



## **Technical Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda February 2, 2023, 2:00 p.m.**

Rockingham County Administration Center  
20 East Gay Street  
Harrisonburg, VA 22802

### **To Join Meeting Via Zoom:**

**Meeting ID:** 831 7396 3220 \*\*\*\* **Passcode:** 492921 \*\*\*\* **Dial In:** +1 646 931 3860

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Minutes of the November 3, 2022 Meeting\*
3. Public Comment
4. Consideration of 2045 Fiscally-Constrained Long Range Plan (CLRP) (TAC AF #23-1)\*
5. HRMPO 2023 Infrastructure Condition and System Performance Measures (TAC Memo #23-1)
6. HRMPO 2023 Safety Performance Targets (TAC Memo #23-2)
7. FY 21-24 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment (TAC Memo #23-3)
8. Agency Updates
  - a. VDOT
  - b. DRPT
  - c. HDPT
  - d. Harrisonburg Public Works
9. Other Business
10. Upcoming Meetings
  - a. HRMPO Policy Board Meeting, Thursday, February 16, 2023, 3:00 p.m.
  - b. HRMPO TAC Meeting, Thursday, March 2, 2023, 2:00 p.m.
11. Adjournment

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\* Action needed

## HRMPO TAC Minutes February 2, 2023, 2:00 p.m.

### Via Zoom Video Conferencing

Voting Member	Alternates	Staff
<b>City of Harrisonburg</b>	Megan Byler, Bridgewater	✓ Ann Cundy
✓ Tom Hartman	✓ Libby Clark, Mt. Crawford	✓ Ansley Heller
✓ Bill Blessing, Chair	✓ Jakob zumFelde, Harrisonburg	✓ Rita Whitfield
Thanh Dang	Elliot Menge, Harrisonburg	
✓ Erin Yancey	Dan Rublee, Harrisonburg	<b>Others</b>
✓ Cheryl Spain	Gerald Gatobu, Harrisonburg	✓ Kim Sandum, Shen. Alliance
<b>Rockingham County</b>	Kayla Yankey, Rockingham	✓ Kyle Lawrence, SVBC
Rhonda Cooper, Vice Chair	✓ Dylan Nicely, Rockingham	✓ Sam Styers, McCormick Taylor
Casey Armstrong	Wood Hudson, DRPT	✓ Brent Finnegan, Harrisonburg
Rachel Salatin	Josh Dunlap, VDOT	
<b>Town of Bridgewater</b>	Jeff Lineberry, VDOT	
Alex Wilmer	Burgess Lindsey, VDOT	
<b>Town of Dayton</b>		
✓ Christa Hall		
<b>Town of Mt. Crawford</b>	<b>Non-Voting Members</b>	
✓ Neal Dillard	Kevin Jones, FHWA	
<b>VDOT</b>	Michelle DeAngelis, FTA	
✓ Brad Reed	Bill Yates, JMU	
✓ Don Komara	Rusty Harrington, Aviation	
<b>DRPT</b>	✓ Valerie Kramer	
Grace Stankus		

### Call to Order

The February 2, 2023, meeting of the Harrisonburg-Rockingham Metropolitan Planning Organization (HRMPO) Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by Chairperson Bill Blessing. 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 2, 2023, meeting was conducted via video conferencing using Zoom.

## **Minutes**

Chairperson Blessing presented the minutes from the November 3, 2022, TAC meeting. Mr. Hartman moved, seconded by Mr. Komara, to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

## **Public Comment**

Chairperson Blessing opened the floor for public comment. There were no comments from the public.

## **Consideration of 2045 Fiscally-Constrained Long Range Plan (CLRP) (TAC Action Form #23-1)**

Chairperson Blessing presented the 2045 Fiscally-Constrained Long Range Plan (CLRP) for consideration. 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 evaluation methodology. She noted that HRMPO staff, the LRTP Working Group, and consultants Kimley-Horn have developed a set of deliverables for the CLRP. 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 present the draft 2045 CLRP to the Policy Board at their next meeting. Mr. Hartman moved, seconded by Mr. Reed, to recommend approval of the CLRP for inclusion in the 2045 Long Range Transportation (LRTP) to the HRMPO Policy Board. Motion was carried by unanimous vote.

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

Chairperson Blessing 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). 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 (TAC Memo #23-2)**

Chairperson Blessing presented for review 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. 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. She stated 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. Ms. Heller 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. She 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.

### **FY21-24 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment Release for Public Comment (TAC Memo #23-3)**

Chairman Blessing presented the FY21-24 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment Release for Public Comment. 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 reviewed the next steps, noting that after the FY21-24 TIP Amendment has been released for a 21-day public comment, staff will present the amendment to the Policy Board for approval at the next scheduled Board meeting.

## **Agency Updates**

### **Department of Transportation (VDOT)**

Mr. Komara reported on the following construction projects in the area:

- Announced that the Route 682, Friedens Church Road bridge project has been completed;
- Stated that the Smithland Road bridge project, Route 720 is moving along;
- Reported on the Fairfield bridge project, noting that it was ahead of schedule;
- Reported on the four-lane widening on Route 11, noting that progress was continuing with the right-of-way acquisition;
- Noted that the Mile Post 22 to 248, six-lane project, is moving along, with public meetings to be schedule in the future on the project;
- Reported on the design build project on Exits 221-225, Staunton, noting that proposals for the project were submitted last month;
- Reported on the climbing lanes in Weyers Cave;
- Gave a status report on the Barterbrook bridge replacement project in Staunton;
- Reported on fatalities and safety issues on I-81; and
- Reported on revenue sharing projects, noting that they were due this fall.

Mr. Reed reported on the following:

- Noted that in January 2023, the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) entertained the Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment (OIPI) for presentation on the staff recommended funding scenario for SMART SCALE that is based on scoring outcomes for projects. He stated that between now and June, the CTB will deliberate on the scenario and make any desired changes;
- Reported on four SMART SCALE projects that were funded in the City of Harrisonburg area, totaling approximately \$23 million. He announced that in the Staunton District, 15 projects were funded, totaling \$96.3 million; statewide there were 394 applications submitted of which 152 were funded, totaling approximately \$8.3 billion, of which \$1.5 billion was funded;



- Noted that RAISE grant applications are due at the end of February (former BUILD and TIGER grant programs), with selections to be announced at the end of June 2023; and
- Announced that in November, the CTB allocated \$1 million to the Shenandoah Valley Rail Trail project to help refine the scope schedule and estimate of the project.

### **Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT)**

On behalf of DRPT, Ms. Cundy reported on the following:

- Announced that DRPT has completed the update to the 2022 Tier II Group Transit Asset Management (TAM) Plan, which went into effect on October 1, 2022. She reminded everyone that MPOs need to adopt Transit Performance Targets into their TIPs by March 30, 2023;
- Announced two 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 stated that DRPT is hosting a virtual grant writing workshop on February 15, 2023, at 10:00 a.m.; and
- Reported on the 2020 Census data, noting that FY23 apportionments will be unaffected. She announced that FTA will host a webinar on the 2020 Census data on February 9, 2023, at 1:00 p.m.

### **Harrisonburg Department of Public Transportation (HDPT)**

Ms. Spain gave an update on HDPT, noting that HDPT updated their Census information with the National Transit Data Base; completed their FY24 budget for the city; and submitted their State Operating Capital and Technical Assistance Grant to DRPT. She stated that HDPT has filled all 15 full-time transit driver positions and have added two buses back on the routes as a result of the full-time hires. Ms. Spain 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. She stated that the kickoff meeting will be held this month.

### **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 previous round SMART SCALE projects are all in the engineering design phase and are scheduled to be developed and completed by 2028-2029. Mr. Hartman announced and reported on the four SMART



SCALE projects in the City of Harrisonburg that are on the recommended list. He reported on the status of the Exit 247 project.

### **Upcoming Meetings**

Chairperson Blessing announced that the HRMPO Policy Board will hold a meeting on February 16, 2023, at 3:00 p.m.; and the next HRMPO TAC meeting will be held on March 2, 2023, at 2:00 p.m.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Commission, a motion for adjournment was unanimously passed at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Ann Cundy  
Director of Transportation



## **Technical Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda April 6, 2023, 2:00 p.m.**

Rockingham County Administration Center  
20 East Gay Street  
Harrisonburg, VA 22802

### **To Join Meeting Via Zoom:**

**Meeting ID:** 879 5555 1180   \*\*\*\*   **Passcode:** 373977   \*\*\*\*   **Dial In:** 301-715-8592

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Minutes of the February 2, 2023 Meeting\*
3. Public Comment
4. Draft FY24 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Release for Public Comment (TAC AF 23-2)\*
5. Draft FY24-27 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Release for Public Comment (TAC AF 23-3)\*
6. Draft HRMPO 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Release for Public Comment (TAC AF 23-4)\*
7. Presentation: Mt. Crawford Comprehensive Plan and Urban Development Area Bike/ Pedestrian Plan — Zach Beard, CSPDC
8. Agency Updates
  - a. VDOT
  - b. DRPT
  - c. HDPT
  - d. Localities
9. Other Business
10. Upcoming Meetings
  - a. HRMPO Policy Board Meeting, Thursday, April 20, 2023, 3:00 p.m.
  - b. HRMPO TAC Meeting, Thursday, May 4, 2023, 2:00 p.m.
11. Adjournment

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\* Action needed



## HRMPO TAC Minutes April 6, 2023, 2:00 p.m.

Rockingham County Administration Center  
20 East Gay Street  
Harrisonburg, Virginia 22802

Voting Member	Alternates	Staff
<b>City of Harrisonburg</b>	Megan Byler, Bridgewater	✓ Ann Cundy
Tom Hartman	Libby Clark, Mt. Crawford	✓ Ansley Heller
✓ Bill Blessing, Chair	Jakob zumFelde, Harrisonburg	✓ Rita Whitfield
✓ Thanh Dang	Elliot Menge, Harrisonburg	✓ Zach Beard
✓ Erin Yancey	Dan Rublee, Harrisonburg	<b>Others</b>
✓ Cheryl Spain	Gerald Gatobu, Harrisonburg	✓ Kim Sandum, Shen. Alliance
<b>Rockingham County</b>	Kayla Yankey, Rockingham	✓ Kyle Lawrence, SVBC*
✓ Rhonda Cooper, Vice Chair	✓ Dylan Nicely, Rockingham	✓ Sam Styers, McCormick Taylor*
✓ Casey Armstrong	Burgess Lindsey, VDOT	✓ Shane McCabe, VDOT*
✓ Rachel Salatin	Josh Dunlap, VDOT	✓ Jeremy Mason, VDOT
<b>Town of Bridgewater</b>	Jeff Lineberry, VDOT	
✓ Alex Wilmer		
<b>Town of Dayton</b>		
Christa Hall		
<b>Town of Mt. Crawford</b>	<b>Non-Voting Members</b>	
✓ Bobby Taylor	Kevin Jones, FHWA	
<b>VDOT</b>	Michelle DeAngelis, FTA	
✓ Brad Reed	Bill Yates, JMU	
✓ Don Komara	Rusty Harrington, Aviation	
<b>DRPT</b>	✓ Valerie Kramer*	
✓ Grace Stankus*		
*Zoom Participants		

### Call to Order

The April 6, 2023, meeting of the Harrisonburg-Rockingham Metropolitan Planning Organization (HRMPO) Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by Chairperson Bill Blessing. Pursuant to §2.2-3708.2 of the Code of Virginia, HRMPO TAC members may participate in meetings of the HRMPO or its committees through electronic communication means. Those who attended virtually are indicated by an asterisk; all others attended in-person.

Ms. Cundy introduced and welcomed Mr. Bobby Taylor, newly appointed representative for the Town of Mt. Crawford.

### **Minutes**

Chairperson Blessing presented the minutes from the February 2, 2022, TAC meeting. Mr. Komara moved, seconded by Ms. Spain, to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Public Comment**

Chairperson Blessing opened the floor for public comment. There were no comments from the public.

### **Draft FY24 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Release for Public Comment (TAC Action Form #23-2)**

Chairperson Blessing presented for consideration the Draft FY24 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Release for Public Comment. Ms. Cundy gave a brief review on the draft FY24 UPWP, noting that it is the annual work program and budget for the MPO. She stated that the draft UPWP details the upcoming fiscal year administrative and planning activities, as well as the federal, state, and local funding that comprises the budget. She reviewed the three changes from the FY23 activities; the FY24 FHWA PL and FTA 5303 funding allocations for the upcoming fiscal years; and FY24 UPWP Revenues and Expenditures by Federal, State, and Local Sources for the period of July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024. Upon a question regarding expanding the Mt. Crawford Bridgewater Study to include Oakwood Drive, Ms. Cundy responded that staff would meet with VDOT to discuss the needs, scope of work, and funding for the project. She stated that adding the project to the UPWP would not affect the current UPWP. Ms. Cooper moved, seconded by Ms. Dang, to recommend that the Policy Board release the Draft FY24 UPWP for the 21-day public comment period. Motion was carried by unanimous vote.

### **Draft FY24-27 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Release for Public Comment (TAC Action Form #23-3)**

Chairperson Blessing presented the Draft FY24-27 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Release for Public Comment. Ms. Heller gave a review of the TIP, noting that it is the region's federally-required fiscally constrained four-year programming document for all roadway and transit projects receiving federal transportation funds, requiring federal action, or deemed "regionally significant." She noted that under Federal regulations, all transportation projects and programs receiving federal funds in the MPO region shall be listed in the TIP and in the Statewide TIP. Ms. Heller stated that to be included in the TIP, a project or program must be in the HRMPO's Constrained Long Range Plan

(CLRP). She reviewed the FY24-27 TIP updates: 1) the Highway TIP, provided by VDOT and reviewed by MPO staff; and 2) the Transit TIP developed by MPO staff in partnership with the Harrisonburg Department of Public Transportation (HDPT) and human mobility service providers (FTA Section 5310 applicants). Ms. Ansley noted that staff received a request from VDOT to modify the current FY21-24 TIP to reflect maintenance grouping block adjustments from the FY22-FY26 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). Mr. Reed moved, seconded by Ms. Cooper, to recommend that the Policy Board release the Draft FY24-FY27 TIP and FY24-FY27 TIP Amendment for the 21-day public comment period. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Draft HRMPO 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Release for Public Comment (TAC Memo #23-2)**

Chairperson Blessing presented the Draft HRMPO 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Release for Public Comment. Ms. Cundy reviewed the final draft of the 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). She noted that the Draft incorporates comments received from the LRTP Working Group. Ms. Heller stated that staff and consultants Avid Core have developed an Engagement Plan for Phase 3, which begins on April 20, 2023. She noted that the Engagement Plan focuses on sharing the draft LRTP in print at multiple locations around the region, and via using an online document reviewing platform called Filestage, which allows the public to read the LRTP and leave comments anywhere in the document. Ms. Cundy reviewed the schedule, noting that staff will host two webinars on April 25, 2023, midday and in the evening; and an in-person Open House at the Rockingham County Administration Center on May 4, 2023, from 4:30-6:30 p.m. on the LRTP document. Ms. Cooper moved, seconded by Mr. Reed, to recommend that the Policy Board release the Draft 2045 LRTP for public comment. Motion was carried by unanimous vote.

### **Presentation: Mt. Crawford Comprehensive Plan and Urban Development Area Bike/Pedestrian Plan – Zach Beard, CSPDC**

Mr. Beard gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Mt. Crawford Comprehensive Plan and Urban Development Area Bike/Pedestrian Plan. He noted that the Town of Mt. Crawford adopted a new Comprehensive Plan on March 13<sup>th</sup>, which is the first update since the late 1970s. Mr. Beard reported on the update process and the layout of the Plan. He reviewed the transportation-related sections and sections most pertinent for the HRMPO to reference for future projects or studies to ensure the Town's needs are addressed. Mr. Beard reviewed the Town's Bike and Ped Plan, noting that it was developed concurrently with the Comprehensive Plan through an Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment (OIPI) grant program called the Growth and Accessibility Program (GAP). He stated that over the past



12 months, the Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission (CSPDC) assisted the Town with developing the Comprehensive Plan. Mr. Beard noted that the CSPDC also assisted the town with two companion documents, the Town-wide Bike and Pedestrian Evaluation Study; and the public engagement report, an in-depth summary of the public survey. Mr. Beard reviewed the Vision Statement, which summarizes the Town's ambition for the future and what the Town generally wants to prioritize.

## **Agency Updates**

### **Department of Transportation (VDOT)**

Mr. Reed announced that the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) has scheduled a public meeting on May 3, 2023, 4:00 to 6:00 p.m., at Blue Ridge Community College, to consider public comments on the Draft FY23-28 Six-Year Improvement Program. He reported on the status of a Project Pipeline Program project on South Main Street in Harrisonburg, between Pleasant Valley Road and Mosby Road.

Mr. Komara reported on the following:

- Reported on widening of Interstate 81;
- Stated that the Smithland Road bridge project is moving along;
- Gave an update on the status of the Route 682 (Friedens Church Road) bridge project in Mt. Crawford;
- Gave an update on the Route 33 bridge construction project at Exit 247, noting that final completion is tentatively scheduled for 2026;
- Gave an update on the Route 259 bridge replacement project in the Town of Broadway;
- Reported on the Fairfield bridge project, noting that it was ahead of schedule;
- Reported on the design build project on Exits 221-225, Staunton;
- Reported on the four-lane widening on Route 11, noting that progress was continuing with the negotiations of right-of-way acquisition; and
- Reported on the status of bike and buggy lanes in Rockingham County.

### **Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT)**

Ms. Stankus reported on the following:

- Announced that the FY24 Section 5303 applications are due May 1, 2023.



- Reported on Discover Transit Campaign, noting that DRPT is promoting Virginia's transit services this spring and fall, starting April 17, 2023. She stated that promotional materials are available on the new connectingva.org site if anyone needed additional information, to contact DRPT staff.
- Announced a new funding opportunity: Charging and Fueling Infrastructure Discretionary Grant Program. She stated that a new competitive grant program was created to strategically deploy publicly accessible electric vehicle charging and alternative fueling infrastructure in places where people live and work, in addition to along designated Alternative Fuel Corridors. Ms. Stankus stated that the program provides two funding categories: 1) Community Charging and Fueling Grants (Community Program); and 2) Alternative Fuel Corridor Grants (Corridor Program). She noted that the applications are due by May 30, 2023.

### **Harrisonburg Department of Public Transportation (HDPT)**

Ms. Spain gave an update on HDPT activities. She noted that HDPT is currently in the process of planning their 2023 summer and fall routes. Ms. Spain stated that HDPT has filled new full-time transit driver positions and will be able to add back bus routes as a result. She reported on the kickoff meeting for the Route Design and Strategic Plan, which will provide a ten-year outlook for transit projects. Ms. Spain stated that HDPT is considering a new public transportation service which would be an on-demand real-time ride-sharing program that would provide short trips within particular zones of the City, termed microtransit. She stated that a survey is available on DRPT's website and on the buses on how microtransit can better serve the community and will be available through April 21<sup>st</sup>. Ms. Spain noted that approximately 189 responses on the survey have been received to date.

### **City of Harrisonburg Department of Public Works**

Ms. Yancey reported on the public open house that was held on March 30<sup>th</sup> regarding roadway reconfigurations in the City of Harrisonburg, noting that it was well attended. She stated that a Roadway Reconfiguration Public Questionnaire survey regarding reconfigurations and specific upcoming projects is available on the City of Harrisonburg's website until April 23<sup>rd</sup>. Ms. Yancey reported on speed enforcement cameras, which are expected to be in operation this summer.

### **Upcoming Meetings**

Chairperson Blessing announced that the HRMPO Policy Board will hold a meeting on April 20, 2023, at 3:00 p.m.; and the next HRMPO TAC meeting will be held on May 4, 2023, at 2:00 p.m.



## **Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Commission, a motion for adjournment was unanimously passed at 3:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Ann Cundy  
Director of Transportation



## **Technical Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda July 6, 2023, 2:00 p.m.**

Rockingham County Administration Center  
20 East Gay Street  
Harrisonburg, VA 22802

### **To Join Meeting Via Zoom:**

**Meeting ID:** 899 3487 4939 \*\*\*\* **Passcode:** 050019 \*\*\*\* **Dial In:** 301-715-8592

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Minutes of the April 6, 2023 Meeting\*
3. Public Comment
4. Election of Officers\*
5. Presentation: Dayton 2023 Comprehensive Plan – Ansley Heller, CSPDC
6. Presentation: Overview of Proposed SMART SCALE Policy Changes– Brad Reed, VDOT
7. Agency Updates
  - a. VDOT
  - b. DRPT
  - c. HDPT
  - d. Localities
8. Other Business
9. Upcoming Meetings
  - a. HRMPO Policy Board Meeting, Thursday, July 20, 2023, 3:00 p.m.
  - b. HRMPO TAC Meeting, Thursday, August 3, 2023, 2:00 p.m.
10. Adjournment

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\* Action needed

## HRMPO TAC Minutes July 6, 2023, 2:00 p.m.

Rockingham County Administration Center  
20 East Gay Street  
Harrisonburg, Virginia 22802

Voting Member	Alternates	Staff
<b>City of Harrisonburg</b>	Megan Byler, Bridgewater	✓ Ann Cundy
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✓ Bill Blessing, Chair	✓ Jakob zumFelde, Harrisonburg	✓ Rita Whitfield
Thanh Dang	Elliot Menge, Harrisonburg	
✓ Erin Yancey	Dan Rublee, Harrisonburg	<b>Others</b>
✓ Cheryl Spain	Gerald Gatobu, Harrisonburg	✓ Jeremy Mason, VDOT
<b>Rockingham County</b>	Kayla Yankey, Rockingham	✓ Meggie Roche, Dayton
✓ Rhonda Cooper, Vice Chair	Rachel Salatin, Rockingham	
✓ Casey Armstrong	Burgess Lindsey, VDOT	
Dylan Nicely	Josh Dunlap, VDOT	
<b>Town of Bridgewater</b>	Jeff Lineberry, VDOT	
✓ Alex Wilmer		
<b>Town of Dayton</b>		
Christa Hall		
<b>Town of Mt. Crawford</b>	<b>Non-Voting Members</b>	
Bobby Taylor	Kevin Jones, FHWA	
<b>VDOT</b>	Chelsea Beytas, FTA	
✓ Brad Reed	Bill Yates, JMU	
Don Komara	Rusty Harrington, Aviation	
<b>DRPT</b>	✓ Valerie Kramer*	
✓ Grace Stankus*		
*Zoom Participants		

### Call to Order

The July 6, 2023, meeting of the Harrisonburg-Rockingham Metropolitan Planning Organization (HRMPO) Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by Chairperson Bill Blessing. Pursuant to §2.2-3708.2 of the Code of Virginia, HRMPO TAC members may participate in meetings of the HRMPO or its committees through electronic communication means. Those who attended virtually are indicated by an asterisk; all others attended in-person.



## **Minutes**

Chairperson Blessing presented the minutes from the April 16, 2023, TAC meeting. Ms. Cooper moved, seconded by Mr. Reed, to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

## **Public Comment**

Chairperson Blessing opened the floor for public comment. There were no comments from the public.

## **Election of Officers**

Ms. Cooper nominated Mr. Bill Blessing for the office of Chairperson, seconded by Ms. Yancey. Nominations for Chairperson were unanimously closed. Mr. Blessing was unanimously elected to the office of Chairperson. Chairperson Blessing opened the floor for nominations for Vice Chairperson. Mr. Reed nominated Rhonda Cooper for the office of Vice Chairperson, seconded by Mr. Armstrong. Nominations for Vice Chairperson were unanimously closed. Ms. Cooper was unanimously elected to the office of Vice Chairperson.

## **Presentation: Town of Dayton 2023 Comprehensive Plan**

Chairperson Blessing presented Town of Dayton 2023 Comprehensive Plan. Ms. Heller presented a PowerPoint presentation on the 2023 Comprehensive Plan Update for the Town of Dayton and Transportation Chapter Summary, noting that the Plan was adopted on February 13, 2023. She reviewed the main updates, noting that the Plan was updated to align with the Town's Capital Improvements Plan. Ms. Heller stated that the Plan focuses on controlled growth, zoning and land development, employment, and capital improvements, with land use seeing the most significant changes. Ms. Heller reviewed the Transportation section, noting that the Town of Dayton is a small town with complex transportation needs and is surrounded by rural farmland between Bridgewater and Harrisonburg. She reviewed the Transportation Maps and Transportation Trends; and Top Needs Identified, noting that pedestrian, cyclist, and buggy were the top safety priorities. Ms. Heller reported on the transportation goals and objectives, and the Future Project Map.

## **Presentation: Overview of Proposed SMART SCALE Policy Changes**

Chairperson Blessing presented Overview of Proposed SMART SCALE Policy Changes. Mr. Reed gave a PowerPoint presentation on SMART SCALE Policy Changes, noting that there is a process review for SMART SCALE underway for evaluating transportation projects, led by the Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment (OIP). He noted that SMART SCALE is the method of scoring planned projects and funding projects; and evaluates potential transportation projects based on key factors like



how they improve safety, reduce congestion, increase accessibility, contribute to economic development, promote efficient land use, and affect the environment. Mr. Reed gave an overview of the team milestones and timeline; process bias and scoring and funding analyses; and reviewed the key components of the SMART SCALE process review. He reported on the survey and findings conducted by OIPI to collect information about the SMART SCALE program, noting that the data collected will be used to provide feedback to the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) as it considers policy changes to the SMART SCALE process for utilization in future SMART SCALE rounds. Mr. Reed reviewed the schedule and next steps, noting that final recommendations will be presented at the CTB October Board meeting, and policy adoption is scheduled for December 2023.

## **Agency Updates**

### **Department of Transportation (VDOT)**

Mr. Reed reported on the Transportation Alternatives Program (TA) and the Revenue Sharing Program, noting that the programs have moved into the full application process. He stated that if anyone had any questions or needed assistance, to contact VDOT.

### **Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT)**

Ms. Stankus announced that DRPT was awarded over \$4.5 million for transit agencies to assist in the financing of replacement of buses through the FTA Buses and Bus Facilities Program. She noted that the funding will assist with the purchasing of buses and replacement backlog, and help to increase transit ridership.

### **Harrisonburg Department of Public Transportation (HDPT)**

Ms. Spain gave an update on HDPT activities, noting that DRPT is in the process of purchasing new buses. She gave a status update on the Strategic Plan; and the Microtransit Study, noting that the startup date is anticipated next summer.

## **Other Business**

Mr. Jacob zumFelde announced that the City of Harrisonburg received federal funds for the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability & Equity (RAISE) grant to support the City's Downtown Harrisonburg Streetscape & Mobility Transformation project. He reported on the project, noting that it will create safer routes for travelers in Downtown, enhance area streetscape aesthetics and increase transportation and trail connectivity for community members and visitors. Mr. zumFelde noted that the grant will fully fund the City's Downtown Harrisonburg Streetscape and Mobility Transportation



project, which will transform one lane on Liberty Street into two-way separated bicycle lanes. Upon a question regarding the eligibility of the project to be included in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), Ms. Cundy explained the TIP and STIP process, noting that the project is included in the HRMPO Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP).

### **Upcoming Meetings**

Chairperson Blessing announced that the HRMPO Policy Board will hold a meeting on July 20, 2023, at 3:00 p.m.; and the next HRMPO TAC meeting will be held on August 3, 2023, at 2:00 p.m.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Commission, a motion for adjournment was unanimously passed at 3:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Ann Cundy  
Director of Transportation



## **Technical Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda September 7, 2023, 2:00 p.m.**

Rockingham County Administration Center  
20 East Gay Street  
Harrisonburg, VA 22802

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Minutes of the July 6, 2023 Meeting\*
3. Public Comment
4. HRMPO TAP Resolutions of Support (TAC AF #23-5)\*
5. Update on HRMPO SMART SCALE Letter Updates (TAC Memo #23-5)
6. FY24 HRMPO Area Studies (TAC Memo #23-6)
  - a. Dinkel Avenue/Friedens Church Road Corridor Study (HRMPO)
  - b. Project Pipeline Study at I-81 Exit 245 (VDOT)
  - c. Rockingham County Transit Feasibility Study (DRPT)
  - d. Route 704 to Route 257 Connector Analysis (VDOT)
7. Agency Updates
  - a. VDOT
  - b. DRPT
  - c. HDPT
  - d. Localities
8. Other Business
9. Upcoming Meetings
  - a. HRMPO Policy Board Meeting, Thursday, September 21, 2023, 3:00 p.m.
  - b. HRMPO TAC Meeting, Thursday, October 5, 2023, 2:00 p.m.
10. Adjournment

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\* Action needed

## HRMPO TAC Minutes

### September 7, 2023, 2:00 p.m.

Rockingham County Administration Center  
20 East Gay Street  
Harrisonburg, Virginia 22802

Voting Member	Alternates	Staff
<b>City of Harrisonburg</b>	Megan Byler, Bridgewater	✓ Ann Cundy
✓ Tom Hartman	Libby Clark, Mt. Crawford	✓ Ansley Heller
✓ Bill Blessing, Chair	Jakob zumFelde, Harrisonburg	✓ Rita Whitfield
Thanh Dang	Elliot Menge, Harrisonburg	
✓ Erin Yancey	Dan Rublee, Harrisonburg	<b>Others</b>
✓ Cheryl Spain	Gerald Gatobu, Harrisonburg	✓ Grant Sparks, DRPT*
<b>Rockingham County</b>	Kayla Yankey, Rockingham	✓ Shane McCabe, VDOT*
✓ Rhonda Cooper, Vice Chair	Rachel Salatin, Rockingham	✓ Kim Sandum, Shenandoah Alliance
Casey Armstrong	Burgess Lindsey, VDOT	
✓ Dylan Nicely	✓ Jeremy Mason, VDOT	
<b>Town of Bridgewater</b>	Jeff Lineberry, VDOT	
✓ Alex Wilmer		
<b>Town of Dayton</b>		
✓ Meggie Roche		
<b>Town of Mt. Crawford</b>	<b>Non-Voting Members</b>	
✓ Bobby Taylor*	Kevin Jones, FHWA	
<b>VDOT</b>	Chelsea Beytas, FTA	
✓ Brad Reed	Bill Yates, JMU	
✓ Don Komara	Rusty Harrington, Aviation	
<b>DRPT</b>	✓ Valerie Kramer	
Grace Stankus		
*Zoom Participants		

### Call to Order

The September 7, 2023, meeting of the Harrisonburg-Rockingham Metropolitan Planning Organization (HRMPO) Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by Chairperson Bill Blessing. Pursuant to §2.2-3708.2 of the Code of Virginia, HRMPO TAC members may participate in meetings of the HRMPO or its committees through electronic communication means. Those who attended virtually are indicated by an asterisk; all others attended in-person.

## Minutes

Chairperson Blessing presented the minutes from the July 6, 2023, TAC meeting. Mr. Reed moved, seconded by Vice Chairperson Cooper, to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

## Public Comment

Chairperson Blessing opened the floor for public comment. There were no comments from the public.

## HRMPO TAP Resolutions of Support (TAC AF #23-5)

Chairperson Blessing presented for consideration HRMPO Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Resolutions of Support (attached to file minutes). Ms. Cundy stated that TAP applications for projects within the HRMPO area require a resolution of support from the Policy Board. She noted that approved applicants have until October 2, 2023, to submit their resolutions with their final applications. Mr. Hartman reviewed the following TAP projects for the City of Harrisonburg:

- **Non-Infrastructure Application for a Safe Routes to School Coordinator:** The application would fund a new full-time Safe Routes to School Coordinator for the City of Harrisonburg, serving all 10 public schools in the city beginning fall 2024. The program will include using funds to support bicycle skills education and for various activities that encourage walking and biking to school.
- **SRTS Sidewalks at Multiple Schools:** This project will construct three sidewalk segments to fill gaps between existing sidewalks and improve safe pedestrian access to Waterman Elementary School and Keister Elementary School.
- **Northend Greenway Connection:** The project constructs a shared use path along the south side of Mt. Clinton Pike between Virginia Avenue and the railroad tracks, constructs intersection improvements at Mt. Clinton Pike and Virginia Avenue to facilitate path connectivity through the intersection, and constructs a path crossing of the railroad tracks that is separated from the existing Mt. Clinton Pike roadway.

Mr. Wilmer presented the Town of Bridgewater's TAP project for Gen Oak Connector, Phase II. He noted that Phase II of the Gen Oak Connector will extend a shared-use permeable paver path further into Oakdale Park and running along Mt. Crawford Avenue to improve pedestrian and cyclist safety in the corridor. Mr. Wilmer stated that the total path would be approximately 900 feet in length.

Mr. Nicely presented Rockingham County's TAP projects as follows:

- **Sidewalk Project on Stone Spring Road at The Shops at Stone Spring:** The project will construct a sidewalk segment along The Shops at Stone Spring frontage on the north side of Stone Spring Road, to improve safe pedestrian access within the Stone Port area of the Stone Spring Urban Development Area (UDA).



- **Sidewalk Project on Stone Spring Road at Bellaire at Stone Port Assisted Living and Memory Care:** The project will construct a sidewalk segment along the Bellaire at Stone Port Assisted Living and Memory Care frontage on Stone Spring Road and a portion of Port Hills Drive, to improve safe pedestrian access within the Stone Port area of the Stone Spring Urban Development Area (UDA).
- **Sidewalk Project on Stone Spring Road at F&M Bank and Shenandoah Oral and Facial Surgery:** This project will construct two sidewalk segments along the F&M Bank and Shenandoah Oral and Facial Surgery frontage on Stone Spring Road and a portion of Ridgedale Road, to improve safe pedestrian access within the Stone Port area of the Stone Spring Urban Development Area (UDA).
- **Sidewalk Project on Apple Valley Road at Moe’s Southwest Grill:** The project will construct a sidewalk segment along the Moe’s Southwest Grill frontage on Apply Valley Road, to improve safe pedestrian access within the Stone Port area of the Stone Spring Urban Development Area (UDA).

Vice Chairperson Cooper moved, seconded by Mr. Reed, to recommend to the HRMPO Policy Board endorsement of the Resolutions of Support for TAP projects within the MPO. Motion was carried by unanimous vote.

#### **HRMPO SMART SCALE Letter Update (TAC Memo #23-5)**

Chairperson Blessing presented HRMPO SMART SCALE Letter Update. Ms. Cundy stated that on behalf of the HRMPO Policy Board, staff submitted a letter on August 17, 2023, to the Secretary of Transportation and Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) outlining the MPO’s concerns about considered changes to the SMART SCALE project scoring process. She stated that the letter voiced primary concerns over the proposed eligibility requirements for the High Priority Projects (HPP) Program, the reallocation of Land Use percentage points to other Goal Areas, and the reduced cap on applications in Tier 1 regions of the state. Ms. Cundy noted that similar letters were also submitted by the Staunton Augusta Waynesboro Metropolitan Planning Organization (SAWMPO), Virginia Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations (VAMPO), and the Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission (CSPDC), as well as the City of Harrisonburg.

#### **FY24 HRMPO Area Studies (TAC Memo #23-6)**

Chairperson Blessing presented FY24 HRMPO Area Studies. Ms. Cundy stated that the HRMPO has several area studies underway for FY24 as follows:

- *Dinkel Avenue Corridor Study (HRMPO)* - Ms. Ann Cundy reviewed the Dinkel Avenue Corridor Study which will focus on 3.28 miles of Dinkel Avenue between I-81 Exit 240 and



VA-42. She noted that MPO staff met with staff from VDOT, the Town of Bridgewater, and the Town of Mount Crawford to discuss the needs for a small area study. Ms. Cundy stated that HRMPO staff received a technical proposal from the engineering consultant and design firm, Vanasse Hangen Brustlin (VHB). HRMPO and VDOT staff are currently working with VHB to finalize the scope and fee proposal and plan a kick-off meeting in September.

- *Project Pipeline Study at I-81 Exit 245 (VDOT)* - Mr. Brad Reed reviewed Phase 2 of the Pipeline Study at I-81 Exit 245, which began in early September. He noted that this phase will include evaluation of preliminary alternatives, conducting public outreach, obtaining feedback, and selecting the preferred alternatives. Mr. Reed stated that the focus of this study is to evaluate key areas of the I-81 SB Exit 245 Interchange/Port Republic Road, and to seek to identify ways to improve operations and safety through target projects and improvements. In addition, the study will also review the multimodal accessibility of the corridor, given the particularly high need for pedestrian, cyclist, and transit access in the corridor.
- *Rockingham County Transit Feasibility Study* - Mr. Grant Sparks, DRPT, gave a review on the Transit Feasibility Study for Rockingham County, noting that in coordination with the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT), Rockingham County launched a transit feasibility study in August 2023. He stated that the study will use both data collection and public input sessions to further understand the transit needs in Rockingham County and to find feasible solutions. Mr. Sparks stated that consultants Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. were selected to perform the Feasibility Study and a kick off meeting was held last week.
- *Route 704 (Cecil Wampler Road) to Route 257 (Friedens Church Road) Connector Analysis (VDOT)* - Mr. Brad Reed reviewed the Route 704 to Route 257 Connector Analysis, noting that Rockingham County seeks to improve connectivity to and from I-81 for the county and city's industrial growth center primarily situated along Route 704, Route 679, and Route 988 through the construction of a new connector roadway between Route 704 and Route 257. He noted that scoping is currently underway and the project is anticipated to be completed by the end of 2023.

## **Agency Updates**

### **Department of Transportation (VDOT)**

Mr. Reed reported on the following:

- Announced that the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) and Revenue Sharing Program applications are due October 2, 2023.
- Reported on the Ready, Set, Go! Program, noting that the program supports local partners with smaller populations in refining projects for future Transportation Alternatives (TA)





applications. Mr. Reed noted that the applications are open September 12 and due by November 17<sup>th</sup>, with project selections anticipated to be announced in April 2024.

- Noted that within the folds of this year's state budget amendments passed by the General Assembly on September 6<sup>th</sup>, is a \$35-million allocation of funds for the purposes of land acquisition, initial planning, and site development for the Shenandoah Rail Trail.

Mr. Komara reported on the following:

- Reported on the status of the Smithland Road bridge project, noting that the project is behind schedule but is moving forward;
- Gave an update on the Route 33 project, I-81 Exit 247 in Harrisonburg, noting that the project was going well. He reminded everyone of the work zone speed limit and stated that the speed cameras were in operation;
- Reported on the Route 259 bridge replacement project in the Town of Broadway, noting that the ribbon-cutting ceremony is scheduled for September 22<sup>nd</sup>;
- Gave an update on the Route 11 project widening of two lanes to a four-lane divided highway near the Rockingham County Fairgrounds, noting that it was moving forward; and
- Reported on the status of the widening of Route 33 west towards West Virginia, noting that the bids are opening for the third time at the end of September.

### **Harrisonburg Department of Public Transportation (HDPT)**

Ms. Spain gave an update on HDPT activities, noting that ridership is up by 20 percent over the same time period from last year. She stated that DRPT has recruited additional drivers which assisted with the addition of more buses on the routes. Ms. Spain noted that HDPT is currently working on their Capital Plan to be submitted to DRPT.

### **City of Harrisonburg Department of Public Works**

Mr. Hartman reported on the City of Harrisonburg' Department of Public Works activities. He gave a status update on the Mt. Clinton Pike Shared Use Path, noting that the project involves improvements to Mt. Clinton Pike between Park Road and Virginia Avenue in the City of Harrisonburg. Mr. Hartman reported that the City is working on SMART SCALE projects.

### **Upcoming Meetings**

Chairperson Blessing announced that the HRMPO Policy Board will hold a meeting on September 21, 2023, at 3:00 p.m.; and the next HRMPO TAC meeting will be held on October 5, 2023, at 2:00 p.m.



## **Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Committee, a motion for adjournment was unanimously passed at 2:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Ann Cundy  
Director of Transportation



## **Technical Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda November 2, 2023, 2:00 p.m.**

Rockingham County Administration Center  
20 East Gay Street  
Harrisonburg, VA 22802

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Minutes of the September 7, 2023 Meeting\*
3. Public Comment
4. FY 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment (TAC AF #23- 6)\*
5. Update on Proposed SMART SCALE Policy Changes (TAC Memo #23-7)
6. Agency Updates
  - a. VDOT
  - b. DRPT
  - c. HDPT
  - d. Localities
7. Other Business
8. Upcoming Meetings
  - a. HRMPO Policy Board Meeting, Thursday, November 16, 2023, 3:00 p.m.
  - b. HRMPO TAC Meeting, Thursday, December 7, 2023, 2:00 p.m.
9. Adjournment

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\* Action needed

**HRMPO TAC Minutes**  
**November 2, 2023, 2:00 p.m.**  
Rockingham County Administration Center  
20 East Gay Street  
Harrisonburg, Virginia 22802

<b>Voting Member</b>	<b>Alternates</b>	<b>Staff</b>
<b>City of Harrisonburg</b>	Megan Byler, Bridgewater	✓ Ann Cundy
✓ Tom Hartman	Libby Clark, Mt. Crawford	✓ Ansley Heller
✓ Bill Blessing, Chair	Jakob zumFelde, Harrisonburg	✓ Rita Whitfield
✓ Thanh Dang	Elliot Menge, Harrisonburg	
✓ Erin Yancey	Dan Rublee, Harrisonburg	<b>Others</b>
Cheryl Spain	Gerald Gatobu, Harrisonburg	✓ Kim Sandum, Shenandoah Alliance
<b>Rockingham County</b>	Kayla Yankey, Rockingham	✓ Shane McCabe, VDOT*
✓ Rhonda Cooper, Vice Chair	Rachel Salatin, Rockingham	
✓ Casey Armstrong	Burgess Lindsey, VDOT	
✓ Dylan Nicely	✓ Jeremy Mason, VDOT	
<b>Town of Bridgewater</b>	Jeff Lineberry, VDOT	
✓ Alex Wilmer		
<b>Town of Dayton</b>		
✓ Meggie Roche		
<b>Town of Mt. Crawford</b>	<b>Non-Voting Members</b>	
Bobby Taylor	Kevin Jones, FHWA	
<b>VDOT</b>	Chelsea Beytas, FTA	
✓ Brad Reed*	Bill Yates, JMU	
✓ Don Komara	Rusty Harrington, Aviation	
<b>DRPT</b>	✓ Valerie Kramer	
✓ Grace Stankus*		
*Zoom Participants		

**Call to Order**

The November 2, 2023, meeting of the Harrisonburg-Rockingham Metropolitan Planning Organization (HRMPO) Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by Chairperson Bill Blessing. Pursuant to §2.2-3708.2 of the Code of Virginia, HRMPO TAC members may participate in meetings of the HRMPO or its committees through electronic communication means. Those who attended virtually are indicated by an asterisk; all others attended in-person.

## **Minutes**

Chairperson Blessing presented the minutes from the September 7, 2023, TAC meeting. Mr. Komara moved, seconded by Mr. Armstrong, to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

## **Public Comment**

Chairperson Blessing opened the floor for public comment. There were no comments from the public.

## **FY 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment (TAC AF#23-6)**

Chairperson Blessing presented FY 2024-2027 TIP Amendment. Ms. Heller gave a review on the TIP Amendment, noting that the TIP must include all funded construction projects in an urbanized area. She stated that HRMPO staff and VDOT identified one project in the current FY 2024-2027 TIP under which funds should be reallocated to different phases of project work as follows: UPC 108810-US 11 Valley Pike Road Improvements. Ms. Cooper moved, seconded by Ms. Dang, to recommend to the Policy Board to release the FY 2024-2027 TIP Amendment for a 21-day public comment period. Motion was carried by unanimous vote.

## **Update on Proposed SMART SCALE Policy Changes (TAC Memo #23-7)**

Chairperson Blessing presented Proposed SMART SCALE Policy Changes. Ms. Cundy gave an update on the SMART SCALE Policy Changes, noting that the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) is considering changes to the SMART SCALE project scoring process that will affect project eligibility in the HRMPO region. She noted that after reviewing the changes at their August 17, 2023 meeting, the HRMPO Policy Board submitted a letter to the CTB expressing their concerns regarding several of the changes. Ms. Cundy reviewed the updates on the policy changes as presented by staff from the Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment (OIPI) and the Virginia Economic Development Partnership (VEDP), including proposed revisions to the Economic Development performance measures, that were presented to the CTB at their October 20, 2023 meeting. She noted that OIPI staff presented a modified recommendation to include three Tiers instead of two, and increase the new application cap from two to three applications for Tier 1 applicants like the HRMPO and its member jurisdictions. Ms. Cundy reviewed defining the eligible project types for High Priority Program (HPP), noting that the proposed change would limit the HPP Program to certain project types on Corridors of Statewide Significance and Regional Network roadways and presented the limited project types. She reviewed the land use scoring factor and Economic Development Measure ED.1 changes. Ms. Cundy reviewed the next steps, noting that it is anticipated that the CTB will vote on the policy changes in the coming months prior to Round 6 opening for preapplications in early 2024. Ms. Heller distributed and



reviewed a list of projects in the HRMPO area that meet new HPP eligibility criteria and those projects that do not (attached to file minutes).

## **Agency Updates**

### **Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)**

Mr. Don Komara reported on the following:

- Smithland Road bridge project, noting that asphalt is currently being laid and hopes to be open in November-December;
- Gave an update on the Route 33 project, I-81 Exit 247 in Harrisonburg, noting that the project was moving along;
- Reported on the Route 259 bridge replacement project in the Town of Broadway, noting that the ribbon-cutting ceremony was held in September;
- Gave an update on the Barterbrook Road bridge project over I-81;
- Reported on the status of the widening of Route 33 west towards West Virginia, noting that the bids have been opened and a contracting firm has been selected;
- Gave an update on the Route 11 project widening of two lanes to a four-lane divided highway, noting that it was moving along quickly; and
- Encouraged everyone to visit [Improve81.org](http://Improve81.org) for updated details on program improvements on I-81.

Mr. Brad Reed reported on operations and safety analysis reports; an interchange study on Exit 240 for the development of Buc-ee's Travel Center at Exit 240 near Harrisonburg and improvements to Exit 243 interchange; Exit 245 Pipeline Study project, noting that it is entering Phase II; and the Mt. Crawford interchange connector study, noting that he hoped to have a draft study in November, and anticipated the study will be completed at the end of the year.

### **Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT)**

Ms. Grace Stankus announced that DRPT was transitioning to a new grant application software, Webgrants, which will replace the current software, OLGA. She noted that the Fiscal Year 2025 Grant Cycle will open December 1<sup>st</sup>, utilizing the new software. Ms. Stankus stated that due to the new software transition, there will be a reimbursement freeze in OLGA from November 15<sup>th</sup>–December 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **Localities**

Mr. Tom Hartman reported on the activities for the City of Harrisonburg. He gave an update on the Mt. Clinton Pike Shared Use Path project, noting that the City issued the notice to proceed. Mr. Hartman reported on the public hearing that was held on October 26<sup>th</sup> for the University Boulevard and Evelyn Byrd Roadway Reconfiguration and Sidewalks project, noting that a survey is available until November 27<sup>th</sup> for comments on the project. He noted that the City is progressing on SMART SCALE projects, and reported on paving in the area.

Ms. Thanh Dang reported on the Harrisonburg Department of Public Transportation Transit Strategic Plan (TSP), a comprehensive document that will shape the future of public transportation services in Harrisonburg over the next ten years. She reported on pop-up events and a survey that is available throughout November which provides an opportunity to share thoughts and ideas that will help shape the TSP and the service improvements it recommends.

Mr. Dylan Nicely reported on the activities for Rockingham County. He stated that the County is continuing their County Transit Feasibility Study with DRPT and consultants Kimley Horn. Mr. Nicely reported on the Public Priorities Survey which will continue through November 6<sup>th</sup>, noting that the surveys are available online and hard copies will be distributed in each of the localities in Rockingham County and at the County Administrative building.

Ms. Valerie Kramer announced that James Madison University (JMU) is a Silver Level award holder and is committed to promoting and providing a more bikeable campus for students, staff, and visitors.

### **Other Business**

Under Other Business, Ms. Heller presented the new HRMPO website noting that staff worked with Avid Core to facilitate the transition of the website to the WordPress platform. She noted that the website has been reorganized to be more visually appealing and easier to navigate. Ms. Heller stated that the website includes Google Translate to provide translation options for visitors who would prefer to access the websites in a language other than English.

### **Upcoming Meetings**

Chairperson Blessing announced that the HRMPO Policy Board will hold a meeting on December 21, 2023, at 3:00 p.m.; and the next HRMPO TAC meeting will be held on December 7, 2023, at 2:00 p.m.



## **Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Committee, a motion for adjournment was unanimously passed at 3:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Ann Cundy  
Director of Transportation