

# Central Virginia Transportation Technical Committee

828 Main Street, 12th Floor, September 21, 2017 at 10:30 a.m.

## MINUTES

### PRESENT

Lee Beaumont (U) ..... Liberty University  
Brian Booth (U) ..... Greater Lynchburg Transit Company  
Don DeBerry ..... City of Lynchburg  
Mariel Fowler (UR) ..... Bedford County  
Paul Harvey (U/R) ..... Campbell County  
Tom Martin (U) ..... City of Lynchburg  
Johnnie Roark (R) ..... Appomattox County  
Russell Thurston (R) ..... Town of Brookneal  
Rick Youngblood (U/R) ..... VDOT – Lynchburg District

### ABSENT

Doyle Allen (U/R) ..... Bedford County Citizen Representative  
Nick Britton (U/R) ..... Virginia Dept. of Rail and Public Transportation  
Jeremy Bryant (U/R) ..... Amherst County  
Roxanne Casto (R) ..... Town of Appomattox  
Mark Courtney (U) ..... Lynchburg Regional Airport  
Kevin Jones (U/R) ..... Federal Highway Administration  
Richard Metz (U/R) ..... Campbell County Citizen Representative  
Bart Warner (R) ..... Town of Bedford  
Dan Witt (R) ..... Town of Altavista

U- Members representing the urbanized area of the region

R- Members representing the rural area of the region

### OTHERS PRESENT

David Cook ..... VDOT – Lynchburg District  
Susan Cook ..... Region 2000 LGC/CVMPO  
Philipp Gabathuler ..... Region 2000 LGC/CVMPO  
Scott Smith ..... Region 2000 LGC/CVMPO

#### **1. Call to Order**

Paul Harvey called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

#### **2. Approval of Minutes: August 10, 2017**

Upon a motion by Rick Youngblood to approve the minutes of August 10, 2017 as presented, duly seconded by Don DeBerry, this motion was passed unanimously.

### **3. Discussion on Safety Performance Measures required by FHWA**

Scott Smith explained that the question had been asked as to what we are doing to measure whether all of the projects work or do not work to reduce congestion or improve safety. Scott explained that the federal government is preparing the MPOs to start measuring the performance of all of the projects and programs. This includes crash rates, congestion, and other factors. He added that he and Philipp have been going to training this year to prepare for this.

The MPOs are being given two choices:

- 1) Using the metrics and guidelines measures that the state comes up with
- 2) Come up with our own

At this point, Scott recommends following the state's measures, at least for the first go-round.

Philipp Gabathuler added that both the RLRP and LRP have transportation improvement projects ranked and prioritized according to performance measures and technical attributes already.

Rick Youngblood explained that using the state's metrics gives us a baseline to work with.

Scott advised that three purposes will be served:

- 1) Satisfies federal requirements
- 2) Performance measures will help CEDS measure transportation improvement.
- 3) When localities ask whether transportation improvements have helped, there will be a tracking measure available as a group package.

The MPO has to make a determination and adopt the plan by the end of January.

### **4. Discussion on SmartScale Projects to be submitted in 2018**

Rick Youngblood advised that SmartScale is now on a two-year cycle.

He also stated that everyone should have gotten the Google Map link that David Cook put together. The premise behind this is to be able to look at safety issues specifically in more rural areas, see the Rural Long-Range Transportation Projects, and be able to build a case from a justification standpoint. At present there are about 44 projects for SmartScale. These include resubmissions that did not get funded last year and also new projects. The application process opens up about March 1 for Notice of Intent. In order to make an application to SmartScale, a Notice of Intent must be done.

### **5. Discussion on Proposed Changes to TTC Membership**

Scott explained that he had been trying to figure out how to make the TTC and MPO function smoother and be more effective. One of the issues with the TTC is that there are a lot of members, but seldom enough for a quorum. He stated that he felt that we should either come into compliance with the by-laws or change them. The current MPO bylaws were written in 1979. Scott presented a list of voting members by locality to the committee and asked for their input. The suggestion was made to take the citizens representatives off of the TTC and put them on a citizens committee, along with LRTAG members. Another suggestion was to take the Lynchburg Regional Airport and FHWA as voting members. The possibility of one representative from the

City of Lynchburg was suggested. The necessity of having the towns as voting members was also discussed.

The questions of what the purpose and mission of the TTC was also raised. Scott advised that at the November TTC meeting he plans on presenting an introduction or re-introduction into what the TTC and MPO do, and what the legally-required role is.

**6. Matters from the Committee**

Brian Booth reported that GLTC has kicked off the update of their Transportation Development Plan. The purpose is to outline goals and objectives, financial needs, and capital needs over the next six to ten years. The process started in August and they have been looking at policies and preparing a survey to be launched publicly. They are also providing contact information for regional stakeholders to the consultants.

Rick Youngblood announced that October 4 is the date for the fall transportation meeting at the Holiday Inn Select downtown.

**7. Adjournment** – There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

**Next meeting: October 12, 2017.**