

HRMPO TAC Minutes July 2, 2020, 2:00 p.m.

Via Zoom Video/Audio Conferencing Call

Voting Member	Alternates	Staff
City of Harrisonburg	Lisa Perry, Rockingham	✓ Ann Cundy
✓ Tom Hartman	Jay Litten, Bridgewater	✓ Jonathan Howard
✓ Bill Blessing, Chair	Shane Stevens, Mt. Crawford	Rita Whitfield
✓ 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	✓ Kyle Lawrence, SVBC
✓ Rhonda Cooper, Vice Chair	Jakob zumFelde, Harrisonburg	✓ Kim Sandum, Shenandoah Alliance
✓ Bradford Dyjak	✓ Jeff Lineberry, VDOT	
✓ 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

The July 2, 2020, 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 June 4, 2020, TAC Zoom Video/Audio Conferencing call. Mr. Reed moved, seconded by Ms. Dang, to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment

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

FY 2021 Small Area Study Selection (TAC Action Form #20-5)

Chairperson Blessing presented for discussion FY 2021 Small Area Study Selection. Mr. Howard stated that each year, the HRMPO assists member jurisdictions with short-range transportation planning studies of transportation needs. He noted that at the June 4, 2020 TAC meeting, the Committee discussed two proposed small area/corridor studies for the MPO to pursue during FY 2021, for Rockingham County and the City of Harrisonburg. Mr. Howard stated that after review of Rockingham County's proposal to study Erickson Avenue, it was agreed that the County's interest in the corridor can be addressed better by a long-range planning scope and process, which includes more extensive public involvement. Mr. Howard gave a brief review on the City of Harrisonburg's proposal for Port Republic/Bluestone Drive Bicycle/Pedestrian Bridge Feasibility Study. He stated that HRMPO staff will use consultants in the CSPDC's On-Call Program to conduct the study for the City of Harrisonburg. He reviewed the next steps, noting that the study will be presented to the Policy Board at their July 16, 2020 meeting and if approved, a study kick-off meeting will be scheduled in August. Ms. Cooper moved, seconded by Mr. Armstrong, to recommend approval of the FY21 Small Area Study, Port Republic/Bluestone Drive Bicycle/Pedestrian Bridge Feasibility Study, to the Policy Board. Motion was carried by unanimous vote.

Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) Update

Mr. Komara reported on several construction and bridge projects that are underway in the HRMPO area, as well as paving and mowing along the secondary roads. Mr. Reed gave an update on SMART SCALE applications, noting that the submission deadline is still currently August 3, 2020. He noted that no word has been received yet regarding extending the deadline. Mr. Reed gave an update on the US 33 Arterial Management Plan in Rockingham County, noting that VDOT was successful in requesting funding for that study. He noted that the Plan will help guide County staff in decision-making that will lead to safer access while minimizing congestion, and assist with planning and design for future levels of access and development in the corridor.

Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT)

Mr. Hudson reported on SMART SCALE applications for transit. He noted that DRPT is in the process of reviewing and improving the contracts for operating systems for the transit agencies. Mr. Hudson



reported on funding models, how they will be able to move forward with forecasting revenues, and how it will impact the FY21 Capital Improvement Plan.

Harrisonburg Department of Public Transportation (HDPT)

Mr. Gatobu stated that HDPT will begin preparing route plans once they receive word from the area public schools and James Madison University (JMU) regarding plans to resume classes in the fall. He stated that HDPT is following statewide guidance to meet all safety needs for riders and staff, and social distancing on the buses.

Upcoming Meetings

Chairperson Blessing announced that the HRMPO Policy Board will hold a meeting on July 16, 2020, at 3:00 p.m.; and the next HRMPO TAC meeting will be held on August 6, 2020, at 2:00 p.m.

Adjournment

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

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jonathan Howard".

Jonathan Howard
Transportation Planner