

Central Virginia Transportation Planning Organization (CVTPO)

April 18, 2024 Meeting

Staff Report

- 1. Call to Order & Establishment of Quorum If needed, concurrence of Electronic Meeting Policy
- **2.** Approval of Minutes: January 18, 2024 (*Attachment 2*) January 18, 2024 CVTPO meeting minutes provided for review and approval consideration.

Recommendation: Approval of Minutes.

3. <u>Item a) Public Hearing on Proposed Amendment to the Central Virginia Transportation</u> Improvement Program (CVTIP) FY2024 – 2027 (*Attachment 3a*)

The following changes to the FY2024-2027 CVTIP are proposed for CVTPO adoption consideration. The changes are a result of a direct project amendment request from the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) to reflect funding changes regarding the Route 221/501 Intersection improvement project within the "Urban Projects" (Section 3). A summary of the changes is included in Attachment 3a. The public comment period was open from March 15 to April 15, 2024, and in accordance with the Public Participation Plan. A narrative of changes is provided as *Attachment 3a*.

Action: Call for Public Hearing to receive public comment.

Item b) Consideration for the CVTPO Resolution Amending the FY2024-2027CVTIP (*Attachment 3b*)

The proposed amendments were available for public comment, and the Transportation Technical Committee (TTC) recommended approval at their April 11, 2024, meeting. A resolution (*Attachment 3b*) is provided for CVTPO consideration.

Recommendation: Staff recommends CVTIP 2024 – 2027 Amendment Resolution adoption.

4. FY2025 Unified Planning Work Program – Approval Consideration

The proposed CVTPO FY25 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) and is provided for approval consideration. The UPWP serves as the guiding document that summarizes the program and project activities that will be executed by CVTPO staff and consultants. The UPWP presents the federal (FHWA and FTA), state (VDOT and DRPT) program partners and local program funding (full transportation budget on page 22).

Key project elements include: Comprehensive Safety Action Plan; data foundation and beginning of the Connect Central VA – Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) – 2050 Update; and Lynchburg City Multimodal Plan and USDOT Thriving Communities Program grant, that will focus on a Transit-Oriented Development Plan. Program includes continued assistance to localities in grant

development and traditional programmatic activities.

The FY2025 UPWP also includes content changes, developed by Mariel Fowler, Senior Planner, and through input from our VDOT, DRPT, FTA and FHWA program partners, to better articulate the CVTPO role; present the foundation of the UPWP document in responding to regional, federal, and state planning priorities; outline the coordination of the UPWP in guiding public outreach and federal programmatic actions to the *CVPDC Title VI Implementation Plan* and the *CVTPO Public Participation Plan*; and finally presenting how the CVTPO UPWP program and project activities endeavor to align with the Federal Transportation Planning Emphasis Areas.

The FY2025 UPWP budget does include an anticipated \$90,833 in unexpended, rollover funding. These funds, guided through project development, may be directly rolled into FY2026 or held for FY2027. 100% of the funds remain CVTPO program/project funds.

The Transportation Technical Committee (TTC) were instrumental in the UPWP development and recommended CVTPO adoption of the FY25 UPWP at the April 11, 2024 meeting.

Recommendation: Staff recommends FY2025 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) be adopted by the CVTPO as presented.

5. DRPT 5303 Program Application – Approval Consideration (Attachment 5)

FTA Section 5303 is the funding program by which CVTPO staff, and consultants where appropriate, execute programs that support GLTC transit and multimodal programming within the transit-served areas of the CVTPO. Submittal to the DRPT/FTA 5303 program is a yearly activity and provides essential CVTPO program funding. The yearly program application is due May 1, 2023, with funding to begin July 1, 2024; the DRPT program is an eighteen (18) month program.

The activities that will be executed through the FY25 5303 program, in combination with a portion of the existing FY24 5303 remaining funds and the CVPDC twenty percent (20%) match are articulated in the Draft FY25 CVTPO UPWP (see Staff Report #4 and Attachment 4a).

<u>Recommendation</u>: CVTPO adopt the Resolution (*Attachment 5*) that approves the FTA 5303 application submission and authorizes staff to prepare and execute the application and program agreement with DRPT.

6. FY2024 Urban Work Program Update (all items informational)

a. Intersection Safety Study

EPR, Inc., is leading a study of six intersections identified by the localities and VDOT to evaluate current travel conditions and provide safety improvement recommendations. We continue to work with the localities and EPR on traffic data collection for each location.

b. Route 221 Study (Attachment 5b)

EPR, Inc is also leading the Route 221 study. Erik Smedley (Bedford County), Salem, and Lynchburg District VDOT representatives held a virtual meeting with EPR on Tuesday, April 9th, to gather data on background growth and other development information needed to determine future traffic volumes. We learned that the growth rate along the main segment of Route 221 is projected at 2%. Data collection is still underway before moving on to the analyses. c. <u>US DOT Safe Streets and Roads for All – Comprehensive Safety Action Plan</u> Staff is finalizing the scope the project firm. This project will kick off in May; a detailed review of the project, to include a summary of the CVTPO Safety Data Analysis will be presented at the next CVTPO meeting.

7. Matters from the Board and/or Staff (all items informational)

- a. <u>State, Federal, Local agency partner updates</u> A time for VDOT, DRPT, FHWA, FTA, GLTC to share program information.
- USDOT Active Transportation Infrastructure Investment Program (ATIIP) ATIIP is a new competitive grant to advance projects to provide safe and connected active transportation facilities to advance active transportation *networks* (connections to key destinations within a community) or *spines* (connections between communities or areas within a metro area).

\$45 million in funding for Planning (at least \$3 million; project minimum \$100,000/no maximum) and Construction (minimum \$15 million/no maximum) are eligible. ATIIP grant not to exceed 80%, unless project serves communities with a poverty rate of over 40% based on the majority of census tracts served by the eligible project, where the project can be eligible for 100% federal funding.

Application due June 17, 2024. More at https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/bicycle_pedestrian/atiip/

c. <u>Other</u> Open discussion opportunity.

8. Adjourn

Informational Item

The next CVTPO meeting, unless determined no need to hold, will be Thursday, May 16, 2024 at 4:00 p.m. This meeting will precede the 5:00 p.m. CVPDC meeting.