

MPO Technical Committee Meeting
 Draft Minutes, July 18, 2023

A video recording of the meeting can be found here:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gwM3j4dH9ow>

VOTING MEMBERS & ALTERNATES		STAFF	
James Freas, Charlottesville		Sandy Shackelford, TJPDC *	x
Ben Chambers, Charlottesville	x	Lucinda Shannon, TJPDC	x
Rory Stolzenberg, Cville PC	x	Gretchen Thomas, TJPDC	x
Jessica Hersh-Ballering, Alb Co		Ryan Mickles, TJPDC	x
Alberic Karina-Plun, Albemarle (alternate)	x	Curtis Scarpignato, TJPDC	
Luis Carrazana, Albemarle PC	x	Ruth Emerick, TJPDC	
Charles Proctor, VDOT		NON-VOTING MEMBERS	
Michael Barnes, VDOT (alternate)	x	Tony Cho FTA	
Christine Jacobs, TJPDC	x	Donna Chen, CTAC Liaison	
Zadie Lacy, Jaunt			
Bill Palmer, UVA Ofc of Architect		GUESTS/PUBLIC	
Juwhan Lee, CAT		Sean Tubbs *	x
Taylor Jenkins, DRPT (alternate)		David Cook, VDOT *	x
Tiffany Dubinsky, DRPT *	x	Peter Krebs, PEC *	x
Sara Pennington, Rideshare	x	Mitch Huber, DRPT *	x
Richard Duran, FHWA		David Blount, TJPDC *	x
		Tommy Safranek, City of Charlottesville	x

* attended online via Zoom

1. CALL TO ORDER:

There were technical problems with the sound for the meeting, so the meeting was delayed. Rory Stolzenberg called the meeting to order at 10:20. Ryan Mickles called roll.

2. MATTERS FROM THE PUBLIC (MINUTE 1:35)

- a. **Comments by the Public:** None
- b. **Comments provided via email, online, web site, etc.:** None

3. GENERAL ADMINISTRATION (MINUTE 1:49)

May 16, 2023 Minutes



Motion/Action: Luis Carazanna made a motion to approve the May 16 meeting minutes. Alberic Karina-Plun seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

4. ELECTIONS FY24 COMMITTEE CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR (MINUTE 2:05):

Ben Chambers nominated Rory Stolzenberg for Chair. Michael Barnes seconded and the motion passed with Rory Stolzenberg abstaining.

Michael Barnes nominated Alberic Karina-Plun for Vice Chair. Luis seconded and the motion passed with Alberic Karina-Plun abstained.

5. ONEMAP – REGIONAL BIKE/PED MAP (MINUTE 6:42):

Sandy Shackelford gave a background and purpose for OneMap. It is intended to be a resource of regional transportation data. It is NOT incorporating any trails data because it is not transportation-related and is considered more recreation-related. It only includes existing infrastructure.

Ms. Shackelford noted that there is an overlapping effort with VDOT to collect data to make it available to the public.

She also reported that there is a need to identify a systemic method for collecting information.

Will post info on TJPDC website. The combined dataset will be available soon. There is a regional reference map and will be formatted online to make it interactive. There will be links to the reference data. The links from UVA is not publicly available. She shared the link to the website:

<https://tjpd.org/our-work/bike-and-pedestrian/>

David Cook noted that VDOT will have a sidewalk inventory soon. They continue to update their data as they receive it from numerous localities throughout the state.

Ms. Shackelford sees this data as information to include in other planning efforts in the future.

6. MOVING TOWARD 2050 (MINUTE 21:38)

Sandy Shackelford gave an overview on the public engagement completed and public intercepts planned for the future. She gave a preview of the public feedback so far. The highest priority has been given to safety and environmental concerns.

She noted that the Staff will continue to reach out the specific groups to identify opportunities for outreach with special efforts made to reach underserved communities.

7. SMART SCALE (MINUTE 31:54)

Round 6 Update

Ms. Shackelford reported on the meeting with Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) and noted that these conversations are ongoing and developing. She continue by giving a summary of discussions from May and June meetings. She encouraged folks to watch the CTB meetings and have conversations with VDOT to get clarifications if you have questions.

Ms. Shackelford gave a high-level background on Smart Scale on how it was developed, area type and factor weighting, and funding programs (district Grant Program and High Priority Program).

Ms. Shackelford discussed that the CTB uncovered potential problems and their potential solutions about application quality.

She covered a process bias analysis with a small project preference. Small projects are considered to be under \$10 million.

She went on to report on the scoring and funding analysis which will be discussed at the upcoming Smart Scale retreat. Land use has been a major factor in the past and she reported on the potential process changes/modifications to the land use factor.

She said CTB may also refine the High Priority Program (HPP) definition, which may affect the types of programs the CAMPO and included regions may be allowed to submit. There was concern from Ben Chambers that there is a de-emphasis on bike/ped projects.

Christine Jacobs noted that VDOT has noted that jurisdictions have learned the system and are submitting only projects they think will score well instead of higher priority projects. They are trying to work to make sure the highest priority projects are submitted instead of the ones that will score highest.

Given these changes they are considered, Ms. Shackelford reviewed the current applications for the area. They include the Rivanna River Bike/Ped Bridge (New Capacity), the Hillsdale South Extension (New Capacity) and Ivy Road, including US 250 interchange (Potential Interchange Improvement).

She continued by reviewing how the projects are funded and what would happen if they refined the HPP definition and how they would impact “principal improvement” and “area” types of projects.

She said another scenario would be to eliminate “step 2”. She continued by reporting on the impact of combining the refining the definition and the elimination of step 2.

The CTB retreat is scheduled for tomorrow may offer changes to the process.

VDOT Pipeline Projects (Minute 1:10:31)

Michael Barnes gave a background on the pipeline projects. He noted that there are currently four in the Culpeper District, with two in the CAMPO area. Mr. Barnes has been trying to catch up on the projects due to a family issue with Staff who was in charge of the projects. He said he is about a month behind and trying to catch up.

VDOT is in Phase I and they are currently collecting data to analyze. There is also a public interaction portion that is starting and ongoing.

VDOT is hoping to kick off something this week or next to learn from the public about the projects in this area. As VDOT moves to Phase II, they will be creating potential preferred alternatives.

Mr. Barnes noted that the volume of the applicants for Smart Scale has potentially reduced the quality of the projects. The priorities for the next 3-5 years need to be determined so they can choose the best projects.

Ben Chambers noted that VDOT's priorities may not be CAMPO's priorities.

8. FEDERAL GRANT UPDATE (MINUTE 1:28:12)

RAISE - Ms. Shackelford reported that CAMPO was not successful in receiving the RAISE grant. The RAISE grant offers a debrief, so Ms. Shackelford is looking forward to seeing that information in the near future.

SS4A – Ms. Shackelford noted that staff is learning how to be reimbursed at this time and that they are in the process of selecting a consultant for the project. They should have a decision made on the consultant by August 1.

9. ROUNDTABLE (MINUTE):

CA-MPO

No additional updates.

City of Charlottesville

Mr. Chambers said they are working on their consolidated draft of their zoning code. He reported that the City has hired a Bike/Ped Planner. He also noted that the City has started their transit strategic plan and have started their public engagement.

Mr. Chamber said the City is going through their alternative fuel study for CAT and will be going to external stakeholders next. He reported that CAT wants to start rolling out bus shelters and that site and design selection is upcoming.

Mr. Chambers also gave an update on the Safe Routes to School program and noted that the City is going to be doing outreach for that program with the public.

Albemarle County

Alberic Karina-Plun reported that tomorrow there will be an update given on Route 20 shared use path. Regarding the Free Bridge process, staff is working on getting cost estimates. He said the Safe Routes to School program is continuing its ongoing work on their projects in the County. He also reported that the Three Notch'd project is entering the RFQ process.

VDOT

Nothing additional to add.

Rideshare

Sara Pennington said she is wrapping up marketing initiatives from FY23. There was some video work done recently and she and will be getting photography for future marketing efforts. She also reported that Rideshare is starting a strategic plan. She has selected an agency, is refining the scope, the cost and the project.

DRPT

Tiffany Dubinsky reported DRPT received an award for a grant from FTA's Bus and Bus Facilities Program and will be allow them to replace 39 transit vehicles for 11 rural public transit agencies throughout the Commonwealth. Re: Staffing, she reported that there are two new state-wide transportation planners have been hired.

11. ADDITIONAL MATTERS FROM THE PUBLIC:

Peter Krebs shared in the chat: "One Map is necessary because it is extremely difficult to solve regional issues without a dataset of existing conditions.

Something like a "where to walk or bike" map is interesting and could be an add-on module but *not* the purpose of One Map.

I would add to what Sandy said that It's also difficult to make a really unified future plan without a unified inventory of planned projects. I think/hope the MPO has other ideas about how to do that for Long-Range Planning.

An additional gap in planning capacity is something larger than the project level. How can we string together projects to create difference-making cross-region pathways, similar to what we see on a transit map.

These are opportunities that we should not miss w the LRTP and the SSR4A grant."

Christine Jacobs apologized for the technical issues for this meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: Mr. Stolzenberg adjourned the meeting at 12:03 p.m.