

Regional Transportation Partnership Meeting

Minutes, March 25, 2021

VOTING MEMBERS & ALTERNATES		STAFF	
Nikuyah Walker, Charlottesville	x	Jessica Hersh-Ballering, TJPDC	x
Lloyd Snook, Charlottesville	x	Sandy Shackelford, TJPDC	x
Diantha McKeel, Albemarle	x	Lucinda Shannon, TJPDC	x
Bea LaPisto-Kirtley, Albemarle	x	Sara Pennington, Rideshare	x
Neil Sherman, DRPT	x	Gretchen Thomas, TJPDC	x
Randy Parker, Jaunt Rural	x	Christine Jacobs, TJPDC	x
Lucas Ames, Jaunt Urban	x		
Becca White, UTS	x		
NON-VOTING MEMBERS		GUESTS/PUBLIC	
Karen Davis, Jaunt	x	Sean Tubbs	
Garland Williams, CAT	x	Neil Williamson	x
Juwhan Lee, CAT	x	Katherine Knott	x
Trevor Henry, Albemarle	x	Ben Chambers	x
Kim McManus, PVCC			x
Jim Foley, ACPS	x		x
Alison DeTunq, CTB			x
Chris Rowland, Jaunt			x
Sally LeBeau, UVA Hospital	x		

Note: The Governor has declared a state of emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the nature of this declared emergency makes it impracticable or unsafe for the Regional Transportation Partnership to assemble in a single location. This meeting was held utilizing electronic virtual communication with the Zoom software application, and in accordance with virtual meeting procedures and policies as outlined in Item 4.0-01 of the Virginia state budget (HB29), as effective April 24, 2020. A recording of the meeting was made available to the public on March 9, 2021 at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g-kfKHK5PKM&feature=youtu.be&ab_channel=TJPDC-MPO.

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The Regional Transportation Partnership Chair, Diantha McKeel, presided and called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m. and read the Notice of Electronic Meeting and Commissioner and Public Protocol. Jessica Hersh-Ballering took attendance by roll call, and certified that a quorum was present.

2. MATTERS FROM THE PUBLIC: None

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Garland Williams said on page 3, the heading should be changed from “Connectics Presentation” to “CAT Presentation.”



Motion/Action: On a motion by Lucas Ames, seconded by Randy Parker, the committee approved the minutes of the February 25, 2021 meeting with the changes mentioned, with Becca White and Nikuyah Walker abstaining.

4. RTP VISION PLAN:

Ms. Hersh-Ballering reviewed the process summary, the committees and advisory groups that will be selected and the responsibilities of each group.

5. IN-PERSON SCHOOL AND BUS SERVICE

Mr. Williams reported that the City schools are back on a limited basis. There are some adjustments needed, but he says it has been working well thus far. He also reported that the City is hiring a head-hunting firm to find and hire school bus drivers.

Mr. Foley reported that because the school busses cannot handle all the children, there are more children being brought to school by passenger vehicles. This has resulted in there been higher than usual traffic at the school that sometimes spills out onto the roadway. They are working on solving the issue.

6. TRANSIT PROVIDER UPDATES:

CAT: Mr. Williams said the CAT presentation given at the last RTP meeting went over well. CAT will be making changes to get down to the funding level necessary. He also explained some changes within the bus routes. CAT will be changing their reporting from farebox to ACPs, which will improve the data collected. Mr. Williams also reported that CAT will continue to be fare-free for three years.

UTS: Becca White said UTS is back up to 90% of pre-Covid demand at the hospital. On campus service is still low, but it increasing slowly. UTS will be running "Covid routes" through July and in the Fall they may change. That has yet to be determined. She also provided the end of year schedule for the University.

Jaunt: Karen Davis reported that Jaunt is currently finalizing their budget and reported on their ridership and capacity. She also said they are conducting a facility study for when the employees go back to work on site. She reported that Jaunt will be doing surveys and sending out ambassadors to talk with riders on the Crozet Connect. She said Jaunt has been doing some rebranding and what used to be "JAUNT" is now "Jaunt." Lastly, she said Jaunt would need to put together a proposal to see how to go fare-free in the future.

7. FY22 RTP WORK PLAN

Ms. Hersh-Ballering reviewed the essential activities. All information is provided in the agenda packet and on the website.

8. STAFF UPDATES:

- a. **UPWP:** Ms. Shackelford explained the UPWP and reported on the budget and line items. She said the MPO Policy Board decided they wanted the Climate Action Initiatives for Transportation Planning to be one of the projects undertaken by Staff.
- b. **SMART SCALE (ROUND 5):** Ms. Shackelford reported on the projects that got funding in this last round. She showed potential projects for the MPO to submit for the next round. She said she will be asking for feedback on potential projects in the future.

Ms. McKeel expressed her deep appreciation to the transit providers for their hard work during the pandemic challenges.

Mr. Williams said he and Mr. Sherman talked about funding for small transit agencies. Mr. Sherman said funding in the future will be a concern.

ADJOURNMENT: Ms. McKeel adjourned the meeting at 5:56 p.m.

**Committee materials and meeting recording may be found at
<https://campo.tjpd.org/committees/regional-transit-partnership/>**