

Regional Transportation Partnership Meeting
 Minutes, April 22, 2021

VOTING MEMBERS & ALTERNATES		STAFF	
Nikuyah Walker, Charlottesville	x	Jessica Hersh-Ballering, TJPDC	x
Lloyd Snook, Charlottesville	x	Lucinda Shannon, TJPDC	x
Diantha McKeel, Albemarle	x	Gretchen Thomas, TJPDC	x
Bea LaPisto-Kirtley, Albemarle	x	Christine Jacobs, TJPDC	x
Neil Sherman, DRPT	x		
Randy Parker, Jaunt Rural	x		
Lucas Ames, Jaunt Urban	x		
Becca White, UTS	x		
NON-VOTING MEMBERS		GUESTS/PUBLIC	
Karen Davis, Jaunt	x	Kendall Howell, UTS	x
Garland Williams, CAT	x	Nick Britton	x
Jim Foley, Albemarle County PS	x	Ben Chambers	x
Sally LeBeau, UVA Hospital	x	Steven McNally, CAT	x
Peter Thompson, CAA	x	Juwhan Lee, CAT	x
Sandy Shackelford, CAMPO	x	Trevor Henry, Albemarle	x
Sara Pennington, Rideshare	x		
	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 4:01 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:

Jessica Hersh-Ballering noted that the minutes will be summary minutes from this point forward. She also noted that Peter Thompson was at the March meeting and should be added as a non-voting member, Sara Pennington and Sandy Shackelford should be on the non-voting members list instead of on the staff list, and Chris Rowland should be removed from the list altogether.

Motion/Action: On a motion by Bea LaPisto-Kirtley, seconded by Randy Parker, the committee approved the minutes of the March 25, 2021 meeting with the changes mentioned.

4. DRPT GRANTS UPDATE:

Ms. Hersh-Ballering reviewed the Regional Transit Vision Plan and the status of the timeline. With the updates made, there will be a change to the creation of the Selection Committee to the second week of May.

Ms. Hersh-Ballering also reviewed the Albemarle County Transit Expansion Feasibility Study and Implementation Plan timeline. She reported that Michael Baker/Four Square team has been chosen as the consulting team.

5. TRANSIT RIDER SURVEY:

Kevin Howell, Assistant Director for Transportation for University Transit Service, presented the transit rider survey results to the committee.

Lucas Ames suggested that the future survey have questions about using other transit options during their trip. Karen Davis suggested that there be a multi-modal portion to the next survey.

6. FUTURE CAT INFRASTRUCTURE:

Garland Williams presented the Board with the changes that CAT is looking to do to their infrastructure in the future.

Steven McNally continued the presentation by covering amenities plans and changes in further detail. There was discussion among the members and there was excitement expressed that there will be coordination between these studies and the Albemarle County Transit Expansion Feasibility Study grant.

7. RTP FY22 WORKPLAN:

Ms. Hersh-Ballering presented the work plan to the committee. The work plan document is included in the agenda packet. She noted there are essential activities (program administration, transit grant support, and lead-in to FY23 strategic plan), and optional activities (information sharing and subcommittee wrap-up activities). There will be an intern working with Staff to assist with the wrap-up activities.

Becca White made a motion to approve the RTP FY22 Workplan as presented. Ms. LaPisto-Kirtly seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

8. STAFF UPDATES:

- a. Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) Adjustments:** Lucinda Shannon introduced herself and explained what the MPO and the TIP are and how they are inter-related. She noted that the TIP is updated every four years, but there can be adjustments and/or amendments within those four years. She explained the difference between an adjustment and an amendment.
- b. UPWP:** Ms. Shackelford said there will be public hearing at the MPO Policy Board meeting in May and hopefully, there will be an official adopted UPWP for next year after that meeting.
- c. SMART SCALE (ROUND 5):** Ms. Shackelford gave a high-level overview of the Smart Scale process and the projects that were funded in the region in Round 4. She noted that at next month's meeting, there will be a more detailed explanation of the projects for the next round. She finished with the next steps and timeline for Round 5 and asked the board to send suggestions to Staff for possible consideration.

9. TRANSIT PROVIDER UPDATES:

CAT: Mr. Williams said CAT launched their study to see if they can continue to keep CAT fare-free. They may partner with Jaunt on the feasibility of the ADA component. He reported that operations on the school side are going well. They are currently looking to a third-party provider to hire more drivers.

UTS: Becca White said UVA classes conclude on May 7 and said graduation events are planned and up on the UVA website. She said UTS is continuing to run their Covid routes until further notice. The fall routes will be announced at a later date.

Jaunt: Ms. Davis reported that Jaunt has met with CAT re: the fare-free project. They are also conducting another study for their rural areas. Ridership is ticking up and they are hiring again. This summer they will be launching their re-branding and they have already received two buses with the new wraps.

Albemarle County Public Schools (ACPS): Mr. Foley said that ACPS is planning for this summer and the next school year. This summer, they are planning for one student per seat and two if they are siblings. He said next school year will be at full capacity because they are installing HEPA filters. They are looking for new drivers because they have a full schedule this summer, and like CAT, may be looking at a third party for help with hiring. Lastly, he said ACPS will be providing a bonus to the current drivers for their hard work.

DRPT: Neil Sherman said the draft program of projects was approved yesterday. Copies of those projects are on their website. There was not as much state money as in the prior two years, so many of them are "state of good repair" projects.

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