

Central Virginia Transportation Technical Committee

828 Main Street, 12th Floor, May 9, 2024, at 10:30 a.m. (Hybrid Meeting)

Final Minutes

PRESENT

Paul Harvey, Chair (U/R) Campbell County
Erik Smedley (U/R) Bedford County
Steve Foster (U/R) Bedford County
Matt Perkins (R) Town of Altavista
Jared Thompson (R) (virtual) Town of Bedford
Rick Youngblood (U/R) (virtual) VDOT-Lynchburg District
Carson Eckhardt (U/R) (virtual) VDOT-Lynchburg District
Kathryn Benedict (U/R) (virtual) FHWA Virginia
Chelsea Beytas (U/R) (virtual) Federal Transit Administration

ABSENT

Josh Moore (U) Greater Lynchburg Transit Company
Mary Zirkle (R) Town of Bedford
Ryan Roberts (U) City of Lynchburg
Tom Martin (U) City of Lynchburg
Tyler Creasy (U/R) Amherst County
Sara McGuffin (U) Town of Amherst
Andrew LaGala (U) Lynchburg Regional Airport
Terry McGhee (R) Town of Appomattox
Johnnie Roark (R) Appomattox County
J.P. Morris (U/R) VDOT – Salem District
Mitch Huber (U/R) Virginia Department of Rail & Public Transit

U- Members representing the urbanized area of the region

R- Members representing the rural area of the region

STAFF PRESENT

Mariel Fowler CVPDC/CVTPO
Alec Brebner CVPDC/CVTPO
Kelly Hitchcock CVPDC/CVTPO

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Mark Herman (virtual) Kimley-Horn
Matthew Wade (virtual) VA Clean Cities
Cassandre Torres (virtual) VA Clean Cities

1. Welcome and Virtual Participation Acknowledgement.

Paul Harvey, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. Mr. Harvey requested that those attending virtually enter their names in the chat box to assist staff tracking assistance.

2. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Harvey entered a motion to approve the April 11, 2024, minutes. MOTION: Erik Smedley moved to approve the minutes. Matt Perkins seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the motion passed.

3. **FY24 Work Program Update**

Presentation by Kimley-Horn, Mark Herrman

Maribel Fowler introduced Mark Herrman with Kimley-Horn to present an update to the Safety Data Analysis, which is the basis for the Comprehensive Safety Action Plan. Ms. Fowler announced that EPR is the firm selected to assist with the CVPDC Safety Action Plan, and Kimley-Horn is part of the team. Mr. Herrman gave a presentation explaining the data dashboard functionalities and explaining that there is some clean-up left to do before being published, but it could be available for review next week. Ms. Hitchcock highlighted the value of the data presented to set the foundation for the next important conversations to be had for the development of Safe Streets and Roads for All. There were no further questions.

4. **Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Information**

- **EV Programs and Introduction**

Presentation by Virginia Clean Cities, Matthew Wade

Ms. Fowler introduced Matthew Wade, Deputy Director of Virginia Clean Cities. Mr. Wade provided an overview of the organization's efforts and presented facts and statistics in Virginia regarding the advancement of goals to reduce petroleum consumption and dependence, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and promote the cleanest alternative fuel possible, such as ethanol, biodiesel, and electricity. Mr. Wade also shared information about the federal programs available, tools and resources to assist in funding, planning, and implementation of charging stations for our region. As of last year, there are over 900 EVs in our region, and projections indicate that numbers are growing quickly, estimating 275,000 by 2025. There were no further questions.

- **Attachment 3: VA-NEVI Phase 1-B RFA Information.**

Ms. Fowler provided RFA information and summarized the requirements. Ms. Fowler invited the group to the TPO meeting next week to learn more about the VA-NEVI program from the VDOT Program Manager, Erin Belt, who will be attending to present and answer questions from a locality perspective. Ms. Fowler pointed out that Phase 1-B Target Areas are in our region, along portions of 29 and 460 in all 4 counties and the city. Ms. Fowler further shared that there will be Phase 2, currently under development, which will involve communities and localities for a chance to share where stations are wanted and needed to infill areas where people live and work, understanding not everyone travels long distances to reach their destinations. It could be 2 to 3 years away. There were no further questions.

- **Attachment 4: Overview of EV Infrastructure Assistance Programs.**

Ms. Fowler provided an overview of resources and toolkits she found during her research to assist localities in their EV charging infrastructure efforts, regardless of their level of experience in the federal grant process. She disclosed she thought that planning, zoning, and building department staff would be the first to find out where the charging stations are going, so it would help localities to have policies and procedures in place to review and approve site plan applications for these projects. This attachment has a list of resources related to that topic. Next, Ms. Fowler explained the CFI (Charging and Fueling Infrastructure) program, which is a federal grant, but no NOFO is out yet, and she will be on the lookout for it. The program splits into two categories: one with the designated AFCs, which must meet similar requirements as NEVI, and a community grant program. They are looking to fund projects in urban and rural areas at accessible locations, including downtown areas and local neighborhoods, particularly in underserved and disadvantaged communities. Ms. Fowler disclosed that Henrico County in Virginia is one locality selected as an award recipient. Ms. Fowler said that for this grant, funds can be used for the planning phases of development. Ms. Fowler offered to share more details as they become available. There were no further questions.

5. **MPO Federal Functional Classification Review: Action Requested**

Ms. Fowler presented the resolution for the TPO and a summary of changes, highlighting that updates in the Lynchburg District include the addition of ramps at interchanges. There are no changes in the Salem District

for Bedford County. She requested a recommendation for the Board. Mr. Harvey asked if there were any questions. There were no further questions. MOTION: Rick Youngblood moved to recommend approval. Erik Smedley seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the motion passed.

6. Matters from the Committee

- **Thriving Communities**

Ms. Hitchcock shared that the CVPDC application has been awarded. She mentioned that the project will involve working with assigned consultants, and GLTC and the City of Lynchburg are the project partners. The focus is on 12th Street from Church Street to Kemper Street. The funds provide two years of technical assistance and one year of implementation and closeout. There is a welcome webinar for selected recipients on May 13, 2024, where we will learn a lot more.

- **VDOT and DRPT Program Updates**

Ms. Fowler shared some updates from the DRPT, included in the agenda packet, since Mitch couldn't be here today. Mr. Harvey reminded everyone that May is Bike Month. Ms. Fowler invited to group to join the CVPDC celebration on May 17 from 7:30 to 9 am at the Lynchburg Downtown Community Market and to register online if planning to attend. Ms. Hitchcock said that if anyone is in the area and wants to join, there will be a meet-up in Rivermont Park.

- **Federal Grants Information & Updates**

Kathryn Benedict reminded the group that the SS4A applications are still open with a rolling deadline with a last deadline in August, and if there are any questions, to reach out. Ms. Fowler provided a quick update on the 221 Study. The 2025 No-Build Conditions Analysis is underway. There is a public survey that will be tentatively scheduled for late June. A public meeting mid- to late June, and a stakeholder working group meeting in July. Ms. Hitchcock shared that Amherst County is considering applying for an ATIIP grant due June 27th, 2024 and working with the City of Lynchburg for the planning design for a pedestrian bridge to link County and City. She will seek a motion next week from the TPO to recommend support from the CVPDC staff to help with the efforts for this application.

7. Adjournment

Mr. Harvey reminded everyone that the next meeting is June 13, 2024asked for a motion to adjourn. MOTION: Matt Perkins moved to adjourn the meeting, and Erik Smedley seconded it. The vote was unanimously approved, and the meeting adjourned at 11:25 a.m.