

MPO Technical Committee Meeting

Draft Minutes, August 5, 2025

A recording of this morning can be found here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gy6fXQCoL0U>

VOTING MEMBERS & ALTERNATES		STAFF	
Ben Chambers, Charlottesville	x	Gretchen Thomas, TJPDC	x
Rory Stolzenberg, Cville PC	x	Sarah Simba, TJPDC	x
Tonya Swartzendruber, Albemarle	x	Gorjan Gjorgjievski, TJPDC	x
Alberic Karina-Plun, Albemarle	x	Lucinda Shannon, TJPDC	x
Lonnie Murray, Albemarle PC *	x	Taylor Jenkins, TJPDC	x
Charles Proctor, VDOT *	x	NON-VOTING MEMBERS	
Christine Jacobs, TJPDC *	x	Daniel Keoning, FTA	
Jason Espie, Jaunt *	x	Donna Chen, CTAC Liaison	
Bill Palmer, UVA Ofc of Architect	x	STEVEN MINOR, FHWA	
Mitch Huber, DRPT *	x	GUESTS/PUBLIC	
Sara Pennington, Rideshare		Peter Krebs, Piedmont Environmental Council	x
Tommy Safranek, Charlottesville		Zoë McComber	x
Garland Williams, CAT			
Sandy Shackelford, VDOT	x		
Kellie Brown, Charlottesville			
Wood Hudson, DRPT			

* attended online via Zoom

1. **CALL TO ORDER:**

Ben Chambers called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

Gorjan Gjorgjievski called roll. It was determined that quorum was not present, so none of the people who were participating online were allowed to be voted in to participate.

2. **MATTERS FROM THE PUBLIC (MINUTE 2:27)**

a. **Comments by the Public:**

Peter Krebs, Piedmont Environmental Council (PEC), invited everyone to the Mobility Alliance social on Friday from 4-7 p.m. at Decipher Brewing Company. The meeting will talk about regional interest matters. Regarding Free Bridge Lane, he said he has a successful petition to the County to make Free Bridge Lane permanent. He applauded the interjurisdictional approach to get the Free Bridge Lane where it is today, and getting the space accessible to the public but also getting the public to make the space. He said he wants to encourage the MPO continuing that process in the future.



City of Charlottesville

Albemarle County

Fluvanna County

Greene County

Louisa County

Nelson County

401 East Water Street • Post Office Box 1505 • Charlottesville, Virginia 22902-1505

Telephone (434) 979-7310 • Fax (434) 979 1597 • Virginia Relay Users: 711 (TDD) • email: info@tjpd.org • web: www.tjpd.org

He said he is excited about the progress on the 5th Street Trail and reported that it may have a ribbon cutting in 2027.

He also reported that PEC has a right of way connecting to a property they have adjacent to Biscuit Run Park that passes through the zone of the trail hub. They will continue to exercise that right of way to do public programs on their property, and hopefully, eventually connect to Biscuit Run. He understands there will be disruptions during construction, but it is a good opportunity to consider that when VDOT does road projects that provide continuity of access for road users, there is an opportunity to provide continuity of trail access, too. He said there is a park planned adjacent to the trail hub that may be a way to avoid the trail hub while still providing that access and provide a future park opportunity.

b. Comments provided via email, online, web site, etc.: None

3. GENERAL ADMINISTRATION (MINUTE)

Agenda

Motion/Action: Since there was no quorum present, no action was taken.

Approval of June 17, 2025 Minutes

Motion/Action: Since there was no quorum present, no action was taken.

Mr. Gjorgjievski reviewed the Electronic Participation and All-Virtual Meeting Policy.

It was determined with the addition of Rory Stolzenberg and Bill Palmer joining the in-person meeting, there was quorum present. Because quorum was reached, there was a vote to allow the members online to participate.

The online participants stated their reasons for joining remotely: Lonnie Murray had conflicts with his work schedule. Chuck Proctor and Mitch Huber are both more than 60 miles away. Jason Espie has a work schedule conflict. Christine Jacobs is home with a personal matter taking care of her children.

Motion/Action: Alberic Karina-Plun made a motion to allow the online participants to fully participate. Tonya Swartzendruber seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda

Taylor Jenkins stated that staff would like to add a TIP amendment to the agenda.

Motion/Action: Rory Stolzenberg made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Alberic Karina-Plun seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Minutes

Motion/Action: Alberic Karina-Plun made a motion to approve the June 17 minutes. Tonya Swartzendruber seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

4. RE-ELECTION OF OFFICERS (MINUTE 12:03)

Motion/Action: Rory Stolzenberg made a motion to elect Ben Chambers as Chair and Alberic Karina-Plun as Vice Chair. Tonya Swartzendruber seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

5. **NEW BUSINESS (MINUTE 12:33)**

Travel Demand Management (TDM) Study

Taylor Jenkins gave the background for the TDM study. She reviewed the Tasks (Task 1: Existing Conditions, Task 2: Origin-Destination Analysis, noting that there was great feedback from MPO Tech on sources to use to gather this info; Task 3: Mode Shift Potential & Strategies; Task 4: Outreach and Engagement)

She then reviewed the new project schedule for the new scope of work with a final deadline of June 30, 2026.

She said the next steps are to bring this information as presented before the MPO Policy Board.

Lonnie Murray said in the past, rural areas were highly underrepresented and to be aware that they need more focus.

Motion/Action: Tonya Swartzendruber made a motion to recommend the scope to the MPO Policy Board. Alberic Karina-Plun seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Travel Demand Model (Minute 19:05)

Nagaraju Kashayi, AECOM, noted that the regional Travel Demand Model is in the process of being updated with a new model base year of 2022. It will include updated Traffic Analysis Zone (TAX) boundaries, and updated demographics for the year 2022.

Mr. Kashayi reported that the new zone system is based on urbanized areas include the City of Charlottesville, and portions of Albemarle County. It also includes portions from Greene, Louisa, and Fluvanna counties. The demographic data sources were from Weldon-Cooper, Woods & Poole, and the American Community Survey.

He continued by explaining the demographic variables and method of estimation, definition of the districts used in the model, and reviewed the numerous demographic findings.

He said the potential uses of the model include congestion and congestion maps showing road level-of-service, transit ridership, mode share, VMT per capita, and average driving commute time.

It was noted that the model accounts for tourist areas (i.e. Monticello) and for schools, etc. where there might be heavier congestion.

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

Motion/Action: Alberic Karina-Klun made a motion to recommend to the Policy Board the 20225 Demographic data as presented. Sandy seconded and the motion passed unanimously,

6. **STAFF UPDATES (MINUTE 43:50)**

Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) (Move Safely Blue Ridge)

Gorjan Gjorgjevski thanked everyone for their participation in the study. He said all six of the jurisdictions have adopted the plan. The plan has been sent to FHWA for review. It has not been officially approved by FHWA yet because there are some small processes to be completed, but there has been positive feedback on it so far.

He said regarding the City's safety administration projects, he has received the updated recommendations from the consultants, so he is hoping to put that into an implementation phase soon.

Ben Chambers said 60-day project has to be a little less “temporary” than originally thought.

Mr. Gjorgjievski said the grant application for FY25 SS4A was successfully submitted, but there is no information on the award yet.

CA-MPO and SAW-MPO Join Meeting Planning

Taylor Jenkins said the joint meeting planning is underway. This is a biennial meeting and it is CA-MPO’s turn to host. The meeting will be September 30 and it will be either at the North Fork Meeting Center or the Hillsdale Conference Center. She said there will be presentations/updates including CARTA, Afton Express, DRPT Statewide rail plan, and the Three Notch’d Trail.

Lonnie Murray said there is talk about redevelopment of the site on the top of Afton Mountain. He said that may be an interesting item to talk about at the joint meeting.

TIP Amendment

Mr. Gjorgjievski presented the TIP amendment, item #13. He reviewed the item regarding paratransit. Because they are receiving funds from the FTA, it must be included in the TIP.

Motion/Action: Tonya Swartzendruber made a motion to recommend the TIP Amendment to the Policy Board. Alberic Karina-Plun seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

RAISE/BUILD Grant Application Update

Taylor Jenkins noted that the pedestrian bridge was not selected for an award. She reported that there will be a debrief meeting this month to find out why the project was not funded.

Mr. Chambers reported that the next MPO Tech meeting will be on October 7.

7. VDOT PROJECT UPDATES (MINUTE 52:55)

STARS and Pipeline Studies

Sandy Shackelford presented a background on what STARS is and presented the combined survey results. She said the top priority from the survey was reducing traffic congestion.

She presented the results summary on the operations, existing safety conditions, and gave crash summaries from 2019-2023. She noted that there is a high concentration at the Hydraulic Road intersection.

She reviewed the US29 corridor fatal crashes, noting that there were four fatal crashes between 2019-2023. She also presented an overlay of operations vs injury crashes.

She reviewed the bike/ped summary noting that the sidewalk network throughout the corridor is missing segments, there are few crosswalks, pedestrians crossing US29 at unmarked locations, no shared-use path north of Angus Road, so cyclists use travel lanes, and that there were nine pedestrian crashes during the 2019-2023 analysis period.

US29/250 Bypass interchange with Emmet Street (Study #2)

Ms. Shackelford presented statewide and locally identified needs. She reviewed the operational delays, and the queueing (where there are higher levels of delay), crash summary between 2019 and 2024, and a fatal crash review (three fatal crashes all along Emmet Street), and then gave an overlay of the operational outputs vs injury crashes. The Bike/ped summary noted that there were no missing segments of sidewalks, there were

crosswalks present at all signalized intersections along Emmet Street, a shared-use path within median from Morton Dr to Angus Rd, and there were three pedestrian crashes during the 2019-2023 analysis – one fatal.

She continued giving the NCHRP 948 Bike/Ped red flag analysis. NCHRP 948 is a bike/ped intersection safety analysis tool. She presented the number of “red” or “yellow” flags at each of the intersections studied and gave bicycle design flag analysis examples.

She noted there are longer-term goals regarding transit. She reviewed the existing conditions with the service providers (CAT, MicroCAT and Jaunt). She said the next step with the consultants is to look at the existing and future land use. She presented the residential and commercial parcel and density maps.

She presented next steps and the schedule for those steps.

Chuck Proctor noted that these studies may or may not be able to be included in the next round of Smart Scale. He said there will be some solutions identified by the end of this calendar year.

8. ROUNDTABLE UPDATES (MINUTE)

Charlottesville

Ben Chambers said the City is working through transportation improvements. They will spend \$500K to deploy quick builds. He said the goal is to get everything on the ground by Dec 31, 2025. There are some other bike improvements and safe routes to school projects they are working on as well and said they have \$200K dedicated to that movement.

He said they are finalizing the deferred alternative designs for the 5th Street Bikeway and Road diet. They are hoping to go to Council this fall to get it adopted.

Regarding East High Street, he said they are finalizing the engineering design drawings for that. There is currently a debate on the type and location of the signal.

CAT

Mr. Chambers said CAT is working through scenario planning re: budget for FY26 services and what type of things to include in FY27 budget. They are also working on their bus stop inventory, amenities, and additional stops. They are realigning Route 2 which will require new bus stops. He reported that school zone speed cameras have been tested and are being calibrated and should be up and running within the next month.

Albemarle County

Alberic Karina-Plun said staff is presenting the Free Bridge Lane project to the Board tomorrow to determine if there will be permanent closure to traffic. If they approve the permanent discontinuance of the road, that process starts with VDOT and will have several steps.

Tonya Swartzendruber said the County is refining cost estimates for their revenue-sharing application to be submitted later this month. She said the other thing they have been working on is AC44, their comp plan. She said the final draft will be published by early next week.

Rideshare

There was no report.

VDOT

Ms. Shackelford had no other report.

DRPT

Mitch Huber said DRPT had their post-award webinar in July, which is on their website. There are NTI course offerings, the next one is State and Metropolitan Programming on Sept 15-16 at Plan RVA in Richmond. Regarding Smart Scale Round 7, if you have a transit primary-focused project, you need to schedule a review with DRPT by October 31.

There were bids for the Virginia Breeze RFP, but it is being resolicited due to some glitches on the private side.

FHWA

There was no report.

FTA

There was no report.

Jaunt

Jason Espie said Jaunt is going through several audits at this time. Jaunt also has a board meeting on August 13 that will have a presentation about the community survey results. Once the board has the info, he can share it more widely. He said they are working on their procurement measures for Microtransit, mobility on demand, ADA, as well as their full dispatch software upgrade.

UVA

Bill Palmer said summer is winding down, so they have several projects that are winding down that have dealt with access control and sidewalk issues. He said the bus schedule will get back to “regular schedule” around August 25. He reported that there are several ADA ramps that have opened. He said there will be delivery of four full-size battery electric buses that will get into operation by the spring. He is also looking forward to the Fontaine garage being completed as well.

TJPDC

Taylor Jenkins said the TJPDC is considering changing their rural area type to Area D from Area C. The commission will receive information about the recommendation and will decide on that this Thursday. Once the decision has been made, TJPDC will advise the areas impacted. Christine Jacobs said staff will send the memo with the recommendation to the members of this committee so they can see the details.

8. ADDITIONAL MATTERS FROM THE PUBLIC (MINUTE 2:01:02)

None.

ADJOURNMENT: Mr. Chambers adjourned the meeting at 12:04 a.m.

DRPT AGENCY UPDATE – OCTOBER 2024

DRPT Connects Communities Campaign

The “DRPT Connects Communities” initiative aims to enhance and promote the benefits of local transit agencies across VA. The campaign is focused on increasing awareness and usage of public transportation options, highlighting their role in creating connected and thriving communities!

Key messages

- Enhancing connectivity
- Economic benefits
- Accessibility
- Sustainability

Partner Toolkit: Customizable ads available for partners - password for marketing toolkit is CC24.

Upcoming TSDAC Meeting on 10/8/24

DRPT will host an upcoming meeting of the Transit Service Delivery Advisory Committee (TSDAC).

Date: Tuesday, October 8, 2024

Time: 10:00am

Location: Virtual Only

You may register your attendance [here](#). DRPT will place all meeting materials on its [website](#) prior to the meeting date.

If you have any questions or need more information, please feel free to contact [Jayla Parker](#).

FY26 Grant Application Workshop

DRPT will host our annual grant application workshop on November 13th at 11am. Additional details and registration will be released closer to the event.

TDP/TSP Agency Feedback Survey

DRPT is engaging all our transit agencies on their most recent TDP/TSP development process. From the collaboration to the usefulness of individual chapters, DRPT is seeking to enhance our planning requirements for our agencies. To take the survey you can follow the link here:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/TDP-TSPfeedback>

