



HRMPO Policy Board Minutes February 16, 2023, 3:00 p.m.

Via Zoom Video/Audio Conferencing Call

Voting Members	Non-Voting Members	Staff
City of Harrisonburg	Kevin Jones, FHWA	✓ Bonnie Riedesel, CSPDC
✓ Laura Dent	Chelsea Beytas, FTA	✓ Ann Cundy, CSPDC
✓ Deanna Reed	Rusty Harrington, Aviation	✓ Ansley Heller, CSPDC
✓ Dany Fleming	✓ Grace Stankus, DRPT	✓ Rita Whitfield, CSPDC
✓ Gerald Gatobu	Bill Yates, JMU	
Ande Banks	✓ Valerie Kramer, JMU	Others
Rockingham County	Alternates	✓ Tom Hartman, Harrisonburg
Casey Armstrong	✓ Rhonda Cooper, Rockingham	✓ Adam Campbell, VDOT
Rick Chandler	Rachel Salatin, Rockingham	✓ Mark Merrill, CTB
Stephen King	Cheryl Spain, Harrisonburg	✓ Kyle Lawrence, Shenandoah Valley Bicycle Coalition
Town of Mt. Crawford	✓ Christa Hall, Dayton	✓ Shane McCabe, VDOT
✓ Neal Dillard	✓ Alex Wilmer, Bridgewater	✓ Kim Sandum, Shenandoah Alliance
Town of Dayton	Robert Taylor, Mt. Crawford	
Vacant	Wood Hudson, DRPT	
Town of Bridgewater	Brad Reed, VDOT	
Jay Litten	Jeff Lineberry, VDOT	
VDOT	✓ Don Komara, VDOT	
✓ Todd Stevens	Matt Dana, VDOT	

Call to Order

The February 16, 2023, meeting of the Harrisonburg-Rockingham Metropolitan Planning Organization (HRMPO) Policy Board was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Ann Cundy, CSPDC Director of Transportation. Based on the 2022 amendment to Virginia's FOIA law, the HRMPO is eligible to hold up to three meetings virtually each year. The HRMPO February 16, 2023, meeting was held via video conferencing using Zoom.



Election of Officers (BAF #23-01)

Ms. Cundy stated that the former HRMPO Policy Board Chair and Vice Chair are no longer members of their local elected bodies, and have vacated their roles on the HRMPO Policy Board. She stated that the current voting members need to elect a Chair and Vice Chair to fill their unexpired terms. Ms. Cundy explained that the Chair and Vice Chair must be elected officials, and a City representative and a County or Town representative shall serve as either Chair or Vice Chair; however, in no case shall both offices be filled with representatives from the same locality at the same time. She noted that for the purposes of this section, County and Towns are considered to be one locality. Nominations for Chairperson were opened. Ms. Dent nominated Mr. Chandler for the office of Chairperson, seconded by Mr. Fleming. Motion was carried by unanimous vote. Mr. Chandler was unanimously elected to the office of Chairperson. Nominations for Vice Chairperson were opened. Mr. Fleming nominated Ms. Dent for the office of Vice Chairperson, seconded by Ms. Reed. Motion was carried by unanimous vote. Ms. Dent was unanimously elected to the office of Vice Chairperson.

Approval of Minutes

Vice Chairperson Dent presented the minutes from the December 15, 2022, HRMPO Policy Board meeting. Ms. Reed moved, seconded by Mr. Gatobu, to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried with Vice Chairperson Dent and Ms. Cooper abstaining due to their absences from the meeting.

Public Comment

Vice Chairperson Dent opened the floor to the public for comments. There were no comments from the public.

Consideration of the FY21-24 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment (BAF #23-02)

Vice Chairperson Dent presented for consideration the FY21-24 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment. Ms. Cundy gave a review on the TIP Amendment, noting that the TIP must include all funded construction projects in an urbanized area. She stated that through the review process for the TIP and STIP update for FY24-27, VDOT and MPO staff identified two projects in the current FY21-24 TIP under “Construction: Safety/ITS/Operational Improvements” that should be ungrouped and listed as individual projects based on their scale and regional significance: 1) US 11 Valley Pike Road Improvements; and 2) I-81 Widening MM 242-248. Ms. Cundy stated that the FY21-

24 TIP Amendment was released for a 21-day public comment, and the HRMPO did not receive any comments. Mr. Dillard moved, seconded by Ms. Reed, to approve the FY21-24 TIP Amendment. Motion was carried by unanimous vote.

Consideration of the Draft 2045 Fiscally-Constrained Long Range Plan (CLRP) (BAF #23-3)

Vice Chairperson Dent presented for consideration the Draft 2045 Fiscally-Constrained Long Range Plan (CLRP). Ms. Cundy gave a review on the CLRP, noting that the Plan must include a list of projects that can reasonably be delivered with projected available revenues during the planning period, and that demonstrate their benefits to the region via a performance-based scoring process. She noted that HRMPO staff, the LRTP Working Group, and consultants Kimley-Horn have developed a set of deliverables for the CLRP for consideration. She reviewed the project evaluation and prioritization, noting that Attachments 1 and 2 document the process of evaluating projects' performance and ability to deliver benefits in support of the HRMPO region's LRTP goals. Ms. Cundy reviewed the projected and programmed revenues for the region. She presented Attachment 3, noting that the two SMART SCALE programs were grouped together, and the discretionary programs were grouped together. She presented Attachment 4, which documents the draft CLRP Committed list. Ms. Cundy reviewed the next steps, noting that staff will include the CLRP in the draft 2045 LRTP document and complete environmental review and environmental justice analysis of the projects prior to releasing the draft document for public comment. Ms. Reed moved, seconded by Mr. Dillard, to approve the fiscally-constrained project list for inclusion in the draft 2045 LRTP. Motion carried unanimously.

HRMPO 2023 Infrastructure Condition and System Performance Measures (Board Memo #23-1)

Vice Chairperson Dent presented the HRMPO 2023 Infrastructure Condition and System Performance Measures. Ms. Heller noted that in 2016, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) established National Performance Measures to assess asset condition and system performance on the National Highway System (NHS). She stated that the State and HRMPO must report targets to FHWA for a four-year performance period, with progress reports every two years. Ms. Heller stated that on September 21, 2022, Virginia's Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment (OIPI) established a new set of four-year statewide targets for condition of bridge decks and pavement and system performance measures, including travel time reliability. She noted that these targets were approved by the CTB. Ms. Heller stated that the HRMPO may concur with the State targets or set MPO-specific targets by March 20,

2023. By concurring with the statewide targets, the HRMPO agrees to plan and program projects to contribute toward achieving the State targets. Ms. Heller noted that there is no penalty for not meeting the targets. She presented the Statewide Asset Condition Measures, System Performance Statewide Targets, NHS Roadways and Bridges in the HRMPO, Pavement Conditions and Travel Reliability. Ms. Heller reviewed the next steps, noting staff will submit a letter to OIPI concurring with the statewide performance targets for 2022-2025 and continue to evaluate opportunities for the MPO, state, and local partners to prioritize and program projects that will help Virginia meet its performance targets.

HRMPO 2023 Safety Performance Targets (Board Memo #23-2)

Vice Chairperson Dent presented the HRMPO 2023 Safety Performance Targets. Ms. Heller noted that in 2016, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) established National Performance Measures for Safety Performance for the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) to assess fatalities and serious injuries on public roads. She stated that the FHWA requires that state DOTs and MPOs set statewide annual safety percentage targets for reducing the number and rate of fatalities and serious injuries. Ms. Heller noted that the HRMPO must concur with VDOT's safety targets or set MPO-specific targets by February 28, 2023, and there is no penalty for not meeting the targets. She reviewed the statewide targets and goals, noting that in June 2022, the CTB approved OIPI's proposed methodology and statewide targets for calendar year 2023. Ms. Heller stated that OIPI methodology establishes targets from statistical models that project future safety performance based on data variables and expected crash reductions from completed projects. Data variables include five-year trends of the annual number of fatalities, serious injuries, and non-motorized fatalities. Ms. Heller reviewed the next steps, noting that staff will submit a letter to VDOT concurring with the statewide safety targets for 2022, and continue to evaluate opportunities for the MPO, state, and local partners to address the upward trend in fatal and serious injury crashes in the region.

Agency Updates

Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)

Mr. Mark Merrill, Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) member, gave an update on CTB activities. Mr. Merrill reported on statewide activity in transportation, noting that the metrorail Silver Line from Dulles to Ashburn opened in November 2022; announced that the express lanes on I-66 have been completed; and noted that progress continues with the Hampton Roads Bridge Tunnel. He stated that Governor Youngkin approved \$90 million in Virginia Business Ready Sites Program (VBRSP) development grants for 21 sites across the Commonwealth. Mr. Merrill noted that



administered by the Virginia Economic Development Partnership (VEDP), this discretionary program helps characterize and develop sites to enhance the Commonwealth's infrastructure with more competitive project-ready sites, attract new business, and accelerate expansion in Virginia. He noted that the Governor is also proposing an additional \$200 million dollars as part of his budget in the Transportation Partnership Opportunity Fund (TPOF), which is awarded at the discretion of the Governor in the form of grants, revolving loans, or other financial assistance to an agency or local government of the Commonwealth for activities associated with eligible transportation projects. Mr. Merrill reported on SMART SCALE Round 5 applications, noting that there were approximately 400 applications submitted in August 2022 across the Commonwealth. He stated that 152 applications were funded, for a total of \$1.5 billion. Mr. Merrill stated that 40 applications were submitted in the Staunton District and 15 were awarded, with 5 projects in the SAWMPO area. He reported on funding for I-81, noting that Senator Obenshain and Senator Hanger have each submitted language to obtain additional appropriations for I-81. On behalf of the HRMPO, Vice Chairperson Dent expressed her appreciation to Mr. Merrill for his presentation.

Mr. Komara gave an update on the following construction projects: announced that the Friedens Church Road bridge project in Rockingham County is completed; reported on the Route 720 Smithland Road project and the Route 33 bridge project, noting both projects were moving along; gave an update on the four-lane Route 11 project and negotiations with property owners; reported on I-81 Staunton-area widening design-build project from Exit 221 to Exit 225, noting that bids have been received; reported on the Weyers Cave climbing lanes, noting the project is expected to go to advertisement in 2024; gave an update on the City of Harrisonburg Route 33 west widening project, noting that it would go out to bid in May with construction potentially scheduled for next fall; and reported on I-81 projects. He suggested visiting <https://improve81.org> for updates and information regarding I-81.

Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT)

Ms. Stankus reported on discretionary grant opportunities currently available to eligible applicants throughout the state: FY23 Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Buses and Bus Facilities; and FY23 FTA Low or No Emission Vehicle Program. She noted that applications are due on April 13th, and DRPT is available for assistance if needed.



City of Harrisonburg Department of Public Transportation (HDPT)

Mr. Gatobu gave an update on the Microtransit Feasibility Study. He noted that HDPT has contracted with Kimley-Horn and Associates to conduct their Route Design and Strategic Plan, which will provide a ten-year outlook for transit projects. He reported on the driver recruitment for school busses and transit drivers, noting that HDPT has filled several positions, but there is still a need for bus drivers.

Localities

City of Harrisonburg Department of Public Works

Mr. Hartman announced that the City of Harrisonburg's Friendly City Trail was named the American Public Works Association (APWA) Mid-Atlantic Project of the Year. He stated that the six SMART SCALE projects in the City of Harrisonburg area are all in the engineering design, and reported on road configuration projects in the City.

Town of Dayton

Ms. Hall announced that at their last meeting, the Town of Dayton Town Council approved their 2022 Town of Dayton Comprehensive Plan.

Upcoming Meetings

Vice Chairperson Dent announced the following upcoming meetings: HRMPO TAC meeting will be held on March 2, at 2:00 p.m., and the HRMPO Policy Board meeting will be held on March 16, 2023, at 3:00 p.m.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the HRMPO Policy Board, Mr. Dillard moved, seconded by Ms. Reed, for adjournment at 4:25 p.m. Motion was carried by unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ann W. Cundy".

Ann Cundy
Director of Transportation