CA-MPO

Citizen Transportation Advisory Committee
Draft Summary Minutes
January 22, 2025

A recording of this meeting can be found at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JuA_mH9fIM8

OFFICERS		STAFF	
Lee Kondor, Albemarle County, Chair	x	Christine Jacobs, TJPDC	x
Donna Chen, MPO – Vice-Chair	x	Taylor Jenkins, TJPDC	x
		Gretchen Thomas, TJPDC	
		Sarah Simba, TJPDC	x
		Gorjan Gjorgjievski, TJPDC	x
VOTING MEMBERS		**GUESTS / PUBLIC**	
Stuart Gardner, MPO		Sandy Shackelford, VDOT	x
Jose Gomez, Albemarle County	x	Chuck Proctor, VDOT	x
Patrick Healy, Charlottesville	x		
Ethan Heil, Charlottesville	x		
Sarah Medley, Charlottesville	x		
Marty Meth, Albemarle County	x		
Nathan Moore, Albemarle County	x		
Danny Yoder, Charlottesville			
Peter Thompson, Albemarle County	x		
Greg Weaver, Charlottesville			

This meeting was an all-virtual meeting held by Zoom.

Call to Order

Chair Lee Kondor called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Sarah Simba read the notice of electronic meeting.

1. Attendance (Minute 3:11)

Sarah Simba took attendance.

2. Matters from the Public (Minute 4:25)

None from the public, but Mr. Kondor said he attended one of the public meetings for Safe Streets for All (SS4A) and observed that one of the highest causes of serious accidents is roadway departures. He noted that most of those accidents happen in rural areas, and yet those types of accident are not frequent enough in any five-mile stretch to make any portion of those roads to make the list of high-hazard areas. He noted that fixing all those roads would be prohibitively expensive, but nevertheless they do have their problems.

3. **General Administration (Minute 6:50)**

Christine Jacobs introduced Taylor Jenkins, TJPDC's new Director of Transportation, and her roles and responsibilities at the TJPDC and MPO.

Acceptance of Agenda

Action: There was no objection to the agenda as presented, so Chair Kondor approved it with no motion.

Acceptance of the September 18 and November 20, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Motion/Action: Patrick Healy made a motion to approve both meeting minutes. Jose Gomez seconded to motion, and it passed unanimously.

Election of Officers

According to the bylaws, there must be an election of officers at the first meeting of the new calendar year. Lee Kondor asked for volunteers to fill the positions of Chair and Vice Chair. Sarah Medley was nominated as Chair and she accepted.

Action: Patrick Healy nominated Sarah Medley as Chair and she was approved unanimously through consensus.

Sarah Healy took over as Chair and asked for nominations for the Vice Chair position. Donna Chen volunteered to continue her position as Vice Chair.

Motion/Action: Lee Kondor made a motion to accept Donna Chen as Vice Chair. Ethan Heil seconded, and the motion was approved unanimously.

4. **New Business (Minute 18:52)**

Performance Safety Targets

Gorjan Gjorgjievski gave background on and purpose of the Performance Safety Targets requirements from both the federal and state governments. He provided recent and long-term trendline projections. He noted that establishing targets equals a commitment to pursuing projects/objectives that support the achievement of those targets. He reminded the committee that regardless of what safety targets get adopted, the goal is to remain fully committed to safety for everyone who uses the transportation system.

He presented the differences in aspirational safety targets between 2024, adopted aspirational targets, and 2025 proposed aspirational targets.

RAISE Grant

Christine Jacobs gave background on the RAISE grant and the reasons for re-applying for the grant this year. She was told that it scored very high the last time and was encouraged to submit an application again, and this application will be for the first 30% preliminary

engineering of the project to reduce some of the future contingencies in the second and third phases.

She shared that the TJPDC board has approved the submission. The application is due at the end of the month, and she hopes to be able to share in the future that an award was given. She will keep the committee posted.

5. Staff Updates and Meeting Schedule (Minute 35:08)

Safe Streets and Roads for All

Mr. Gjorgjievski reported that staff wrapped up Round Two of engagement which included asking the public what kind of projects they think would make the most difference in reducing the number of fatalities and serious injuries. There were 12 pop-up events with approximately two events in each jurisdiction.

He reported that they did data analysis on the surveys received. He said they also included SS4A in the Let's Talk Albemarle podcast. He said staff is currently working on the coordination efforts for the City's Demo project at Easy High Street and Meade Avenue. There will be a survey launch in February to gather feedback which will run through March 7.

He said staff are planning a public meeting on February 25 at 5 p.m. to gather feedback on which of the three implementation plans the public thinks would work best for that intersection.

Mr. Gjorgjievski said Round Three will focus on gathering feedback on the draft comprehensive safety action plan.

When asked what committee members can do to help support SS4A, he said the committee members could be involved in providing feedback. Ms. Jacobs also said it is important to better position local governments to be able to apply for funding for implementation. She said it will be important for citizens to show interest in these projects when they come up for discussion at that level.

Ms. Simba said committee members can also share this information with their communities.

Next CTAC Meeting

Ms. Medley noted that the next CTAC meeting will be held on March 19 in person at the Water Street Center, 401 E Water Street, Charlottesville, VA from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

6. VDOT Updates on Projects (Minute 45:30)

MPO Smart Scale Projects

Sandy Shackelford presented the committee with background information on Smart Scale, the funding allocation process, and updates on Round 6.

She continued by reporting that Round 6 estimated funding allocations for the Culpeper District is $68 million, futher reduced by $6.6 million for projects covered in previous rounds.

She showed a comparison of funding amounts among rounds and noted that Round 6 is more in line with the funds available in Round 1.

She shared changed from Round 5 and initial scoring outcome observations. She noted that there were four total project out of 24 recommended in the Culpeper District. One project that was recommended for funding was the US 250/Peter Jefferson Parkway and Rolkin Road Pipeline bundle for $36.4 million. She shared the projects that were not recommended for funding as well.

Ms. Shackelford shared how the consensus scenario process works. She noted that the CTB has the opportunity to adjust the final list of funded projects. The consensus scenario will be presented to CTB on May 20, 2025 and public hearings on the recommendations prior to the final adoption.

Chuck Proctor note that Culpeper District is doing very well and reported that it brought in the third highest amount of funding in the state.

STARS and Pipeline Studies

Mr. Proctor gave an update on the STARS study including the corridor from Barracks Road through the intersection at Hydraulic into the County at Woodbrook. One of the studies is at the interchange at Hydraulic North and the other is at Ridge/Main Street intersection in the City.

Mr. Proctor said regarding the pipeline studies, the CTB is going to adopt the locations at their February meeting. VDOT is looking at the Exit 118 interchange at I-64 and the 29 bypass, and the other is to re-look at the 5th Street interchange (Exit 120) to potentially reduce the cost by amending the current project by moving the bike/ped facilities off the bridge.

He said they are also looking at the Park and Rid lot at Exit 118.

There was a question-and-answer session after Mr. Proctor's presentation.

7. **Round Table Updates (Minute 1:15:30)**

Peter Thompson said the Charlottesville Area Alliance is applying to get a grant through AARP Virginia to help with walkability. They have had walk audits and bus rider training in the past. They are looking at rural transportation needs now and will be working with Jaunt.

Sarah Medley said the Equity Center at UVA is co-hosting an MLK event that will be about increasing access to outdoor activities with a keynote and panel discussion. There was going to be a hike this weekend, but that has been postponed.

Nathan Moore shared an update on the Eastern Connector bridge and road in Crozet to

connect the neighborhoods in 240 to be connected to the neighborhoods near 250 at the grocery store. He said there was a developer who was going to proffer some of the land to get started on building part of that road, but it did not get recommended for approval.

8. **Additional matters from the public (Minute 1:20:24)**

None

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

CA-MPO

Citizen Transportation Advisory Committee
Draft Summary Minutes
March 19, 2025

A recording of this meeting can be found at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ndbBuoZDpeE

OFFICERS		STAFF	
Sarah Medley, Charlottesville, Chair	x	Christine Jacobs, TJPDC	
Donna Chen, MPO – Vice-Chair	x	Taylor Jenkins, TJPDC	x
		Gretchen Thomas, TJPDC *	x
		Sarah Simba, TJPDC	x
		Gorjan Gjorgjievski, TJPDC*	x
VOTING MEMBERS		**GUESTS / PUBLIC**	
Stuart Gardner, MPO	x	Sandy Shackelford, VDOT	x
Jose Gomez, Albemarle County *	x	Chuck Proctor, VDOT *	x
Patrick Healy, Charlottesville *	x	Michael Fontaine, VTRC	x
Ethan Heil, Charlottesville		Adam Steivater	x
Lee Kondor, Albemarle	x		
Marty Meth, Albemarle County *	x		
Nathan Moore, Albemarle County *	x		
Danny Yoder, Charlottesville			
Peter Thompson, Albemarle County	x		
Greg Weaver, Charlottesville	x		
Chapman Munn, MPO			

** online participant*

Call to Order

Chair Sarah Medley called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

1. **Attendance (Minute 0:34)**

   Sarah Simba took attendance.

   Patrick Healy stated that he is over 60 miles away and is participating remotely.

   Marty Meth stated that he had conflicts and could not attend the meeting in person.

   There was no quorum present, so those online could not be voted in to formally participate in the meeting.

2. **Matters from the Public (Minute 2:39)**
   None.

3. **General Administration (Minute 2:54)**

Acceptance of the Minutes and Agenda

In section three of the minutes, Patrick Healy said that Sarah Medley was misnamed as Sarah Healy.

There was no quorum present, so no motion was made for either action item.

4. New Business (Minute 4:06)

FY26 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

Taylor Jenkins introduced herself to the committee. This is her first in-person meeting with CTAC.

Ms. Jenkins gave a background on UPWP, its priority and vision and the funding sources. She continued with the FY26 Work Program funding by source, by task.

She presented the board with administrative changes in percentage of funding and the language used in the UPWP.

Ms. Jenkins shared the tasks for Program Administration, Long Range Transportation Planning, and short-range transportation planning and local, state, and federal agency assistance.

Ms. Jenkins said the UPWP is on track for final approval to the Policy Board on April 23 with the final draft to CTAC at the May 21 meeting.

5. Informational (Minute 14:53)

Dr. Michael Fontaine, Associate Director, Virginia Transportation Research Council, presented the Board with the Smart Intersection Project for Albemarle County. He defined what a smart intersection is: lidar, machine vision, and radar detection systems that can identify safety concerns in real time. There is a potential to identify safety concerns (near misses) before crashes happen, interact with signal controllers to improve safety and operations, and enable future connected vehicle applications.

He reported that the ITTF was established by the General Assembly to fund pilot projects. There were two phases with technology testing and then expansion to more intersections. He noted that Virginia Tech Transportation Institute (VTTI) is the contractor for the project (PI's: Mike Mollenhauer, Reg Viray).

He continued by presenting results of smart intersections in Fairfax County. He presented the system configuration and validation data collection systems, and showed examples of a crash, wrong way driving, and near misses of both vehicle-vehicle and vehicle-pedestrian.

He said all the events recorded help to create an intersection risk heatmap. He said they compared against two weeks of manually counted data. He noted that lidar significantly undercounted traffic, especially during the rain; Video B system had more reliability issues, but tracked counts well; Video C system overcounted, but results were more consistent for vehicles. He also reported that bike/ped counts had larger errors for video systems but noted that they had small sample sizes.

He said the two systems produced automated safety analyses with human verification of a subset of flagged events. Lidar system results showed significant discrepancies, and video-based system showed good performance, but engineering judgement still needed to interpret the results appropriately.

He continued with Phase Two: Testing Expansion. There are four in Mongomery County and four in Albemarle County intersections including: Alderman/McCormick, Hydraulic/Lambs, Ivy/Old Ivy (this may change), and US29/Rio Overpass. Albemarle sites will use the video-based system that performed well in Phase One.

Dr. Fontaine said the difference with the Culpeper District intersections is that there will be an ability to interact with traffic signal controllers. Notably, there will be cybersecurity on these systems to keep them safe.

Dr. Fontaine noted that they are currently working on procurement and installation through June 2025. The evaluation and assessment will be from July 2025 through January 2026. At the end of the assessment by Virginia Tech, the transition/handover to VDOT will be done by June 2026.

Dr. Fontaine said VDOT does not currently keep the videos because of the administrative burden of FOIA requests. He said the vendor currently keeps the videos, and the jurisdictions in which they are located could decide to keep the videos if they so choose. He did note that there will be an opportunity to share the summary data with those who are interested.

There was an extended question and answer session after the presentation.

6. <u>Staff Updates and Meeting Schedule (Minute 59:25)</u>

<u>Safe Streets and Roads for All</u>
Mr. Gjorgjievski reported that there was a roundtable meeting on farm vehicle roadway safety. There was a great deal of valuable feedback received at that meeting.

There was also a meeting with representatives from Virginia Wildlife re: safety concerns with collisions with wildlife. There was good feedback received at this meeting as well and the feedback from both meetings will be included in the draft safety action plan.

He said the project team has met with staff from each of the jurisdictions to review and discuss prioritization criteria data from the existing conditions report and what potential countermeasures might look like. He said the draft action plan is scheduled to be completed by the end of March. The next step is to present in front of each of the respective boards and ask them to adopt the plan. The recommendations that will be presented will be tailored to each of the jurisdictions' transportation safety needs while also retaining a regional approach to maintaining roadway safety.

He shared that there was a demonstration project for the City of Charlottesville that included the intersection of East High Street, Meade Avenue and Stewart Street. The held a public meeting on February 5 offering three concepts from which the public could choose. There was also an online survey with 363 responses.

He reported that Option 2 was the preferred option, which was Meade Avenue Two-Way, northbound at East High Street.

He said the next step is to present the concept results at the next City Council meeting in April with the hope that Council will decide which concept they would like to implement taking the public feedback into consideration. He said they would like to implement the concept in the summer, but it may take 60-90 days.

He reviewed the implementation and next steps. He said in May, there will be a finalization of design plans for implementation. In the summer of 2025, the City will implement recommended improvement project and seek feedback from the public again on the demonstration project.

Next CTAC Meeting

Ms. Simba noted that the next CTAC meeting will be held on May 21 in person at the Water Street Center, 401 E Water Street, Charlottesville, VA from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

7. VDOT Updates on Projects (Minute 1:08:53)

STARS and Pipeline Studies

Sandy Shackelford gave a brief update on the STARS study. The STARS study is a planning research study done through VDOT. She said the Ridge McIntire/Main/South Street intersection and the US29 corridor from the hydraulic intersection to Woodbrook are the two projects they are studying.

The pipeline studies include the Diverging Diamond Interchange (DDI) at 5th Street exit and the other is at US29 at the Exit 118 interchange. Donna Chen noted that the interchange was recently updated, and Chuck Proctor said they will be studying how to make that interchange does not back up with the exit from 250 to I-64.

Ms. Shackelford said the pipeline will be ready for the next round of Smart Scale. Her hope is that the STARS studies will also be ready.

Peter Thompson asked when the Belvedere/Rio Road intersection is going to start. Ms. Shackelford said it is part of a bundle of construction projects and is slated to be finished by Fall, 2027. She is not sure of the start date.

8. **Roundtable Updates (Minute 1:20:38)**

Ms. Simba asked the members to please provide their preferred email address and phone number.

She also noted that there are a couple of members whose terms will be expiring soon. Those positions need to be addressed.

Ms. Medley said she would be happy to share reports from the MPO Tech and Policy Board meetings. She also said there could be a review of the bylaws at the next meeting.

Ms. Medley raised the issue that the committee might need to get more diversity on the committee.

There was a discussion about the process about how to become a member on the committee.

9. <u>Additional matters from the public (Minute 1:36:54)</u>

Adam Steivater introduced himself and noted he was there on assignment from one of his classes at UVA.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:38 p.m.