

MEMORANDUM

To: Charlottesville-Albemarle MPO Technical Committee
From: Sarah Simba, TJPDC/CA-MPO Regional Planner II
Date: September 24, 2025
Subject: SMART SCALE Round 7 – Potential Application Locations

Purpose:

To seek a recommendation from the CA-MPO Technical Committee on which project locations the CA-MPO Policy Board should prioritize for SMART SCALE Round 7 applications.

Background:

SMART SCALE is Virginia's data-driven prioritization process used to fund transportation projects in two construction programs: the High Priority Projects Program (HPPP) and District Grant Program (DGP). Established by the Code of Virginia [§ 33.2-214.1](#), projects must address a statewide VTRANS need to be eligible and the SMART SCALE process considers project cost and calculated "benefits" for six factor areas:

- Safety
- Congestion Mitigation
- Accessibility
- Land Use
- Economic Development
- Environmental Quality

While the CA-MPO is eligible to submit four *final* applications requesting funding at the direction of the Policy Board (slots are based on population size), applicants are permitted to submit up to five *pre-applications* due to the possibility of one application screening out for ineligibility or readiness requirements. Attached to this memo is an excerpt of VDOT's presentation slides identifying eligible project submissions and VDOT's recommendations on which to pursue.

Staff Recommendations:

The table below identifies staff recommendations for CA-MPO SMART SCALE Round 7 project locations, out of those identified as eligible for submission:

Project	Staff Recommendation
US 29/250 NB On-Ramp Extension (Old Ivy Rd)	Yes
US 29/250 SB Off-Ramp Extension (Old Ivy Rd)	Yes
US 29 Interchange Improvement	No
US 29/250 NB Off-Ramp Extension to Barracks Rd	Yes
US 29/250 NB Off-Ramp Dual Lefts & Sidewalk on Barracks Rd	Yes
5 th Street/I-64 Improvements	Yes
US 29/I-64 Improvements	Yes

Applicants must submit a pre-application to be eligible for SMART SCALE funding. With the pre-application window of March – April 2026, staff do not recommend submitting an application for SMART SCALE Round 7 for the US 29 Interchange. The US 29 Corridor Study (which includes the US 29/250 Interchange) is still underway, and staff’s recommendation is to allow time to achieve broad public engagement and support on the selection of a preferred alternative. Waiting to apply until the next round would additionally allow time to work through the other components of the SMART SCALE process, such as securing letters of support from local jurisdiction Boards (i.e., Albemarle County Board of Supervisors) as required.

Staff Recommendations for Committee Action:

CA-MPO Citizens Transportation Advisory Committee:

Staff recommend that the CTAC make a motion to recommend that the CA-MPO Policy Board approve the provided list of SMART SCALE Round 7 project locations as presented by CA-MPO staff in this memo.

CA-MPO Technical Committee:

Staff recommend that the CA-MPO Technical Committee make a motion to recommend that the CA-MPO Policy Board approve the provided list of SMART SCALE Round 7 project locations as presented by CA-MPO staff in this memo.

CA-MPO Policy Board:

Staff recommend that the CA-MPO Policy Board make a motion to approve the provided list of SMART SCALE Round 7 project locations as presented by CA-MPO staff in this memo.

If there are any questions or comments, please contact Taylor Jenkins at tjenkins@tjpd.org and Sarah Simba at ssimba@tjpd.org.