Agenda

Rural Transportation Advisory Committee
Tuesday January 18, 2022
1:00 PM Location Zoom

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Item	Time	Description
1.	1:00-1:05	**Matters from the Public:** Limit of 3-minutes per speaker •*Members of the Public are welcome to provide comment on any public-interest, transportation-related topic, including the items listed on this agenda*
2.	1:05-1:10	**Approval of Draft Minutes*** •November 16st meeting
3.	1:10-1:20	**Letter of Support for DRPT TA Grant for a Governance Study on Transit*** (Lucinda Shannon, TJPDC)
4.	1:20-1:45	**Rural Round-Abouts** (Charles Proctor, VDOT)
5.	1:45-1:55	**Round Table Discussion & Identification of Future Topics** •Committee members are invited to share updates and topics of interest with the group
6.	1:55-2:00	**Additional Matters from the Public** •*Members of the Public are welcome to provide comment (limit of 3 minutes per speaker)*
7.	2:00	**Adjourn**

* Items requiring committee action.

Upcoming Meetings:
March 15, 2022
May 17, 2022

NOTICE of ELECTRONIC MEETING:
This meeting of the Rural Transportation Advisory Committee is being held pursuant to *Code of Virginia* § **2.2-3708.2**, which allows a public body to hold electronic meetings when the locality in which it is located has declared a local state of emergency, and the catastrophic nature of the emergency makes it impracticable or unsafe to assemble a quorum in a single location, and the purpose of the meeting is to provide for the discharge of its lawful purposes, duties, and responsibilities.

This meeting is being held via electronic video and audio means through Zoom online meetings and is accessible to the public with close captioning and there will be an opportunity for public comment during that portion of the agenda.

Notice has been provided to the public through notice at the TJPDC offices, to the media, web site posting and agenda.

The meeting minutes will reflect the nature of the emergency, the meeting was held by electronic communication means, and the type of electronic communication means by which the meeting was held.

A recording of the meeting will be posted at www.tjpdc.org within 10 days of the meeting.

Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission

Regional Vision ▪ Collaborative Leadership ▪ Professional Service

Rural Transportation Advisory Committee

DRAFT Minutes, November 16, 2021

The video of the meeting can be viewed at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cbyHqv0QieA

VOTING MEMBERS		STAFF	
Tom Egeland, Louisa County	x	Sandy Shackelford, TJPDC	x
Dan Butch, Albemarle County	x	Lucinda Shannon, TJPDC	x
Jim Frydl, Greene County	x	Gretchen Thomas, TJPDC	x
Douglas Miles, Fluvanna County	x		
Dylan Bishop, Nelson County			
Charles Proctor, VDOT, Culpeper	x		
David Cook, VDOT, Lynchburg	x		
Stephen Johnson, Jaunt	x		
Sara Pennington, Rideshare	x		
JM Whelan, Fluvanna County	x		
ALTERNATES		**GUESTS/PUBLIC**	
Rick Youngblood, VDOT		Linda Buckler, Louisa County	x
David Benish, Albemarle County			
Stephanie Golon, Greene County			

***Note**: The City of Charlottesville has declared a local state of emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the nature of this declared emergency makes it impracticable or unsafe for the Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission to assemble in a single location in the city. This meeting was held utilizing electronic virtual communication with the Zoom software application, and in accordance with virtual meeting provisions contained in Code of Virginia § 2.2-3708.2. A recording of the meeting was made available to the public on December 9, 2021 at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cbyHqv0QieA*

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The Rural Technical Advisory Committee Chair, Tom Egeland, presided and called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm. Lucinda Shannon read the Notice of Electronic Meeting and Commissioner and Public Protocol.

2. MATTERS FROM THE PUBLIC:

a. **Comments by the Public:** None

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

3. APPROVAL OF DRAFT MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 16, 2021 (MINUTE 1:42):

Dan Butch said in item #5, in the last paragraph of his update, that instead of saying there is "need for traffic calming issues," that it be stated that "there tends to be a need for traffic calming regarding safety issues" and that "the County tries to implement where appropriate with VDOT."

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

Tom Egeland made a motion to approve the minutes with the changes suggested. Mr. Butch seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

4. SMART SCALE ROUND 5 (MINUTE 4:30):

David Cook shared a VDOT presentation showing the changes to Smart Scale. He and Chuck Proctor then discussed the impacts on the potential projects.

5. ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION & IDENTIFICATION OF FUTURE TOPICS (MINUTE 39:35):

Tom Egeland said there will be a new board of supervisor coming in January. There is a work session at their County Planning Commission meeting and VDOT will be there to discuss how they review large-scale solar projects and possibly planning a new development.

Jim Frydl said they have large proposals coming through the Planning Commission with requests to transfer from "senior-restricted" to "open market." There is 140-unit glamping proposal for a location off of Route 33 near the National Park. It would require a special needs permit.

Douglas Miles said Fluvanna has completed their functional classification of changes to Route 53 and 250 from major collectors to minor arterials which was approved by the Board. JM Whelan will be submitting that information to VDOT. They are also working on large zoning case outside of Lake Monticello. Lastly, he reported that he is going to be working with Dominion Virginia on a solar project in the county.

Dan Butch shared that Albemarle County has been informed that CTB approved the County's request for a Virginia byway (Routes 810 and 240 connecting to Greene). The County is looking into a comprehensive plan update, including a multi-modal plan within the plan.

Chuck Proctor said VDOT is wrapping up the review of the initial study locations for Smart Scale and providing comments back to those who have submitted them. Regarding the pipeline, he said that VDOT has done the initial studies and is starting Phase II, the alternatives analysis. Mr. Proctor also reminded Ms. Shackelford about the need for a follow-up meeting on the Zion Crossroads study.

Lucinda Shannon noted that the Transit Vision Plan is hosting a meeting this week and she wants to include the rural areas as well. She asked the committee to share the information about the meeting with those who may be interested. For additional information, please click here: https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/eba42b02fcf44a46a18d0d824b3ef911

Sandy Shackelford said there is a new planner beginning on Monday. Her name is Isabella O'Brien. TJPDC is still hiring for a new transportation planner.

David Cook reported they are completing Phase I on the pipeline in Nelson County, and the analysis study (Phase II) will begin shortly. He also noted that the newest PSI data has been updated and is located here: https://vdot.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=36c14ce72fde488fb2ce3ed44377588d

Chuck Proctor added that VDOT updated the safety data in VTRANS, currently posted on their website. He also noted that the Smart Portal pre-application module will begin on December 1 on the site.

Stephen said there were no major updates at Jaunt. They are expecting their new CEO to begin on December 1.

b. Next Meeting: January 18, 2022 via Zoom

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion/Action: On a motion by Tom Egeland, the Rural Transportation Advisory Committee unanimously voted to adjourn the November 16, 2021 meeting at 2:01 pm.

Charlottesville-Albemarle Metropolitan Planning Organization
of the Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission

PO Box 1505, 401 E. Water St, Charlottesville, VA 22902

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January 18, 2022

Jennifer Mitchell
Director
Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation
600 East Main Street, Suite 2102
Richmond, VA 23219

Dear Director Jennifer Mitchell:

The Rural Transportation Advisory Committee would like to voice its support for the Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission's grant application to complete a governance study recommending a governing body to generate and disseminate additional revenue to fund projects proposed in the Charlottesville Area Regional Transit Vision Plan.

We are enthusiastic about opportunities to expand public transit services to rural communities. We expect that a governance study will identify mechanisms to support the regional transit vision plan and help guide the expansion of new transit services to rural areas in the Thomas Jefferson Planning District.

We are pleased to see that the scope of work for the Thomas Jefferson Planning District Governance Study includes stakeholder outreach to the rural jurisdictions, as well as consideration for the inclusion of rural jurisdictions. The inclusion of the stakeholders and the rural jurisdictions in the governance study will ensure that the needs and desires of more users and potential users are considered and met.

We are hopeful that the implementation of the recommendations ultimately outlined in the governance study will generate additional resources to support the expansion of transit services serving rural areas, alleviating motor vehicle congestion, and providing more rides for rural residents especially those who cannot drive a private vehicle.

Sincerely,

Mr. Tom Egeland
Chair, Rural Transportation Advisory Committee