

MEMORANDUM

To: RRTPO Community Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC)
From: Chet Parsons, RRTPO Secretary
Date: November 9, 2021
Subj: RRTPO Policy Board and TAC Meetings Report

The following presents a report on major business and action items from the October 12, 2021, and November 9, 2021, RRTPO Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meetings and the October 2, 2021, Richmond Regional Transportation Planning Organization (RRTPO) Policy Board meeting.

TIP Amendment: Interchange Justification Report (IJR) – Route 288

At the October 2, 2021, RRTPO Policy Board meeting, a request from VDOT to amend the FY21 – FY24 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to add a new project was reviewed and approved. Amendment details are outlined below:

One New Project:

UPC 118147: IJR – Route 288 (West Creek Area) from Broad Street Road to Tuckahoe Creek Parkway – Goochland County

This project was selected and allocated Regional Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) funding in FY21 by the RRTPO.

The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) reviewed the proposed amendment at the September 14, 2021, meeting and unanimously recommended approval of the amendment as presented. The draft amendment and summary presentation were posted on the PlanRVA website for public review and comment on September 17th and notice was sent via email to all committee members and interested parties. No comments were submitted on the proposed project, but two requests for additional information were received.

FY21 – FY24 TIP Amendment: VDOT Request

At the October Policy Board meeting, a request from VDOT to amend the FY21 – FY24 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to add a new project was reviewed. The Policy Board authorized the TAC to review and approve the proposed amendment at the October 12, 2021, TAC meeting. The TAC reviewed and approved the amendment. Amendment details are outlined below:

Project Information: I-64 WB & Parham Rd Interchange Improvements

Preliminary Engineering – \$1,750,000

Right of Way – \$500,000

Construction – \$9,750,000

Total Cost – \$12,000,000

The TIP / STIP Amendment will obligate the Federal portion of the PE funds; \$1,750,000. Additional TIP and STIP revisions for future phases will be requested as the project moves into subsequent phases.

Approval of the amendment is conditional upon the completion of a 15-day public review period and is also conditional upon not receiving any public comments opposing this project which will require further review by the RRTPO.

The project is considered exempt from regional emissions analysis under section 93.127 of the conformity rule.

TRIP Program Funding Application Support – GRTC Request

At the October Policy Board meeting, a request from GRTC for Policy Board support of GRTC's application for the TRIP Program was reviewed. The TRIP Program is a statewide grant program whose purpose is to improve regional transit connectivity in urban areas and reduce barriers to public transit through low income and zero fare programming.

GRTC applied for grant funding through TRIP Program through DRPT for the purpose of maintaining the GRTC's current zero fare policy while GRTC continues to study fare systems and equity considerations;

ConnectRVA 2045 – Final Plan Approval

The Policy Board adopted the ConnectRVA 2045 plan at its October meeting. The approval authorizes the transmittal of the plan to the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration and authorized staff to add the ConnectRVA 2045 constrained list of projects to the 2045 Cost-Feasible Scenario of the Richmond/Tri-Cities Travel Demand Model for use as a baseline scenario for any future regional transportation study/plan.

DRPT Transit Equity and Modernization Study

Tiffany Dubinsky, Statewide Transit Planning Manager at DRPT, provided an update on the study to the TAC at the October meeting. It was noted that the recommendations will not be directed only towards state agencies. The expectation is that regional transit partners (MPO's, PDC's, localities) will incorporate the recommendations into their planning policies.

Regional Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan Update

Phil Riggan, PlanRVA, provided an update on the plan and the schedule for completion to the TAC at the October meeting. Staff continues to develop and revise the regional plan story map.

Smart Scale Round 5 Overview

Brook Jackson, Senior Engineer/Smart Scale, Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment, provided a briefing on Round 5 improvements to the TAC at the November 9, 2021, meeting.