

## Citizen Transportation Advisory Committee Draft Meeting Minutes: Sept 17, 2019

### Committee – Voting Members

Chair Travis Pietila – Present  
Vice Chair Mike Smith (Charlottesville) – Present  
Tristan Fessell (Albemarle County) – Present  
Donna Chen (MPO) – Present  
Stuart Gardner (MPO) – Present  
Mike Dunn – Present  
Marty Meth (Albemarle) – Present  
Tim Keller (Albemarle Planning Committee) – Present  
Adam Moore (Charlottesville) – Not Present  
Gary Heaton (Charlottesville PC) – Not Present  
Ray Heron – Not Present  
Fran Hooper – Not Present  
Mac Lafferty – Not Present

### Staff

Jessica Hersh-Ballering (MPO)  
Chip Boyles (MPO)  
Lucinda Shannon (MPO)

### Call to Order

Mr. Pietila called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

### Approval of July 17<sup>th</sup> Meeting Minutes

Mr. Meth motioned to amend and approve July meeting minutes. The minutes were amended to include Mr. Michael Smith and present.

Mr. (?) seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously at 7:10pm.

### Matters from the Public

There were no matters from the public.

### One Map Update by Jessica Hersh-Ballering

Ms. Hersh-Ballering provided an overview of how the Bicycle/Pedestrian Coordination Committee is creating and sharing a map of all the pedestrian and bike trails in the Charlottesville area. This map will be shared with the public online. This map will combine the County, City, and University maps into one map of all the Ped/Bike trails for the region.

### Comments:

- Will the public be able to comment on the online map, so an accumulation of comments can be reviewed for future plans?
- This could be a way to keep the discussion on Ped/Bike trails going
- The map will be an PDF and not interactive, but why not make it a Wiki map so people can go online and make comments at any time; make it a public facing interactive tool;

this is beyond the current scope, however, this is something the Ped/Bike committee will consider; to use the map as a reporting tool; this will give input for the next plan/update

### **Off-site Meeting Planning Discussion**

There have been discussions among CTAC about creating opportunities to move meetings off-site to improve public participation/awareness/engagement. Ms. Hersh-Ballering began the discussion by outlining an overview of the process the committee can take to develop a public engagement plan. The committee hopes to have actionable items put in effect by January. This meeting will focus on developing the purpose and content of the outreach effort.

#### *What is the purpose of the outreach?*

- Advertising campaign to get people to come to the meetings
- Provide other ways (besides the meeting) for the public to voice their opinions
- Educate people about the Long Range Transportation Plan

Ideas proposed by the committee members:

- Use graduate students to work on transportation projects, this will engage future transportation planners and help bring awareness to the community
- Albemarle County has Citizen Advisory Committees (CACs), all projects that go to the planning board have to go through a CACs; we could use the CAC meetings to reach out to representatives from the county, city and state (Note: this does not cover the City, perhaps, we could reach out to the Neighborhood associations? Also, not all the CACs are in the MPO area.)
- It is important to engage the transit users and have an equitable input process that engages the public earlier in the planning process; the public is disconnected
- How can we get people engaged with the planning process before the plans are already flushed out?
- Don't want to duplicate the efforts of other groups and public outreach from other plans
- Stay focused on the Long-Range Plan; we could focus on the public engagement process(?)

#### *Inform*

- Projects
  - One Map
  - Hydraulic Rd/Rt. 29 – nearby residents
- Process
  - Long Range Plan
    - CAC (annual summit)
    - TomTom
  - Smart Scale
- Plan
  - The Jefferson Area Bike/Ped Plan
- Hybrid

Go to the CACs with the Long Range Plan and ask them what sections they would like to learn more about, then have presentations at subsequent CAC meetings on those requests.

#### *What is it that you want to communicate?*

How to engage the lower income community? Transit users?

Smart C'ville - Civic Innovation Day next week – engage for technological outreach; innovation engages a diverse audience

### *Gather Info*

What information do you want from the public?

- How can we improve our engagement process for the Long Range Plan?
- Does the MPO have an ongoing public comment button? Can we have one on the CTAC page?
- Form based code is being seriously considered in the City and County would be a topic to draw in a large audience (will this engage a diverse audience)

Staff will propose ideas for presentation and venue opportunities to the committee via email; draft agenda

The Wedzel Property presentation on 9/26, 6pm at the County Office Building would be a good meeting to provide an example of public engagement.

Ms. Donna Chen has a great presentation on the future of transportation that could bring a large public audience. If we hold the event after January, we might be able to have a virtual bike (?) simulator.

It would be good to join another large meeting, like at the TomTom festival or the CAC Summit?

### **Staff Reports**

Mr. Boyles provided a brief update on the Hydraulic Rd project. The City Council and Board of Supervisors agreed to recommend to the MPO Policy Board to apply for Smart Scale funding for the proposed project for a two-lane bridge with enhanced bike/ped amenities. There are developments planned for both sides of the bridge that would match the short range plan. There are some concerns about the need to “take” some existing businesses to make room for the project. There are also concerns that the bridge will not score high enough in the Smart Scale process. This is a very expensive project: \$36 million. There is a balance of \$18 million that can only be used in the Hydraulic Road area – the city and county would each offer \$9 million – however, the letters of intent should have been submitted in June and it is unclear if the project will have access to that funding. The next opportunity to submit a letter of intent is in two years. It is yet to be determined which projects the MPO will submit for Smart Scale funding. The Hydraulic Road project could take as little as one or as many as all four project submissions.

### **Additional Matters from the Public:**

There were no matters from the public.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:42 PM.