

MEMORANDUM

To: Charlottesville-Albemarle MPO Technical Committee and Policy Board
From: Taylor Lowery, Director of Transportation
Date: June 2, 2026
Subject: STARS and Project Pipeline Study Locations

Purpose:

Discuss candidate study locations recommended by the City of Charlottesville and Albemarle County for upcoming STARS and Project Pipeline study cycle.

Background:

Every two years, the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) initiates study selection for two planning programs: STARS and Project Pipeline. The STARS program is led by VDOT’s Transportation and Mobility Planning Division (TMPD), and Project Pipeline is led by the Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment (OIPi).

Candidate Study Locations:

To identify potential study locations, local and MPO staff referenced identified [VTrans Needs](#), local priorities, and the adopted Long Range Transportation Plan. Because study recommendations will eventually advance into funding applications for programs such as SMART SCALE and Revenue Sharing, identifying a “lead” early in the planning process is intended to help anticipate coordination needs during both planning and future funding application processes. As these are state-funded studies, VDOT would remain the Project Manager for each.

Table 1. Candidate Study Locations

Study Location	Jurisdiction	Proposed Study Lead
US 29 at Airport Road	Albemarle County	Albemarle County
US 250 at Free Bridge	Both	CA-MPO
I-64 Exit 118 at US 29	Albemarle County	Albemarle County
Preston/Ridge-McIntire Intersection	City of Charlottesville	City of Charlottesville
Ridge Corridor from W Main St to Cherry Ave	City of Charlottesville	City of Charlottesville

Next Steps:

Following Technical Committee discussion and recommendation, study locations will be presented to the CA-MPO Policy Board for consideration. Once approved by the Policy Board, final candidate submissions must be approved by the appropriate statewide administrators (VDOT TMPD for STARS study locations, or the Commonwealth Transportation Board for Project Pipeline study locations).

If there are any questions, please contact Taylor Lowery at tjenkins@tjpd.org.