

# AGENDA

## RICHMOND REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION COMMUNITY TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, January 20, 2022  
12:00 p.m.

### Zoom Meeting

This meeting is open to the public. Members of the public are invited to attend virtually.

If you wish to participate in this meeting virtually, please register via Zoom at [https://planrva-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_IXVclEdIS3Glds7dUJ2W7yA](https://planrva-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_IXVclEdIS3Glds7dUJ2W7yA)

Check out our complete [Public Participation Guide](#) online to learn about the different ways you can stay connected and involved.

### WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

*(Martin)*

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

*(Martin)*

### STATEMENT REGARDING VIRTUAL MEETINGS

*(Parsons)*

### ROLL CALL & CERTIFICATION OF A QUORUM

*(Firestone)*

#### A. ADMINISTRATION

1. **Consideration of Amendments to the Meeting Agenda**

*(Martin)*

2. **Approval of the November 18, 2021, CTAC Meeting Minutes** – page 3

*(Martin)*

**ACTION REQUESTED**

3. **Open Public Comment**

4. **CTAC Chairman's Report**

*(Martin/5 minutes)*

**5. RRTPO Updates**

(Parsons/10 minutes)

- a) **RRTPO and TAC Meetings Report for November and December – page 7**
- b) **Current Work Efforts – page 9**
- c) **CVTA Update**
- d) **Efforts to Fill CTAC Vacancies - Update**

**B. NEW BUSINESS**

**1. State Rail Plan**

*(Randy Selleck/20 minutes)*

**2. Virginia Passenger Rail Authority**

*(Katherine Youngbluth /20 minutes)*

**3. Update on City of Richmond's Pathway to Equity**

*(Dironna Moore Clark and Keli Rowan/20 minutes)*

**C. OTHER BUSINESS**

**1. Appointment of Ad-Hoc Membership Committee**

*(Martin/10 minutes)*

**2. Future Meeting Topics – page 10**

*(Martin/5 minutes)*

**3. CTAC Member Comments**

*(Martin/10 minutes)*

**4. Next Meeting: March 17, 2022**

*(Martin)*

**D. ADJOURNMENT**

KEL/jf

Attachments

**RICHMOND REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION  
COMMUNITY TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CTAC)**

**MINUTES OF MEETING  
PlanRVA James River Board Room & Zoom  
November 18, 2021  
12:00 p.m.**

**MEMBERS and ALTERNATES (A) PRESENT:**

<b>Town of Ashland</b>		<b>Charles City County</b>		<b>Chesterfield County</b>	
Upton S. Martin FY22 Chair	X	Vacant		Susan Beals (virtual)	X
				Herbert A. Richwine (virtual)	X
				Starrie Jordan (A) (virtual)	X
		<b>Hanover County</b>		<b>Henrico County</b>	
Robert L. Basham Jr.		H. Charles Rasnick		Amber B. Lancaster	X
<b>New Kent County</b>		<b>Powhatan County</b>		<b>City of Richmond</b>	
Lisa M. Guthrie, FY22 Vice Chair	X	Robert W. Powers (virtual)	X	Sera Erickson	X
John P. Moyer (A)		Vacant (A)		Vacant	
				Hwan Hill (A)	
<b>Chamber RVA</b>		<b>Natl. Assoc. for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), Richmond Virginia Branch</b>		<b>League of Women Voters (LWV)</b>	
John Easter (virtual)		James J. Minor III		Sarah Weisiger (virtual)	X
Sam Mayman (A)		Walter L. Johnson Jr. (A)		Karen Rosenblum (A)	
<b>RIC Area Bicycling Assoc. (RABA)</b>		<b>VA Assoc. of Railway Patrons (VARP)</b>		<b>Virginia Conservation Network (VCN)</b>	
Champe M. Burnley (virtual)	X	Michael Testerman	X	Wyatt Gordon	
				Frederick S. Fisher (A)	X
<b>Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU)</b>					
John D. Leonard					

**Others Present:**

Virginia Cowles, Past CTAC Member (virtual)  
Tiffany Dubinsky, DRPT (virtual)  
Janice Firestone, PlanRVA  
Sidd Kumar, PlanRVA  
Ken Lantz, PlanRVA  
Chet Parsons, PlanRVA  
Chris Wichman, OIPI (virtual)

The technology used for this meeting was a web-hosted service created by Zoom and YouTube Live Streaming and was open and accessible for participation by members of the public. A recording of this meeting is available on our [Plan RVA YouTube Channel](#).

### **CALL TO ORDER**

The Richmond Regional Transportation Planning Organization (RRTPO) Community Transportation Advisory Committee Chair, Upton S. Martin, presided and called the November 18, 2021, RRTPO CTAC meeting to order at 12:04 p.m.

### **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Chair Upton announced that PlanRVA has a new staff member, Rashaunda Lanier-Jackson.

### **ROLL CALL & CERTIFICATION OF A QUORUM**

Janice Firestone, Program Coordinator, certified that a quorum was present following roll call by verbal introduction of each member present.

### **A. ADMINISTRATION**

#### **1. Presentation of resolution of appreciation to Virginia Cowles**

Chair Martin thanked Ms. Cowles (attending virtually) for her service on the CTAC and read the resolution of appreciation to her.

#### **2. Consideration of Amendments to the Meeting Agenda**

There were no requested changes to the meeting agenda. Seeing and hearing no objections the September 16, 2021, agenda was approved by acclamation as presented.

#### **3. Approval of the September 16, 2021 CTAC Meeting Minutes**

The minutes have been corrected to show Mr. Richwine's attendance and to correctly refer to the presenter from Virginia Tech as Dr. Walker. On motion of Lisa M. Guthrie, seconded by Frederick S. Fisher, the Community Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC) unanimously approved the minutes of the September 16, 2021 meeting by acclamation as amended.

#### **4. Filling of CTAC Vacancies/EDAC Membership**

Ken Lantz, PlanRVA, reported that a letter was sent to each locality requesting appointments be made to fill any vacant seats (representatives and alternates) on the committee.

Chair Martin explained that the previous Elderly and Disabled Advisory Committee was disbanded some time ago due to attendance difficulties. CTAC is attempting to bring some of the agencies represented on that former committee into the CTAC and possibly create an ad hoc committee to address the issues of those communities.

#### **5. Open Public Comment**

There were no requests to address the RRTPO Community Transportation Advisory Committee.

## **6. CTAC Chairman's Report**

Chair Martin thanked Vice Chair Guthrie for chairing the September meeting in his absence. He reported on the recent Richmond Region Transportation Forum, held in Powhatan County. Members were encouraged to view the video of the event.

## **7. RRTPO Updates**

### **a. RRTPO and TAC Meetings Report for September and October**

Chet Parsons, PlanRVA, called the Committee's attention to the report of the RRTPO and TAC meetings. He noted that at the October 2 Policy Board meeting the TIP had been amended to add one new project (Rt 288 improvements) and amend another ( I-64 and Parham Road interchange improvements). Mr. Parsons also noted that the TPO Policy Board adopted the ConnectRVA 2045 plan at its October meeting.

### **b. Current Work Efforts**

Mr. Parsons reported that in addition to ConnectRVA 2045 current work efforts include the Ashland Trolley Line Study and the regional bicycle and pedestrian plan update, which is slated for completion in May of 2022. Other efforts include support of the Active Transportation and Vision Zero Work Groups.

## **B. NEW BUSINESS**

### **1. Virginia Transit Equity and Modernization Study**

Tiffany Dubinsky of the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation provided an overview of the Virginia Transit Equity and Modernization Study. The study will address opportunities or gaps in transit service; needs and barriers to improve transit infrastructure; opportunities to reduce carbon footprint through electrification; strategies to inform priorities of implementing emerging technologies; and a framework for identifying and engaging disadvantaged populations and underserved communities. Information is being collected through focus groups, transit agency surveys, technical working groups, and a study website. An interim report will be completed in December 2021, and a final report is expected in the Spring of 2022.

### **2. Update on CVTA**

Mr. Parsons provided a summary of the make-up, history, powers and functions of the Central Virginia Transportation Authority (CVTA) and its committees. In addition to the background on the establishment of the authority, Mr. Parsons reviewed the project scoring and ranking categories and weights, and project selection and development process. He described the revenue that is expected to be collected and where that revenue goes.

Committee members had questions about funding for transit access problems (sidewalks, etc.) in the localities. Mr. Parsons clarified that CVTA funding may be available for transit supportive infrastructure if it falls under the parameters of "regionally significant".

There is an open public comment period and a public hearing scheduled for December 3<sup>rd</sup> where public input is being sought on the candidate projects for FY21 and FY22.

### **3. VTRANS Overview**

Chris Wichman of the Virginia Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment (OIPI) provided an overview of VTRANS, the statewide transportation plan. He noted that VTRANS consists of four major components: (1) a vision, guiding principles, goals and objectives; (2) a mid-term needs identification process; (3) a long-term risk and opportunity register; and (4) a list of strategic actions (recommendations). The vision and goals include economic competitiveness, accessible places, safety, system management, and healthy and sustainable communities. Mid-term needs encompass a zero to ten-year timeframe, are based on data, and informed by stakeholder feedback. They are updated every two to four years. The four megatrends influencing the development of the plan include climate, technological advancements, change in consumption patterns, and socio-demographic/employment changes. Macrotrends contributing to these megatrends include sea level rise, adoption of highly autonomous and electric vehicles, growth of e-commerce, and growth of the age 65+ cohort. Mr. Wichman noted that OIPI is responsible for the development of strategic actions that advance transportation goals and objectives; accelerate solutions for mid-term goals; and minimize the impacts of long-term risks.

## **C. OTHER BUSINESS**

### **1. Future Meeting Topics**

The future meeting topics were reviewed. Mr. Lantz announced that the intent is to have fewer items on future agendas so that there can be a more in-depth coverage of each item. Chair Martin asked that members communicate with their alternates and he encouraged input from everyone on future meeting topics.

### **2. CTAC Member Comments**

Mr. Testerman announced a webinar scheduled for December 9, 2021, by the Virginia Rail Policy Institute: ***How to Protect Underutilized and Abandoned Rail Corridors for Future Rail Use AND Create Wonderful Rail Trails.***

### **3. Next Meeting:**

The next meeting will be held on January 20, 2022, at 12:00 noon in-person at the James River Board Room at PlanRVA and via Zoom.

## **D. ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Martin adjourned the meeting at approximately 1:44 p.m.

# MEMORANDUM

**To:** RRTPO Community Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC)  
**From:** Chet Parsons, RRTPO Secretary  
**Date:** January 4, 2022  
**Subj:** RRTPO Policy Board and TAC Meetings Report

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The following presents a report on major business and action items from the December 14, 2021, RRTPO Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting and the January 6, 2022, Richmond Regional Transportation Planning Organization (RRTPO) Policy Board meeting. Video recordings of the meetings can be found on the PlanRVA YouTube channel by clicking on the links above.

## **Safe Routes to Schools TA Endorsement**

At the January 6, 2022, RRTPO Policy Board meeting, a request to endorse the Richmond Safe Routes to Schools Program as an application for the FY23 – FY24 Transportation Set-Aside process was approved following a recommendation from the TAC. Details are outlined below:

The Transportation Alternatives (TA) Set-Aside program provides capital grant assistance for projects defined as “transportation alternatives” in federal code. The RRTPO TA allocations are directed towards on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, infrastructure projects for improving bike and pedestrian access to public transportation, trails that serve a transportation purpose, and Safe Routes to School projects.

The Safe Routes to School Coordinator works with Richmond Public Schools to encourage students to walk and bike safely to school. The program promotes safe active transportation through educational events, curriculum integration, and community engagement while advocating for infrastructure improvements. The 2015-2016 school year was the first year having a district-wide presence. In the 2021-2022 school year, the program is working with eight (including six Title I) schools to implement full programming, and includes a new partnership with Richmond Public Schools through the development and management of the new crossing guard program

## **Richmond STBG Funding Request – UPC 15958**

At the January 6, 2022, RRTPO Policy Board meeting, a request from the City of Richmond for \$3.5M in additional Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) funds for UPC 15958 – Commerce Road Improvements was approved following a recommendation from the TAC. Details are outlined below:

The Commerce Road Improvement project (UPC 15958) is a project in the City of Richmond which was first selected for current STBG funding from the RRTPO in fiscal year 2015 with a total award of \$2.05M. At the time, the project was expected to start construction that year with completion targeted for December 2016 at a total project cost of \$14.9M. The original application is attached to this staff report. Since selection, the project has experienced significant delays due to complications with funding and agreements with CSX. The estimate has continued to increase and the TPO has awarded nearly \$3.5M in additional STBG funds.

The project was advertised this fall, but all the bids received were high relative to the estimate and available allocations. In total, the project estimate has increased from \$21.76M in the last Appendix A to \$28.7M. The City of Richmond has requested an additional \$3.5M in STBG funds to help cover the deficit and to be able to award the project.

The City of Richmond has requested \$3.5 million in additional STBG funds for the Commerce Road Improvements project. RRTPO records, attached, show \$5.493 million allocated to the project. As this request represents a 63.7% increase relative to the current TPO approved funding on the project, TAC is required to review the request and provide a recommendation to the policy board.

The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) reviewed the request for additional allocations at the December meeting. TAC recommends an additional \$3,253,118 in STBG funds be transferred to the project, with the TPO and City of Richmond splitting the cost of the deficit evenly.

### **Transportation Forum**

The board had a thorough review of the 2021 Transportation Forum in Powhatan County and brainstormed on looking ahead to future forums and the expectations held for those events. Mr. Williams established a subcommittee chaired by Dr. Cynthia Newbille and including Kevin Carroll, Patricia Paige, and Canova Peterson that will focus on charting a path forward.

### **Public Outreach and Engagement Update**

PlanRVA has hired Brand Federation to develop a strategy for outreach and branding that establishes a more recognizable identity for PlanRVA, RRTPO, and CVTA. A report is expected to be completed in February.

### **Safety Performance Measures**

Greta Ryan, PlanRVA, provided an update to the TAC and Policy Board on federal safety targets and the approach RRTPO is taking to address them.

### **VTrans Long-term Risk & Opportunity Register**

Jitender Ramchandani, OIPI, provided an update to TAC on this component of the VTrans plan.

CAP/jf



## **Current Work Efforts Update – Item A.7.b.**

### **ConnectRVA 2045 Long-Range Transportation Plan**

Staff has developed a draft cost constrained list of projects for the ConnectRVA 2045 plan from the “Universe of Projects”, which was approved by the RRTPO Policy Board on May 6. The constrained list of projects was reviewed and approved at the July 1, 2021 RRTPO Policy Board meeting.

### **Ashland Trolley Line Trail Study**

Staff attended the Friends of the Fall Line meeting on May 26 to provide updates on the Trolley Line Trail committee. Staff continues to work with the National Park Service’s Rivers Trails and Conservation Assistance Program, including a meeting on June 8 with their staff to explore the opportunity for adding the skills of an NPS public historian for greater interpretation of the trolley line’s former role in community connections through signage and self-guided walking tours. Two story maps for the project illustrate the importance and potential for the 14-mile Trolley Line Trail, now a segment of the Fall Line Trail, and include [history of the trolley line](#) and a [design sketchbook](#).

### **Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan Update**

Working with regional partners, staff continues to make additions and revise the interactive GIS story map data and foundational elements for the plan. The draft plan entitled *BikePedRVA 2045* including recommendations for priority projects to fulfill the regional network will be available for review by the steering committee at their next meeting on June 29 or 30<sup>th</sup>. This plan is being prepared concurrently with *ConnectRVA 2045* as a major update to the 2004 Richmond Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan. The Complete Streets toolbox or illustrated [story map](#) continues to be updated as one resource intended to implement *BikePedRVA 2045*.

### **Active Transportation Work Group (ATWG)**

In addition to the regular quarterly meetings, staff continues to support Henrico staff on the County’s ATWG and efforts to develop the bicycle and pedestrian chapter of the county’s comprehensive plan. Staff also assists the East Coast Greenway on potential designations of segments of the future route of the trail through the Richmond region.

### **Public Transportation Work Group**

The RRTPO Public Transportation Work Group continues to meet as needed to support the development of the GRTC Regional Transportation Plan. The draft plan was shared with RRTPO TAC on June 8<sup>th</sup>, CVTA TAC on June 11<sup>th</sup>, and the full CVTA on June 25<sup>th</sup>. The Authority approved the FY22 Regional Public Transportation Plan at their June 25<sup>th</sup> meeting.

### **Vision Zero Work Group**

The RRTPO Vision Zero Work Group is working with VDOT and their consultant on a regional action plan. The data collection and analysis kicked off with a work group meeting on May 13<sup>th</sup> and will progress for the next few months, with the next meeting

scheduled for July 29<sup>th</sup>. This action plan will be a great resource for member localities as they position for safety improvements around the region. A schedule for completion of the plan is being developed.

**Rural Transportation Advisory Committee (RTAC)**

Staff has provided road network resiliency mapping and data to help the four (4) rural localities which have made up RTAC over the years of the Rural Transportation Program to consider long-term resiliency in their own planning and prioritization for roadway and bridge/culvert improvements. This data will help them work with VDOT to ensure better service to populations vulnerable to flooding. The data has also been useful throughout the Richmond region to assist in measuring “environmental resiliency” performance for project scoring through the LRTP process. Funding opportunities for implementing flood prevention measures, addressing hazard mitigation, and coastal resiliency have also been shared with RTAC. Staff will work with RTAC through the transition to inclusion of the full geography of the rural localities into the designated TPO jurisdiction by October 2021.

## **CTAC FUTURE MEETING TOPICS\*; ITEM C.2.**

### 17 March 2022

- Virginia Transit Equity and Modernization Study
- Regional Trails/Bike-ped plan update

### 19 May 2022

- Transportation Funding Overview/Workshop
- Federal Surface Transportation Reauthorization Bill and its impact on Virginia's transportation network

### 21 July 2022

- Greater Washington Partnership-the economic impact of transportation investments

### 15 September 2022

- GRTC System Update-zero fare, expansion, electrification
- Discussion of Lead Priority Projects

### Not scheduled but other potential topics

- Impact of Casinos on Regional Travel Patterns
- School bus routing
- VDOT Connected and Automated Use Case Study
- Super Streets
- DRPT TRIP Program
- Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety/Zero Death Program
- Richmond Marine Terminal Tour
- Impact of COVID-19 on ridesharing and commuting patterns (Phil Winters)
- Virginia Port Authority's response to supply chain challenges
- Regional structure and bridge inventory

\*Draft: This is not a comprehensive list of considerations and is subject to change.

Revised 7-16-2021

8-31-21

9-9-21

12-7-21

12-14-21

1-4-22