

Central Virginia Transportation Technical Committee

Thursday, April 9, 2026, 10:00 a.m.
Hybrid Meeting

Final Meeting Minutes

PRESENT

Tyler Creasy (U/R) Amherst County
Carson Eckhardt (U/R) (virtual)..... VDOT – Lynchburg District
Rob Fowler (R) Town of Appomattox
Paul Harvey, Chair (U/R) (virtual) Campbell County
J.P. Morris (U/R) VDOT – Salem District
Johnnie Roark (R) (virtual) Appomattox County
Ryan Roberts (U) City of Lynchburg
Kate Reusch (U/R)..... Campbell County
Erik Smedley (U/R) Bedford County
Evan Tuten (U/R) (virtual) Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation
Natalie Wilkins (U) Greater Lynchburg Transit Company
Mary Zirkle (R) (virtual) Town of Bedford

ABSENT

Catherine Gamble (U/R) Amherst County
Jamie Gillespie (R)..... Town of Altavista
Craig Hughes (R) Town of Brookneal
Sara McGuffin (U) Town of Amherst

U- Members representing the urbanized area of the region

R- Members representing the rural area of the region

GUEST and STAFF PRESENT

Tyler Amburgey (U/R) (virtual) Amherst County
Alec Brebner CVPDC
Barry Butler (virtual) Lynchburg Regional Business Alliance
Mariel Fowler (virtual) Bedford County
Michael Gray (virtual) VDOT – Salem District
Kelly Hitchcock CVPDC/CVTPO
Ada Hunsberger (virtual) CVPDC/CVTPO
Hannah Mitchell CVPDC
Rachel Moon (virtual) Timmons Group
Thomas Ruff (virtual) Timmons Group

1. Welcome & Call to Order

Paul Harvey, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.

2. Connect Central Virginia 2050 – LRTP Update

Thomas Ruff informed the committee that Timmons Group had met with many of the localities to discuss the Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) project, learn about key growth/development areas, transportation concerns, and

confirm the project coordination/approach. Ruff noted that Timmons is early in the data review process and preparing for the analysis and will be able to share more details at the May meeting.

Ruff asked the TTC to consider current or future regionally significant projects that should be included in the Plan. Tyler Creasy mentioned the trail connecting City of Lynchburg, Amherst and Campbell, that has been traditionally referred as the James River Heritage Trail, as a regionally significant project.

3. Approval of Minutes: February 12, 2026

MOTION: Tyler Creasy moved to approve the February 12, 2026, minutes as presented. Erik Smedley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Draft FFY2027 – 2030 CVTIP

Ada Hunsberger presented an updated draft of the 2027-2030 TIP. She noted changes from the previous draft version, including the addition of projects from the Airport Capital Improvement Plan and formatting updates requested by VDOT and DRPT. Hunsberger requested comments from the TTC before the 30-day public comment period, which is expected to begin April 16, 2026. The TTC will consider recommendation to the CVTPO in May, with the goal of CVTPO adoption later that month.

5. Draft FY27 Rural Work Program & Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

Kelly Hitchcock presented the Draft FY27 Rural Work Program. The main project is an updated Rural LRTP, which CVPDC is in coordination with the Timmons Group to execute in conjunction with the CVTPO LRTP. The CVPDC also plans to support special locality projects and applications, the Park and Ride program, and other VDOT-required programs. The \$58,000 is the annual VDOT allocation, which has been the consistent allocation for rural transportation planning. The Rural Work Program is under review by VDOT.

Hitchcock presented the Draft FY27 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). She noted clarifying changes to the introduction section and the budget. As with the Rural Program, the LRTP is a large part of planned activities. Other standard projects include technical assistance and the Transportation Improvement Program. She noted that the budget contains an estimated \$108,429 not tied to a specific project, and \$36,000 for general consultant support, allowing flexibility as projects arise. The document is under review by VDOT and has already been reviewed by DRPT. Hitchcock plans to submit the draft to the FTA and FHWA soon. Staff plans to present the plan to the CVTPO in May.

6. Matters from the Committee

a. State and Federal Partner Program Updates

Carson Eckhardt, VDOT-Lynchburg District, provided an overview of several projects in progress.

- The Smart Scale Round 7 pre-application window closed April 1st. Eckhardt thanked localities for their time and effort in the applications. He feels it will be a competitive round, with 23 applications within the district. He requested that localities submit resolutions of support by June.
- The Town of Amherst passed a resolution of support for pedestrian improvements. VDOT plans to complete the Amherst Walkability Study soon.
- The Campbell Avenue project will be completed by July.
- The Candler's Mountain Road interchange Operational and Safety Analysis Reports (OSAR) and Vissim analysis are in progress.
- The English Tavern Phase 2 study will include an anticipated mid-May public input meeting at Hyland Heights Baptist Church.
- The Rustburg Addendum is under review and will go to the CVTPO and County for final comments.
- In preparation for Smart Scale Round 8, VDOT will host spring locality summits.

Evan Tuten, DRPT, provided an overview of funding opportunities and upcoming events.

- 5303 applications close May 1st.
- The FTA recently published a Notice of Funding Opportunity for the Safe Streets and Road for All (SS4A) grant program.
- Tuten invited all to attend a presentation he will give to the Virginia Transit Association about the Coordinated Human Service Mobility Plan in May.

b. Locality Information/Updates

There were no updates from localities.

c. Other

Hitchcock provided additional details about the SS4A grant. The nearly \$1 billion available includes \$687 million for implementation and \$305 million for planning and demonstration projects. Localities that have adopted the Central Virginia Safety Action Plan may use it to apply for either. Hitchcock stated she would send additional details about the opportunity and related webinars via email.

Hitchcock also noted an upcoming Making Rural Roads Safe for All – FHWA Roadway Safety Webinar Series, which contains recommendations for accessing federal funds. She will provide additional information via email.

Hitchcock reported that CTB meetings are planned for May. The Lynchburg meeting is on May 26th, and the Salem meeting is on May 13th.

Hitchcock noted that April is Distracted Driving Awareness Month. She encouraged TTC members to adopt shared messaging to promote safety. Content examples have been sent via email.

Barry Butler asked about the return of the early Amtrak train. Tuten directed him to contact the Virginia Passenger Rail Authority (VPRA).

Butler noted an upcoming LRTAG meeting in May to discuss priorities before the May 26th Lynchburg meeting.

J.P. Morris stated that April 20-24 is National Work Zone Awareness Week. The theme for the year is “Safe Actions Save Lives.” He encouraged TTC members to share information during the week.

7. Adjourn

Paul Harvey entertained a motion to adjourn.

MOTION: Tyler Creasy moved to adjourn the meeting. Rob Fowler seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 10:37 a.m.

By: P. E. Harvey

Date: 6/11/2024