avenue Roundabout, Rivanna River Bike/Ped Crossing, Avon Street Crossing and Fifth Street Crossing projects), get forwarded to the Policy Board for the MPO's Smart Scale projects for consideration. There will be public engagement on all projects but there will be additional public engagement with the District Avenue project. Jeanette Janiszcek seconded the motion. The motion passed with Wood Hudson abstaining.

6. ELECTRIC VEHICLE REPORT (MINUTE 1:06:20):

Lucinda Shannon shared her Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Station Study. The committee concurred that the recommendations were on the "general" side and that there needs to be more specific recommendations. Mr. Hudson shared that there may be funds to leverage some resources and share this link in the chat: https://www.deq.virginia.gov/get-involved/topics-of-interest/volkswagen-settlement-agreement

Ms. Shackelford said the budget only allowed for a more general study. Mr. Stolzenberg and Ms. Janiszcek said that this is a good start, but the technology is moving so quickly, they do not recommend more money be spent on this because they seem to think the private sector will be taking the lead on it.

Mr. McDermott passed on the study to a staff member at Albemarle stating he may have more specific thoughts on it.

7. RIDESHARE UPDATES (MINUTE 1:32:44):

AFTON EXPRESS: Sara Pennington reported on the new Afton Express, a transit service that runs from Staunton/Fishersville/Waynesboro to Charlottesville. The service will launch in September and the fee will be free for the entire month. For additional information, visit the website at www.aftonexpress.org.

Mr. Johnson said the Crozet Connect and the Afton Express have many of the same stops on their route.

RIDESHARE: Ms. Pennington reported on the Rideshare promotions, including the Afton Express, Try Transit/Rideshare Week, Telework, Earth Week, and Clean Commute/Bike Month.

Rideshare is always looking for community partners and ways to work to weave in existing programs. They are seeking outside help to make sure Rideshare is positioned in the best possible way through a marketing research and implementation plan.

She shared that there is a Rideshare app in the App Store and encouraged folks to download it and start using it.

8. MPO UPDATES (MINUTE 1:47:16):

Ms. Shannon reported on the updated CAMPO Public Engagement Plan, required for each MPO.

Mr. Shannon also gave an explanation of and an update on the Route 29 Corridor study.

9. ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION: TABLED DUE TO TIME CONSTRAINTS, WITH TWO EXCEPTIONS (MINUTE 1:52:32)

Mr. Lee said CAT is launching their new routes. There will be a meeting tomorrow (July 21, 2021) at 6 p.m. (virtual) to report on them.

Ms. Janiszcek said there will be a virtual meeting regarding the Belmont Bridge on August 11 from 6 – 8 p.m. https://www.belmontbridge.org/2021/07/12/virtual-community-information-session-aug-11-at-6-pm/

10. MATTERS FROM THE PUBLIC (MINUTE 1:54:32): None.

ADJOURNMENT: Mr. Stolzenberg adjourned the meeting at 12:12 p.m.