



**Harrisonburg-Rockingham Metropolitan Planning Organization
Technical Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda
April 3, 2025, 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 February 6, 2024 Meeting*
3. Public Comment
4. HRMPO Draft FY 2026 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Release for Public Comment and Conditional Approval (TAC Action Form #25-02)*
5. FY2024 – 2027 Transportation Improvement Program Amendments (TAC Action Form #25-03)*
6. Presentation: Port Republic Road – Peach Grove – Neff Avenue Study Public Engagement Summary (TAC Memo #25-03)
7. Agency Updates
 - a. VDOT
 - b. DRPT
 - c. HDPT
 - d. Localities
8. Other Business
 - a. FY2026-2031 Staunton District SYIP meeting on May 15, 2025
9. Upcoming Meetings
 - a. April 17, 2025 - HRMPO Policy Board Meeting, 3:00 p.m.
 - b. May 1, 2025 – HRMPO TAC Meeting, 2:00 p.m.
10. Adjourn

* Action needed

Harrisonburg-Rockingham Metropolitan Planning Organization Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Minutes February 6, 2025, 2:00 p.m.

Meeting conducted virtually via Zoom

	City of Harrisonburg		VDOT		Staff
✓*	Tom Hartman, Chair	✓*	Adam Campbell	✓*	Paula Melester
✓*	Kyle Lawrence	✓*	Don Komara		Garreth Bartholomew
✓*	Thanh Dang	✓*	Jeremy Mason	✓*	Zach Beard
✓*	Gerald Gatobu		Shane McCabe		Others
✓*	Jakob zumFelde		DPRT	✓*	Kim Sandum, Alliance for the Shenandoah Valley
	Rockingham County	✓*	Grace Stankus		
	Rachel Salatin		Non-Voting Members		
✓*	Dylan Nicely, Vice Chair		Kevin Jones, FHWA		
	Town of Bridgewater		Chelsea Beytas, FTA		
✓*	Alex Wilmer		Bill Yates, JMU		
	Town of Dayton		Rusty Harrington, Aviation		
✓*	Brian Borne	✓*	Valerie Kramer, JMU		
	Town of Mt. Crawford				
	Libby Clark				

*Indicates virtual attendance

Call to Order

The February 6, 2025, meeting of the Harrisonburg-Rockingham Metropolitan Planning Organization (HRMPO) Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by Chairperson Tom Hartman. Pursuant to §2.2-3708.2 of the Code of Virginia, the HRMPO is allowed to hold up to two virtually meetings annually. This was the first virtual meeting of 2025.

Public Comment

Chairperson Tom Hartman opened the floor for public comment. There were no public comments.

Minutes

Chairperson Tom Hartman presented the minutes from the December 5, 2024, TAC meeting.

Mr. Dylan Nicely motioned to approve the minutes; seconded by Thanh Dang. Motion carried unanimously.

HRMPO Metropolitan Planning Area Boundary Adjustments (TAC Action Form #25-01)

Mr. Zach Beard presented the proposed HRMPO Metropolitan Planning Area (MPA) boundary adjustments based on the 2020 Census urban area delineations. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) requires MPOs to incorporate new census-designated urban areas that affect MPO boundaries and planning areas.

VDOT reviewed the HRMPO planning boundaries to account for the new urban area changes and any projected growth that may occur over the next 20 years.

The proposed boundary adjustments are minimal, expanding the current MPO boundary by approximately 28 acres (0.0436 square miles). The adjustments include riverbanks along the North River in Bridgewater, a portion of Pleasant Run to the southwest of the intersection of Creekside Drive and Route 257, and a portion of Old Turnpike Road at the intersection of the railroad and US-33. Mr. Beard explained that pending TAC recommendation for approval, the boundary modifications would be presented to the Policy Board and then submitted to VDOT to forward to FHWA. He noted that all MPO boundary adjustments require approval by the Governor of Virginia.

Mr. Don Komara motioned to approve the boundary adjustments; seconded by Thanh Dang. Motion carried unanimously.

FY26 Unified Planning Work Program Development Overview (TAC Memo #25-01)

Ms. Paula Melester presented an overview of the FY26 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) development process. Ms. Melester explained that the UPWP serves as the MPO's annual work plan and budget, detailing upcoming fiscal year administrative and planning activities along with federal, state, and local budget funding. Ms. Melester reviewed the current funding structure, noting that the federal highway planning funding is fixed and accurate, while the planning carryover from highways comes from FY24. Ms. Melester indicated that the 5303 funds from DRPT are still tentative as they haven't received official confirmation yet.

Ms. Melester highlighted that carryover amounts are decreasing year to year, with the FY25 carryover being approximately \$82,000 from FY23, which has been reduced by about \$20,000 for this year. The 5303 carryover is also lower than anticipated at \$16,606. Using a conservative estimate, they hope to carry over about \$35,000 from this year to FY26. Ms. Melester mentioned that small area studies are becoming more expensive, and the MPO will need to work collaboratively to balance priorities without depleting reserves. The federal highway funding is fixed through FY27, making it important to maintain a conservative contingency going into FY28.

Ms. Melester noted that since Harrisonburg is currently conducting a small area study this year, the rotation would typically move to another locality for the next fiscal year's study. Staff will work with localities over the next month to determine priorities for FY26.

Presentation: RideShare Strategic Plan

Ms. Danielle Gannon, Transit Planner with CSPDC, presented the recently completed RideShare Strategic Plan. She began with an overview of the program, explaining that it is a DRPT-funded initiative (80% state funds with a 20% local match) operated in collaboration with the Thomas Jefferson PDC.

Ms. Gannon explained that RideShare began in the Thomas Jefferson region in the 1980s, with an attempt to start the program in the Harrisonburg-Rockingham region in the 1990s that was discontinued due to limited interest. Following the 2008 recession, renewed interest led to a partnership with TJPDC to co-sponsor the program, which now spans both regions.

The program provides commuter resources including an app-based ride matching platform for carpools and vanpools, a reward system for logging alternative transportation trips, and a Guaranteed Ride Home program that provides free rides in emergency situations for commuters who use alternative transportation.

Ms. Gannon reported that the strategic plan is required by DRPT for all Commuter Assistance Program (CAP) grant recipients and replaces the previously used Transportation Demand Management (TDM) plan. The new strategic plan emphasizes data-driven strategies and outlines goals, objectives, and performance measures for the next five years.

Agency Updates

Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)

Mr. Don Komara reported:

- VDOT crews responded to widespread weather damage from the previous night's heavy rain and wind (approximately 1.75 inches of rainfall) which meant Route 33 West was temporarily closed due to fallen trees but had reopened before the meeting
- Construction updates:
 - Route 33 project: Concrete pours scheduled for the following day with anticipated opening on Saturday
 - I-81 Weyers Cave project: Surveying underway with shoulder strengthening work planned for March-April
 - Crossover improvements and acceleration/deceleration lanes scheduled for June
 - Much of the work will be conducted during daytime hours to improve efficiency
 - Expected traffic increases on Route 11 through Mount Sydney, Mount Crawford, and Harrisonburg
 - I-81 Harrisonburg segment: Expected advertisement in late fall
 - Route 11 project (past fairgrounds): Summer advertisement, noting challenges of concurrent projects

Mr. Adam Campbell provided updates on:

- SMART SCALE Round 6 results:
 - Approximately \$1.1 billion available statewide (less funding than Round 5)
 - Staunton district: \$39 million in district grants (\$6 million reserved for previous project overages)
 - Only 53 projects recommended for funding statewide (compared to 130 in Round 3)
 - Staunton district secured three district grant projects plus \$44.6 million in high priority funding for three additional projects
 - Local projects recommended for funding:
 - Harrisonburg's Mount Clinton Pike Corridor Safety Project: \$12.3 million
 - HRMPO's Port Republic Road/Forest Hill Road/Exit 245 improvements: \$10.5 million
 - \$8.1 million in unassigned district grant funds remain

- SMART SCALE Round 6 user survey open until February 14 for Round 7 policy feedback
- Vine Street STARS Study:
 - Existing conditions/safety analysis stakeholder meeting held previous week
 - Public survey closed with input from nearly 800 users with results to be shared the following week
- Revenue Sharing and Transportation Alternatives funding:
 - Pre-applications open April 1-May 30 through Smart Portal with pre-application webinars scheduled for interested localities
 - Mr. Komara emphasized the value of Revenue Sharing program for smaller localities given the program matches locality contributions 50/50 and encouraged Mount Crawford, Dayton, and Bridgewater to consider applying

Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT)

Ms. Grace Stankus reported that DRPT has begun reviewing and scoring FY26 application is working on the Six-Year Improvement Program (SYIP).

City of Harrisonburg Department of Public Transportation (HDPT)

Mr. Gerald Gatobu reported that HDPT is currently focused on budget development for the upcoming fiscal year and has submitted their grant applications to DRPT. In addition to financial planning, he mentioned that the department is managing impacts from recent weather events and coordinating school transportation services.

Localities

Town of Dayton

Mr. Brian Borne reported no updates.

Town of Bridgewater

Mr. Alex Wilmer reported no updates for Bridgewater.

Rockingham County

Mr. Dylan Nicely reported no updates from the county but took the opportunity to thank Don Komara and the VDOT team for their rapid and effective response to the tree and ice issues from the previous night's weather event.

City of Harrisonburg

Mr. Tom Hartman provided the following updates

- The City is in the final stages of preparing to release the University Boulevard project for bid.
- The Erickson Avenue corridor study – which examines the area between Main Street, Route 42, Mosby Road, and Pleasant Hill Road – is progressing, and the first study group meeting reviewing the existing conditions is complete; the next study group meeting will focus on land use

Other Business

Mr. Zach Beard reminded everyone that the HRMPO small area study at Port Republic, Peach Grove, and Neff Avenue will have its next study team meeting on Friday, February 21 at 10 a.m., where the study concepts will be presented for the first time. A public meeting is scheduled for March 6 from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. at Stone Spring Elementary for public comment on these concepts.

Mr. Don Komara and Mr. Tom Hartman briefly discussed the public meeting held the previous night regarding sidewalks on North Main Street. Mr. Jakob zumFelde reported good attendance despite the weather, with property owners present and everyone supportive of the project given that people are already walking and biking through the area. Mr. Hartman noted significant increases in pedestrian activity with the opening of the navigation center, with Mr. Komara adding that development at the intersection of Mount Clinton Pike and Route 11 will further increase pedestrian traffic.

Upcoming Meetings

Chairperson Hartman announced that the next Policy Board meeting is scheduled for February 20, 2025, at 3:00 p.m. and will be conducted virtually. The next TAC meeting will be held in-person on March 6, 2025, at the Rockingham County offices.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at approximately 2:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Zach Beard, Program Manager

TO: Harrisonburg-Rockingham MPO Technical Advisory Committee

FROM: Zach Beard, Program Manager

MEETING DATE: April 3, 2025

RE: **TAC Action Form #24-02 – Draft FY26 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Release to Public Comment and Conditional Approval**

RECOMMENDATION

Recommend to the Policy Board release of the Draft FY26 UPWP for public comment and conditionally approve the document pending no public comment.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The UPWP is the HRMPO annual work plan and budget. The document details the upcoming fiscal year administrative and planning activities, and the federal, state, and local budget funding. VDOT and DRPT provide the MPO with annual planning funding every spring. The HRMPO Policy Board must approve the FY26 UPWP by the end of the current fiscal year. The FY25 and the projected FY26 budgets are below for comparison. Note that the final FY26 FTA 5303 Carryover will be finalized later in the year once the current fiscal year is complete, and the current number is an estimate.

Revenues	FY 2025	FY 2026
FHWA PL	\$232,062	\$239,110
PL Carryover	\$82,547	\$129,744
FTA 5303	\$115,789	\$112,916
FTA 5303 Carryover	\$16,606	\$35,000*
Totals	\$475,398	\$516,770

*Estimate

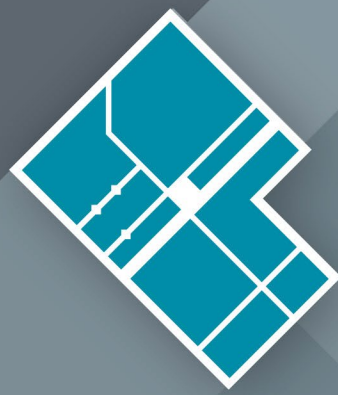
FY25 work focused on the Port Republic Road – Peach Grove – Neff Ave. Intersection Small Area Study in the City of Harrisonburg. In FY26, MPO work will focus on beginning a new FY26 Small Area Study by September 2025 with Rockingham County.

NEXT STEPS

Staff is requesting that the TAC recommend the Policy Board release the Draft FY 2026 UPWP to public comment, and conditionally approving the document, pending no public comments, at the April 17 Board meeting.

ATTACHMENT

[Draft FY26 UPWP](#)



HRMPO

Fiscal Year 2026

Unified Planning Work Program

Approved: __, 2025



Harrisonburg Rockingham
Metropolitan Planning Organization
112 MacTanly Place, Staunton, VA 24401 | 540.885.5174
hrvampo.org

Contact Information

112 MacTanly Place; Staunton, Virginia 24401

Phone (540) 885-5174 | Fax (540) 885-2687

Virginia Relay for Hearing & Voice Impaired: Within Virginia 7-1-1;

Outside Virginia Voice 800-828-1140 | Hearing 800-828-1120

Website: www.hrvampo.org

Title

HRMPO Fiscal Year 2026 Unified Planning Work Program

Authors

Paula Melester, Director of Transportation

Zach Beard, Program Manager

Garreth Bartholomew, Transportation Planner

Report Date: ____ 2025

This Report is prepared on behalf of the Harrisonburg-Rockingham Metropolitan Planning Organization (HRMPO) through a cooperative process involving the City of Harrisonburg and the Harrisonburg Department of Public Transportation (HDPT), the County of Rockingham, the Town of Bridgewater, the Town of Dayton, the Town of Mt. Crawford, Virginia, the Virginia Department of Transportation, the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation, the Federal Highway Administration, and the Federal Transit Administration.

The preparation of this work program was financially aided through grants from the Federal Highway Administration, the Federal Transit Administration, the Virginia Department of Transportation, the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation, and the five localities comprising the HRMPO. The Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission provides administrative support and technical assistance.

Harrisonburg-Rockingham Metropolitan Planning Organization

Policy Board

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Vice Chair, Neal Dillard, Town of Mt. Crawford

Administrator, Ann Cundy, CSPDC (non-voting)

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Dany Fleming, City of Harrisonburg

Nasser Alsaadun, City of Harrisonburg

Gerald Gatobu, City of Harrisonburg

Casey Armstrong, Rockingham County

Sallie Wolfe-Garrison, Rockingham County

Jay Litten, Town of Bridgewater

Brian Borne, Town of Dayton

Todd Stevens, Virginia Department of Transportation

Non-Voting Members

Chelsea Beytas, Federal Transit Administration

Grace Stankus, Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation

Kevin Jones, Federal Highway Administration

Valerie Kramer, James Madison University

Rusty Harrington, Virginia Department of Aviation

Technical Advisory Committee

Officers

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Vice Chair, Dylan Nicely, Rockingham County

Voting Members

Rachel Salatin, Rockingham County

Kyle Lawrence, City of Harrisonburg

Cheryl Spain, City of Harrisonburg

Thanh Dang, City of Harrisonburg

Alex Wilmer, Town of Bridgewater

Robert Taylor, Town of Mt. Crawford

Adam Campbell, Virginia Department of Transportation

Don Komara, Virginia Department of Transportation

Grace Stankus, Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation

Non-Voting Members

Rusty Harrington, Virginia Department of Aviation

Kevin Jones, Federal Highway Administration

Chelsea Beytas, Federal Transit Administration

Valerie Kramer, James Madison University

**RESOLUTION APPROVING THE FISCAL YEAR 2026
HARRISONBURG-ROCKINGHAM METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM (UPWP)**

WHEREAS, the Harrisonburg-Rockingham Metropolitan Planning Organization (HRMPO) is the designated regional transportation planning organization, and has the responsibility for developing and carrying out a continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive transportation planning process for the Metropolitan Planning Area; and

WHEREAS, a Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), which identifies transportation planning activities to be undertaken for the Metropolitan Planning Area during Fiscal Year 2026 (FY 2026), is required as a basis and condition for all funding assistance by the FHWA and FTA; and

WHEREAS, the FY 2026 UPWP was developed by HRMPO staff and reviewed by the HRMPO Technical Advisory Committee and Policy Board; and

WHEREAS, public participation has been sought and considered in accordance with the HRMPO's Public Participation Plan;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the HRMPO Policy Board does hereby approve the FY 2026 UPWP on this day of May 2025.

SIGNED:

ATTEST:

Laura Dent, Chair

Harrisonburg-Rockingham

Metropolitan Planning Organization

Ann Cundy, Administrator

Harrisonburg-Rockingham

Metropolitan Planning Organization

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TOTAL BUDGET FOR FY 2026 20-21

INTRODUCTION

Basis for Work Program

The Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) for transportation planning identifies all activities to be undertaken by the Harrisonburg-Rockingham Metropolitan Planning Organization (HRMPO) within the Metropolitan Planning Area (MPA) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 from July 1, 2025, to June 30, 2026. The UPWP documents the HRMPO's annual work activities and budget and is required as a condition for all federal transportation funding and transportation planning assistance by Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) regulations.

Transportation planning activities address highway, transit, and non-motorized modes of travel. The UPWP incorporates suggestions from federal funding agencies, state transportation agencies, transit operating agencies, local governments participating in the HRMPO, and the public through the public involvement process. The HRMPO's 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) planning goals provide a basis for evaluating transportation needs and projects and reflect the priorities of the HRMPO jurisdictions.

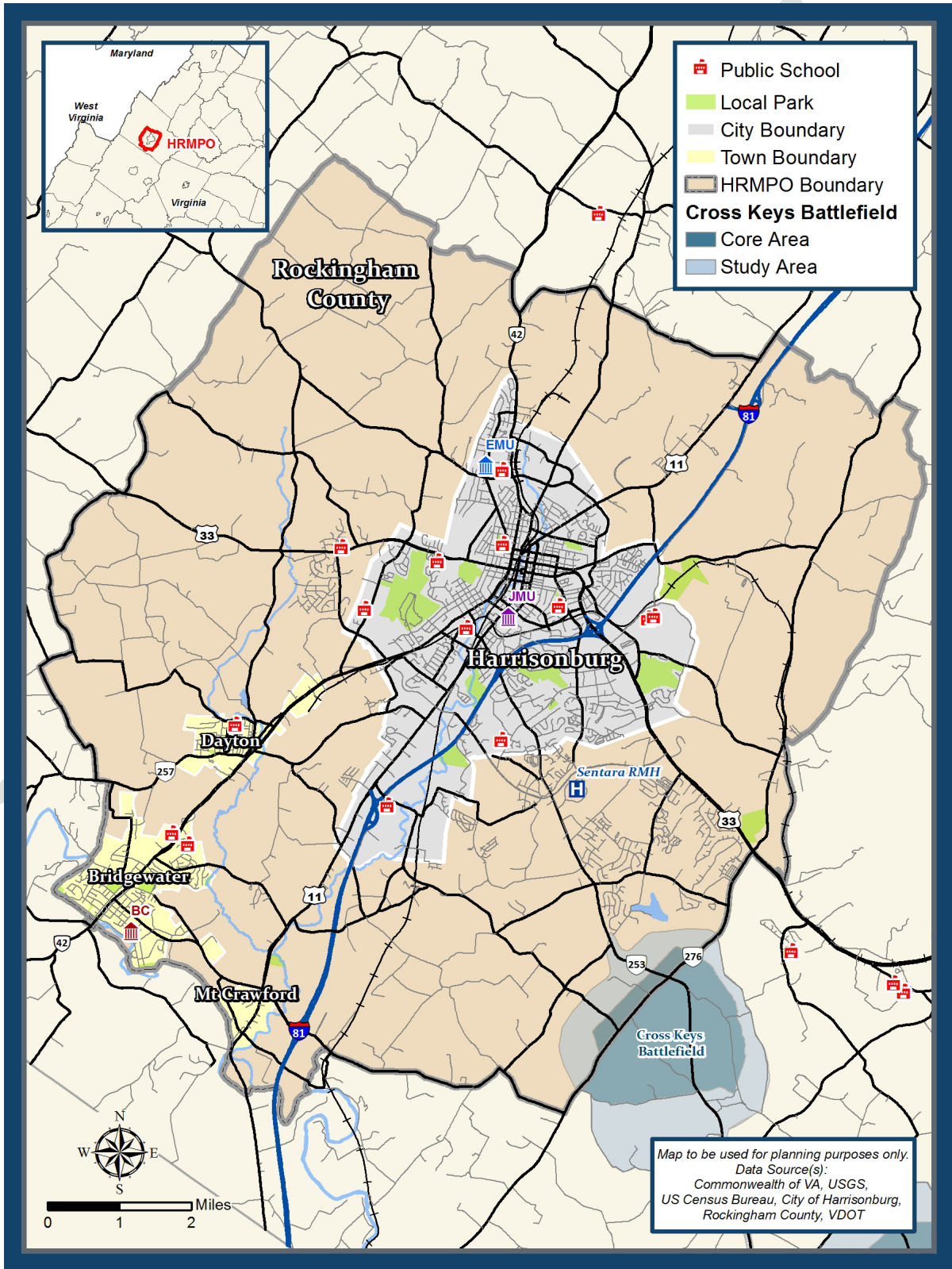
The HRMPO planning priorities are:

- **Safety and Accessibility.** Maintain and enhance the safety and accessibility of the existing transportation system to provide a high quality of service for all modes and all users of the HRMPO region.
- **Economic Development.** Support and improve the economic vitality of the region by encouraging a transportation system that provides access to jobs, education, and attracts businesses and entrepreneurs to the region. Ensure connectivity of the transportation system across modes for the transport of both people and goods.
- **Environment.** Improve quality of life by protecting and enhancing historic and natural resources, promoting energy conservation, maintaining air quality, and expanding regional recreation networks.
- **Land Use Coordination.** Encourage the coordination of land use and transportation planning for transportation improvements to support future growth.
- **Congestion Mitigation.** Maintain existing transportation systems and facilities and promote efficient system management.

Metropolitan Planning Area

The HRMPO Metropolitan Planning Area (MPA) consists of the City of Harrisonburg, the towns of Bridgewater, Dayton, and Mt. Crawford, and a portion of Rockingham County surrounding these jurisdictions (see **Map 1**). The Harrisonburg-Rockingham MPA encompasses a land area of 106 square miles and had a population of 135,571 following the 2020 Census.

Map 1. HRMPO Metropolitan Planning Area



Organization of the HRMPO

The HRMPO is the organization responsible for conducting the continuing, comprehensive, and coordinated (3-C) planning process for the Harrisonburg urbanized area in accordance with requirements of Title 23 U.S.C. Section 134 enacted through the Federal Highway Act of 1962, and Section 8 of the Federal Transit Act. The HRMPO is the official Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Harrisonburg urbanized area, designated by the Governor of Virginia, under Section 134 of the Federal Aid Highway Act, and the joint metropolitan planning regulations of FHWA and FTA.

The policy making body of the HRMPO is its Board, which consists of twelve (12) voting members. The voting membership of the Policy Board consists of five (5) members from the City of Harrisonburg; three (3) members from Rockingham County; one (1) member from the Town of Bridgewater; one (1) member from the Town of Dayton; one (1) member from the Town of Mt. Crawford; and one (1) member from the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT). Member jurisdictions have also provided for alternate voting members from staff and administration.

Other agencies with non-voting membership on the HRMPO Policy Board include: the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT), FHWA, and FTA.

The CSPDC administers the HRMPO. Staff, in conjunction with the HRMPO member agencies, collects, analyzes and evaluates demographic, land use, and transportation data to gain a better understanding of the transportation system requirements of the area. Staff prepares materials for use at Policy Board and Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meetings, as well as any existing sub-committee meetings. Staff also administers the public involvement and Title VI processes.

Staff members participate in all HRMPO meetings, provide expertise as needed, and provide administrative support of the transportation planning program. In addition, CSPDC staff represent the SAWMPO at other regional meetings.

Total FY 2026 Budget Revenues

The primary funding sources for transportation planning activities included in this UPWP are the FHWA Section 112 (PL, highway) and FTA Section 5303 (transit) programs. The proposed funding amounts (including state and local matching funds) for the FY 2026 HRMPO UPWP are in the following table.

FY26 UPWP Budget Revenue Summary				
Revenue Category	Total	Federal	State	Local
Highway				
FY 2026 New Highway Revenues	\$239,110	\$191,288	\$23,911	\$23,911
Deobligated Highway funds from FY 25	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Carryover from FY 2024 Highway Funds	\$129,744	\$103,795	\$12,974	\$12,974
Subtotal	\$368,854	\$295,083	\$36,885	\$36,885
Transit				
FY 2026 New Transit Revenues	\$112,916	\$90,333	\$11,292	\$11,292
Carryover from FY 2025 Transit Funds	\$35,000	\$28,000	\$3,500	\$3,500
Subtotal	\$147,916	\$118,333	\$14,792	\$14,792
Total FY26 Revenues	\$516,770	\$413,416	\$51,677	\$51,677

WORK TASK 1.0: PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION AND PUBLIC OUTREACH

Work Task 1.01: Program Administration

Objective and Description:

This task includes ongoing activities of a continuing, comprehensive, and coordinated (3-C) planning process that ensure proper management and operation as described in the HRMPO Memorandum of Understanding. Coordination includes providing opportunities for cross-jurisdictional communication among VDOT and DRPT, the member jurisdictions, and other regional partners through the MPO planning process.

This task includes maintenance of the FY 2026 UPWP and development of the FY 2027 UPWP. To meet the requirements of 23 CFR Part 420 and 23 CFR Part 450, the HRMPO, in cooperation with VDOT and DRPT, is responsible for the development of a UPWP.

The UPWP describes all regional transportation planning activities anticipated in the MPO for the following fiscal year that will utilize federal funding. The UPWP also identifies state and local matching dollars for these federal planning programs. These transportation planning activities are designed to address highway, transit, and non-motorized modes of travel for the Harrisonburg-Rockingham MPO. The UPWP will incorporate suggestions from federal funding agencies, state transportation agencies, transit operating agencies, local governments participating in the HRMPO, and the public through the public involvement process.

The primary objectives of program administration are:

- Provide all required administrative functions including UPWP maintenance, accounting, financial reporting, personnel administration, meeting organization, preparation of meeting materials and minutes or summaries, presentation preparation and follow-up, office management, contract administration, and necessary purchases software for transportation planning, etc.
- Coordinate with VDOT and DRPT staff, HRMPO TAC and Policy Board members, etc., to review and amend plans and policies to ensure that all program elements are compliant with applicable state and federal regulations and guidance.
- Support the activities of the HRMPO through the organization of regular meetings among stakeholders, preparation of reports, presentations, agendas, minutes, and mailings for all Policy Board, TAC and other meetings, as well as attendance at those meetings. Attendance at staff meetings and timekeeping are included in this task.

- Provide on-going training and development of staff and Board/Committee members to make certain that they are familiar with new and updated federal and state transportation regulations/guidelines and are prepared to respond to the challenges and demands of this region.
- Represent the HRMPO on the Virginia Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations (VAMPO).
- Manage the on-call consultant programs for the use of the HRMPO and its member localities and assist with contract administration and project management services.

This task also includes ongoing activities that maintain and encourage meaningful participation of local citizens in metropolitan transportation planning. Public participation is an integral component to MPO activities, and therefore this work task is integrated with program support.

The primary objectives of public participation and outreach are:

- Maintain Title VI compliance in all work plans and activities for travel modes, including consultation with appropriate groups, committees and community representatives.
- Continue to manage the HRMPO website, developing new content that will inform the public on the activities of the HRMPO, providing updates relative to transportation in the region, and listing any information required by federal and state regulations and guidance.
- Continue a proactive public participation process that provides complete information, timely public notice, full public access to key decisions, and supports early and continuing involvement of the public in developing long and short-range transportation plans, and other documents in accordance with the approved Public Participation Plan (PPP).
- Integrate online public engagement tools into the overall public engagement approach for all segments of the population.

Activities and Products:

- Provide efficient office operation, accurate financial information, preparation of quarterly reports and other information in support of MPO activities, writing and administration of transportation-related grants; transportation planning services; and a well-trained and informed MPO staff, Policy Board, and TAC.

- Coordinate between VDOT and DRPT staff, HRMPO staff, TAC, and Policy Board through regular MPO meetings to share knowledge, strategize on long-term planning issues, review and amend plans and policies, and remain compliant with relevant federal and state regulations and guidelines.
- Support of the administrative activities of the HRMPO including the Policy Board, TAC and other meetings, as well as attendance at those meetings.
- Manage on-call consultants to provide technical support and project development for the HRMPO and its member localities.
- Develop the FY 2027 UPWP and manage the FY 2026 UPWP.
- Process UPWP amendments as needed for the appropriate sections of funding (i.e. FHWA PL 112, FTA Section 5303, VDOT State match, DRPT State match, or any local matching funds).
- Facilitate data sharing between the MPO, VDOT, and public transportation providers to advance the efficient use of resources and inform state, regional, and local decision-making.
- Facilitate participation by community members in HRMPO transportation plans, with a particular focus on improving public participation by groups not previously involved in the transportation planning process.
- Ensure Title VI compliance and evaluate the environmental impact of transportation projects in all work plans and activities for all segments of the population.
- Maintain the HRVAMPO.org website with timely information regarding the MPO's ongoing activities, scheduled events, information related to regional transportation issues, and planning documents.
- Evaluate the effectiveness of the PPP and Title VI Plan for engaging transportation disadvantaged communities in the decision-making process.
- Supplement face-to-face information sharing with online public engagement tools such as the Social Pinpoint platform while ensuring continued public participation by individuals without access to computers and mobile devices.

1.01 Program Administration					
FY26		Total	Federal	State	Local
Highway	60%	\$60,000	\$48,000	\$6,000	\$6,000
Transit	40%	\$39,916	\$31,933	\$3,992	\$3,992
Total		\$99,916	\$79,933	\$9,992	\$9,992

WORK TASK 2.0: PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

Work Task 2.01: Long Range Transportation Planning

Objective and Description:

The primary objective of this task is to provide for long-range planning activities. This includes updating and implementing the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) and other long range planning documents such as the HRMPO Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan.

Federal law requires that the HRMPO develop and approve a LRTP every five years, and that the Plan must have at least a 20-year horizon at the time of adoption. The LRTP was most recently approved on May 18, 2023. FY 2026 work will maintain a performance-based planning program as outlined in the 2045 LRTP document, in compliance with FAST Act and the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL). The program will utilize transportation performance measures and targets to achieve performance outcomes.

This work task is also intended to support planning work for making non-motorized forms of transportation safer and more accessible, including activities to continue and expand development of a bicycle/pedestrian safety and education program and the Bike the Valley website, planning activities based on recommendations in the HRMPO Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan and the 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan, and continuing to identify bicycle and pedestrian needs and improvements within the MPO.

Through these activities, HRMPO will meet the BIL requirement that each MPO use at least 2.5% of its PL funds on specified planning activities to increase safe and accessible options for multiple travel modes for people of all ages and abilities. [§ 11206(b)]. The following are activities that may be accomplished under this task.

Activities and Products:

- Maintain a 3-C process for updating the region's LRTP, while ensuring consistency with federal requirements as necessary, and incorporating both highway and transit project changes as appropriate.

- Implement the long-range planning process in support of the 2045 LRTP.
- Support an on-going Performance-Based Planning Program.
- Update the HRMPO Travel Demand Model in coordination with VDOT to project traffic impact on the network to 2050.
- Update and evaluate the HRMPO Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan and continued work to develop and refine recommendations for a comprehensive network of cycling and pedestrian facilities connecting neighborhoods, communities, and key destination points and prioritize those recommendations.
- Advance programs to promote bicycle safety to all and organize and attend community outreach events to promote bicycle and pedestrian modes of travel.
- Consider and seek ways to reduce the environmental impact of transportation projects on all people in the region.
- Seek state and federal funds to further bicycle/pedestrian programs in the region (e.g., VDOT's Safe Routes to School program, DCR's Trails and Outdoors Fund grants, VDOT's Transportation Alternatives Program, DMV's Governor's Highway Safety grants).
- Maintain and enhance the bicycle/pedestrian program web page on the HRMPO website, and the Bike-the-Valley website for posting information and soliciting feedback.

2.01 Long-Range Transportation Planning					
FY26		Total	Federal	State	Local
Highway	74%	\$50,000	\$40,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
Transit	26%	\$18,000	\$14,400	\$1,800	\$1,800
Total		\$68,000	\$54,400	\$6,800	\$6,800

Work Task 2.02: Short Range Planning

Objective and Description:

Short range planning activities for the MPO include maintenance of the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), and small area or corridor studies to advance projects to the project application and programming stage.

The TIP is a four-year program of highway, transit, bicycle, pedestrian, safety, and enhancement projects receiving federal, state, and local funds. The TIP must be approved by the HRMPO Policy Board and the Governor of Virginia, and is required as a condition for all federal funding assistance for transportation improvements within the MPO. The TIP is posted on the HRMPO website. The public and all other interested parties will be given an opportunity to review and comment on proposed TIP amendments as described under the HRMPO's PPP. The TIP will be accessible for public review electronically through the internet and at other locations specified in the PPP.

This task also allows HRMPO staff or consultants to perform corridor, interchange, or intersection planning studies to prepare projects for advancement to the SYIP and TIP, or towards construction funded by other means. While these are highway studies examining transportation related to vehicular traffic, active transportation modes and transit will be incorporated into all studies. These studies also may include opportunities to examine the potential for economic development and show commitment to infrastructure improvements that would enable it.

MPO studies may also consider how projects can reduce environmental impacts, evaluate emerging transportation technology, identify transportation system vulnerabilities, increase public transportation service for all people, and encourage interagency relationships to minimize impacts on human and natural resources.

Activities & Products:

- Maintain a current HRMPO TIP document, listing all highway, transit, and non-motorized projects with obligated federal funding for the published STIP, and complying with all federal and state regulations and guidance.
- Review and process highway, transit, and non-motorized TIP adjustments and amendments.
- Provide a publicly available updated TIP on the HRMPO website, and ensure the document is accessible for public review and comment online and at other locations specified in the PPP.

- Evaluate site-specific needs identified during the 2050 LRTP to determine a list of potential Small Area Studies for selection and scoping in the future.
- Develop a FY 26 SAS in coordination with Rockingham County and begin study in fall 2025.

2.02 Short Range Transportation Planning					
FY26		Total	Federal	State	Local
Highway	81%	\$130,000	\$104,000	\$13,000	\$13,000
Transit	19%	\$30,000	\$24,000	\$3,000	\$3,000
Total		\$160,000	\$128,000	\$16,000	\$16,000

Work Task 2.03: Local, State and Federal Agency Assistance

Objective and Description:

This program element is designed to provide planning assistance for the HRMPO member jurisdictions, state and federal agencies. Assistance can include, but is not limited to review and comment on traffic impact analyses submitted for new developments, development or administration of transportation-related grants, and assistance with other transportation planning requested.

Work will also include assistance with VTrans, the statewide transportation plan update process, multimodal and freight planning, coordinated human service planning for transit, ADA, Title VI review, compliance with state and federal planning regulations, and review or development of MPO/regional transportation performance measures. Also included in this task will be time for staff to monitor legislative activity related to transportation issues, and provide comment and feedback to policy-making boards and inform local administrators on the implications of this legislative activity, especially with regards to the I-81 Corridor Improvement Program and Committee.

Activities & Products:

- Identify, write, or administer transportation-related grants for HRMPO member localities, including the SMART SCALE, Transportation Alternatives/Safe Routes to School, and Highway Safety Improvement Program grants.
- Assist localities with updates to Comprehensive Plans or other planning documents related to transportation.

- Assist in the completion of any special transportation related study or project for any transportation mode for the HRMPO localities as requested, including the I-81 Corridor Improvement Program.
- Provide information related to specific planning work items as requested by FTA, FHWA, DRPT and VDOT including, but not limited to, multi-modal planning, human services transportation planning, freight planning, and assistance with components of the statewide transportation plan.
- Attend state or federal agency or non-governmental organization sponsored training, workshops, seminars, and conferences relative to transportation planning, including the annual Governor's Transportation Conference and American Planning Association Virginia conference.
- Provide updates and legislative reports to the Policy Board, TAC, and other regional stakeholders, and feedback regarding legislative activities will be shared with appropriate state and federal agencies.
- Provide general transportation-related planning services, projects, and activities (e.g., map production, data analysis, reports, etc.), as requested by HRMPO localities or the HRMPO Policy Board/TAC for all modes of travel.
- Provide updates to member localities on emerging transportation technology and implications for future planning and projects.

2.03 Local, State and Federal Assistance					
FY26		Total	Federal	State	Local
Highway	79%	\$55,000	\$44,000	\$5,500	\$5,500
Transit	21%	\$15,000	\$12,000	\$1,500	\$1,500
Total		\$70,000	\$56,000	\$7,000	\$7,000

Work Task 2.04: Transit Planning

Objective and Description:

The HRMPO will coordinate with the Harrisonburg Department of Public Transportation (HDPT) and other regional transit providers to conduct transit planning for the MPO.

Transit planning activities include route planning, analysis, and performance evaluations, identification of gaps in the connectivity and hours of transit service, evaluation of workforce mobility needs, provision of Park and

Ride lots, and other transportation demand management (TDM) needs region-wide. The HRMPO will assist HDPT with the development of the Transit Strategic Plan.

MPO studies will consider infrastructure for non-motorized travel, public transportation access, and increased public transportation service in underserved communities, and review policies, rules, and procedures to determine their impact on safety for all users.

Activities & Products:

The HRMPO may assist HDPT internal planning projects based on activities identified in an annual Scope of Work agreement through 5303 transit planning funds. Specific HDPT FY26 activities include:

- Develop financial plan for operating and capital expenses, including budget, activities, and evaluation.
- Monitor and update the Transit Development Plan as necessary.
- Assist with transit route planning including route review, planning, and analysis.
- Develop the National Transit Database (NTD) report and participate in associated planning and training.
- Prepare, develop, and submit grants to fund HDPT activities and monthly, quarterly, and annual reporting documents to meet City of Harrisonburg, FTA, and DRPT requirements.

2.04 Transit Planning					
FY26		Total	Federal	State	Local
Highway	0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Transit	100%	\$45,000	\$36,000	\$4,500	\$4,500
Total		\$45,000	\$36,000	\$4,500	\$4,500

WORK TASK 3.0: CONTINGENCY

Objective and Description:

This category reflects the balance of funds not identified for Program Support, Administration, and Work Program Activities at this time for the highway funding side of the matrix (transit funds are fully drawn down each year).

3.0 Contingency--Highway					
FY26		Total	Federal	State	Local
Highway	100%	\$73,854	\$59,083	\$7,385	\$7,385
Transit	0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total		\$73,854	\$59,083	\$7,385	\$7,385

TOTAL BUDGET FOR FY 2026

The total revenues and expenditures for FY 2026 are \$516,770. New federal revenues for which the member localities are assessed for their local contribution are \$352,026. Below is the breakdown of the FY 2026 member assessment to the MPO member localities. The following page presents a detailed view of the FY 2026 Budget.

FY26 Assessment		
MPO Member	# Votes	FY26 Assessment
Harrisonburg	5	\$16,001.18
Rockingham County	3	\$9,600.71
Bridgewater	1	\$3,200.24
Dayton	1	\$3,200.24
Mt. Crawford	1	\$3,200.24
Total	11	\$35,202.60
FY26 Highway Local Match	\$23,911	
FY26 Transit Local Match	\$11,292	
Total	\$35,203	
Assessment per Vote	\$3,200.24	

FY 2026 UPWP Revenues and Expenditures by Federal, State, and Local Sources: Period of July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026												
Revenues		Total Highway	FHWA Section 112 (PL) (80%)	State Match (10%)	Local Match (10%)			Total Transit	FTA Section 5303 (80%)	State Match (10%)	Local Match (10%)	Total Highway & Transit
FY 2026 New Highway Revenues		\$239,110	\$191,288	\$23,911	\$23,911			\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$239,110
FY 2026 New Transit Revenues		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0			\$112,916	\$90,333	\$11,292	\$11,292	\$112,916
Deobligated Highway funds from FY 25		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0			\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Carryover from FY 2024 Highway Funds		\$129,744	\$103,795	\$12,974	\$12,974			\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$129,744
Carryover from FY 2025 Transit Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0			\$ 35,000	\$ 28,000	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,500	\$35,000
TOTAL FY 2026 Revenues		\$368,854	\$295,083	\$36,885	\$36,885			\$ 147,916	\$ 118,333	\$ 14,792	\$ 14,792	\$516,770
Expenditures	Budget Code					Transit Technical Classification	Budget Code					
1.0 Program Administration												
1.01 Program Administration	510.1	\$60,000	\$48,000	\$6,000	\$6,000	44.21.00	510	\$39,916	\$31,933	\$3,992	\$3,992	\$99,916
2.0 Program Activities												
2.01 Long-Range Transportation Planning	511	\$50,000	\$40,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	44.23.01	511	\$18,000	\$14,400	\$1,800	\$1,800	\$68,000
2.02 Short Range Transportation Planning	512	\$130,000	\$104,000	\$13,000	\$13,000	44.25.00	512	\$30,000	\$24,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$160,000
2.03 Local, State and Federal Assistance	513	\$55,000	\$44,000	\$5,500	\$5,500	44.24.00	513	\$15,000	\$12,000	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$70,000
2.04 Transit Planning	514	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	44.21.00	514	\$45,000	\$36,000	\$4,500	\$4,500	\$45,000
3.0 Contingency--Highway	520	\$73,854	\$59,083	\$7,385	\$7,385							\$73,854
TOTAL FY 2026 Expenditures		\$368,854	\$295,083	\$36,885	\$36,885			\$147,916	\$118,333	\$14,792	\$14,792	\$516,770

TO: Harrisonburg-Rockingham MPO Technical Advisory Committee
FROM: Zach Beard, Program Manager
MEETING DATE: April 3, 2024
RE: **TAC Action Form #25-03: FY 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendments**

RECOMMENDATION

Staff is requesting that the TAC recommend that the Policy Board approve the public release of three amendments to the FY 2024-2027 TIP for a 21-day public comment period and conditionally approve the amendments pending no public comments.

BACKGROUND

The HRMPO FY 24-27 TIP documents all transportation and transit projects receiving federal funding or deemed “regionally significant,” and HRMPO staff adjust the document throughout the year to reflect updated projects and funding changes. HDPT requested HRMPO staff include three new amendments in the document.

Amendments are more substantial changes requiring public notice and Board approval and are defined by whether a new project is added to the document or if a funding change exceeds more than \$2 million. Administrative modifications are smaller document changes made by HRMPO staff not requiring Board approval or public notice.

TIP AMENDMENTS

The three TIP amendments are on page 31 of the FY24-27 TIP document under the “DRAFT: May 2025 Amendments – Adjusted Funding for FY 2025 – 2027” heading. The specific amendments are below.

The first TIP amendment reflects more accurate HDPT operating FTA 5307 operating expenses through FY 24 -27 (see **Table 1**).

Table 1: HRMPO TIP FY 24-27 May 2025 Amendment 1

	Previous	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027	Total FY 2024-2027	
STIP ID: HAR0001 Title: Operating Assistance Recipient: Harrisonburg Bus Service							
FTA 5307	4,518	4,692	4,897	3,000	3,200	FTA 5307	15,789
Year Total	4,518	4,692	4,897	3,000	3,200	Total Funds	15,789

The second amendment moved Transit ITS funds from FY27 to FY26 and increased the fund amount for a total project of \$3,000,000 (see **Table 2**).

Table 2: HRMPO TIP FY 24-27 May 2025 Amendment 2

	Previous	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027	Total FY 2024-2027
STIP ID: HAR0015 Title: ITS or Misc. Equipment Recipient: Harrisonburg Bus Service						
FTA 5307	-	-	-	2,400	-	FTA 5307 2,400
State	-	9	-	480	-	State 489
Local	-	2	-	120	-	Local 122
Year Total	-	11	-	3,000	-	Total Funds 3,011

The third TIP amendment adjusted funding for paratransit replacement buses to reflect recent price changes in FY26 from \$2,400,000 to \$2,600,000 and FY27 from \$240,000 to \$400,000 (see **Table 3**).

Table 3: HRMPO TIP FY 24-27 May 2025 Amendment 3

	Previous	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027	Total FY 2024-2027
STIP ID: HAR0004 Title: Replacement Rolling Stock Recipient: Harrisonburg Bus Service						
FTA 5307	-	-	-	2,080	320	FTA 5307 2,400
State	-	-	-	416	64	State 480
Local	-	-	-	104	16	Local 120
Year Total	-	-	-	2,600	400	Total Funds 3,000

NEXT STEPS

Pending TAC recommendation, staff will present the FY 24-27 TIP amendments to the Policy Board for a 21-day public comment period and conditional approval pending no public comments. Staff will submit the modified TIP to VDOT and DRPT and post the updated document on the HRMPO website.

ATTACHMENT

[FY24-27 Amendments – May 2025](#)



TO: Harrisonburg-Rockingham MPO (HRMPO) Technical Advisory Committee
FROM: Garreth Bartholomew, Transportation Planner
MEETING DATE: April 3, 2025
RE: **TAC Memo #25-03: Port Republic Road – Peach Grove – Neff Avenue
Small Area Study Update**

BACKGROUND

The FY25 HRMPO Small Area Study at Port Republic Road/Peach Grove Avenue/Neff Avenue is continuing to assess current and future operational and safety issues at the Port Republic Road and Peach Grove Avenue/Neff Avenue intersection and surrounding area. One of the study's main goals is to propose improvements addressing such future transportation issues including those related to future residential development in the study area.

The study group includes representatives from the HRMPO, the City of Harrisonburg, HDPT, Rockingham County, JMU, VDOT, law enforcement, and the consultant VHB. The study group held a kick-off meeting on October 11, 2024 and meetings on December 17, 2024, and February 21, 2025. The study group launched an online interactive mapping survey on March 6, 2025. The study is scheduled to be complete in May 2025. The final study group meeting is scheduled for April 25, 2025.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Public Engagement Survey and Activities

The HRMPO, in collaboration with the City of Harrisonburg and project consultant VHB, conducted extensive public engagement activities for the Port Republic Road – Peach Grove – Neff Avenue Small Area Study between March 3-14, 2025. These activities included:

1. An interactive public survey accessible open between March 3-14, 2025
2. A public open house held at Stone Spring Elementary School on March 6, 2025
3. A focus group with James Madison University students, staff, and faculty on March 13, 2025

These engagement efforts gathered community feedback on proposed improvement concepts for the study area, generating 213 total contributions through the online platform and an additional 17 supplemental comments through email and paper comments at public meetings.

Key Takeaways

Survey respondents strongly supported most proposed improvements, with over 80% favoring the Port Republic Road/Devon Lane intersection modifications and over 90% supporting both the Peach Grove Avenue and Neff Avenue shared use paths. For the Deer Run pedestrian crossing, 82% supported the proposed hybrid beacon, though JMU representatives later expressed specific concerns about impacts to Kelsey Lane access. The most significant divergence in public opinion concerned the main intersection alternatives, where 87% of respondents preferred the Expanded Intersection concept (Option 1) over the Quadrant Roadway design (Option 2).

Qualitative feedback revealed consistent concerns about specific safety issues that have informed design refinements. Participants at the JMU focus group characterized driving on Port Republic Road

with vivid metaphors expressing anxiety and unpredictability, particularly citing afternoon sun glare severely limiting visibility for left-turning vehicles from Neff Avenue. Multiple participants noted that actual speeds on Port Republic, but particularly on Peach Grove and Neff Ave (recorded at 52 mph in a 35 mph zone via the speed study) create hazardous conditions for cyclists.

Safety concerns for pedestrians and cyclists emerged as one of the highest priorities across all improvements and feedback channels. Participants consistently favored physically protected facilities over painted lanes or shared roadways.

PREFERRED ALTERNATIVES AND STUDY RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on public feedback and revised technical analysis, the Expanded Intersection concept (Option 1) was selected for the intersection of Port Republic Road, Peach Grove Avenue, and Neff Avenue. This option will recommend dual southbound left-turn lanes, widened medians, and pedestrian refuge islands. For bicycle facilities along Port Republic Road, a 13-foot shared-use path on the east side (Alternative 2) has been chosen, with a recommendation to incorporate a 3-foot buffer alongside a 10-foot-wide path wherever feasible.

At the Deer Run pedestrian crossing, a proposed pedestrian hybrid beacon (PHB) crossing will be recommended to the south side of Kelsey Lane (location C) to alleviate concerns raised by JMU while preserving safe stopping sight distances for southbound traffic and maintaining easy access to JMU athletic facilities. Furthermore, another PHB is recommended at the Wine Drive and Portland Drive intersection to facilitate neighborhood connectivity to Stone Spring Elementary School. At the Devon Lane intersection, the proposed featuring dual eastbound left-turn lanes was reaffirmed as preferable over the 2019 study's design, primarily due to its superior operational performance for the heavy eastbound left-turn traffic, which exceeds 300 vehicles per hour.

Lastly, shared-use paths proposed along Peach Grove Avenue and Neff Avenue received over 90% public support and are recommended as elements of the study, with opportunities for implementation through future adjacent private development.

NEXT STEPS

The study team is currently developing detailed cost estimates for the preferred alternatives and refining designs for the main expanded intersection, the improvements along Port Republic Road between Devon Lane and Deer Run, designing pedestrian refuge islands for Peach Grove Avenue, and creating detailed layouts for the Port Republic Road shared-use path in constrained areas.

Additionally, the team is investigating lane utilization along Port Republic Road to ensure the proposed dual left-turn lanes function effectively as modeled. These efforts will culminate in a coordinated SMART SCALE package of improvements and those Cost estimates and refined designs will be presented at the final study group meeting on April 25, 2025, with the draft study expected in May 2025 and final presentation to the Policy Board at their June meeting.

ATTACHMENT

[HRMPO FY25 Port Republic Road – Peach Grove – Neff Avenue Study Scope of Work](#)
[Port Republic Road – Peach Grove – Neff Ave Public Engagement Site](#)