

MPO Technical Committee
DRAFT July 21st Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, July 21st, 2020

Committee – Voting Members

Julian Bivens, *Albemarle County PC*
Kevin McDermott, *Albemarle County*
Dan Butch, *Albemarle County*
Rory Stolzenberg, *City of Charlottesville PC*
Jeannette Janiczek, *City of Charlottesville*
Chuck Proctor, *VDOT Culpeper District*
Richard Duran, *FHWA*
Wood Hudson, *DRPT*
Bill Palmer, *UVA*

TJPDC Staff

Ian Baxter
Jessica Hersh-Ballering
Nick Morrison
Lucinda Shannon

Guests

Sean Tubbs

Call to Order:

Mr. Stolzenberg called the virtual meeting to order at 10:05

Matters from the Public:

There were no matters from the public.

Approval of May Minutes:

Mr. Bivens motioned to approve the draft May 19th minutes and Mr. Proctor provided a second. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Election of Officers:

Mr. Bivens moved to nominate Mr. Stolzenberg as Chair and Mr. Proctor provided a second. All voted in favor of electing Mr. Stolzenberg as Chair. Mr. Bivens moved to nominate Mr. McDermott as Vice Chair and Mr. Proctor provided a second, with all members voting in favor of electing Mr. McDermott as Vice Chair.

MPO Transportation One-Pagers Review:

Mr. Baxter provided the committee with an overview on the one-page summary documents that he created for the MPO's various program areas. These one-pagers were intended to serve as high-level summary documents to give the public and stakeholders an easy to understand knowledge of the MPO programs. Over giving an overview of the one-pagers and provided background on the need for them, he added that he presented them to the Citizen's Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC). He said that their feedback consisted mainly of ensuring that there was not jargon-heavy language and to ensure that the community could easily understand them.

Mr. Bivens noted that it was important to know who the audience was for these one-page summaries and advised against over-simplifying the language too much, as the specifics of each program could be lost if those details were removed. Mr. Bivens added that the summary pages were extremely useful and appreciated the effort in creating them.

MPO Staff Updates:

Mr. Morrison provided an overview of the update process to the Public Participation Plan. Mr. Bivens noted the importance of identifying strategies for reaching underserved communities, especially those not typically involved in the transportation planning process. Mr. Morrison noted that work done on the Cherry Avenue Small Area Plan included more innovative community outreach approaches that could serve as a model for future engagement efforts.

Mr. Stolzenberg added that staff should look for additional innovative ideas and techniques for reaching the public, noting several technical advancements that could make remote engagement possible. He also added the importance of communicating past efforts to the public, to allow them to better understand certain processes.

Mr. Hudson suggested a review of other MPO public participation plans to identify certain elements and characteristics that should be included in the CA-MPO's update. Ms. Shannon said that the greater communications plan for the organization could allow for more innovative approaches to be included.

Ms. Shannon provided the committee with an update on a recent Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) amendment. Mr. Proctor provided additional details on where the money was moved within the program.

Smart Scale Update:

Mr. Morrison provided the committee with an overview of the feedback received from the public regarding the current round of Smart Scale projects. The inventory of feedback that Ms. Shannon created helped to categorize common themes and provide decision makers with extensive community feedback regarding each project.

Mr. Proctor gave the committee an update on all of the MPO projects for the current round of Smart Scale. Discussion focused on project specifics. Ms. Janiczek noted specifics to how projects were identified and how that impacts the public engagement process for identifying projects, and specifically talked about the Preston/Grady project.

Mr. Proctor then gave a presentation regarding changes to the Fontaine Avenue project. Discussion from the committee focused on these changes and how they differed from the original concept drawing shown in previous meetings.

Additional Matters from the Public:

Mr. Tubbs said that there are a lot of legacy projects that are worth remembering, and keeping track of those projects to allow the public to remain engaged in the planning process.

Meeting Adjournment:

Mr. Stolzenberg adjourned the meeting at 12:29 PM.