

Central Virginia Transportation Technical Committee

March 13, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. (Virtual Meeting)

Final Minutes

PRESENT

Paul Harvey, Chair (U/R)..... Campbell County
Erik Smedley (U/R)..... Bedford County
Charlotte Lester (U) City of Lynchburg
Carol Moneymaker (U/R)..... VDOT-Salem District
Carson Eckhardt (U/R) VDOT-Lynchburg District
Josh Moore (U) Greater Lynchburg Transit Company
Evan Tuten (U/R) Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation
Mary Zirkle (R)..... Town of Bedford
Tyler Creasy (U/R)..... Amherst County

ABSENT

Sara McGuffin (U)..... Town of Amherst
Andrew LaGala (U)..... Lynchburg Regional Airport
Rob Fowler (R) Town of Appomattox
Johnnie Roark (R) Appomattox County
Chelsea Beytas (U/R) Federal Transit Administration
Kathryn Benedict (U/R) FHWA Virginia
Abigail Courington (U/R) Bedford County
Ryan Roberts (U) City of Lynchburg
Leslie Gamble (U/R)..... Amherst County

U- Members representing the urbanized area of the region

R- Members representing the rural area of the region

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Thomas Ruff Timmons Group
Barry Butler Greater Lynchburg Transit Company

STAFF PRESENT

Kelly Hitchcock.....CVPDC/CVTPO
Patti Lassiter.....CVPDC/CVTPO
Richard White.....CVPDC/CVTPO

1. Welcome and Virtual Participation Acknowledgement

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

2. Approval of Minutes – Action Requested

Mr. Harvey requested a motion to approve the February 13, 2025, minutes.

MOTION: Erik Smedley moved to approve the minutes. Paul Harvey seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the motion passed.

3. **VDOT Transportation Alternatives – Program Observations**

Thomas Ruff, Timmons Group, provided an overview of observations and insights from the last SMART SCALE round and the project opportunity for the pending VDOT Transportation Alternatives program grant cycle. Timmons The Chair introduced Thomas Ruff and thanked him for sharing his observations and insights into the pending VDOT Transportation Alternatives program and Revenue Sharing grant cycles. Thomas will also share observations from the last SMART Scale round. Thomas mentioned that there will be a TA webinar on the 19th of March.

4. **FY24 Work Program Update**

- **221 Corridor Study**

Kelly mentioned that there will be a public meeting on Tuesday, March 18th, from 5 to 7 PM at the Forest Public Library. The Alternatives Survey will launch at 4 PM on the same day. The press release was sent out yesterday, and Kelly believes Erik Smedley is coordinating with Brittany Slaughter from ABC 13 News.

- **Central Virginia Safety Action Plan**

Kelly provided a brief update on the Central Virginia Safety Action Plan. The workgroup will meet today from 10:00 to 11:30 AM to finalize the strategy and develop action steps based on the discussions from the summit held on January 31. Additionally, there will be an overview of the Kimley-Horn site inspections.

Mark Hermon will coordinate detailed engineering/Countermeasure recommendations at the targeted locations. Hitchcock encouraged localities articulating sidewalk expansion locations. Additionally, Hitchcock noted the importance of coordinating with VDOT regarding Transportation Alternatives (TA) applications and their connection to the Safety Action Plan. Hitchcock noted that for the next TA round the project must be in the locality's Capital Improvement Plan (CIP); this is a new requirement, similar to the Revenue Sharing program.

CVPDC Staff plan to have a draft to CVTPO in May, and the final at the July meeting. Hitchcock noted that she will coordinate with the locality representative to determine when they want to present the Draft Plan and point out that for funding applications to the USDOT program, a plan adoption and commitment to reduce series and fatal accidents will be required.

- **Lynchburg Multimodal**

The next meeting is March 27th and will be addressing the prioritization factors and determining how decisions will be made. Consideration relative to proximity to schools or is it proximity to key destinations or proximity to primary stops for GLTC. So, all those considerations will be talked about, and then really begin that quarter and route identification and sort of the more robust side of the public outreach interaction opportunities.

- **USDOT Thriving Communities**

Hitchcock noted that as a Thriving Communities grantee an additional sub-grantee for up to \$50,000 to execute a supporting project concept has been made available. In coordination with Lynchburg and GLTC staff a preliminary request for funding to support the pending Housing Summit, for a transit-oriented and missing middle housing speaker, assistance with an RFP to create development guidelines that support the City's Comprehensive Plan goals and potential conceptual development renderings are preliminary grant submittal ideas. Final submittal to USDOT is anticipated in April.

5. **Long Range Transportation Plan**

Hitchcock apologized for the delay and is aiming for Scope to be to the TTC and have comments back in April 15th /mid-April. Hitchcock recognized there is Easter break and the April 24th Lynchburg District Day. Key will be to have a firm confirmed in May.

6. Draft FY26 Urban and Rural Work Program

Urban Work Program (UPWP)

Kelly briefed everyone on the urban work program. She noted she incorporated tracked changes focused mainly on word adjustments, including removal of diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) terminology. Hitchcock noted the goal to ensure wording to support Title VI and to encourage the goal of public participation and outreach for all residents in the transportation planning and programs. Hitchcock thanks Evan Tutan for his input in assisting.

Hitchcock noted that the Draft does not including funding, as FTA/DRPT allocation dollars are not yet known. Key projects will be towards the Long Range Transportation Plan and multimodal Plan. Hitchcock noted that the CVTPO's FY26 allocation is \$344,252. Hitchcock noted that Alec Brebner, VAMPO Chair, had coordinated with MPOs, VDOT and DRPT to advance allocation distributions that was supportive to the CVTPO.

Hitchcock noted that with the \$344,252 FY26 allocation, in combination with still open staff positions and past rollover funds, the FY26 UPWP budget will be larger than normal. Additionally, there are non-project allocated dollars and opportunities for utilizing these funds for planning purposes that support the localities. Hitchcock pointed out that the Safety Action Plan and the pending LRTP process may result in future projects that can be advanced, whether it involves engineering, conceptual drawings, budget development. The way the wording in the UPWP is structured allows for advancing projects that might not be identified at this time. Hitchcock noted the Draft will be brought back to the TTC and CVTPO in April.

Rural Work Program

Kelly stated there are a couple of points to note regarding the FY26 Rural Work Program. Hitchcock noted virtually no programmatic changes from the FY25; noted the program still has the \$58,000 VDOT program allocation. Hitchcock noted the only significant difference is the removal of the \$6,000 project for the Town of Bedford this year. Instead, that amount has been redistributed across other project elements. The wording remains largely the same, allowing for the development of potential projects that may arise throughout the year. Overall, there are very few changes. We will have the opportunity to present this with a similar adoption timeline to the PDC, as well as to the TPO for their adoption.

Hitchcock confirmed to Mary Zirkle that, with the absence of CVPDC staff, other than initial outreach undertaken by Mariel Fowler, the project has not further advanced. Hitchcock noted that the CVPDC is actively advancing outreach for a transportation planner.

7. Matters from the Committee

- Evan Tuten, DRPT, noted that FTA 5303 funding round is open in Webgrants until May 1, 2025. Additionally, DRPT will be hosting a 5303 grant webinar on Friday, March 21, from 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM that will cover an overview of the 5303 program, application requirements, information on grant administration, transit performance measures, planning, and policies and procedures related to the STIP. Tuten also noted that the Virginia Transit Association (VTA) will hold its annual meeting May 28th and 29th in Richmond.

- Carson Eckhardt, VDOT-Lynchburg District, noted that the District hosted a GIS Day, where representatives from localities and PDCs from across the District attended to explore various GIS-related presentations. provided an update from VDOT. Eckhardt thanked Kelly Hitchcock and Richard White for their attendance.
- Hitchcock noted that VDOT Lynchburg District Day will be April 24th and there is VDOT LTAP on March 21st for Meeting the Needs of Bicycle and Pedestrians. Hitchcock noted that the LTAP training was valuable and noted she had provided information on both in the TTC meeting announcement, however, if folks wanted more details to contact her.

8. Adjourn:

Mr. Harvey reminded everyone that the next meeting is April 10, 2025 and mentioned he will not be able to attend. He asked if anyone would take his place for the meeting. Kelly will appoint someone in the Chairman's absence. Mr. Harvey asked for a motion to adjourn.

MOTION: Tyler Creasy moved to adjourn the meeting, and Mary Zirkle seconded it. The vote was unanimously approved, and the meeting was adjourned at 9:32 a.m.

By: 

Date: 4/10/25