

**Harrisonburg-Rockingham Metropolitan Planning Organization
Policy Board Meeting Agenda
April 17, 2025, 3:00 p.m.**

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

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Minutes of the March 20, 2025, Policy Board Meeting*
3. Public Comment
4. HRMPO Draft FY 2026 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Release for Public Comment and Conditional Approval (Board Action Form #25-03)*
5. FY2024 – 2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendments Release for Public Comment and Conditional Approval (Board Action Form #25-04)*
6. Board Officers Nominating Committee (Board Memo #25-04)
7. Other Business
 - a. SYIP Meeting on May 15, 2025
 - b. Confirm May 2025 Board meeting time
8. Upcoming Meetings
 - a. May 1, 2025 – HRMPO TAC Meeting at 2:00 p.m.
 - b. Tentative: May 22, 2025 – HRMPO Policy Board Meeting at 3:00 p.m.
9. Adjournment

* Action needed

Harrisonburg-Rockingham Metropolitan Planning Organization Policy Board Minutes March 20, 2025, 3:00 p.m.

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

| | Voting Member | | Alternates | | Staff |
|----|-----------------------------|----|-----------------------------|----|----------------------------|
| | City of Harrisonburg | ✓ | Dylan Nicely, Rockingham | ✓* | Ann Cundy |
| ✓ | Laura Dent, Chair | | Rachel Salatin, Rockingham | ✓ | Paula Melester |
| ✓ | Dany Fleming | | Cheryl Spain, Harrisonburg | ✓* | Garreth Bartholomew |
| ✓ | Gerald Gatobu | ✓ | Alex Wilmer, Bridgewater | ✓ | Zach Beard |
| ✓* | Nasser Alsaadun | | Robert Taylor, Mt. Crawford | | |
| | Ande Banks | | Libby Clark, Mt. Crawford | | Others |
| | Rockingham County | | Jeff Lineberry, VDOT | ✓ | Kim Sandum, Shen. Alliance |
| ✓ | Sallie Wolfe-Garrison | ✓ | Adam Campbell, VDOT | ✓* | Kyle Lawrence, SVBC |
| ✓ | Casey Armstrong | ✓ | Don Komara, VDOT | ✓* | Shane McCabe, VDOT |
| | Town of Bridgewater | | Matt Dana, VDOT | ✓ | Jeremy Mason, VDOT |
| | Jay Litten | | Non-Voting Members | ✓ | Tom Hartman, Harrisonburg |
| | Town of Dayton | | Kevin Jones, FHWA | ✓* | Brad Reed, VDOT |
| ✓ | Brian Borne | | Chelsea Beytas, FTA | ✓* | Brent Finnegan |
| | Town of Mt. Crawford | | Rusty Harrington, Aviation | | |
| ✓ | Neal Dillard, Vice Chair | ✓* | Grace Stankus, DRPT | | |
| | VDOT | | Bill Yates, JMU | | |
| | Todd Stevens | ✓* | Valerie Kramer, JMU | | |

*Indicates virtual attendance

Call to Order

The March, 2025, Harrisonburg-Rockingham Metropolitan Planning Organization (HRMPO) Policy Board meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Chairperson Laura Dent. Pursuant to §2.2-3708.2 of the Code of Virginia, HRMPO Board members and attendees may participate in HRMPO meetings through electronic communication. Those who attended virtually are indicated by an asterisk; all others attended in-person.

Approval of Minutes

Chairperson Dent presented the minutes from the February 20, 2025, Policy Board meeting.

Mr. Dany Fleming moved to approve the minutes; seconded by Vice Chair Dillard. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment

Ms. Kim Sandum with the Alliance for the Shenandoah Valley provided comments on two issues. First, Ms. Sandum mentioned a recently released VDOT phase one study about the Shenandoah Rail Trail. Ms. Sandum noted that the study raises serious questions about the rails with trails concept, including concerns about railroad bridges, stormwater issues, and significant engineering challenges. Ms. Sandum noted that the study indicated that there is not a strong viable rail customer base for rails with trails and that implementing rails with trails would be more impactful on historic and archaeological resources.

Ms. Sandum's second comment concerned Interstate 81. Ms. Sandum noted that the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) will be renewing a study to add to the list of projects on the Interstate 81 corridor plan. Ms. Sandum expressed that the first round was well done with extensive public input and data-driven processes, but expressed concern with a potential shift from focusing on safety to economic development projects.

Presentation and Discussion: HRMPO Overview with Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) Member Mr. John Good

Ms. Paula Melester welcomed Staunton District CTB member Mr. John Good. Ms. Melester provided an overview of the HRMPO region, noting key differences from the SAWMPO region. Ms. Melester highlighted that the HRMPO region is home to three institutions of higher education which creates unique transportation challenges with student population fluctuations throughout the year, and noted that the region is the largest agricultural area in Virginia and one of the fastest-growing metropolitan areas in the state.

Ms. Melester described HRMPO studies since 2017 and noted that the MPO also provides support and funding to the Harrisonburg Department of Transportation (HDPT) for transit planning.

Town of Bridgewater

Mr. Alex Wilmer presented for the Town of Bridgewater and emphasized the importance of bicycle and pedestrian planning for the town. Mr. Wilmer summarized the Town's recent bicycle and pedestrian projects, and noted that since 2020 the town has received about \$6 million in transportation funding, which is significant for a town with an annual budget of approximately \$11 million. Mr. Wilmer expressed appreciation for CTB support and outlined plans to continue building on these projects, with the goal of extending the Town's Riverwalk to about two miles in length.

Town of Dayton

Mr. Brian Borne presented for the Town of Dayton. Mr. Borne explained that the Town experiences heavy tractor trailer traffic causing congestion and safety concerns at intersections along Route 42 and Huffman Drive and Mason Street.

The surrounding Mennonite farming community extensively uses bicycles, pedestrian paths, and horse-drawn buggies, adding complexity to the transportation network and creating a strong need for multimodal transportation options. Mr. Borne noted that according to a 2018 MPO study, the Town lacks adequate avenues for bikes, pedestrians, and buggies. Mr. Borne noted that Route 42 runs directly

through Dayton, and that the Town is within five miles of I-81 and also experiences different traffic patterns during interstate closures.

City of Harrisonburg

Mr. Tom Hartman presented for the City of Harrisonburg, noting that the City is the fifth fastest-growing city in Virginia and the metro area including Rockingham County is the third fastest-growing in the state. Mr. Hartman said that this growth creates both opportunities and challenges for transportation infrastructure. Mr. Hartman noted that recent projects emphasize both vehicle volume and multimodal options, recognizing that approximately 5-6% of citizens don't have access to a vehicle.

Mr. Hartman explained that as a constrained city, Harrisonburg faces unique challenges when implementing transportation projects, and that many needed projects fall into an "unfundaible middle" – too small to compete in Smart Scale but too large for TAP or similar programs. Mr. Hartman emphasized that the City focuses on transportation planning to address the City's multi-modal needs, and that the City has three studies on-going.

Mr. Hartman also mentioned concerns about proposed changes to the Safe Routes to School program, which would sunset in four years. Mr. Hartman emphasized the importance of this program in connecting schools while teaching bike education and walking to school.

HDPT

Mr. Gerald Gatobu provided updates on HDPT, noting that the Department is working to maximize ridership but faces challenges with hiring drivers. Mr. Gatobu highlighted the Department's efforts with micro-transit pilot programs using smaller vehicles. Gatobu mentioned that HDPT provides service to the hospital outside the city limits and offers paratransit services for people with disabilities, with all services currently being free.

Mr. Gatobu noted that HDPT has rebranded its buses and is transitioning to electric buses, with five already in service or on order. Gatobu emphasized that HDPT is unusual in having both transit and school buses under the same department, along with a maintenance garage serving all city vehicles.

Mr. Dany Fleming added that multimodal transit is particularly important in Harrisonburg because of JMU's 20,000 students representing about a third of the city's population. With only about 25% living on campus, most students commute east-west across the city. Providing multimodal options helps reduce strain on streets and improves safety, particularly along corridors with high accident rates. Mr. Fleming also expressed concern about potential changes to federal funding for transportation projects, noting that since many grants are reimbursement-based, the City needs certainty about funding before committing to expenditures.

Town of Mount Crawford

Mr. Neal Dillard presented for Mount Crawford and explained that the town will experience about a 30% increase in housing and a 40% increase in population over the next two years, which will burden the Town's roadway network. Mr. Dillard also noted the challenges due to the proximity of homes to Route

11 in regard to improving the existing network. The Town experiences significant congestion and delays when I-81 traffic diverts to Route 11 due to interstate incidents.

The Town's primary concerns include traffic management when I-81 closes and drainage problems during heavy rain.

Rockingham County

Mr. Dylan Nicely presented for Rockingham County, emphasizing that the County relies heavily on VDOT for all transportation needs since the county does own or maintain its roads. Mr. Nicely noted that U.S. Route 33 serves as the County's major east-west corridor, and many of County Smart Scale applications have been addressing the corridor. Mr. Nicely said that rural localities face challenges with the Smart Scale program, which prioritizes urban areas with higher congestion and safety issues. Mr. Nicely acknowledged understanding the prioritization of urban areas, however emphasized that rural areas have significant needs, particularly along corridors like Route 33 where the County has designated an urban development area.

Mr. Don Komara from VDOT added comments about I-81, highlighting the importance of the North River bridge at mile marker 239 just south of Mount Crawford, which has frequent accidents due to alignment. Mr. Komara noted that the interchange at Exit 240 was designed with a bridge wide enough to accommodate future widening in the median, suggesting this represents "low-hanging fruit" for improving I-81 capacity. Mr. Komara emphasized the importance of Route 11 as an alternative when I-81 is closed and mentioned how congestion from I-81 bleeds over onto other roads like Route 42, 276, and 256. Mr. Komara suggested that widening shoulders on some two-lane facilities could improve safety for bikes and buggies while increasing capacity without requiring four-lane expansions and expressed concern that funding for modest but important improvements can be difficult to secure through programs like Smart Scale, which tend to favor more extensive projects.

Ms. Sallie Wolfe-Garrison added that multimodal transit is important in the County, with horse and buggies and bicycles used by Mennonite farmers. She noted a fatal accident involving a Mennonite farmer on a bike and suggested that wider shoulders would help.

Comments from Commonwealth Transportation Board Member John Good

Mr. John Good thanked the group for their presentations. Mr. Good noted that his comments would address the central issue of funding and the challenges facing transportation projects across the Commonwealth. Mr. Good clarified that the CTB does not review every transportation project. The CTB is generally involved with larger projects and program-level decisions rather than every individual project.

Regarding funding uncertainty, Mr. Good acknowledged that the situation remains fluid. Mr. Good emphasized the impact of maintenance costs on the transportation budget, citing the recent hurricane damage in Southwestern Virginia and winter weather impacts across the state. Mr. Good noted that snow removal alone is costly without adding any transportation capacity, and these maintenance expenses reduce funds available for new construction.



Mr. Good addressed the inflation challenges affecting transportation projects, noting that construction costs have risen dramatically. Mr. Good stated that there is not enough funding to cover all the shortfalls being experienced across numerous projects statewide. Mr. Good encouraged localities to be selective and pragmatic about transportation studies, focusing on high-priority projects that have a realistic chance of being funded. Mr. Good noted that projects with local financial contributions tend to receive more favorable consideration. Mr. Good also observed that projects presenting clear safety benefits or supporting economic development generally receive higher priority.

In closing, Mr. Good said that by carefully selecting high-priority projects localities can secure funding for the most important transportation needs, but he cautioned that the overall funding environment is likely to remain limited.

Upcoming Meetings

Chairperson Beard announced that the next TAC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 3, 2025, at 2:00 p.m., and that the next Policy Board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 17, 2025, at 3:00 p.m.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:27 p.m.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Paula Melester". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Paula Melester, Director of Transportation

A small, faint handwritten signature or mark, possibly initials, located below the typed name of Paula Melester.

TO: Harrisonburg-Rockingham MPO Technical Advisory Committee

FROM: Zach Beard, Program Manager

MEETING DATE: April 17, 2025

RE: **Board Action Form #25-03: Draft FY26 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Release to Public Comment and Conditional Approval**

RECOMMENDATION

The TAC is recommending that the Policy Board release 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 TAC reviewed the draft document and recommended approval at the April 3, 2025 TAC meeting.

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

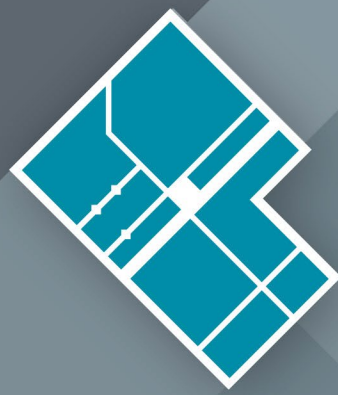
FY25 work focused on the Port Republic Road – Peach Grove – Neff Ave. Intersection Small Area Study in the City of Harrisonburg. In FY26, MPO work will focus on beginning a new FY26 Small Area Study by September 2025 with Rockingham County.

NEXT STEPS

The Policy Board will 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
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hrvampo.org

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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

Officers

Chair, Laura Dent, City of Harrisonburg

Vice Chair, Neal Dillard, Town of Mt. Crawford

Administrator, Ann Cundy, CSPDC (non-voting)

Voting Members

Ande Banks, City of Harrisonburg

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

Chair, Tom Hartman, City of Harrisonburg

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.

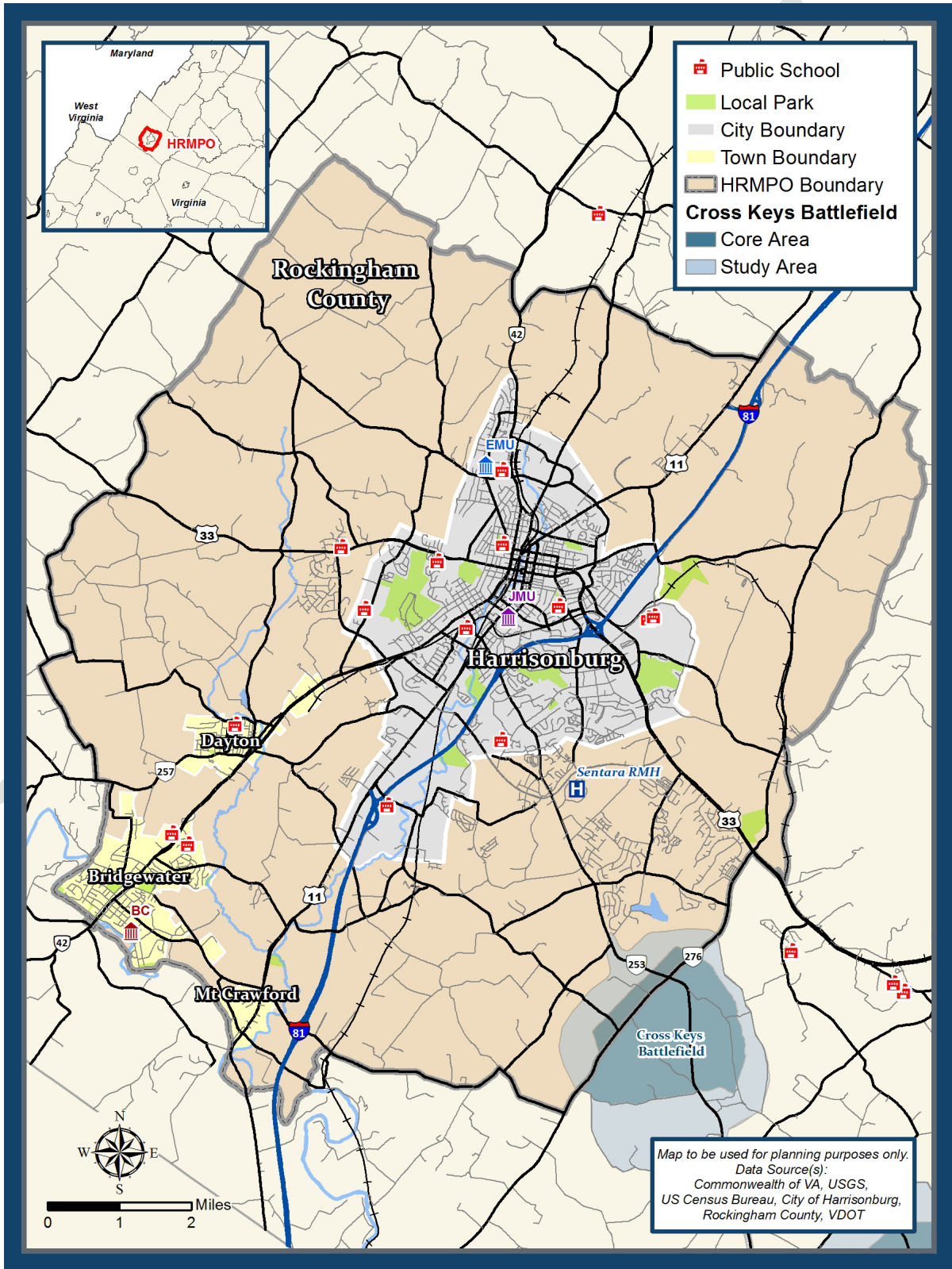
The HRMPO planning priorities are:

- **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 17, 2025
RE: **Board Action Form #25-04: FY 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendments Release for Public Comment and Conditional Approval**

RECOMMENDATION

The TAC recommended 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 Board approval, HRMPO staff will release the document for a 21-day public comment period, and the document will be conditionally approved 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](#)

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TO: Harrisonburg-Rockingham MPO Policy Board
FROM: Paula Melester, Director of Transportation
MEETING DATE: April 17, 2025
RE: **Board Memo #25-04 – Board Officers Nominating Committee**

RECOMMENDATION

Request that the Chair form a Nominating Committee for the positions of Chair and Vice-Chair to hold elections at the May 2025 Board meeting.

BACKGROUND

The terms of the current Chair and Vice Chair expire on June 30, 2025. The Chair must appoint a Nominating Committee to elect officers. The Nominating Committee will report officer recommendations for the positions of Chair and Vice Chair at the May 2025 meeting, and the elections will follow during the same meeting. Elected officers assume duties beginning on July 1, 2025, for two-year terms.

A public-elected representative from the City of Harrisonburg, Rockingham County, and towns of Bridgewater, Dayton, and Mount Crawford may serve as Chair or Vice Chair; however, both offices cannot be filled with representatives from the same locality at the same time, and one representative must be from the City of Harrisonburg and also from either the County or towns. The Secretary-Treasurer is the CSPDC Executive Director.

ATTACHMENT

[HRMPO Bylaws](#)