



**Staunton Augusta
Waynesboro**
Metropolitan Planning
Organization

112 MacTanly Place
Staunton, VA 24401

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Policy Board Meeting Agenda October 6, 2021, 10:00 a.m.

Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission
112 MacTanly Place, Staunton, VA 24401

OR

Via ZOOM Video Conference

Web Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/95304069040?pwd=UTdiQngvL2hMUWJPWXNoSGhOQ3Aydz09>
Dial In (Audio Only): 1-301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 953 0406 9040 Password: 558464

1. Call to Order
2. Public Comment
3. Recognition of Out-going SAWMPO Board Member Jim Shaw
4. Approval of Minutes of the September 1, 2021 Policy Board Meeting*
5. Exit 235 Study Update (Board Memo #21-14)
6. FY 2022 UPWP Budget Update (Board Memo #21-15)
7. Presentation: Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure - Alleyn Harned, Executive Director, Virginia Clean Cities
8. Agency Updates
 - VDOT
 - DRPT
 - BRITE
9. Other Business
 - Joint CAMPO-SAWMPO meeting
 - Bi-partisan Infrastructure Bill
10. Upcoming Meetings
 - October 20, 2021 – Technical Advisory Committee Meeting, CSPDC Offices, 2:00 p.m.
 - November 9, 2021 –SAWMPO Meeting, CSPDC Offices, 10:00 a.m.
11. Adjournment

* Action Required



**Policy Board
Regular Meeting Minutes
September 1, 2021, 10:00 a.m.**

Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission
112 MacTanly Place, Staunton, Virginia

Present (18):

Voting Members		Non-Voting Members		Others	
	City of Staunton		VA DRPT		Others
✓	Carolyn Dull	✓*	Wood Hudson	✓*	Michael McLaughlin, DRPT
✓	Steve Rosenberg		Grant Sparks	✓*	Josh Dunlap, VDOT
	Leslie Beauregard (Alt)		VRT		Staff (CSPDC)
	Augusta County	✓*	Steve Wilson	✓*	Bonnie Riedesel
✓	Scott Seaton, Vice Chair		Phil Thompson (Alt)	✓	Ann Cundy
✓	Tim Fitzgerald		FHWA	✓	Zach Beard
	Pam Carter (Alt)		Mack Frost	✓*	Devon Thompson
	City of Waynesboro		FTA	✓	Kimberly Miller
✓	Bobby Henderson, Chair		Michele DeAngelis		
✓	Jim Shaw		VA DOA		
	Michael Hamp (Alt)		Rusty Harrington		
	VDOT		CTB		
✓	Randy Kiser		Mark Merrill		
✓*	Adam Campbell (Alt)				
✓*	Don Komara (Alt)				
	Matt Dana (Alt)				

*Due to a resurgence of COVID-19 cases in the region, non-voting members were encouraged to attend virtually by Zoom. Those who attended virtually are indicated by an asterisk; all others attended in-person.

Call to Order

The meeting of the Policy Board of the Staunton-Augusta-Waynesboro Metropolitan Planning Organization (SAWMPO) was called to order at 10:01 a.m. by Mr. Bobby Henderson, Chairperson.



Public Comment

Chairperson Henderson opened the floor for public comment. There were no public comments.

Approval of Minutes

Chairperson Henderson presented the minutes from the August 4, 2021 Policy Board meeting. Dr. Seaton noted an occurrence in the minutes where the Chairperson was noted as adjourning the meeting rather than the Vice Chairperson. The motion includes that revision to the minutes (correction made to file minutes).

Dr. Seaton moved, seconded by Mr. Rosenberg, to approve the minutes as corrected (Motion carried unanimously (7-0)).

Consideration of the FY21-24 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Transit Amendment (BAF #21-12)

Chairperson Henderson presented for consideration the TIP Amendment. Ms. Cundy stated that proposed TIP Amendment was released at the August Board meeting for the 21-day public comment period and that no public comments were received; the Board is requested to approve the TIP Amendment. She explained that any project applying for federal funds must be included in the MPO's TIP. Ms. Cundy stated that the amount of \$435,000 allocated in the amendment is an estimate based on the consultant's recommendation for rehabilitation of the Lewis Street transit hub parking lot.

She stated that when staff met with DRPT to discuss funding opportunities, they suggested that a study be undertaken to make the Lewis Street Hub a proper transit transfer center; such as reconfiguring the space, better defining parking for the buses, relocating the shelters, and building a small structure with an office and restroom facilities for the drivers. Ms. Cundy stated that the BRITE Transit Development Plan (TDP) that is being updated this year will include an additional task to assess what the current and future needs are for the site, develop a detailed site plan, and apply for funding through a discretionary DRPT fund in January.

Dr. Seaton moved, seconded by Mr. Shaw, to approve the TIP Amendment. Motion carried unanimously (7-0).

Consideration of the 2021 TAP Resolutions of Support (BAF #21-13)

Chairperson Henderson presented for consideration the 2021 TAP Resolutions of Support. Mr. Beard stated that the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) provides funding primarily for pedestrian improvements. Applications from the SAWMPO region require a Resolution of Support from the MPO Board, and final applications are due by October 1st. Mr. Beard discussed the two applications for consideration by the Board: 1) Augusta County's application for remaining construction of the final phase of the Verona sidewalk project, and 2) Waynesboro's application for construction funding of phase four of the South River Greenway.

Dr. Seaton moved, seconded by Mr. Fitzgerald, to approve the two 2021 TAP Resolutions of Support. Motion carried unanimously (7-0).



Consideration of the FY22 Small Area Study Scope of Work: Bicycle and Pedestrian Gap Analysis (BAF #21-14)

Chairperson Henderson presented the Small Area Study Update. Mr. Beard stated that at the April TAC meeting, two potential FY22 studies were reviewed: 1) a regional highway safety plan in partnership with VDOT, and 2) a regional bike-ped connectivity gap analysis. He stated that the TAC expressed support for conducting both studies; first the highway safety plan and then the bike-ped connectivity plan. Mr. Beard stated that the Board approved moving forward with the Highway Safety study and approved the Request for Assistance Letter sent to VDOT Central Office in June.

To begin the bike-ped connectivity study process, Mr. Beard stated that a study group was convened to discuss the scope of work. He stated that each locality has completed a number of studies on infrastructure projects and bike-ped planning. Mr. Beard stated that the plans are stand-alone, but at the regional level, there is a desire to explore how these plans can work together to establish continuous, non-motorized access between the localities. He stated that the study will focus on an east-west corridor from Stanton through Augusta County to Waynesboro (parallel to I-64 and Rt 250).

Mr. Beard stated that MPO staff will coordinate with the study group to develop the tasks and deliverables, to include data collection, gap analysis, and recommendations. He stated that MPO staff will review regional plans, and coordinate with the study group to create an inventory of the existing, funded, and proposed non-motorized projects. The study is expected to be completed by December 2020. Mr. Beard requested that the Board approve the proposed Scope of Work.

Dr. Seaton moved, seconded by Mr. Shaw, to approve the FY22 Small Area Study Scope of Work. Motion carried unanimously (7-0).

FY 2021 UPWP Budget Update (Board Memo #21-09)

Chairperson Henderson presented the UPWP Budget Update. Ms. Riedesel stated that the memo summarizes spending activities as compared to budget for the fiscal year 2021 as of the end of July, which is the first month of the current fiscal year. She stated that there was a significant carryover of funds from 714 to begin updating the Transit Development Plan (TDP) and that spending is on-track.

Presentation: "Transforming Virginia Rail" - Michael McLaughlin, Chief Operating Officer, Virginia Passenger Rail Authority

Chairperson Henderson presented the Transforming Virginia Rail presentation and introduced Mr Michael McLaughlin. Mr. McLaughlin stated that the Port of Virginia and Virginia's location on the Amtrak network make rail very important to the Commonwealth. He explained funding for rail and how the Virginia Passenger Rail Authority (VPRA) is empowered to make decisions about, and investments in, rail throughout Virginia. Mr. McLaughlin stated that the VPRA purchased right-of-way along the Buckingham Branch rail to preserve it for potential future passenger service. DRPT is studying the corridor from Clifton Forge to Hampton Roads that goes through the SAWMPO region. Mr. McLaughlin discussed infrastructure, acquisition, and goals



around the state. He discussed the Long Bridge and the bottleneck that needs to be addressed there and other priorities throughout the Commonwealth. (Presentation attached to file minutes.)

Agency Updates

Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)

Mr. Campbell gave the following update:

- The final application deadline for this cycle of Revenue Sharing and Transportation Alternatives is October 1st.
- Staunton STARS Study MetroQuest survey closed two weeks ago; there were 487 responses received that included 593 comments. Just over 80% of respondents were residents of the City and 15% were from Augusta County. A summary of the comments will be provided to the study team leading up to the third study team meeting on Thursday, September 9th.
- SMART SCALE Round 5 application cycle will open next spring; outreach by district and residency staff to localities will begin next month.

Mr. Komara gave the following update:

- Improve81.org website contains updates on the I-81 projects.
- Citizen information meetings were held regarding the Barterbrook Road bridge over I-81 and the I-81 lane widening in Staunton. Participation at both meetings was good and many comments were received.
- Park and Ride Lot improvements in Waynesboro will be mostly completed by fall.
- A newly added right turn lane at Route 701 and Riverheads High School is working well.
- The Weyers Cave access project will be re-advertised; no bidders responded to the first advertisement.
- Rt 262 four lane extensions will be advertised in 2022.

Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT)

Ms. Cundy provided the following update on behalf of Mr. Hudson (a written update handout was provided and is attached to file minutes):

- The Transit Equity and Modernization Study is underway; members of the BRITE Transit Advisory Committee (BTAC) participated in the committee and were interviewed for the study.
- CSPDC staff is talking with DRPT to discuss potential projects for SMART SCALE Round 5 applications.
- BRITE explored participation in the Transit Ridership Incentive Program, specifically the fare-free pilot; it was determined that at the end of the project, additional local match would be needed to continue to be fare-free, and decided not to participate in the pilot at this time. Staff will track other possible ways to be fare-free at some point in the future through grant opportunities.
- The Virginia Breeze is adding new service along I-81 called the Highlands Rhythm. This route will consist of daily northbound and southbound service connecting Bristol, Virginia to Union Station in Washington, D.C. with stops along the I-81 corridor in Wytheville, Christiansburg, Salem, Roanoke and Harrisonburg. DRPT is in the process of procuring a contractor for the service and tickets are expected to go on sale in late fall.



BRITE Transit

Ms. Thompson gave the following update:

- The Transit Development Plan (TDP) process will kick-off at the BRITE Transit Advisory Committee's September meeting. The BTAC will serve as the advisory committee for developing this plan, and KFH Group will be the consultant leading the process. As mentioned earlier, recommendations for improving the Lewis Street transit hub will be included in the TDP's scope of work.
- The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) extended the face mask requirement for individuals across all transportation networks through the US, including public transportation, through January 2022.
- Today is the first day of service for the Afton Express commuter bus service between Staunton and the Charlottesville area. Staff was out this morning to greet riders and give them branded swag as they boarded. Initial reports indicated that the routes were working well and were on-time.

Other Business

Chairperson Henderson opened the floor for other business. Mr. Beard provided an update on the Bi-partisan Infrastructure Bill. He handed out a memo and will also send it after the meeting by email (memo attached to file minutes). He pointed out some of the highlights and said that funding for some projects could be available as early as next fiscal year. He stated that staff will be keeping up with any developments on the bill and funding.

Upcoming Meetings

Chairperson Henderson mentioned the upcoming TAC meeting on September 15th and the next Board meeting is scheduled for October 6th at 10:00 a.m.

Meeting Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Policy Board, Chairperson Henderson adjourned the meeting at 11:08 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ann W. Cundy".

Ann W. Cundy
Director of Transportation



CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

**THE STAUNTON AUGUSTA WAYNESBORO
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION**

expresses sincere appreciation to

D. JAMES SHAW, II

for his dedicated service to the Policy Board,
and to the people of the region, shown during his incumbency as a founding member,

from August 2012 through October 2021

and wishing to show its appreciation, does hereby
present this recognition of gratitude and esteem

this 6th day of October 2021.

Bonnie S. Riedesel
SAWMPO Secretary/Treasurer



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TO: Staunton-Augusta-Waynesboro MPO Policy Board
FROM: Zach Beard, Transportation Planner
MEETING DATE: October 6, 2021
RE: **Board Memo #21-14: FY 2021 Exit 235 Small Area Study Update**

BACKGROUND

The FY21 Small Area Study at Interstate 81 Exit 235 in Weyers Cave is evaluating mid-term solutions to periodic congestion, and long-term corridor needs and intersection configurations to accommodate future growth along Weyers Cave Road (VA 256) between US 11 and Triangle Drive.

The study team includes consultant Michael Baker and representatives from the MPO, Augusta County, VDOT, BRITE, Blue Ridge Community College, and the Shenandoah Valley Regional Airport.

THIRD MEETING AND PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

On September 21, 2021, the study group reviewed the preliminary mid- and long-term recommendations for addressing concerns identified in the existing conditions and future no-build analyses .

Based on the study group input, the consultant is developing detailed concepts and recommendations for specific improvements, including right-of-way impacts and cost estimates.

The consultant will present the detailed concepts to the Augusta County Board of Supervisors on October 25, 2021. After receiving Board input, MPO staff will develop and release an online survey in early November to collect public input on the proposed alternatives. We anticipate holding an in-person public meeting at Blue Ridge Community College to share the final recommendations.

ATTACHMENTS

- [Small Area Study Statement of Need](#)



TO: Staunton-Augusta-Waynesboro MPO Policy Board
FROM: Bonnie Riedesel, SAWMPO Secretary/Treasurer
MEETING DATE: October 6, 2021
RE: **Board Memo #21-15: FY 2022 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Budget Update**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The UPWP is the spending plan for the MPO for the fiscal year (July 1 – June 30). Below is an update on spending by the MPO as of August 31, 2021. Spending is shown by task and by VDOT and DRPT funding.

EXPENSE SUMMARY BY TASK	UPWP	08/31/21	BALANCE	%
		YTD		
710.1 Program Support & Administration	73,952	9,103	64,849	88%
710.2 Public Participation & Outreach	22,500	1,554	20,946	93%
711 Long Range Transportation Planning	57,500	9,091	48,409	84%
712 Short Range Transportation Planning	91,924	24,919	67,005	73%
713 Local, State, and Federal Assistance	50,000	5,163	44,837	90%
714 Transit Planning	55,000	-	55,000	100%
Contingency - Highway	68,737	-	68,737	100%
TOTAL	\$ 419,613	\$ 49,830	\$ 369,783	88%
TOTAL EXCLUDING CONTEGENCY	\$ 350,876	\$ 99,660	\$ 301,046	86%

All expenses are allocated according to the UPWP allocation percentages:

FUNDING BY TASK AND SOURCE	VDOT	DRPT	TOTAL
710.1 Program Support & Administration	70%	30%	100%
710.2 Public Participation & Outreach	62%	38%	100%
711 Long Range Transportation Planning	71%	29%	100%
712 Short Range Transportation Planning	68%	32%	100%
713 Local, State, and Federal Assistance	55%	45%	100%
714 Transit Planning	0%	100%	100%
Contingency - Highway	100%	0%	100%