



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=eIE3Mk4vaCtZZXdvbk9rbENZaXlIQ09>

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 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,

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

Ann Cundy
Director of Transportation



TO: Harrisonburg-Rockingham MPO Technical Advisory Committee
FROM: Ann Cundy, Director of Transportation
MEETING DATE: March 4, 2021
RE: **TAC Action Form #21-1: Draft Title VI Plan Review and Amendment Release to Public Comment**

RECOMMENDATION

Recommend that the HRMPO Policy Board release the Draft Amendment to Title VI to a 21-day public comment period.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 states that “No person in the United States shall, on the ground of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.

As a recipient of federal funds, the HRMPO adheres to the law, and documents this in the Title VI Plan, ensuring non-discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin, in all our activities, with a particular focus on public participation, and procurement.

In the fall of 2020, VDOT conducted a triennial review of the MPO’s Title VI Plan and program. VDOT delivered its Letter of Findings on January 19, 2021. Staff is working to address the deficiencies listed in the letter. Those related to consultant procurement will be addressed in our procurement for a new set of CSPDC on-call consultants later this year.

Staff is amending the MPO’s Title VI Plan to address Findings 1 and 6, adding our Title VI Certifications and Assurances in Appendix C, and revising our Discrimination Complaint Procedures to ensure compliance with FHWA’s new requirement that all complaints made against a subrecipient of federal funds—i.e., the MPO and its subrecipients—be routed directly to FHWA for review (Appendix D).

NEXT STEPS

Following the 21-day public comment period, staff will incorporate any additional edits and public comments into amended document. Staff will present the final 2021 Title IV Amendment to the Policy Board for approval at the April 15, 2021 meeting.

ATTACHMENT

- [Draft Title VI Plan Amendment](#)
- [VDOT Letter of Findings](#)



TO: Harrisonburg-Rockingham MPO Technical Advisory Committee

FROM: Ann Cundy, Director of Transportation

MEETING DATE: March 4, 2020

RE: **TAC Memo #21-3: FY 2021 Small Area Study Program Update**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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. The bridge was a recommendation from the FY 2019 HRMPO Small Area Study of the Port Republic Road corridor to reduce vehicle delay, and improve pedestrian safety.

Phase I of the study concluded that a pedestrian bridge over Port Republic Road is infeasible. The Study Team and AMT have finalized Phase 2 of the Study, evaluating Alternative 4, a consolidation of the two crosswalks on Port Republic Road to the western leg of the intersection. Following a public input period during March 2021, the Study Team will conclude the study.

BACKGROUND

Alternative 4 consolidates the two crosswalks on Port Republic Road to the western leg of the intersection. It also includes improvements for pedestrian safety and level of comfort.

During January and February 2021, the Study Team worked with AMT to refine the Alternative 4 concept and cost estimate. The Study Team has opened public input on the proposed intersection improvements, including a study website with a presentation and survey, a press release, direct mailing to adjacent property and business owners, and promotion via the City and MPO communication channels.

ATTACHMENTS

[Draft Phase II Report](#)

TO: Harrisonburg-Rockingham MPO TAC

FROM: Ann Cundy, Director of Transportation

MEETING DATE: March 4, 2021

RE: **TAC Memo #21-4: FY 2022 UPWP Discussion**

BACKGROUND

The Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) is the annual work program and budget for the MPO. It details the administrative and planning activities to be undertaken during the fiscal year, and the federal, state, and local funds used for these activities.

The TAC is encouraged to make recommendations to MPO staff on the activities and funding levels in the UPWP during the annual update process. VDOT and DRPT provide the MPO with annual allocations of planning funds in the spring. 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. With input from the TAC and Policy Board, staff will present a draft document to the TAC at the April meeting for review.

Please review the table comparing the FY 2020 UPWP with the Draft FY 2021 UPWP:

	FY 2021	FY 2022
FHWA PL	\$168,052	\$170,012
PL Carryover	\$127,941	\$137,849
FTA 5303	\$99,759	\$96,565
FTA 5303 Carryover	\$33,063	*20,000
Totals	\$428,815	\$424,426*

*Estimate

NEXT STEPS

- March 4 - TAC reviews Draft FY 2021 UPWP
- March 18 - Policy Board reviews the Draft FY 2022 UPWP
- April 1 - TAC recommends release of the Draft FY 2022 UPWP to public comment
- April 15 - Policy Board releases the Draft FY 2022 UPWP to public comment
- May 20 - Policy Board approves the FY 2022 UPWP