



**If you would like a recording for any of the meetings
for 2021, please call 540-885-5174.**

**Technical Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda
January 7, 2021, 2:00 p.m.
Meeting by ZOOM Videoconference**

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84927211796?pwd=SDk1V0xtbVF6S3NxbkY4NmRDalRKZz09>

Meeting ID: 849 2721 1796 ** **Passcode:** 556130 ** **Dial In:** 301-715-8592

1. Call To Order
2. Approval of Minutes of November 5, 2020 Meeting*
3. Public Comment
4. MAP-21 Safety and System Performance Targets (TAC Memo #21-1)
5. FY21 UPWP and TIP Administrative Modifications, FY22 5310 Applications (TAC Memo #21-2)
6. FY 2021 Small Area Study Program Update (TAC Memo #21-3)
7. Agency Updates
 - a. VDOT
 - b. DRPT
 - c. HDPT
8. Other Business
9. Upcoming Meetings
 - a. HRMPO Policy Board Meeting Thursday, January 21, 2021, 3:00 pm
 - b. HRMPO TAC Meeting Thursday, February 4, 2021, 2:00 p.m.
10. Adjournment

* Action needed

HRMPO TAC Minutes January 7, 2021, 2:00 p.m.

Via Zoom Video/Audio Conferencing Call

Voting Member	Alternates	Staff
City of Harrisonburg	✓ Patrick Wilcox, Rockingham	✓ Ann Cundy
✓ Tom Hartman	Jay Litten, Bridgewater	✓ Rita Whitfield
Bill Blessing, Chair	Shane Stevens, Mt. Crawford	
✓ Thanh Dang	Dennis Driver, Mt. Crawford	
✓ Erin Yancey	Avery Daugherty, Harrisonburg	Others
✓ Gerald Gatobu	Cheryl Spain, Harrisonburg	✓ Sam Styers, McCormick Taylor
Rockingham County	Dan Rublee, Harrisonburg	✓ Burgess Lindsey, VDOT
✓ Rhonda Cooper, Vice Chair	Jakob zumFelde, Harrisonburg	✓ Kim Sandum, Shenandoah Alliance
✓ Bradford Dyjak	✓ Jeff Lineberry, VDOT	✓ Kyle Lawrence, SVC
Casey Armstrong	Brad Reed, VDOT	
Town of Bridgewater	Josh Dunlap, VDOT	
✓ Alex Wilmer	Grant Sparks, DRPT	
Town of Dayton		
Susan Smith		
Town of Mt. Crawford	Non-Voting Members	
✓ J. C. Smythers	Kevin Jones, FHWA	
VDOT	Michelle DeAngelis, FTA	
Terry Short	Bill Yates, JMU	
✓ Don Komara	Rusty Harrington, Aviation	
VDRPT		
✓ Wood Hudson		

Call to Order

Governor Ralph Northam declared a state of emergency in Virginia on March 12, 2020, in response to COVID-19. In light of this emergency, the January 7, 2021, HRMPO TAC meeting was conducted via video conferencing using Zoom. The January 7, 2021, Zoom Video/Audio Conferencing call of the Harrisonburg-Rockingham Metropolitan Planning Organization Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) was called to order at 2:03 p.m. by Vice Chairperson Cooper.

Minutes

Vice Chairperson Cooper presented the minutes from the November 5, 2020, TAC Zoom Video/Audio Conferencing call. Ms. Dang moved, seconded by Mr. Gatobu, to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment

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

MAP-21 Safety and System Performance Targets (TAC Memo #21-1)

Vice Chairperson Cooper presented the MAP-21 Safety and System Performance Targets. Ms. Cundy stated that in accordance with MAP-21 and FAST Act legislation, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) set final rulemakings for National Performance Measures for Safety Performance in March 2016, and System Performance and Asset Management in January 2017. She noted that safety targets must be updated annually, and the HRMPO's deadline to set its own targets or concur with the State's targets is February 27, 2021. Ms. Cundy stated that in 2019, the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) approved VDOT's recommendation to set statewide targets in accordance with its own annual trendline methodology. She noted that the CTB requested a more data-driven process that accounts for increases in vehicle-miles-traveled, economic influences, and behavioral changes, and she presented the 2021 Safety Performance Targets. Ms. Cundy stated that MPO staff will share the 2021 safety targets with the Policy Board this month, and send a letter to the Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment (OIPI) stating the HRMPO's intent to concur with the State's 2021 safety targets. She noted that there is no penalty for a MPO missing a target. Ms. Cundy stated that MPO staff will also submit a letter concurring with VDOT's adjusted target for the percentage of bridge deck surface in good condition (letters attached to file minutes).

FY21 UPWP and TIP Administrative Modifications (TAC Memo #21-2)

Vice Chairperson Cooper presented the FY21 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) and the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Administrative Modifications, FY22 5310 Applications. Ms. Cundy reviewed the FY21 UPWP modification, noting that it reflects the final FY20 FTA Section 5303 (transit funds) carryover amount after the close-out of the fiscal year. She stated \$12,843 was added to Long Range Planning, and \$15,569 to Short Range Planning. Ms. Cundy noted that following the conclusion of the Port Republic Road Pedestrian Bridge Feasibility Study, the MPO has \$50,000 still available for a second small area study in the second half of FY21.

Ms. Cundy reviewed the FY21-24 TIP modification, noting that DRPT notified the MPO that the vehicle cost amounts in the TIP for three 5310 providers needed to be updated. She stated that the transit portion of the TIP's financial plan reflects adjusted funding amounts for the Arc of Harrisonburg/Rockingham, and Pleasant View, Inc., corrected the VPAS entry, and moved \$18k from capital to operating. Ms. Cundy noted that MPO staff has administratively modified the FY21 UPWP and the transit portion of the TIP, and submitted these changes to the Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT).

FY21 Small Area Study Program Update (TAC Memo #21-3)

Vice Chairperson Cooper presented FY21 Small Area Study Program Update. Ms. Cundy gave an update on the Program, noting that this small area study has evaluated the feasibility of a bicycle-pedestrian bridge over Port Republic Road at the intersection with Bluestone Drive and Hillside Avenue. She stated that Phase I of the study concluded that a pedestrian bridge over Port Republic Road is infeasible. Ms. Cundy noted that the Study Team and AMT are finalizing Phase 2 of the Study, which is evaluating Alternative 4, a consolidation of the two crosswalks on Port Republic Road to the western leg of the intersection. She presented the draft concept for Alternative 4 and reviewed the next steps. Ms. Cundy noted that AMT is refining the Alternative 4 concept and cost estimate based on comments from the Study Team. She stated that the Study Team is developing a plan for gathering public input on the concept, and evaluating a timeline and method for delivering the project. Ms. Cundy noted that the Study is planned to conclude in early 2021.

Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) Update

Mr. Komara gave updates on several bridge construction projects in the HRMPO area: announced that the Mauzy bridge construction project for \$12.5 million was completed; the Fairfield bridge project was completed six months ahead of schedule; the Smithland Road bridge project is scheduled for this fall; the Route 682 Friedens Church Road project is out for contract; the Route 33 bridge project for \$60 million over I-81 is scheduled for 2022; the Route 11 right-of-way four-lane project is moving in a positive direction; reported on the signs for the Mt. Crawford bridge project; and reported on VDOT winter operations including brush cutting and upcoming snow removal. Mr. Komara announced that Mr. Mark Merrill was appointed as the new Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) member, replacing retiree Dixon Whitworth.



Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT)

Mr. Hudson gave an update on DRPT activities. He reported that the due date for the Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan Performance Measures for the MPOs is February 7, 2021; announced that the DRPT Six-Year Improvement Plan was published December 9, 2020, and is available on DRPT's website; announced that the Federal COVID-19 Relief Bill that was just passed includes \$14 billion to be allocated towards transit agencies; and reported on the Virginia Passenger Rail Authority, noting that the next meeting will be held on January 25, 2021, by Zoom.

Harrisonburg Department of Public Transportation (HDPT)

Mr. Gatobu reported on HDPT's activities. He stated that HDPT is currently working with area public schools and James Madison University (JMU), which has pushed back their return date, on meeting all safety needs and providing effective transit routes. Mr. Gatobu noted that DRPT is working on their budget regarding capital and operating projects and expenditures.

Other Business

Under Other Business, Ms. Cundy announced that Katie Schwing, Program Analyst, Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment (OIPI), Office of the Secretary of Transportation, would be present at the next meeting to give an update VTrans 2045 Mid-Term Needs Prioritization process.

Upcoming Meetings

Vice Chairperson Cooper announced that the HRMPO Policy Board will hold a meeting on January 21, 2021, at 3:00 p.m.; and the next HRMPO TAC meeting will be held on February 4, 2021, at 2:00 p.m.

Adjournment

A motion for adjournment was unanimously passed at 2:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Cundy
Director of Transportation



Technical Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda
March 4, 2021, 2:00 p.m.
Meeting by ZOOM Videoconference

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86068942614?pwd=eIE3Mk4vaCtZZXdvbk9rbENZaXlIQT09>

Meeting ID: 860 6894 2614 ** **Passcode:** 018679 ** **Dial In:** 301-715-8592

1. Call To Order
2. Approval of Minutes of January 7, 2021 Meeting*
3. Public Comment
4. Draft Title VI Plan Review and Amendment Release to Public Comment (TAC AF #21-1)*
5. FY 2021 Small Area Study Program Update (TAC Memo #21-3)
6. FY 2022 UPWP Discussion (TAC Memo #21-4)
7. Agency Updates
 - a. VDOT
 - b. DRPT
 - c. HDPT
8. Other Business
9. Upcoming Meetings
 - a. HRMPO Policy Board Meeting Thursday, March 18, 2021, 3:00 pm
 - b. HRMPO TAC Meeting Thursday, April 1, 2021, 2:00 p.m.
10. Adjournment

* Action needed

HRMPO TAC Minutes March 4, 2021, 2:00 p.m.

Via Zoom Video/Audio Conferencing Call

Voting Member	Alternates	Staff
City of Harrisonburg	✓ Patrick Wilcox, Rockingham	✓ Ann Cundy
✓ Tom Hartman	Jay Litten, Bridgewater	Manas Ranjan
✓ Bill Blessing, Chair	✓ Libby Orebaugh, Mt. Crawford	✓ Rita Whitfield
✓ Thanh Dang	Jakob zumFelde, Harrisonburg	
✓ Erin Yancey	Avery Daugherty, Harrisonburg	Others
✓ Gerald Gatobu	Cheryl Spain, Harrisonburg	✓ Kyle Lawrence, SVC
Rockingham County	Dan Rublee, Harrisonburg	✓ Burgess Lindsey, VDOT
✓ Rhonda Cooper, Vice Chair	Grant Sparks, DRPT	
✓ Bradford Dyjak	✓ Jeff Lineberry, VDOT	
Casey Armstrong	✓ Brad Reed, VDOT	
Town of Bridgewater	Josh Dunlap, VDOT	
✓ Alex Wilmer		
Town of Dayton		
Susan Smith		
Town of Mt. Crawford	Non-Voting Members	
✓ J. C. Smythers	Kevin Jones, FHWA	
VDOT	Michelle DeAngelis, FTA	
Terry Short	✓ Bill Yates, JMU	
✓ Don Komara	Rusty Harrington, Aviation	
VDRPT		
✓ Wood Hudson		

Call to Order

Governor Ralph Northam declared a state of emergency in Virginia on March 12, 2020, in response to COVID-19. In light of this emergency, the March 4, 2021, HRMPO TAC meeting was conducted via video conferencing using Zoom. The March 4, 2021, Zoom Video/Audio Conferencing call of the Harrisonburg-Rockingham Metropolitan Planning Organization Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by Chairperson Blessing.

Ms. Cundy announced that Manas Ranjan has been hired as the new CSPDC Transportation Planner, replacing Jonathan Howard.

Minutes

Chairperson Blessing presented the minutes from the January 7, 2021, TAC Zoom Video/Audio Conferencing call. Ms. Cooper moved, seconded by Mr. Gatobu, to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment

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

Draft Title VI Plan Review and Amendment Release to Public Comment (TAC Action Form #21-1)

Chairperson Blessing presented for consideration the Draft Title VI Plan Review and Amendment Release to Public Comment. Ms. Cundy reviewed Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, noting that as a recipient of federal funds, the HRMPPPO adheres to this law, and documents this in the Title VI Plan. She stated that in the fall of 2020, VDOT conducted a triennial review of the MPO's Title VI Plan and program and reported on its Letter of Findings. Ms. Cundy noted that staff is amending the MPO's Title VI Plan to address Findings 1 and 6, adding the Title VI Certifications and Assurances, and revising the Discrimination Complaint Procedures to ensure compliance with FHWA's new requirement that all complaints made against a subrecipient of federal funds be routed directly to FHWA for review. She reviewed the next steps, noting that following the 21-day public comment period, staff will incorporate any additional edits and public comments into the amended document. Ms. Cundy stated that staff will present the final 2021 Title IV Amendment to the Policy Board for approval at the April 15, 2021 meeting. Ms. Cooper moved, seconded by Ms. Dang, to recommend to the HRMPO Policy Board to release the Draft Amendment to Title VI to a 21-day public comment period. Motion was carried by unanimous vote.

FY 2021 Small Area Study Program Update (TAC Memo #21-3)

Chairperson Blessing presented the FY 2021 Small Area Study Program Update. Ms. Cundy gave an update on the Study, noting that the small area study has evaluated the feasibility of a bicycle-pedestrian bridge over Port Republic Road at the intersection with Bluestone Drive and Hillside Avenue. She stated that the Study Team and AMT have finalized Phase 2 of the Study, refined the Alternative 4 concept and cost estimate. Ms. Cundy reported that the HRMPO and the City of Harrisonburg have created an online public engagement website to solicit comments on proposed operational and safety improvements to the project. Ms. Cundy presented the website, noting that a presentation on the study



and draft recommendations can be viewed on the website, as well as a brief survey on the project. She noted that the public comment period closes on March 28, 2021.

FY 2022 UPWP Discussion (TAC Memo #21-4)

Chairperson Blessing presented for discussion the FY 2022 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). Ms. Cundy gave a review on the UPWP, noting that the UPWP is the annual work program and budget for the HRMPO. She stated that the UPWP details the administrative and planning activities to be undertaken during the fiscal year, and the federal, state, and local funds used for these activities. Ms. Cundy presented the table comparing FY 2021 UPWP with the Draft FY 2022 UPWP funding. She noted that as the funding from VDOT (FHWA PL funds) and DRPT (FTA Section 5303) does not change significantly from year to year, staff begins the update process with funding levels from the prior fiscal year and makes necessary adjustments prior to final approval. Ms. Cundy reviewed the next steps, noting that staff will present a draft document to the Policy Board at their March meeting, final drafts to the TAC and Policy Board at their April meetings, with final approval by the Policy Board at their May meeting.

Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) Update

Mr. Reed gave an update on SMART SCALE, noting that the HRMPO did very well in this round. He stated that the HRMPO area received seven projects out of the nine submitted, totaling \$23.3 million; statewide, there were 397 applications submitted, totaling \$6.3 billion in requested funds; and in the Staunton District, there were 45 applications, totaling \$235 million in requested funds. Mr. Reed gave an update on the U.S. 33 Arterial Management Plan in Rockingham County and reported on the survey for the Plan, noting that currently, approximately 2,000 responses have been received so far. He reported on VDOT's Strategically Targeted Affordable Roadway Solutions (STARS) study in the City of Harrisonburg, which will be evaluating safety issues at 10 intersections in the downtown area.

Mr. Komara gave updates on several bridge construction projects in the HRMPO area: announced that the Mauzy bridge construction project for \$12.5 million was completed ahead of schedule; the Smithland Road bridge project is scheduled for this fall; the Route 682 Friedens Church Road is scheduled to begin construction this spring; the Route 33 bridge project for \$60 million over I-81 is scheduled for 2022; gave an update on the Route 11 right-of-way four-lane project; and reported on snow removal and costs.



Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT)

Mr. Hudson gave an update on DRPT activities, announcing that the Section 5303 grants portal is open and will close on May 14, 2021. He gave an update on rail activities, noting that the Virginia Passenger Rail Authority's next meeting will be held on March 22, 2021, and reported on the FTA COVID-19 research grant. Mr. Hudson reported on recommendations from the Metropolitan and Micropolitan Statistical Area Standards Review Committee to the Office of Management and Budget regarding changes to the standards for delineating metropolitan and micropolitan statistical areas. Ms. Cundy stated that she had reviewed this recommendation in its entirety and reported on her findings regarding the minimum urban area population to qualify a metropolitan statistical area. She stated that MPOs are required to represent localities in all urbanized areas with populations over 50,000, as determined by the U.S. Census.

Harrisonburg Department of Public Transportation (HDPT)

Mr. Gatobu reported on HDPT's activities, noting that HDPT is currently working on a feasibility study. He reported on area public schools and James Madison University (JMU) schedules, and providing effective transit routes. Mr. Gatobu reported on a shortage of bus drivers, mainly due to the demand of additional routes needed to maintain the safety requirements for COVID-19.

Upcoming Meetings

Chairperson Blessing announced that the HRMPO Policy Board will hold a meeting on March 18, 2021, at 3:00 p.m.; and the next HRMPO TAC meeting will be held on April 1, 2021, at 2:00 p.m.

Adjournment

A motion for adjournment was unanimously passed at 2:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ann W. Cundy".

Ann Cundy
Director of Transportation



Technical Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda
April 1, 2021, 2:00 p.m.
Meeting by ZOOM Videoconference

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81988153394?pwd=ZDJQNkFLRFB2OGdwcXhMMUZ4cDBRdz09>

Meeting ID: 819 8815 3394 ** **Passcode:** 454850 ** **Dial In:** 301-715-8592

1. Call To Order
2. Approval of Minutes of March 4, 2021 Meeting*
3. Public Comment
4. Draft FY22 UPWP Release to Public Comment (TAC AF #21-2)*
5. FY 2021 Small Area Study Program Update (TAC Memo #21-5)
6. Agency Updates
 - a. VDOT
 - b. DRPT
 - c. HDPT
7. Other Business
 - a. Federal and State Legislative Updates
8. Upcoming Meetings
 - a. HRMPO Policy Board Meeting Thursday, April 15, 2021, 3:00 pm
 - b. HRMPO TAC Meeting Thursday, May 6, 2021, 2:00 p.m.
9. Adjournment

* Action needed

HRMPO TAC Minutes April 1, 2021, 2:00 p.m.

Via Zoom Video/Audio Conferencing Call

Voting Member	Alternates	Staff
City of Harrisonburg	Patrick Wilcox, Rockingham	✓ Ann Cundy
✓ Tom Hartman	Jay Litten, Bridgewater	✓ Manas Ranjan
Bill Blessing, Chair	Libby Orebaugh, Mt. Crawford	✓ Rita Whitfield
Thanh Dang	Jakob zumFelde, Harrisonburg	
✓ Erin Yancey	Avery Daugherty, Harrisonburg	Others
✓ Gerald Gatobu	Cheryl Spain, Harrisonburg	✓ Kim Sandum, Shenandoah Alliance
Rockingham County	✓ Dan Rublee, Harrisonburg	✓ Burgess Lindsey, VDOT
Rhonda Cooper, Vice Chair	Grant Sparks, DRPT	
✓ Bradford Dyjak	Jeff Lineberry, VDOT	
Casey Armstrong	Brad Reed, VDOT	
Town of Bridgewater	Josh Dunlap, VDOT	
✓ Alex Wilmer		
Town of Dayton		
✓ Christa Hall		
Town of Mt. Crawford	Non-Voting Members	
✓ J. C. Smythers	Kevin Jones, FHWA	
VDOT	Michelle DeAngelis, FTA	
✓ Terry Short	✓ Bill Yates, JMU	
✓ Don Komara	Rusty Harrington, Aviation	
VDRPT		
✓ Wood Hudson		

Call to Order

Governor Ralph Northam declared a state of emergency in Virginia on March 12, 2020, in response to COVID-19. In light of this emergency, the April 1, 2021, HRMPO TAC meeting was conducted via video conferencing using Zoom. The April 1, 2021, Zoom Video/Audio Conferencing call of the Harrisonburg-Rockingham Metropolitan Planning Organization Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by Acting Chairperson Bradford Dyjak.

Acting Chairperson Dyjak introduced and welcomed Christa Hall, new HRMPO TAC member representing the Town of Dayton.

Minutes

Acting Chairperson Dyjak presented the minutes from the March 4, 2021, TAC Zoom Video/Audio Conferencing call. Mr. Hartman moved, seconded by Mr. Gatobu, to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment

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

Draft FY 2022 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) to Release for Public Comment (TAC AF #21-2)

Acting Chairperson Dyjak presented for consideration the FY 2022 Draft UPWP. Ms. Cundy stated that the UPWP has been prepared in coordination with VDOT and DRPT. She noted that the FY 2022 UPWP maintains the work elements and annual activities of the FY 2021 UPWP. Ms. Cundy stated that to provide adequate funding for Long Range Plan update activities in FY 2022, the budget increases the Work Element 2.01 Long Range Planning line item from \$54,376 to \$103,719. She noted that this is a draft UPWP, and may be changed before final submittal and approval. Mr. Short moved, seconded by Mr. Hartman, to recommend that the Policy Board release the Draft FY 2022 UPWP for the 21-day public comment period. Motion was carried by unanimous vote.

FY 2021 Small Area Study Program Update (TAC Memo #21-5)

Acting Chairperson Dyjak presented the FY 2021 Small Area Study Program Update. Mr. Ranjan gave an update on the study. He stated that this small area study has evaluated the feasibility of consolidating the two crosswalks on Port Republic Road to the western leg of the intersection and includes improvements for pedestrian safety. Mr. Ranjan noted that after the finalization of Phase 2 of the proposal, the study team released a public input website with a video presentation highlighting the proposed improvement. He reported on the survey which was used to gather community input on proposed Port Republic Road and Bluestone Drive intersection improvements. Mr. Ranjan reviewed the survey's summary mode of travel, agreement and disagreement with the proposal, issues raised, and missing elements. He noted that the online survey was released on March 2, 2021, and 42 responses were received.

Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) Update

Mr. Short gave an update on the VTrans Mid-term Transportation Needs and Tier I priorities that were approved by the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB). He stated that VDOT was in regular communications with the Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment (OIPI) regarding the next steps and VDOT will share more details as they arrive.

Mr. Komara gave an update on several construction projects in the area: the Smithland Road bridge construction project, which is scheduled for this fall; the Route 682 Friedens Church bridge project improvements with advertisement scheduled for this fall; the Route 11 four-lane right-of-way project, which is continuing to move forward; and the Route 33 bridge project at Exit 247 for \$60 million over I-81. Mr. Komara stated that I-81 Corridor Improvement Program initiatives happening across the district can be viewed on <https://improve81.org>. He gave an update on the upcoming Revenue Sharing and Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) grant application process.

Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT)

Mr. Hudson reported on DRPT activities. He noted that the FY 2022 Six Year Improvement Program (SYIP) should be coming out the latter part of this month and he reported on the SYIP public hearings. Mr. Hudson stated that Governor Northam has announced that the Commonwealth has finalized agreements with Amtrak, CSX, and Virginia Railway Express, launching a \$3.7 billion investment to expand and improve passenger, commuter, and freight rail in Virginia, and to create a vital connection in America's national rail network between the northeast and southeast corridors.

Harrisonburg Department of Public Transportation (HDPT)

Mr. Gatobu gave an update on HDPT's activities and their feasibility study. He reported on the increasing number of students attending public schools in-person and the upcoming fall schedule. Mr. Gatobu gave a report on James Madison University (JMU) attendance and upcoming graduation, and providing effective transit routes. Mr. Gatobu announced that HDPT is currently seeking to hire bus drivers.

Other Business

Under Other Business, Ms. Cundy gave an update on VTrans Mid-term Transportation Needs and Multimodal Project Study Pipeline. She noted that the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) approved a resolution adopting the VTrans Mid-term Needs Prioritization Policy, as well as a new



approach the CTB is taking called the Multi-Modal Project Pipeline. Ms. Cundy stated that the HRMPO had submitted a letter to the Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment (OIPI) in November 2020 expressing their concerns regarding the proposed prioritization process and the eligibility to access state study dollars to advance projects and develop competitive applications for SMART SCALE and other programs. Ms. Cundy reported on the policy and options for accessing federal dollars, noting that the MPO will continue to advocate for this part of the state.

Ms. Cundy gave an update on the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) recommendations for changes to OMB's metropolitan and micropolitan statistical area standards. She stated that the recommendations, made by the Metropolitan and Micropolitan Statistical Area Standards Review Committee, include increasing the minimum urban area population to qualify a metropolitan statistical area from 50,000 to 100,000. Ms. Cundy explained that OMB is proposing that instead of an MSA being defined by having a core urban area of 50,000, the core area would need to have 100,000 people. She stated that MPOs are currently required to represent localities in all urbanized areas with populations over 50,000, as determined by the U.S. Census. Mr. Ranjan reported that metropolitan and micropolitan statistical areas, delineated by OMB, are the result of the application of published standards to Census Bureau data. He stated that generally, the areas are delineated using the most recent set of standards following each decennial census. Mr. Ranjan noted that between censuses, the delineations are revised to reflect Census Bureau population estimates and, once each decade, updated commuting-to-work data. Ms. Cundy noted that staff will continue to monitor these proposed changes and report back with their findings.

Upcoming Meetings

Acting Chairperson Dyjak announced that the HRMPO Policy Board will hold a meeting on April 15, 2021, at 3:00 p.m.; and the next HRMPO TAC meeting will be held on May 6, 2021, at 2:00 p.m.

Adjournment

A motion for adjournment was unanimously passed at 3:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Ann Cundy
Director of Transportation



Technical Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda
June 3, 2021, 2:00 p.m.
Meeting by ZOOM Videoconference

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://zoom.us/j/92832719154?pwd=QzdjMkNVVEFiZlJrZmZkclQ1anlaZz09>

Meeting ID: 928 3271 9154 ** **Passcode:** 085226 ** **Dial In:** 301-715-8592

1. Call To Order
2. Approval of Minutes of April 1, 2021 Meeting*
3. Public Comment
4. Election of Officers (TAC AF #21- 3)*
5. 2020 Census Bureau Proposed Criteria for Urban Areas (TAC AF #21-4)*
6. Presentation: COVID Impacts on Transportation in the HRMPO – Manas Ranjan (TAC Memo #21-6)
7. Agency Updates
 - a. VDOT
 - b. DRPT
 - c. HDPT
8. Other Business
9. Upcoming Meetings
 - a. HRMPO Policy Board Meeting Thursday, June 17, 2021, 3:00 pm
 - b. HRMPO TAC Meeting Thursday, July 1, 2021, 2:00 p.m.
10. Adjournment

* Action needed

HRMPO TAC Minutes June 3, 2021, 2:00 p.m.

Via Zoom Video/Audio Conferencing Call

Voting Member	Alternates	Staff
City of Harrisonburg	✓ Patrick Wilcox, Rockingham	✓ Ann Cundy
✓ Tom Hartman	Jay Litten, Bridgewater	✓ Manas Ranjan
✓ Bill Blessing, Chair	✓ Libby Clark, Mt. Crawford	✓ Rita Whitfield
✓ Thanh Dang	Jakob zumFelde, Harrisonburg	
✓ Erin Yancey	Avery Daugherty, Harrisonburg	Others
✓ Gerald Gatobu	Cheryl Spain, Harrisonburg	✓ Kim Sandum, Shenandoah Alliance
Rockingham County	Dan Rublee, Harrisonburg	✓ Burgess Lindsey, VDOT
✓ Rhonda Cooper, Vice Chair	Grant Sparks, DRPT	✓ Sam Styers, McCormick Taylor
✓ Bradford Dyjak	Jeff Lineberry, VDOT	
✓ Casey Armstrong	Josh Dunlap, VDOT	
Town of Bridgewater		
✓ Alex Wilmer		
Town of Dayton		
✓ Christa Hall		
Town of Mt. Crawford	Non-Voting Members	
✓ J. C. Smythers	Kevin Jones, FHWA	
VDOT	Michelle DeAngelis, FTA	
✓ Brad Reed	Bill Yates, JMU	
✓ Don Komara	Rusty Harrington, Aviation	
VDRPT		
Wood Hudson		

Call to Order

Governor Ralph Northam declared a state of emergency in Virginia on March 12, 2020, in response to COVID-19. In light of this emergency, the June 3, 2021, HRMPO TAC meeting was conducted via video conferencing using Zoom. The June 3, 2021, Zoom Video/Audio Conferencing call of the Harrisonburg-Rockingham Metropolitan Planning Organization Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by Chairperson Blessing.

Minutes

Chairperson Blessing presented the minutes from the April 1, 2021, TAC Zoom Video/Audio Conferencing call. Mr. Dyjak moved, seconded by Mr. Reed, to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment

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

Election of Officers (TAC AF #21-3)

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

2020 Census Bureau Proposed Criteria for Urban Areas (TAC AF #21-4)

Chairperson Blessing presented the 2020 Census Bureau Proposed Criteria for Urban Areas. Ms. Cundy stated that the U.S. Census Bureau is proposing a new methodology for defining urban areas. She noted that the proposed changes would change the size of the HRMPO urban area, and could affect Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) funding allocations to MPOs and small urban transit systems. Ms. Cundy stated that the Census Bureau currently define urban areas based on population density per Census block and are currently defined as urbanized areas with at least 50,000 people. She noted that staff submitted a letter to the Census Bureau on behalf of the HRMPO to meet the deadline addressing the concerns with the urban criteria methodology, and encouraged the U. S. Census Bureau to simplify the criteria for planning purposes (letter attached to file minutes). Ms. Cundy presented a draft letter to the state Senators and Congressman to outline the FHWA and FTA code implications and reviewed the map for the preliminary HRMPO urban area changes on the Census Bureau's Proposed Criteria using 2010 Census data. Ms. Cooper moved, seconded by Mr. Komara, to recommend that the Policy Board approve the letter to the U.S. Senators and Congressman outlining concerns about the impact of the U.S. Census Bureau's proposed urban area definition changes on the HRMPO and BRITE Transit. Motion was carried by unanimous vote.

Presentation: COVID Impacts on Transportation in the HRMPO – Manas Ranjan

Mr. Ranjan gave a PowerPoint presentation on COVID Impacts on Transportation in the HRMPO. He noted that staff wanted to explore how the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted the transportation networks and requirements in the region, and study the findings in comparison to national trends and trends. He stated that the comparative study found interesting variances and region-specific insights that contrast with national trends, and raised valuable questions regarding transportation characteristics and needs particular to the region. Mr. Ranjan noted that based on the studies conducted nationally and in Northern Virginia, HRMPO staff conducted a study focused on the CSPDC region to explore if the region also followed the national trend or, if it differed, then by how much. He stated that the study used crash data from VDOT to develop models to explore the nature of crashes, increase in fatal crashes, and the reason behind the increase specific to the rural nature of our region. Mr. Ranjan noted that the study found that, unlike the trends noticed in urban areas and Northern Virginia, the region did not face the same effects of COVID-19 pandemic on transportation. He reported on overall crashes in the region, the number of fatal and major injury crashes as compared to previous years, and the different ways the pandemic may have impacted urban and rural regions. Discussion ensued regarding the need and purpose for additional future studies to explore other factors contributing to fatal and severe crashes during and after COVID-19.

Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)

Mr. Reed gave an update on the Revenue Sharing and Transportation Alternative (TA) programs, noting that the portal is currently open for both preapplications. He stated that the mandatory preapplications are due by July 1st, and the full application period will be from August 16 through October 1, 2021.

Mr. Reed gave an update on the U.S. 33 Arterial Management Plan in Rockingham County and reported on the public survey responses, noting that over 2,000 responses had been received. He reported on VDOT's Strategically Targeted Affordable Roadway Solutions (STARS) study in the City of Harrisonburg, which will be focusing on safety issues at 10 intersections in the downtown area. Mr. Reed gave an update on the feasibility study being conducted by the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation, with the help of VDOT, to study the feasibility of a 50-mile long Shenandoah Valley Rail Trail project between Broadway and Front Royal. He stated that a survey for the Rail Trail was designed to gather input from communities along the study corridor, as well as visitors to the Shenandoah Valley. Mr. Reed noted that over 7,000 responses have been received so

far. He announced that Terry Short is no longer on the HRMPO, having taken a position with VDOT in the local assistance program.

Mr. Komara gave an update on several Revenue Sharing and Transportation Alternative (TA) projects in the area. Ms. Cundy reminded everyone that if a jurisdiction in the HRMPO area is applying for a TAP project, a resolution of support is needed from the HRMPO. Mr. Komara reported on I-81 Corridor Improvement Program initiatives happening across the district, noting that can updated information can be viewed on <https://improve81.org>. He reported on the Smithland Road bridge construction project, which is scheduled for this fall; the Route 682 Friedens Church bridge project improvements in Rockingham County, noting that advertisement is scheduled for this fall; and the Route 33 bridge project at Exit 247 for \$60 million over I-81.

Harrisonburg Department of Public Transportation (HDPT)

Mr. Gatobu reported on HDPT's transit routes for area schools and how HDPT is preparing for summer school and the upcoming fall season. He gave an update on HDPT's Feasibility Study, noting that a survey is being developed and expected to be presented in the next few weeks.

Other Business

Under Other Business, Ms. Dang announced that the City of Harrisonburg is releasing Part 1 of three parts of the update to the Zoning and Subdivision Ordinances. She stated that the existing Zoning and Subdivision Ordinances were last evaluated and re-written in 1997 and 1996, respectively. In the ensuing time, many changes, both major and minor, have been made to the ordinances, with results including ordinances containing outdated requirements and internal inconsistencies. Ms. Dang stated that the public comment period will begin on June 8 and conclude on July 5.

Ms. Cundy stated that the General Assembly authorized public bodies to meet via electronic means without a physical quorum during the COVID-19 global pandemic. She noted that absent a declared state of emergency, the Virginia Freedom of Information Act authorizes certain limited electronic participation, provided that the public body has first adopted a written policy providing for electronic participation in meetings, and subject to certain other restrictions and requirements. Ms. Cundy stated that the Commission's attorney is developing a policy to be approved in order to allow the HRMPO to enable its members to participate remotely in meetings to the extent possible allowed under law. She noted that the next HRMPO meeting will be held in-person.



Upcoming Meetings

Chairperson Blessing announced that the HRMPO Policy Board will hold a meeting on June 17, 2021, at 3:00 p.m.; and the next HRMPO TAC meeting will be held on July 1, 2021, at 2:00 p.m.

Adjournment

A motion for adjournment was unanimously passed at 3:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Ann Cundy
Director of Transportation



Technical Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda August 5, 2021, 2:00 p.m.

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

Zoom Meeting for Remote Attendees:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87662080215?pwd=MnFDZzVjdGRLNERRWm5KL0h6Z3A5QT09>

Meeting ID: 876 6208 0215 ** Passcode: 026020 ** **Dial In:** 301-715-8592

1. Call To Order
2. Approval of Minutes of June 3, 2021 Meeting*
3. Public Comment
4. Consideration of Resolution Authorizing Electronic Participation in Meetings of the HRMPO (TAC AF #21-5)*
5. 2045 Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Scoping Session (TAC Memo #21-7)
6. Agency Updates
 - a. VDOT
 - b. DRPT
 - c. HDPT
7. Other Business
8. Upcoming Meetings
 - a. HRMPO Policy Board Meeting Thursday, August 19, 2021, 3:00 pm
 - b. HRMPO TAC Meeting Thursday, September 2, 2021, 2:00 p.m.
9. Adjournment

* Action needed

HRMPO TAC Minutes August 5, 2021, 2:00 p.m.

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

Voting Member	Alternates	Staff
City of Harrisonburg	Patrick Wilcox, Rockingham	✓ Ann Cundy
✓ Tom Hartman	Jay Litten, Bridgewater	✓ Manas Ranjan
Bill Blessing, Chair	Libby Clark, Mt. Crawford	✓ Rita Whitfield
✓ Thanh Dang	Jakob zumFelde, Harrisonburg	
✓ Erin Yancey	Cheryl Spain, Harrisonburg	Others
✓ Gerald Gatobu	Dan Rublee, Harrisonburg	
Rockingham County	Josh Dunlap, VDOT	
✓ Rhonda Cooper, Vice Chair	Grant Sparks, DRPT	
Bradford Dyjak	Jeff Lineberry, VDOT	
✓ Casey Armstrong		
Town of Bridgewater		
✓ Alex Wilmer		
Town of Dayton		
✓ Christa Hall		
Town of Mt. Crawford	Non-Voting Members	
✓ J. C. Smythers (Zoom)	Kevin Jones, FHWA	
VDOT	Michelle DeAngelis, FTA	
✓ Brad Reed	Bill Yates, JMU	
Don Komara	Rusty Harrington, Aviation	
VDRPT		
✓ Wood Hudson (Zoom)		

Call to Order

The August 5, 2021, meeting of the Harrisonburg-Rockingham Metropolitan Planning Organization Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by Vice Chairperson Rhonda Cooper.

Minutes

Vice Chairperson Cooper presented the minutes from the June 3, 2021, TAC Zoom Video/Audio Conferencing call. Ms. Dang moved, seconded by Mr. Reed, to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment

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

Consideration of Resolution Authorizing Electronic Participation in Meetings of the HRMPO (TAC AF #21-5)

Vice Chairperson Cooper presented for consideration a Resolution Authorizing Electronic Participation in Meetings of the HRMPO (attached to file minutes). Ms. Cundy reported that the Governor of Virginia's Executive Order allowing public bodies to meet by electronic means in response to the COVID-19 pandemic expired on June 30, 2021. She stated that the HRMPO must approve a policy based on Code of Virginia §2.2-3708.2 to enable its members and committees to participate remotely in meetings. Ms. Cundy noted that the Code allows members to participate electronically if a member notifies the Chair or other presiding officer on or before the date of the meeting that the member is unable to attend due to: 1) a specified personal matter; 2) a temporary or permanent disability or other medical condition that prevents physical attendance; or 3) the member's principal residence is more than 60 miles from the meeting location. Mr. Reed moved, seconded by Ms. Dang, to approve the Resolution authorizing electronic participation in HRMPO meetings. Motion was carried by unanimous vote.

2045 Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Scoping Session (TAC Memo #21-7)

Vice Chairperson Cooper presented the 2045 Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Scoping Session. Ms. Cundy stated that the HRMPO's Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) must be updated every five years. She noted that the HRMPO adopted the 2040 LRTP on March 16, 2017, and amended the document on May 17, 2018, and August 15, 2019. Ms. Cundy stated that staff anticipates this update process being largely a staff, rather than a consultant-led process. Using Mentimeter software, Ms. Cundy solicited input from the TAC members present on identifying regional transportation challenges and opportunities; reviewing changes in demographic and transportation data trends since the last update in 2017; and reviewing potential data sources for information that may be required to update the existing conditions, transportation demand management (TDM) modeling, and transportation needs



in the region. Ms. Cundy reviewed the next steps, noting that the 2045 LRTP update process will take approximately 18-months, and that the final document will be completed in early 2023.

Department of Transportation (VDOT)

Mr. Reed reported on the following:

- Project pipeline study in Harrisonburg, noting that it is part of a new pipeline study program initiated by the Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment (OIPI), specifically to address Virginia transportation plans priority one needs.
- Shenandoah Valley Rail Trail Feasibility Study, which is being conducted by the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), with the help of VDOT, to study the feasibility of a 50-mile long Shenandoah Valley Rail Trail project between Broadway and Front Royal. Mr. Reed reported on the virtual public meeting that DCR hosted on July 21st on the Rail Trail in which consultants Michael Baker presented their findings on the corridor condition.
- VDOT's Strategically Targeted Affordable Roadway Solutions (STARS) study in the City of Harrisonburg, which will be focusing on safety issues at 10 intersections in the downtown area. Mr. Reed noted that the survey requesting community feedback regarding the potential improvements for these intersections went live on July 29th and will continue through August 20th and to date, over 300 participants have participated.
- Gave an update on the U.S. 33 Arterial Management Plan in Rockingham County.

Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT)

Mr. Hudson reported on the following:

- Transit Ridership Incentive Program (TRIP), noting that the Program is a new statewide grant program dedicated to improving transit's regional connectivity in urban areas with a population in excess of 100,000 and reducing barriers to transit use by supporting low income and zero fare programming. He stated that the TRIP application period is open from August 1st until September 17th.
- Gave a report on the COVID Recovery Mitigation Grant that was awarded to DRPT by FTA.
- Reported on the Virginia Transit Equity and Modernization Study, led by DRPT, which is aimed at identifying opportunities to advance equitable transit within the Commonwealth. Mr. Woodson stated that the Study will explore a wide variety of topics to create a proactive plan for the equitable advancement and modernization of transit in the Commonwealth.



Harrisonburg Department of Public Transportation (HDPT)

Mr. Gatobu gave an update on HDPT's Feasibility Study, noting that the survey for the Feasibility Study and the results will be presented on August 18th by the consultants. He reported on HDPT's transit routes for area schools and James Madison University and how HDPT is preparing for the upcoming fall season. Mr. Gatobu announced that HDPT is actively seeking bus drivers for the fall season and reported on the process involved in the hiring of bus drivers. He reported how HDPT is providing safety to the homeless population in the area in providing transportation to and from the shelters.

Upcoming Meetings

Vice Chairperson Cooper announced that the HRMPO Policy Board will hold a meeting on August 19, 2021, at 3:00 p.m.; and the next HRMPO TAC meeting will be held on September 2, 2021, at 2:00 p.m.

Adjournment

A motion for adjournment was unanimously passed at 3:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ann W. Cundy".

Ann Cundy
Director of Transportation



Technical Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda September 2, 2021, 2:00 p.m.

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

Zoom Meeting for Remote Attendees:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84796654478?pwd=V0ZKN0pUalVCdk42dGJmMTh3NTJqQT09>

Meeting ID: 847 9665 4478; **Passcode:** 260538; **Dial In:** 301-715-8592

1. Call To Order
2. Approval of Minutes of August 5, 2021 Meeting*
3. Public Comment
4. HRMPO TAP Resolutions of Support (TAC AF #21-6)*
5. Consideration for Approval of 2045 LRTP Update Scope of Work (TAC AF #21-7)*
6. Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill Summary (TAC Memo #21-8)
7. Agency Updates
 - a. VDOT
 - b. DRPT
 - c. HDPT
8. Other Business
9. Upcoming Meetings
 - a. HRMPO Policy Board Meeting Thursday, September 16, 2021, 3:00 pm
 - b. HRMPO TAC Meeting Thursday, October 7, 2021, 2:00 p.m.
10. Adjournment

* Action needed

HRMPO TAC Minutes
September 2, 2021, 2:00 p.m.
Rockingham County Administration Center
20 East Gay Street
Harrisonburg, Virginia 22802

Voting Member	Alternates	Staff
City of Harrisonburg	Megan Byler, Bridgewater	✓ Ann Cundy
✓ Tom Hartman	Libby Clark, Mt. Crawford	✓ Manas Ranjan
✓ Bill Blessing, Chair	✓ Jakob zumFelde, Harrisonburg	Rita Whitfield
Thanh Dang	Elliot Menge, Harrisonburg	
✓ Erin Yancey	Dan Rublee, Harrisonburg	Others
✓ Gerald Gatobu	Josh Dunlap, VDOT	✓ Kim Sandum*
Rockingham County	Jeff Lineberry, VDOT	✓ Burgess Lindsey, VDOT
✓ Rhonda Cooper, Vice Chair	Grant Sparks, DRPT	
Casey Armstrong		
Vacant		
Town of Bridgewater		
✓ Alex Wilmer		
Town of Dayton		
✓ Christa Hall		
Town of Mt. Crawford	Non-Voting Members	
✓ J. C. Smythers	Kevin Jones, FHWA	
VDOT	Michelle DeAngelis, FTA	
✓ Brad Reed	Bill Yates, JMU	
✓ Don Komara	Rusty Harrington, Aviation	
VDRPT		
Wood Hudson		
*Zoom Participants		

Call to Order

The September 2, 2021, meeting of the Harrisonburg-Rockingham Metropolitan Planning Organization Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by Chairperson Bill Blessing. Pursuant to §2.2-3708.2 of the Code of Virginia, HRMPO TAC members may participate in meetings of the HRMPO or its committees through electronic communication means. Those who attended virtually are indicated by an asterisk; all others attended in-person.

Minutes

Chairperson Blessing presented the minutes from the August 5, 2021, TAC meeting. Ms. Cooper moved, seconded by Mr. Reed, to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment

Chairperson Blessing opened the floor for public comment. Ms. Sandum noted that she was not in attendance at the August 5, 2021, meeting by Zoom as indicated in the minutes. She presented the following comments on the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP): 1) She stated that it was previously decided in the last update of the LRTP that Cross Keys Battlefield would be included on the maps since a portion of the Battlefield is located in the HRMPO area. Ms. Sandum proposed adding the Battlefield to the HRMPO Planning Area map on page 2 of the LRTP. She also proposed adding a map key on the HRMPO Planning Area map to explain the symbols and colors and what they represent; 3) Noted a typo on page 3 under Vision Plan Review (“MPO an VDOT” to “MPO and VDOT”), and requested who would be serving on the Working Group that was referenced on page 3; and 4) On page 7, under Methodology, Ms. Sandum expressed concern that the statement “Following the historic investment being made in freight capacity and safety through the I-81 Improvement Program, potential improvement strategies to accommodate goods movement will focus on improving access on the primary and secondary road network” suggested that freight rail would not be included as part of this analysis, which she felt would be a mistake.

Consideration of HRMPO TAP Resolutions of Support (TAC AF #21-6)

Chairperson Blessing presented for consideration HRMPO Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Program (TAP) Resolutions of Support. Mr. Ranjan gave an overview on the TAP applications as follows:

City of Harrisonburg:

- **Northend Greenway Brookside Phase:** The application would fund the design and construction of a shared use path connecting existing Northend Greenway at Jefferson Street to Drake Lane and Roberts Court. This will create a safe and desirable connection between the existing path segments to improve walking and biking for residents for the neighborhood and the users of Northend Greenway.
- **Country Club Rd Sidewalk – SRTS:** This application would fund the design and construction of a sidewalk along the south side of Country Club Rd between Linda Lane and the private road at



Spotswood Homes Trailer Park. The envisioned improvement will increase safe routes for students and others walking to the Smithland Elementary School and Skyline Middle School.

- **Harrisonburg Public Schools – SRTS Non-infrastructure:** This application would fund a full-time Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Coordinator employed by Harrisonburg City Public Schools. It would cover the salary for the position and the operating expenses necessary to continue the existing SRTS programming.

Town of Bridgewater:

- **Riverwalk, Phase III:** The application would fund the design and construction of a shared use as the third phase of the Riverwalk, Phase III will begin at Edgebriar Park where Phase I of the Riverwalk ends. It will then continue eastwards along East Riverside Drive and terminate near the intersection of Hatcher Drive at Bridgewater College, spanning approximately 1,000 feet.

Ms. Cooper moved, seconded by Mr. Reed, to recommend that the HRMPO Policy Board endorse the Resolutions of Support for Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Program (TAP) projects within the HRMPO. Motion was carried by unanimous vote.

Consideration of 2045 LRTP Update Scope of Work (TAC AF #21-7)

Chairperson Blessing presented for consideration the 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Update Scope of Work. Ms. Cundy gave a review on the 2045 LRTP Scope of Work, noting that she would address the previous public comments regarding the LRTP made earlier in the meeting. She noted they would include a map that denotes the Cross Keys battlefield, and that they would add a legend. She stated that they would definitely be including freight rail in their analysis of movement of goods through the region. She stated that the Draft Scope of Work details the tasks for the update including MPO Coordination, TDM model update, evaluation of existing and future conditions, multi-modal transportation needs, roadway deficiencies, climate mitigation strategies, pedestrian and bicycle planning needs, goods movement, and the development of a methodology to score projects for the region. Ms. Cundy noted that the LRTP working group will meet at regular intervals during the update process to review materials and provide inputs. She stated that staff conducted visioning sessions with the TAC at their August 5, 2021 meeting, and with the Policy Board at their August 19, 2021 meeting. Ms. Cundy noted that the visioning sessions highlighted the regional transportation challenges and opportunities after reviewing changes in demographic, economic, and transportation trends for the region since the previous LRTP update in 2017. She stated that staff also coordinated with VDOT Central Office Transportation Modeling and Accessibility Program team to determine necessary updates to Travel Demand Model (TDM) in order to conduct 2045 scenario planning and evaluate

potential projects. Ms. Cundy noted that the 2045 LRTP update process will take approximately 18-months, and the final document will be completed in early 2023. Mr. Komara moved, seconded by Ms. Cooper, to recommend that the Policy Board approve the 2045 LRTP Update Scope of Work. Motion was carried unanimously.

Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill Summary (TAC Memo #21-8)

Chairperson Blessing presented the Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill Summary. Ms. Cundy stated that the U.S. Senate passed the \$944 billion Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) to fund roads and bridges, rail, transit, ports, airports, and other priorities between FY22–FY26. She noted that the legislation includes the reauthorization of the Fixing America’s Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act). Ms. Cundy gave an overview on some key changes to existing programs and new programs related to transportation planning as follows:

- Over half of transportation funding is allocated towards the improvement of highways and bridges, and rail and transit are receiving historic levels of new funding; however, there are few new policy changes related to rail and transit, with most new programs addressing climate resilience, electronic vehicles (EV), and transportation equity.
- The first-ever climate program provides grant funding for carbon reduction, EV funding, and resilience and hazard mitigation planning.
- New transportation equity initiatives include the Reconnecting Communities program to address past infrastructure that segregated and divided communities, along with a new equity focus for TAP and other core formula programs.
- Expanded bicycle and pedestrian funding includes TAP funds being increased by 10%, a new sub-allocation designation enabling small MPOs serving urbanized areas with populations of 200,000 or less to be eligible for funding, and adding micro-mobility and bikeshare eligibilities under certain programs.
- New safety initiatives address adding high schools to the Safe Routes to School Program, a program to reduce wildlife collisions, and Complete Streets initiatives.

Ms. Cundy reviewed the next steps, noting that the U.S. House of Representatives and the President must approve the bill for IIJA to become law, and the FAST Act must be reauthorized by September 30, 2021.



Department of Transportation (VDOT)

Mr. Komara reported on the following construction projects: the Route 720 Smithland Road bridge project, noting that it is scheduled for advertisement this fall; the Route 682 Friedens Church bridge project improvements in Rockingham County, noting that advertisement for the bridge project is scheduled for this fall and construction is scheduled for early 2022; the Route 33 bridge project for \$60 million at Exit 247, noting that construction is tentatively scheduled for 2022; and the Town of Broadway bridge construction project which is scheduled for 2022. Mr. Komara reported on citizens information meetings and I-81 Corridor Improvement Program initiatives happening across the district, noting that updated information can be viewed on <https://improve81.org>; and reported on damage from Hurricane IDA in the area. Mr. Komara announced that VDOT will host a citizen information meeting for the planned widening of Interstate 81 in the Harrisonburg area from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. on September 14, 2021, at Pleasant Valley Elementary School, in Harrisonburg. He stated that this project widens I-81 northbound and southbound to three lanes between mile marker 242.2 in Rockingham County and 248.5 in Harrisonburg.

Mr. Reed reported on the following:

- Gave an update on a planning project study on South Main Street in the City of Harrisonburg between Mosby Road and Pleasant Valley Road. He noted that data for the project has been collected and reported on a brainstorming session that was held with VDOT and the consultants regarding the study.
- Reported on VDOT's Strategically Targeted Affordable Roadway Solutions (STARS) study in the City of Harrisonburg, which will be focusing on safety issues at 10 intersections in the downtown area. Mr. Reed gave a report on the MetroQuest survey, which requested community feedback regarding the potential improvements for these intersections. He noted that the survey closed August 31, 2021, and approximately 600 participants participated.
- Gave an update on the U.S. 33 Arterial Management Plan in Rockingham County, which is anticipated to be completed in the fall.
- Reported on SMART SCALE applications that are upcoming in March. Mr. Reed stated that if anyone needed assistance with their applications, to please let VDOT know.

Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT)

On behalf of Mr. Hudson, Ms. Cundy gave a report on DRPT. She reported that DRPT is expanding the Virginia Breeze intercity bus service along the I-81 Corridor with a fourth route titled the Highlands Rhythm. Ms. Cundy stated that the route will consist of daily northbound and southbound service



connecting Bristol, Virginia to Union Station in Washington, D.C., with stops in Wytheville, Christiansburg, Salem, Roanoke, Harrisonburg, Dulles International Airport, and West Falls Church Metrorail Station. She stated that the procurement for a contractor for the service is currently underway.

Ms. Cundy announced that the Afton Express, a commuter bus service connecting Staunton, Fishersville, Waynesboro, Charlottesville, and Fifth Street Station in Albemarle County, began operating on September 1, 2021.

Harrisonburg Department of Public Transportation (HDPT)

Mr. Gatobu gave an update on HDPT's transit routes for the region for area schools and James Madison University. He reported on the bus driver shortage, noting that HDPT is actively seeking bus drivers and reported on the process involved in the hiring of bus drivers. Mr. Gatobu reported on HDPT's Feasibility Study regarding a suitable location for a park and ride lot and transfer center, noting that it is still ongoing. He reported that the results of the survey for the Feasibility Study were presented to the consultants. Mr. Gatobu stated that HDPT is looking into a Microtransit study, an on-demand service similar to Lyft or Uber, that allows users to request same-day service from a pickup location to a specified location.

Upcoming Meetings

Chairperson Blessing announced that the HRMPO Policy Board will hold a meeting on September 16, 2021, at 3:00 p.m.; and the next HRMPO TAC meeting will be held on October 7, 2021, at 2:00 p.m.

Adjournment

A motion for adjournment was unanimously passed at 2:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Ann Cundy
Director of Transportation



Technical Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda December 2, 2021, 2:00 p.m.

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

Zoom Meeting for Remote Attendees:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84961258947?pwd=WWNGNzBFZlVlTHFyT3B2SHVXZlZmdz09>

Meeting ID: 849 6125 8947; **Passcode:** 994146; **Dial In:** 301-715-8592

1. Call To Order
 2. Approval of Minutes of September 2, 2021 Meeting*
 3. Public Comment
 4. SMART SCALE Round 5 Proposed Changes Letter to Commonwealth Transportation Board Member Mark Merrill (TAC AF #21-8)*
 5. HRMPO 2022 Meeting Schedule (TAC Memo #21-10)
 6. HRMPO 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan Update (TAC Memo #21-11)
 7. Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act Update (TAC Memo #21-12)
 8. Presentation: Virginia Transit Equity and Modernization Study, Wood Hudson
 9. Agency Updates
 - a. VDOT
 - b. DRPT
 - c. HDPT
 - d. City of Harrisonburg Public Works
 10. Other Business
 11. Upcoming Meetings
 - a. HRMPO Policy Board Meeting Thursday, December 16, 2021, 3:00 pm
 - b. HRMPO TAC Meeting Thursday, January 6, 2022, 2:00 p.m.
 12. Adjournment
-



**Harrisonburg
Rockingham**
Metropolitan Planning
Organization

112 MacTanly Place
Staunton, VA 24401

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

* Action needed

HRMPO TAC Minutes
December 2, 2021, 2:00 p.m.
Rockingham County Administration Center
20 East Gay Street
Harrisonburg, Virginia 22802

Voting Member	Alternates	Staff
City of Harrisonburg	Megan Byler, Bridgewater	✓ Ann Cundy
✓ Tom Hartman	Libby Clark, Mt. Crawford	✓ Manas Ranjan
✓ Bill Blessing, Chair	✓ Jakob zumFelde, Harrisonburg*	✓ Rita Whitfield
✓ Thanh Dang	Elliot Menge, Harrisonburg	
✓ Erin Yancey	Dan Rublee, Harrisonburg	Others
✓ Cheryl Spain	Josh Dunlap, VDOT	✓ Kim Sandum, Shen. Alliance*
Rockingham County	Jeff Lineberry, VDOT	✓ Burgess Lindsey, VDOT
✓ Rhonda Cooper, Vice Chair	Grant Sparks, DRPT	✓ Zach Beard, CSPDC*
Casey Armstrong		✓ Rachel Salatin, Rockingham
Vacant		✓ Sam Styers, McCormick Taylor*
Town of Bridgewater		
✓ Alex Wilmer		
Town of Dayton		
✓ Christa Hall		
Town of Mt. Crawford	Non-Voting Members	
✓ J. C. Smythers	Kevin Jones, FHWA	
VDOT	Michelle DeAngelis, FTA	
✓ Brad Reed	✓ Bill Yates, JMU*	
✓ Don Komara	Rusty Harrington, Aviation	
VDRPT		
✓ Wood Hudson*		
*Zoom Participants		

Call to Order

The December 2, 2021, meeting of the Harrisonburg-Rockingham Metropolitan Planning Organization Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by Chairperson Bill Blessing. Pursuant to §2.2-3708.2 of the Code of Virginia, HRMPO TAC members may participate in meetings of the HRMPO or its committees through electronic communication means. Those who attended virtually are indicated by an asterisk; all others attended in-person.

Minutes

Chairperson Blessing presented the minutes from the September 2, 2021, TAC meeting. Mr. Reed moved, seconded by Ms. Cooper, to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment

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

SMART SCALE Round 5 Proposed Changes Letter to Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) Member Mark Merrill (TAC AF #21-8)

Chairman Blessing presented for consideration SMART SCALE Round 5 Proposed Changes to CTB Member Mark Merrill. Ms. Cundy stated that the Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment (OIPI) staff presented proposed changes to the SMART SCALE Environmental and Land Use Measures' scoring criteria to the CTB in October 2021. She reviewed the proposed changes for Round 5, noting that SMART SCALE evaluates transportation projects based on congestion, safety, accessibility, environment, economic development, and land use. Ms. Cundy noted that the proposed scoring changes allow for more balanced overall scoring, and more accurately reflects the needs of the region. She stated that the CTB is scheduled to vote on the proposed changes at the December meeting. Ms. Cundy noted that MPO staff has reviewed these proposed changes, and recommends submitting a letter to Staunton District CTB member Mark Merrill expressing the MPO's support of the proposed changes (letter attached to file minutes). Mr. Reed stated that VDOT was in support of the proposed changes for the district and reported on the project list and funding. Ms. Cooper moved, seconded by Ms. Dang, to recommend that the Policy Board approve the letter to Staunton District Representative CTB Mark Merrill expressing the MPO's support of the proposed changes to the SMART SCALE program. Motion was carried by unanimous vote.

HRMPO 2022 Meeting Schedule (TAC Memo #21-10)

Chairman Blessing presented the 2022 Meeting Calendar for the HRMPO Policy Board and the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) (attached to file minutes). Ms. Cundy noted that the 2022 HRMPO Policy Board and TAC meeting schedules are based on a monthly meeting schedule. She stated that the schedules for the HRMPO Policy Board and Technical Advisory Committee will be presented to the Policy Board at their December 16, 2021, meeting and after approval, will be posted on the website and published in the appropriate newspapers, in accordance with the HRMPO Public Participation Plan.

HRMPO 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Update (TAC Memo#21-11)

Chairperson Blessing presented the HRMPO 2045 LRTP Update. Mr. Ranjan gave an update on the 2045 LRTP Scope of Work, noting that the HRMPO's Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) must be updated every five years. He reported on the Travel Demand Model, noting that staff developed the 2045 control totals for all the member jurisdictions within the MPO for population, total employment, retail employment, dwelling units, and proportion of households without cars. Mr. Ranjan stated that staff worked with each member jurisdiction individually to confirm and incorporate suggested changes as needed to the TAZ distribution. He noted that staff compiled the final count for all the TAZs within the MPO and sent the dataset to VDOT central office to start the work on the Travel Demand Model. Ms. Cundy reported on the Public Engagement Plan, noting that staff presented the proposed Public Engagement Plan to the Policy Board on October 21, 2021, and issued a Notice to Proceed to CSPDC On-Call Consultant Kimley Horn and sub-consultant Avid Core to assist the MPO with this LRTP task, as well as provide assistance to MPO and VDOT staff on LRTP project scoring. Discussion ensued regarding utilizing 2019 American Community Survey (ACS) data versus data from the 2020 Weldon Cooper Center for the LRTP Update. Ms. Cundy stated that staff would utilize the ACS data for the LRTP Update and will document the reasons for doing so. Mr. Ranjan reported on the next steps, noting that staff will begin public engagement with the help of the consultants in early 2022. He noted that staff will also start reviewing all relevant plans and data that will provide essential background information on land use, development trends, economic development, tourism, and multi-modal transportation needs.

Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act Update (TAC Memo #21-12)

Chairperson Blessing presented Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act Update. Mr. Beard presented a PowerPoint presentation on the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA). He stated that the IIJA will provide significant public investment in US transportation networks, broadband, and public works projects, and modernize the country's aging infrastructure through extensive upgrades for roads and bridges. Mr. Beard noted that the Act allocates an estimated \$1.2 trillion in total funding over ten years, including \$550 billion in new spending, divided between improving the surface-transportation network (\$284 billion) and society's core infrastructure (\$266 billion). He stated that the Act will provide \$284 billion in new spending for transportation and reviewed the breakdown of spending, how much money Virginia will receive, eligibility criteria, and new programs.



Presentation: Virginia Transit Equity and Modernization Study

Chairperson Blessing presented the Virginia Transit Equity and Modernization Study presentation. Mr. Hudson presented a PowerPoint presentation on the Study, noting that this study will be looking at how transit service is provided, its accessibility, the adequacy of existing infrastructure, how DRPT can best deploy emerging technology, safety, electrification, how transit systems engage with riders, and how riders are represented. He reviewed the Study goals, the process and timeline, and key study activities. Mr. Hudson reviewed the next steps, noting that the final report is expected to be completed in spring 2022.

Department of Transportation (VDOT)

Mr. Komara reported on the following construction projects: the Route 720 Smithland Road bridge project, noting that it is ready for bid advertisement; the Route 682 Friedens Church bridge project improvements in Rockingham County, noting that five bids were received for the project and construction is scheduled for early 2022; the Town of Broadway bridge construction project and the Route 33 bridge project at Exit 247, noting that both projects are scheduled for advertisement in 2022; I-81 Corridor Improvement projects, noting that updated information can be viewed on [https://improve81.org.](https://improve81.org;); and reported on snow removal.

Mr. Reed gave an update on SMART SCALE Round 4 projects. He distributed copies of the HRMPO STIP/TIP Grouping Update (attached to file minutes). Mr. Reed reported on the Route 33 Corridor Study between the City of Harrisonburg and the Town of Elkton, noting that the Study was anticipated to be completed in January.

Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT)

Mr. Hudson reported on DRPT's transit grant season. He gave an update on the Section 5310 Human Services Grant program, and new guidance regulations released by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) regarding MPOs Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

Harrisonburg Department of Public Transportation (HDPT)

Ms. Spain gave an update on HDPT's Feasibility Study, noting that HDPT is currently in the site selection stage. She gave an update on the transit driver shortage, noting that HDPT has reduced five of their JMU routes due to the shortage. Ms. Spain reported on the recruitment of drivers and driver incentives by HDPT, noting that HDPT has since received several applications and hoped to have the reduced JMU routes running again soon.



City of Harrisonburg Department of Public Works

Mr. Hartman gave an update on the activities of the City of Harrisonburg Department of Public Works. He reported on the following: Garbers Church Road Shared Use Path project, noting that construction is anticipated to be completed by the end of this month; Mt. Clinton Pike improvements project between Route 42 and Park Road, noting that it was at the right-of-way phase and scheduled for construction in 2023; University Boulevard realignment project, scheduled to hold a design public meeting in April 2022; Harrisonburg new high school project, which is currently in the right-of-way phase; and reported on sidewalk projects, pipeline studies, and roadway configuration projects.

Upcoming Meetings

Chairperson Blessing announced that the HRMPO Policy Board will hold a meeting on January 20, 2022, at 3:00 p.m.; and the next HRMPO TAC meeting will be held on January 6, 2022, at 2:00 p.m.

Adjournment

A motion for adjournment was unanimously passed at 3:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Ann Cundy
Director of Transportation