

Rural Transportation Advisory Committee

DRAFT Minutes May 5, 2026

The video of the meeting can be viewed at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4ZZBQYWu7ec&t=18s>

VOTING MEMBERS		STAFF	
Tom Egeland, Louisa County	x	Gretchen Thomas, TJPDC	x
Jim Frydl, Greene County	x	Taylor Jenkins Lowrey, TJPDC	x
Todd Fortune, Fluvanna County *	x	Gorjan Gjorgjievski, TJPDC	x
Dylan Bishop, Nelson County	x	Christine Jacobs, TJPDC	
Sandy Shackelford, VDOT, Culpeper	x	David Blount, TJPDC	x
Carson Eckhardt, VDOT, Lynchburg			
Jason Espie, Jaunt *	x		
Sara Pennington, Rideshare	x		
Alberic Karina-Plun, Albemarle County *	x		
ALTERNATES		GUESTS/PUBLIC	
Vacant, VDOT, Lynchburg		Robert Hofrichter, VDOT	x
Stephanie Golon, Greene County		Cody Barker, Nelson County	x
Cindy King, Louisa County		Matt Mashhadi, VDOT	x
Carrie Shepherd, VDOT			
Alex Porter, Fluvanna County			
Cody Barker, Nelson County			
Vacant, Albemarle County			
Chuck Proctor, VDOT, Culpeper			
Mike Murphy, Jaunt			

* online participant

1. **CALL TO ORDER (MINUTE 0:18)**

The Rural Technical Advisory Committee Chair, Tom Egeland, called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m.

Jason Espie said he is joining remotely due to sickness. Alberic Karina-Plun is also sick and could not make it in person. Todd Fortune said he had a conflict with another meeting.

Motion/Action: Jim Frydl made a motion to allow those attending online to participate fully. Tom Egeland seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Members of the meeting introduced themselves.

2. **MATTERS FROM THE PUBLIC (MINUTE 4:27)**

- a. **Comments by the Public:** None
- b. **Comments provided via email, online, web site, etc.:** None



City of Charlottesville

Albemarle County

Fluvanna County

Greene County

Louisa County

Nelson County

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3. APPROVAL OF DRAFT MINUTES (MINUTE 4:43)

February 3, 2026, Meeting Minutes

Motion/Action: Jim Frydl made a motion to approve the February 3, 2026, minutes, Dylan Bishop seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

4. ACCESS MANAGEMENT PRINCIPLES, REGULATIONS, STANDARDS, AND INNOVATIVE INTERSECTIONS (MINUTE 6:24)

Robert Hofrichter, Director of the Office of Land Use, VDOT, introduced himself to the committee. He noted that access management means the location, spacing, and design of entrances, street intersections, median openings, and traffic signals. We need it because most crashes happen in these areas.

He shared the highway functional classifications and information on conflict points. He noted that conflict points occur where vehicle paths intersect. Each conflict point is the location of a potential collision. He noted that the goal is to reduce or separate conflict points.

He shared the right-in/right-out entrance design. 74% of entrance crashes involve left turns and shared ways to avoid those crashes. He also shared ways to reduce speed differentials by merging, diverging and weaving as ways that are better than just crossing a road.

Mr. Hofrichter presented the access management regulations code of Virginia and shared the basics of those regulations. He continued sharing the entrance types (private, low volume commercial and commercial).

For existing entrances, Mr. Hofrichter gave some of the reasons that VDOT may review or require reconstruction or new permit of an entrance.

He continued sharing the spacing requirements and reasons why there may be an exception to those requirements.

He went on to review multimodal activity centers and the special standards for them.

Mr. Hofrichter moved into the portion of the presentation on Innovative Intersections. The first was Quadrant Roadways. There are no left turns in a quadrant roadway. It reduces the conflict points from 32 to 12.

The next intersection he reviewed is the Restricted Crossing U-turn (RCUT).

He then covered roundabouts, which have been becoming increasingly popular in Virginia.

There was a brief question and answer session at the end of the presentation.

There is an upcoming Transportation Land Use training forum online. This is provided only every other year, so he encouraged folks to attend.

5. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE (MINUTE 1:20:43)

David Blount introduced himself to the committee. He noted that the General Assembly did not complete action on a budget. He noted that it will probably be June when the budget is adopted.

He said the General Assembly is more focused on transit this year, specifically WMATA in Northern Virginia. He does not anticipate additional funding for the rest of the state, however.

He continued by stating that the DRTP may be focusing on rail. There is also budget language on how to accelerate funding for I-81 improvements and the Hampton Roads area.

He reviewed a handful of bills regarding transit and transportation funding throughout the Commonwealth that did not get passed. He said HB200 (DRPT's TRIP program that gives them more flexibility in funding) passed.

He mentioned the speed cameras set up in school zones and highway construction zones and the money being generated by them. He said there are items that need to be put in place as warnings for the drivers. Mr. Frydl said the cameras are primarily put in place for speed reduction and not revenue collection.

Mr. Blount continued discussing a few other bills that are transit, transportation, bike and pedestrian related.

6. VDOT UPDATES (MINUTE 1:36:35)

Sandy Shackelford had to leave the meeting at 2:35, so there was no update.

Taylor Jenkins Lowery said the CTB acted on expanding the eligibility for HPP to include innovative intersections. Ms. Lowery said the CTB have had deep dives about Smart Scale and safety. She said she would provide links to the presentations.

7. TJPDC UPDATES (MINUTE 1:39:03)

FY26 Rural Transportation Planning Needs Assessment Summary

Sara Pennington said there is a memo in the agenda packet that covers feedback and how to move forward with the rural jurisdictions. She noted there are small area plans that need to be updated. She said understanding the support TJPDC can provide is important, including grant work. Ms. Pennington noted it is time to update the Rural LRTP.

2040 Rural Long Range Transportation Plan and FY27 Draft Scope of Work

Taylor Jenkins Lowrey said the draft scope of work is included in the agenda packet. She said there is also a copy of the former rural work plan in the packet. She noted that there are no formal guidance documents, so staff's approach is to update the sections from that previous plan. Ms. Lowery asked for feedback from the committee on that document. Due to budget and staff constraints, she said that staff cannot make a full-scale public engagement effort.

Ms. Bishop suggested that county staff help with public engagement, if possible.

Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A)

Gorjan Gjorgjievski gave an update on SS4A. The NOFO was dropped and the application deadline is May 26, which is a month earlier than last year. He reported that there is \$1 billion in funding for the entire state. He said if anyone is interested in applying for funding, please reach out to him as soon as possible. So far, staff has reached out to all of the jurisdictions and have received positive requests from three counties.

Todd Fortune said Fluvanna will have an answer on Fluvanna's desire to move forward by Thursday. Tom Egeland said he would also ask Louisa County about their interest.

FY27 Meeting Schedule

Sara Pennington presented the following dates as the meeting dates for FY27: August 4, 2026, November 10, 2026, February 2, 2027, and May 4, 2027. Mr. Egeland said he would like February to be an online meeting.

7. ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION & IDENTIFICATION OF FUTURE TOPICS (MINUTE 1:51:14)

Albemarle County

Alberic Karina-Plun said Albemarle has received feedback on revenue sharing and staff recommendations on funding. He said VDOT will not be funding their full request for one of their projects, so they are looking for other ways to get it funded either through SS4A or RAISE. Regarding their Six-Year Road Plan, he said they need to have 2/3 of affected residents on roads vote to approve the paving of the roads. He gave an update on unpaved road improvement program. Mr. Karina-Plun said he will be going to board in early June with draft project priority list.

Fluvanna County

Todd Fortune said Fluvanna is still working on their comp plan. He said they took it to the Planning Commission last week and there needs to be some revisions based on that meeting. Fluvanna has a large warehouse facility on US15. He said there is a Zion Crossroads small area study that was done some years ago and they are looking to update that study. Mr. Fortune said the board meets tomorrow night and is looking to have an answer about applying for the SS4A grant. He said he spoke with VDOT and this year there is nothing that rises to level that would be competitive for funding. He is hoping that will change in the future with some of the developments coming to the county.

Jaunt

Jason Espie said Jaunt launched Greene Today in Greene on April 14. He said a person can book a trip up to 1-7 days in advance, but in the zone, you can contact the service and use it like an Uber. He said the word needs to get out better because it is not being utilized well at the moment. He also said Jaunt is going through a new branding effort and they will be celebrating their 50th anniversary in September.

Nelson

Dylan Bishop said Nelson is still working on their zoning and subdivision update. She said short-term rentals and lot size minimums (vs sliding scale) are currently hot topics. She said there are some RCUTs that Nelson would like to apply for in the next year, but they are having trouble getting public and board buy-in on them. She reported that the Department of Social Services building continues to be built in Lovingsston. She said Nelson is looking to get some sidewalk infrastructure soon.

Greene County

Jim Frydl said Greene County is beginning their comp plan update. He said they will be coordinating with TJPDC on that and it is due to be completed in 2028. He noted that his experience with RCUTs and JCUTs is that they are not necessarily transportation improvements, but they are definite safety improvements. He said he has been working with VDOT on a Smart Scale project and that he will be going to the CTB at the end of May for additional funding for an innovative intersection.

Louisa County

Tom Egeland said they recently hired two planning associates and an intern. Mr. Egeland said he would update transportation-related items at the next meeting. He noted that they are working on their comp plan.

8. Additional Matters from the Public

None.

Adjourn

Tom Egeland adjourned the meeting at 3:14 p.m. The next meeting is in person on August 4, 2026, from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. at the Water Street Center, 407 E Water Street, Charlottesville, VA