



## ***Charlottesville/Albemarle MPO***

### **PRESS RELEASE**

#### **C-A MPO Announces Round 7 Award of SHRP2 Implementation Assistance Program**

June 22, 2016 – Charlottesville, VA - The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and American Association of State Highway and Transportation Organizations (AASHTO) announced 42 transportation organizations as recipients of the Round 7 Implementation Assistance Program under the second Strategic Highway Research Program (SHRP2).

The Charlottesville-Albemarle Metropolitan Planning Organization (Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission) has been selected to receive one of five Capacity - PlanWorks Grants funded under the seventh and final round of the SHRP2 Implementation Assistance Program. FHWA and AASHTO announced the award of a \$100,000 to the CAMPO for creation of a PlanWorks Decision Guide for Corridor Planning, to develop a multi-disciplinary study of the Blue Ridge region of I-64, spanning from the Pantops area in Charlottesville-Albemarle (exit 124) to the junction with I-81 in Staunton (exit 87). The CAMPO will partner with the Staunton Augusta Waynesboro MPO (Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission), and the Virginia Department of Transportation district offices in Culpeper, Lynchburg and Staunton to build a multi-jurisdictional planning partnership to improve traffic, congestion and crash issues experienced in this forty mile corridor of I-64. The twelve month planning project should begin this summer and be completed by fall of 2017.

MPO Board Chair, Ann Malek, applauded the award by saying, "These two MPO's have long been working together through a joint Rideshare program in the Shenandoah Valley and recently initiated an informal working relationship last fall with a 1<sup>st</sup> annual joint MPO meeting. This SHRP2 project, called SPaCE, Shenandoah/Piedmont Area Collaborative Effort, will now produce a framework for more formal ties between regional transportation planning organizations and local governments to work more closely together on corridors of statewide significance whether inside or outside of their jurisdictions and will also use this effort to specifically plan for the increasing traffic of the I-64 corridor in our shared region. These two regions share thousands of people through jobs, commerce, recreation and family activities regardless of borders and a formal effort to better plan for their travels will help the state and local governments meet immediate and future needs of region's travelers".

This is the second SHRP2 award to the CAMPO and TJPDC in five years. CAMPO was awarded nearly \$200,000 in 2012 to assist with the MPO's 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan using the FHWA's recognized Transportation for Communities-Advancing Projects through Partnerships (TCAPP) Decision-Making Guide utilizing specific transportation performance measurement.

For more information, please contact Chip Boyles, Executive Director of the Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission and Charlottesville – Albemarle MPO at 434-422-4821 or [cboyles@tjpd.org](mailto:cboyles@tjpd.org).