

MPO Technical Committee Meeting

Minutes, February 20, 2024

Recording of the meeting can be found here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Dg7m9r1BcVU>

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	x	Curtis Scarpignato, TJPDC	x
Alberic Karina-Plun, Albemarle	x	Ruth Emerick, TJPDC	x
Luis Carrazana, Albemarle PC	x		
Charles Proctor, VDOT *	x	NON-VOTING MEMBERS	
Christine Jacobs, TJPDC	x	Tony Cho FTA	
Jason Espie, Jaunt	x	Donna Chen, CTAC Liaison	
Bill Palmer, UVA Ofc of Architect	x		
Daniel Wagner, DRPT *	x	GUESTS/PUBLIC	
Sara Pennington, Rideshare	x	Will Cockrell, EPRPC	x
Richard Duran, FHWA		Alan Simpson, EPRPC *	x
Tommy Safranek, Charlottesville	x	Peter Krebs, PEC	x
Garland Williams, CAT *	x	Tonya Swartzendruber, Albemarle	x

* attended online via Zoom

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Alberic Karina-Plun called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. Sandy Shackelford called roll.

Daniel Wagner, Garland Williams, Chuck Proctor, and Rory Stolzenberg stated their reasons for joining the meeting remotely. Luis Carrazana made a motion to allow them to join the meeting. Christine Jacobs seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

2. MATTERS FROM THE PUBLIC (MINUTE 4:18)

a. **Comments by the Public:** None

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

3. GENERAL ADMINISTRATION (MINUTE 4:33)

Approval of the Agenda

Bill Palmer made a motion to approve the agenda. Christine Jacobs seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.



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Bill Palmer moved to approve the minutes. Tommy Safranek seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

4. SMART SCALE ROUND 6 (MINUTE 5:10)

Round 6 MPO Project Recommendations

Sandy Shackelford reviewed the recommended MPO applications (including the Diverging Diamond Interchange (DDI) at I-64/5th Street (Exit 120), Peter Jefferson Parkway/Rolkin Road improvements, and US 250 and Barracks Road), and those projects that were screened out.

VDOT Pipeline Project Updates

Chuck Proctor reviewed VDOT's pipeline projects they are currently working on. They include the Barracks Road pipeline study, noting that they are only considering a roundabout option at Georgetown Road. He continued by showing the Barracks Road corridor options. He explained the 29/250 bypass interchange.

Ms. Shackelford noted that the Smar Scale applications for MPO need to be determined at next month's meeting.

There was an extensive discussion about the Barracks Road corridor options.

5. US 29 AND FONTAINE AVENUE INTERCHANGE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT DISCUSSION (MINUTE 41:30)

Ms. Shackelford said there are not many updates but gave background on the project. She noted at the previous meeting there was a preferred alternative chosen, a conventional intersection. VDOT said they were going to do an operational analysis but preliminarily thinks it will be able to accommodate it.

Ms. Shackelford noted that the Policy Board will need to approve the concept at their next meeting.

It was the consensus that the Tech committee didn't have enough information to make a recommendation to the Policy Board. It was noted that there needs to be more data to make a confident recommendation. There were questions that were posed to VDOT as important to get answered to be presented to the Policy Board at their meeting next week.

6. MPO SAFETY TARGETS (MINUTE 1:09:22)

Ms. Shackelford gave a background on the reason for establishing the safety targets, and then shared the statewide safety performance targets with the committee. She noted that historically, the MPO has adopted the state-wide targets, except for last year when the MPO adopted their own targets based on regional data.

There was discussion about the reasoning behind accepting either the state targets or to adopt more aspirational targets.

Motion/Action: Ben Chambers made a motion to adopt the aspirational targets. Jessica Hersh-Ballering seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

7. FY25 PROPOSED UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM (UPWP) (MINUTE 1:16:20)

Ms. Shackelford gave a background on the UPWP and where the funding comes from. She noted the estimated budget for FY25 is approximately \$450K. She noted that the funds also include some rollover monies from FY23.

She continued by explaining the draft UPWP tasks. She focused on the travel demand management study, the affordable housing connectivity study, and the pedestrian navigation of innovative intersections and the reasoning behind each of those tasks.

She noted that the draft UPWP is in a preliminary stage. She requested feedback from the committee on the draft so far.

There were a few comments and a discussion about the draft.

8. MOVING TOWARD 2050 (MINUTE 1:32:45)

Ms. Shackelford shared that they are in the “project identification” stage of the process. She continued by sharing the data analysis process and the aggregate needs scores and the future projected level of service as maps.

She continued by discussing the “screened out” projects that are committed or otherwise not feasible. She shared the draft infrastructure priority projects priorities, transit service priorities, and planning priorities. She noted that there are different projects that can be added to the lists. She also shared “unaddressed needs” that could go onto potential projects.

She said there were a couple of projects that she received a great deal of feedback on that may not be something that will be appropriate for this regional plan. She said she would pass along the area-specific projects to the appropriate jurisdictions.

She asked the committee to review the projects and provide her with feedback.

9. STAFF UPDATES (MINUTE 1:47:19)

Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A)

Curtis Scarpiganto gave an update on the SS4A grant project. He said they have been going to all the localities to get letters of commitment. He noted that most of the localities are going with the recommendations presented, which is also the state goal.

Mobility Management Programs

Lucinda Shannon reported that the Mobility Management Program is currently interviewing for a staff position. She said there is an 800- number that has been put in place and calls are coming in. She said they will be conducting a survey for the community (mostly seniors and those with disabilities) about their travel activities and the data will also be shared with Jaunt.

Rideshare/Commuter Assistant Program Strategic Plan

Sara Pennington reported that Rideshare is working with their consultant on the Commuter Assistance Program strategic plan. She also noted that Rideshare is looking to do several events in the spring around Earth Month and Earth Day in April and also Bike Month in May. She also said that DRPT is getting ready to do a statewide promotion on connecting commuters.

7. ROUNDTABLE UPDATES (MINUTE 1:50:18)

Charlottesville

Ben Chambers said staff will present an update to Council on CAT's alternative fuel study. They are also working on the transit strategic plan. There will be public engagement on that plan in April.

He continued by reporting that the sidewalk priority list will be going out in the spring for public feedback. They are also looking to scope out a study on a parking permit program.

Tommy Safranek said they have already had two monthly walks. They are going to walk Fry Spring next month. These walks are on the second Sunday of the month at noon. He also reported that he posted a Google map on the City's Bike/Ped website where the bike parking is in the City.

Albemarle

Jessica Hersh-Ballering said staff took ground goals and objectives for the development area of the Transportation and Land Use section of the comp plan to the planning commission and that will go before Council soon. She said they are releasing their RFP for the Three Notch'd Trail shared use path master plan in April.

Mr. Karina-Plun said he is working on a dashboard for the website on all the projects underway in the County.

VDOT

Mr. Proctor said he did not have anything more to add.

DRPT

Daniel Wagner said they launched a new campaign to encourage organizations to encourage their employees to use ridesharing and transit.

Mr. Wagner reported there is a new Smart Scale dashboard for all transit projects that have received funding.

Lastly, he said FTA has announced two new programs for Lo/No emission vehicles and bus facility projects.

Rideshare

Sara Pennington had nothing more to add.

CAT

Ben Chambers had nothing more to report.

Jaunt

Jason Espie said Jaunt is working through three concurrent studies, the rural needs study, the EV bus fleet and facilitation study, and they are working on where to put in electric charges in the

infrastructure. He also reported that there is a micro transit study ongoing.

UVA

Bill Palmer had nothing else to report.

CAMPO

Sandy Shackleford reported that she will be leaving the CA-MPO and will be joining VDOT. This will be her last meeting in this capacity.

Luis Carazzana reported that work has already begun at Ray C Hunt Drive to complete the roundabout there. He noted that it includes a bus stop. He said the garage work, mostly utility work, has started as well. It will have 13 EV charging ports.

8. ADDITIONAL MATTERS FROM THE PUBLIC (MINUTE 2:01:56)

None

ADJOURNMENT: Mr. Karina-Plun adjourned the meeting at 12:05 p.m.