

MPO Policy Board

Minutes: September 23, 2015

Committee – Voting Members

John Lynch, *VDOT Culpeper District*
Satyendra Huja, *City of Charlottesville*
Ann Mallek, *Albemarle County (Chair)*
Brad Sheffield, *Albemarle County*
Kristin Szakos, *City of Charlottesville (Vice-Chair)*

Staff

Chip Boyles, *TJPDC*
Will Cockrell, *TJPDC*
Nick Morrison, *TJPDC*
Gretchen Thomas, *TJPDC*
Chuck Proctor, *VDOT-Culpeper District*
Angela Foroughi, *VDOT Culpeper District*

Non-Voting & Alternates

Karen Davis, *JAUNT*
John Jones, *CAT*
Julia Monteith, *UVA Office of the Architect*
Luke Juday, *MPO Citizen Transportation Advisory Committee*

Call to Order:

Vice-chair Szakos called the meeting to order at 4:02pm.

Matters from the Public:

None

Response to Matters from the Public:

None

Review and Acceptance of the Agenda:

The Policy Board approved the agenda.

Approval of Minutes:

Ms. Davis noted that JAUNT was having their 40th anniversary, not the -25th as written in the minutes. Mr. Jones made a motion to approve the minutes with the change. Mr. Lynch provided a second to the motion, which passed unanimously.

Staff Update & Committee Reports:

Mr. Cockrell updated the Policy Board on the bi-annual Bike/Ped Count and the Board made suggestions on how to get even more volunteers for the next count in the springtime.

Mr. Boyles introduced new staff member, Nick Morrison, as the newest Planner I for TJPDC. He also noted there would be a joint MPO meeting in October with SAW-MPO to be held at the Crozet Library to discuss pursuing I-64 corridor planning funding.

Ms. Szakos asked how the USA Cycling team enjoyed training on the areas roads before the World Championships in Richmond. Ms. Monteith and Mr. Huja both noted the consensus was that they were impressed with the terrain, the motorists, and the hospitality.

Resolution for Endorsement for Moore’s Creek Trail and Trailhead Park Project

Mr. Boyles updated the Policy Board on the Moore’s Creek grant and that an endorsement from the Board was necessary to move ahead. Mr. Huja made a motion to approve the resolution, and Mr. Jones provided a second to the motion, which passed unanimously.

At 4:21, Ann Mallek arrived and took over chairing the meeting.

Resolution Endorsing MPO Area House Bill 2 Project Applications

Mr. Boyles informed the Board that the Exit 118 project will be included in the HB2 application on behalf of the MPO. All projects included on the list have been drawn from the existing CA-MPO LRT.

It was recommended by Mr. Huja that the number in the application be removed so as not to appear to be prioritized. Ms. Szakos noted that perhaps the projects should be alternated (i.e., County project, City project, County project, City project, etc.)

Ms. Szakos made a motion to approve the resolution, and Mr. Lucas provided a second and the motion was passed unanimously.

Resolution for Endorsement for Coal Tower/Meade Avenue Trail

Mr. Boyles recommended support for a City of Charlottesville submission for a Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) grant for bike/ped improvements on 5th Street Extended. Ms. Szakos noted that her name should be removed from the template as the Chair of the Policy Board. Mr. Huja made a motion to approve the resolution with the name change, Mr. Jones seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

MPO Boundary Adjustments

Mr. Boyles provided a brief update on minor adjustments to the MPO boundaries. VDOT planners discovered that several MPO’s have boundaries that split census tracts. Mr. Boyles noted that there were no transportation projects in the areas and it amounted to a “housekeeping issue.” An endorsement by resolution of the Board is necessary for submission either by the MPO or the local jurisdiction. Mr. Huja made a motion to accept the resolution, and Ms. Szakos seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Transit Updates: CAT, JAUNT, UTS, RideShare

Mr. Jones mentioned that the CAT fare-box issues were beginning to clear up and that soon the software will be scanning both student and health service workers. Ridership was up 1% in July and down 15% in August, but noted that the entire state was down 17% in August (Hampton Roads was down 25% and the greater Lynchburg area was down 37%). Mr. Jones stated there was no known reason for the decline in usage.

Ms. Davis said JAUNT had its 40th anniversary party at their annual meeting. Their ridership was down 10% (3% in the City and 7% in the county). She noted there are 7 new drivers in training and they will soon be fully staffed.

Ms. Monteith updated the Policy Board on parking at UVA.

An update regarding RideShare was unavailable.

Other Business:

Mr. Boyles noted that there is a new Bike Central Virginia Facebook page currently online.

Mr. Cockrell mentioned the MPO-TPA session set for October 13 and to “save the date” for the first of three planned sessions.

Mr. Juday told the Policy Board there are open spots on the CTAC Board (1 from the City and 2 from the MPO) and asked them to be thinking of folks who might be good additions to that committee.

Additional Matters from the Public:

Mac Lafferty complimented the Board on their improved processes and on the increase usage of bike/ped facilities in the community.

Ms. Mallek made a motion to adjourn the meeting, and Ms. Szakos seconded.