



Technical Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda October 20, 2021 at 2:00 P.M.

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

OR

Via ZOOM Video Conference

Web Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/92314044862?pwd=dDBLVThLRm9YSVp5M1o5Zkg1N0ZjZz09>
Dial In (Audio Only): 1-301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 923 1404 4862 Password: 608183

1. Call to Order
2. Public Comment
3. Approval of the Minutes of the August 18, 2021 TAC Meeting*
4. Exit 235 Update (TAC Memo #21-14)
5. Presentation: Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure - Alleyn Harned, Executive Director, Virginia Clean Cities
6. Agency Updates
 - a. VDOT
 - b. DRPT
 - c. BRITE
7. Other Business
 - Joint CAMPO-SAWMPO meeting
8. Upcoming Meetings
 - November 3, 2021 – SAWMPO Policy Board, 10:00 a.m., CSPDC Office
 - November 17, 2021 – SAWMPO TAC, 2:00 p.m., CSPDC Office
9. Adjournment

* Action Required

**Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)
Regular Meeting Minutes
August 18, 2021, 2:00 p.m.**

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

Present (15):

Voting Members			Others	
	City of Staunton		VDOT	✓ Bill Bushman, Hurt & Proffitt
✓	Rodney Rhodes		Don Komara	Staff (CSPDC)
	Jeff Johnston	✓	Adam Campbell (Alt)	Ann Cundy
	Tim Hartless (Alt)	✓	Josh Dunlap (Alt)	✓ Zach Beard
	Lyle Hartt (Alt)		VA DRPT	✓ Devon Thompson
	Augusta County	✓*	Wood Hudson	✓ Kimberly Miller
✓	Leslie Tate, Vice Chair		Grant Sparks (Alt)	
	Doug Wolfe	Non-Voting Members		
✓	Jeff VanFossen (Alt)		VRT	
✓	Caroline Stoerker (Alt)	✓*	Steve Wilson	
	City of Waynesboro		Phil Thompson (Alt)	
✓	Todd Wood, Chairperson		Federal Highway Admin.	
✓	Luke Juday		Mack Frost	
✓	Alisande Tombarge (Alt)		Federal Transit Admin.	
	Brian McReynolds (Alt)		Michele DeAngelis	
			VA Dept. of Aviation	
			Rusty Harrington	

*Due to a resurgence of COVID-19 cases in the region, a virtual attendance option by Zoom was offered to non-voting members and other attendees. Those who attended virtually are indicated by an asterisk; all others attended in-person.

Call to Order

The meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) of the Staunton-Augusta-Waynesboro Metropolitan Planning Organization (SAWMPO) was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by Chairperson, Mr. Todd Wood.

Public Comment

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

Approval of Minutes

Chairperson Wood presented minutes from the June 16, 2021 TAC Meeting.

Ms. Tate moved, seconded by Mr. Rhodes, to approve the minutes of June 16, 2021, as presented. Motion carried unanimously (7-0).

Consideration of the 2021 TAP Resolutions of Support (TAC Action Form #21-02)

Chairperson Wood presented the TAP Resolutions of Support. Mr. Beard stated that he will be the lead staff person for the TAC to allow Ms. Cundy to focus on other transportation projects. He stated that the MPO is required to adopt Resolutions of Support for TAP projects within the MPO. He stated that the pre-application window has closed, and the final applications must be submitted by October 1st.

There are two projects this round, Mr. Beard stated. He described the sidewalk project in Augusta County and Ms. Tate added that a BRITE bus stop will be connected to businesses and the government center in the area. Mr. Beard described the greenway project in Waynesboro and Mr. Juday added that this is the last stretch of what will be a 4-mile trail.

Mr. Beard stated that staff requests a motion to recommend these Resolutions of Support to the Policy Board for adoption.

Mr. Juday moved, seconded by Mr. VanFossen, to recommend the TAP Resolutions of Support to the Policy Board. Motion carried unanimously (7-0).

Resolution Authorizing Electronic Participation in SAWMPO Meetings

Chairperson Wood presented for discussion a Resolution Authorizing Electronic Participation in Meetings of the SAWMPO. Mr. Beard reported that the Governor of Virginia's Executive Order allowing public bodies to meet by electronic means in response to the COVID-19 pandemic expired on June 30, 2021. He stated that the SAWMPO must approve a policy based on Code of Virginia §2.2-3708.2 to enable its members and committees to participate remotely in meetings.

Mr. Beard noted that the Code allows members to participate electronically if a member is unable to attend due to: 1) a specified personal matter (limited to two occurrences per year; 2) a temporary or permanent disability or other medical condition that prevents physical attendance; or 3) the member's principal residence is more than 60 miles from the meeting location. He stated that the Board adopted this resolution at their August 4th meeting.

FY21-24 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Transit Amendment Release to Public Comment (TAC Memo #21-13)

Chairperson Wood presented for discussion the TIP Amendment. Mr. Beard stated that the BRITE Transit hub on North Lewis Street in Staunton needs to be improved and it was determined that the existing pavement is inadequate. He explained that the engineering firm, Draper Aden, conducted pavement samples and found that the sub-base is not an adequate depth, such that repaving would be of little benefit. Mr. Beard stated that the asphalt needs to be completely removed and sub-base added before repaving. He explained that any project applying for federal funds must be included in the MPO's TIP and that the first step in the process is to release the proposed Amendment for public comment.

Mr. Beard stated that the Board approved the proposed TIP Amendment to be released for the required 21-day public comment period at their August 4th meeting.

Presentation: *Afton Express Service Launch* by Devon Thompson, Transit Planner, CSPDC

Chairperson Wood presented Ms. Thompson to discuss the Afton Express Service Launch. Ms. Thompson provided an update on the Afton Express Service Launch, beginning by playing video advertisements that have been developed as part of the marketing campaign; three by future riders of the service and one by Mr. Jim Ryan, President of UVA. She discussed the upcoming service, and preparations that are underway for the service launch on September 1st.

Ms. Thompson stated that pre-launch promotion and marketing was developed by a stakeholder committee including representatives from CSPDC, TJPDC, and UVA. She encouraged the audience to engage on social media and help to spread the word of the service.

In response to a question, Ms. Thompson stated that Albemarle County is one of the partners. She stated that funding is also provided by DRPT through a demonstration grant. Discussion followed regarding benchmarking, data tracking, capacity issues, and the extra bus. (Presentation attached to file minutes.)

Agency Updates

VDOT

Mr. Campbell gave the following update:

- As Mr. Beard mentioned, the TAP and Revenue Sharing final application deadline is October 1st.
- The Downtown Staunton STARS Study public comment period ended on Monday. Feedback was solicited through a MetroQuest survey which had a total of 487 participants who generated close to 300 comments; a summary of the feedback will be provided to the study team at their next meeting in September.

Mr. Dunlap gave the following update:

- All of the I-81 projects continue to move forward.
- I-81 Exit 220-222 auxiliary lane project - a public hearing was held in June regarding the Barterbrook Road bridge over I-81. VDOT is working to limit the impact of the project.

- I-81 widening between exits 221-225 - a public hearing will be held on August 24th at the VDOT auditorium from 4-6.
- Rt 340 safety project was wrapped up last week.
- Park and Ride Lot improvements in Waynesboro are progressing well.
- Rt 703 Hewitt Road bridge replacement will continue through the summer into the fall.
- Updates on other safety, maintenance and bridge projects in the region were discussed.

DRPT

Mr. Hudson gave the following update:

- Transit Ridership Incentive Program is a new statewide grant program dedicated to reducing barriers to transit use by supporting low income and zero fare programming. The grant application window opened on August 2 and will remain open through September 17.
- DRPT is working on the COVID Recovery Toolkit and Marketing Resources which will be available for transit providers to use.
- The Transit Equity and Modernization Study is underway; the goal of which is an assessment of the current conditions and to provide an action plan to improve equitable delivery of transit within the Commonwealth.

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.
- Staff is moving forward with the federal funding application for ITS Phase I. Once completed and approved, staff will work with consultant, Kimley-Horn, on the procurement and implementation of ITS on the BRITE buses.
- On July 5, BRITE resumed fare collection on all routes. Those previously eligible for fare-free rides, i.e. those traveling to Augusta Health or students with a valid ID, will continue to be able to ride fare-free.
- The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) extended the face mask requirement for individuals across all transportation networks through the US, including public transportation, through September 13. A new extension has pushed the date to January 2022.

Other Business

Chairperson Wood opened the floor for other business. Mr. Beard reminded attendees that the Virginia Association of MPOs (VAMPO) will hold a webinar on September 15th from 9-12. The speaker will be Charles Brown, professor at Rutgers and founder and principal with Equitable Cities, who will give a keynote address titled "Arrested Mobility: Exploring the Adverse Impacts of Over-policing BIPOC Mobility in the US." The webinar will count as three AICP CM credits.



Upcoming Meetings

Chairperson Wood stated that the Policy Board is scheduled to meet on September 1st and the TAC on September 15th.

Meeting Adjourned

Chairperson Wood asked if there was any additional business to come before the TAC. There being none, the meeting was adjourned at 2:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Zach Beard
Transportation Planner



**Staunton Augusta
Waynesboro**
Metropolitan Planning
Organization

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TO: Staunton-Augusta-Waynesboro MPO TAC
FROM: Zach Beard, Transportation Planner
MEETING DATE: October 20, 2021
RE: **TAC 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. Staff anticipates holding an in-person public meeting at Blue Ridge Community College to share the final recommendations.

ATTACHMENTS

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