

HRMPO Policy Board Minutes April 19, 2018, 3:00 p.m.

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

Voting Members	Non-Voting Members	Staff
City of Harrisonburg	Lee Eshelman, JMU	Bonnie Riedesel, CSPDC
✓ Ted Byrd, Vice Chairman	Michelle DeAngelis, FTA	✓ Ann Cundy, CSPDC
Deanna Reed	Kevin Jones, FHWA	✓ Jonathan Howard, CSPDC
Eric Campbell	Nick Britton, DRPT	✓ Rita Whitfield, CSPDC
✓ Reggie Smith	Rusty Harrington, Aviation	
✓ George Hirschmann		Others
Rockingham County	Alternates	✓ Brad Reed, VDOT
✓ Rick Chandler, Chairman	Michael Breeden, Rockingham	✓ Burgess Lindsey, VDOT
Vacant	Rhonda Cooper, Rockingham	✓ Kim Sandum, CAP
✓ Stephen King	Casey Armstrong, Rockingham	✓ William Bushman, Hurt & Proffitt
Town of Mt. Crawford	Cheryl Spain, Harrisonburg	✓ Alex Bellido, VDOT
✓ Dennis Driver	Gerald Gatobu, Harrisonburg	
Town of Dayton	Ande Banks, Harrisonburg	
✓ Robert Popowicz	Susan Smith, Dayton	
Town of Bridgewater	✓ Alex Wilmer, Bridgewater	
Jay Litten	Neal Dillard, Mt. Crawford	
VDOT	Terry Jackson, VDOT	
✓ Randy Kiser	Terry Short, VDOT	
	Jeff Lineberry, VDOT	
	✓ Don Komara, VDOT	
	✓ Tiffany Dubinsky, DRPT	

Call to Order

The April 19, 2018, Harrisonburg-Rockingham Metropolitan Planning Organization (HRMPO) Policy Board meeting was called to order at 3:03 p.m. by Chairman Chandler.

Approval of Minutes

Chairman Chandler presented the minutes from the February 15, 2018, HRMPO Policy Board meeting. Mr. Popowicz moved, seconded by Mr. Hirschmann, to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment

Chairman Chandler opened the floor to the public for comments. There were no comments from the public.

Draft FY19 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) (PB AF #18-3)

Chairman Chandler presented for consideration the Draft FY19 UPWP to release for public comment (copy attached to file minutes). Ms. Cundy gave a brief overview of the Draft FY19 UPWP. She noted that the UPWP maintains the work elements and annual activities of the FY18 UPWP. Ms. Cundy stated that to provide adequate funding for the three Small Area Studies and SMART SCALE activities in FY19, the budget increases the Work Element 2.02 Short Range Planning line item by \$53,000. She noted that the HRMPO Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) had reviewed the UPWP at their April 5th meeting and recommended releasing the UPWP for public comment. Mr. Byrd moved, seconded by Mr. Popowicz, to approve the release of the Draft FY19 UPWP for the 21-day public comment period. Motion was carried by unanimous vote.

FY18 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Update (PB Memo #18-4)

Chairman Chandler presented the FY18 UPWP Update. Ms. Cundy presented and reviewed the monthly FY18 UPWP Financial Update as of March 31, 2018 (attached to file minutes). She noted that the UPWP is the spending plan for the HRMPO for FY18 and no action was required.

MPO Memorandum of Understanding/3-C Agreement Update (PB Memo #18-5)

Chairman Chandler presented the MPO Memorandum of Understanding/3-C Agreement update. Ms. Cundy stated that VDOT's Transportation and Mobility Planning Division (TMPD) has developed updated Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs)/3-C Agreements with MPOs and the State to reflect the MAP-21 Performance-Based Planning and Programming requirements consistent with 23 CFR 450.306, and 23 CFR 490. She noted that MPO staff is reviewing the draft MOU/3-C agreement and working with VDOT District staff to clarify the new planning requirements. Ms. Cundy stated that the final HRMPO agreement will be brought before the Policy Board for approval at the May 17, 2018 meeting.

Draft 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan Amendment (PB AF #18-4)

Chairman Chandler presented the Draft 2040 LRTP Amendment. Mr. Howard and Mr. Reed gave a PowerPoint presentation on the 2040 LRTP Amendment. Mr. Howard provided a summary on the LRTP Amendment. He noted that the HRMPO has developed a methodology to evaluate future projects using an objective, data-driven process. The methodology ensures that projects meet transportation system needs



over the next 25 years, as well as recent MAP-21/FAST ACT federal rulemakings and state guidance related to performance-based planning and programming.

Mr. Howard reviewed the purpose of the Amendment and the strategy to evaluate projects. He distributed copies and reviewed the HRMPO Scoring Results of the Performance-Based Project Evaluation Process. Mr. Reed reviewed the project evaluation process, overall project scoring sheet, project costs, and next steps. Discussion ensued regarding project scoring and cost, and public input process. Ms. Cundy distributed copies and reviewed the format for the open house on the LRTP Amendment to be held on April 26th, 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., at the Rockingham County Administration Center, Harrisonburg, Virginia. Mr. Byrd moved, seconded by Mr. King, to approve the release of the Draft 2040 LRTP Amendment for the 21-day public comment period. Motion carried unanimously. Ms. Cundy noted that the methodology that was developed by the LRTP Working Group, VDOT, and HRMPO staff is scheduled to be presented at the VDOT land use and transportation forum in the spring, as well as at the VAMPO annual training in June to all the MPOs and PDCs in the state.

Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) Update

Under VDOT Update, Mr. Reed reported on the following:

- Gave an update on the Strategically Targeted Affordable Roadway Solutions (STARS) study. He stated that this is a VDOT corridor study program which is currently underway for Route 33 in Harrisonburg from Vine Street to Chestnut Ridge Drive. Mr. Reed noted that the study is currently in the alternatives evaluation stage and a draft study is anticipated by the end of May.
- Announced that the Commonwealth of Transportation Board (CTB) will hold its Six-Year Improvement Program public hearing on May 3, 2018, from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m., at the Holiday Inn in Staunton, Virginia. Mr. Kiser noted that Shannon Valentine, Secretary of Transportation, several newly appointed CTB Board members, and Mr. F. Dixon Whitworth, will be present. He stated that a formal public comment period on projects proposed to be included in the draft FY 2019-2024 Six-Year Improvement Program will be held at the meeting and encouraged everyone to attend. Ms. Cundy stated that staff will go early and sign up anyone who would like to speak at the meeting on behalf of their localities.
- Announced that Senate Bill 971, introduced by Senator Mark Obenshain, was signed into law by Governor Ralph Northam on April 4th. Mr. Reed noted that Senate Bill 971 directs the Commonwealth Transportation Board to develop a plan for improving I-81 corridor improvements using tolls for commercial and heavy vehicles. Discussion ensued regarding I-81 improvements, funding options, and public outreach.



- Reported that SMART SCALE preapplications are due June 1, 2018. Mr. Reed stated that VDOT staff was available to assist any jurisdiction that needs assistance.

Mr. Komara reported on bridge work in the region. He stated that a lot of progress was made on the North River Road project. Mr. Komara stated that the Reservoir project was moving along and should be finished in the spring.

Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) Update

Under DRPT Update, Ms. Dubinsky introduced herself, noting that due to DRPT staff changes, she would be the alternate for DRPT. She reported on Virginia Breeze, the new intercity bus service operating along Interstates 66 and 81, which launched December 1st. Ms. Dubinsky stated that Virginia Breeze has exceeded rider expectations, with Harrisonburg being one of the most popular boarding stops. She reported on transit capital funding, strategic plans for large urban transit providers, and a driver's assistance system demonstration project for transit vehicle safety.

Other Business

Under Other Business Chairman Chandler reported that Mr. Fred Eberly had resigned from the Board of Supervisors and the HRMPO due to health reasons. He stated that a new member would be appointed soon.

Ms. Cundy presented for consideration a proposed SMART SCALE application for improving the park and ride lot at Friedens Church Road in Mt. Crawford. Mr. Driver spoke on behalf of the application stressing the need for the project, noting that it is heavily used and that it could benefit from improvements. Upon a question regarding whether the park and ride lot was within the HRMPO boundaries, Ms. Cundy assured them that it was. It was the consensus of the HRMPO members present for staff to pursue developing the application to see what the cost would be to improve and possibly expand the existing park and ride lot.

Mr. King commented on the increasing traffic congestion on city streets attributable to James Madison University (JMU) students and their lack of usage of the Harrisonburg Department of Public Transportation's (HDPT) public bus system. He wondered whether JMU's parking fees were too low. Mr. Smith reported that HDPT ridership is down 10%-15% this year and that Reservoir Street is extremely congested due to high traffic, particularly college students. Discussion ensued regarding how to encourage JMU students to utilize the public bus system and how to manage the high volume of vehicles around the periphery of the university.



Adjournment

Chairman Chandler announced that the next HRMPO Policy Board meeting is scheduled for May 17, 2018. There being no further business to come before the HRMPO Policy Board, 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 W. Cundy
Transportation Program Manager