

MPO Policy Board Meeting

Minutes, July 26, 2023

Video of the meeting can be found here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wOqkmLSAHSc>

VOTING MEMBERS & ALTERNATES		STAFF	
Ann Mallek, Albemarle	x	Lucinda Shannon, TJPDC	
Ned Gallaway, Albemarle	x	Gretchen Thomas, TJPDC	x
Brian Pinkston, Charlottesville	x	Christine Jacobs, TJPDC	
Lloyd Snook, Charlottesville		Sara Pennington, Rideshare	x
Sean Nelson, VDOT	x	Ryan Mickles, TJPDC	x
Stacy Londrey, VDOT (alternate)		Curtis Scarpignato, TJPDC	
NON-VOTING MEMBERS		GUESTS/PUBLIC	
Ted Rieck, Jaunt	x	Ben Chambers, City of Charlottesville	x
Sandy Shackelford, TJPDC	x	Patrick Brown *	x
Julia Monteith, UVA *	x	Jessica Hersh-Ballering, Albemarle	x
Garland Williams, CAT		Peter Krebs, PEC	
Steven Minor, FHWA		Sean Tubbs	
Dan Koenig, FTA		Neil Williamson *	x
Lee Kondor, CTAC	x		
Chuck Proctor, VDOT			
Michael Barnes, VDOT (alternate)	x		
Tiffany Dubinsky, DRPT	x		

* attended online via Zoom

1. CALL TO ORDER (MINUTE 0:00)

The MPO Policy Board Chair, Mr. Brian Pinkston, presided and called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Sandy Shackelford called roll.

2. MATTERS FROM THE PUBLIC (MINUTE 1:26)

- a. **Comments by the Public:** Lee Kondor said the Fluvanna River crossing was not funded with the RAISE grant. There is an alternative and he has plans available to the Policy Board if they would like to see it.

Peter Wrightmeyer, property owner in Cville. The Smart Scale Project takes a broader view of the area, but does not take the ivy corridor into account. Jim Ryan said this would be a crossroads for the university. He mentioned the phases that UVA has for that area. None of the developments are included in the Smart Scale criteria. The road is not included in the study or the pipeline projects.

Sally Thomas, Albemarle County resident at the University Village interested in the pipeline study. She said the sole focus should not be on getting traffic out 250 west, but the neighborhood, the railroad, and



other items need to be taken into consideration. The MPO Tech studies may shed new light on the studies already plugged into the system.

b. Comments provided via email, online, web site, etc.: None.

3. GENERAL ADMINISTRATION* (MINUTE 7:56)

Review and Acceptance of the Agenda

Motion/Action: Anne Mallek made a motion to approve the agenda, Sean Nelson seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Approval of the May 24, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Motion/Action: Ted Reick was at that meeting and would like it to be noted on the minutes. Ned Gallaway made a motion to approve the May 24, 2023 minutes. Ned Gallaway seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

4. ONEMAP – REGIONAL BIKE/PED MAP (MINUTE 9:22)

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.

Ms. Shackelford noted that she 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 are not publicly available. She shared the link to the website:

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

Ms. Shackelford noted that staff is providing coordination with VDOT and localities and is then added in the UVA data as it is received.

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

5. MOVING TOWARD 2050 (MINUTE 22:03)

Sandy Shackelford gave an overview on the public engagement completed and public intercepts planned for the future on the Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). There is staff out this afternoon at various locations getting feedback from the public directly. She gave a preview of the public feedback so far. She noted that the highest priority has been given to safety and environmental concerns.

She continued by sharing the survey responses for Multimodal, Access (to jobs or non-jobs destinations), and Climate Action. Lastly, she shared the demographics of the people who provided survey feedback. She noted that there was a need to focus on a more diverse population to get additional feedback.

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. She said staff anticipated more engagement once they begin discussion of specific transportation improvements.

Both Ned Gallaway and Ann Mallek noted that it is important to get the information to the local Citizen Advisory Committees. That information can get disseminated through those groups to get to the citizens directly.

Ms. Shackelford asked for recommendations for meetings and groups and contacts that may be helpful to reach the community.

Mr. Gallaway and Ms. Mallek asked that the survey link be resent to the board members for them to push out to their contacts.

VDOT Pipeline Projects

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 – Barracks Road and Ivy Road corridors.

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.

There is a public survey that will run from August 1 to August 15. They will be reaching out to local partners to get it sent out to their larger communities.

He noted that VDOT is going to develop a list of potentially viable alternatives.

He reported that there will be a Corridor Focus Group for the Ivy Corridor.

VDOT is hoping to kick off something this week or next to learn from the public about the projects in this area. As they move 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.

6. SMART SCALE (MINUTE 42:45)

Round 6 Update

Ms. Shackelford reported on the meeting with CTB and noted that these conversations are ongoing and developing. She continued by giving a summary of discussions from the May and June meetings. She encouraged folks to watch the CTB meetings and have conversations with VDOT to get clarifications if you have questions. She said there will be a Town Hall in November.

She noted that there are different area types and the MPO is the Land Use Area Type B.

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

There is going to be a retreat to cover low scoring projects, emphasis on safety priority and the economic development scoring factor.

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

Both Sean Nelson and Michael Barnes noted that VDOT is available to help determine if projects are viable and what projects have higher impact.

She noted there was an analysis to discover that there is a process bias analysis with a small project (under \$10 million) preference. In HPP, the funded amount for Small Projects in Rounds 4 & 5 increased substantially compared to the funded amount for Small Projects in Rounds 1, 2, and 3.

She continued reporting on the process bias analysis explaining that the smaller projects included a fair number of bike/ped projects.

Ms. Shackelford also said another concern was that localities were submitting projects on what they thought were going to be successful instead of being projects that are truly their highest priority projects.

It was noted by Ms. Mallek and Mr. Gallaway that localities were told to submit smaller projects, and they had tried to submit larger projects in the past. They currently have both smaller and larger projects that they would like to be funded but are concerned that VDOT is changing their priorities to “larger” projects. This is different guidance than in the past.

She went on to report on land use. Land use has been a major factor in the past and she reported on the potential process changes/modifications to the land use factor for the MPO area. She said that instead of getting a score, you get a multiplying factor added to the score. She gave an example of the Avon Street Multi-Modal Improvement project that was funded.

Ms. Shackelford said if the Board has more specific thoughts on all of this to contact her directly so they can be addressed at the next meeting or at the Town Hall.

She said CTB may also refine the High Priority Program (HPP) definition, which may affect the types of programs the CAMPO and other regional entities may be allowed to submit.

Given these changes they are considering, Ms. Shackelford reviewed the current applications for the area. They include the Rivanna River Bike/Ped Bridge (New Capacity) and Ivy Road, including US 250 interchange (Potential Interchange Improvement). All of the other projects on the application list so far do not meet the criteria with these new guidelines.

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 continued by explaining the forward-looking congestion factor and gave an all solutions scenario.

VDOT Pipeline Projects

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.

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.

7. FEDERAL GRANT UPDATE (MINUTE 1:52:02)

RAISE - Ms. Shackelford reported that CAMPO was not successful in receiving the RAISE grant, but the grant is considered a "Project of Merit", so DRPT offers a debrief. She gave a brief background on the project evaluation. Ms. Shackelford noted that the senior review team will give info on how to make the application stronger and is encouraged to resubmit in the future. It needs to be determined if it is a good project for Smart Scale given the new parameters from VDOT. There is no action being requested at this time. She is looking forward to the debrief and will get back with the Board once she has additional information.

SS4A – Ms. Shackelford noted that staff is learning how to be reimbursed at this time. In the process of selecting a consultant for the project. Should have a decision made by August 1.

8. STAFF UPDATES (MINUTE 2:01:26)

Ms. Shackelford said the majority of MPO Policy Board members said that September 27 would be a good date to have a joint meeting with SAW-MPO from 10 – 12 at the Fishburne Military Academy at their new event facility.

She also noted that monthly meetings will occur in FY24 until approval of the LRTP is completed.

11. ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION (MINUTE 2:02:00)

VDOT: The Hydraulic bundle has been kicked off. Mr. Barnes said VDOT is evaluating TAP grants for the localities right now.

DRPT: There was no report.

Albemarle County: Jessica Hersh-Ballering said their quarterly report comes out next Wednesday. Once she gets the approval, she said the County will give update on what has been funded through Smart Scale.

City of Charlottesville: Ben Chambers reported that there is a great deal of paint going on roads for the Safe Routes to School program. The City is also painting for the dockless mobility hubs. He reported that the CAT strategic plan in process and that they are working through their alternative fuel study.

Jaunt: Ted Reick reported that Jaunt will be doing rural transit needs assessment. They will be launching micro-transit market analysis. They are also launching an implementation study for bus electric vehicles and they are putting in fast charging stations. Jaunt will also create its own on-call planning bench.

UVA: There was no report.

FHWA: There was no report.

FTA: There was no report.

CTAC: Lee Kondor said re: the CTB's Smart Scale evaluations, there was dismay within the CTAC about the diminishing funding for bike/ped projects.

PDC: There was no report.

12. ADDITIONAL MATTERS FROM THE PUBLIC (MINUTE 2:08:25)

Bill said he has a concern about the way 250 reaches the 29 bypass. He is a resident of the Old Ivy Complex. The cloverleaf offramp that allows the connection from 29 south needs a roundabout, otherwise the traffic backs up into the travel lane at rush hour. Corridor study: pointing a way traffic to and from STAB is a critical factor. There are about 100 vehicles in the am and pm each workday. He said it is dangerous to have them merging into traffic. Has offered to VDOT a plan in the western corridor and wonders if that should be submitted to the MPO PB.

Mr. Pinkston asked him to send that recommendation to Sandy Shackelford.

Lee Kondor said the bridge estimate that he did, including the inflation factors, only comes to \$15 million.

ADJOURNMENT: Ned Gallaway moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:12 p.m. Ann Mallek seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Committee materials and meeting recording may be found at
<https://campo.tjpd.org/committees/policy-board/>