

DRPT Agency Update – October 2023

Regional CHSM Plan Meetings October 16-18th

Please join DRPT for the regional Coordinated Human Service Mobility (CHSM) meetings from **October 16-18th**. The CHSM meetings bring human service agencies together, along with transit agencies and MPOs, to identify the regional gaps in human service transportation and strategies to address them, which includes local coordination. Attendees will have the opportunity to introduce themselves and their agency, and to learn about the projects human service agencies are applying for in FY25.

The CHSM meetings stem from the gaps and goals outlined in the [CHSM Plan \(2022\)](#). This year, DRPT also released a [StoryMap version of the plan](#), which displays regional population and transit data in an interactive, map-based platform using ArcGIS. Feel free to review these prior to the meeting.

To see which regional meeting your agency should attend, please see [this map](#) outlining the six regions with the related human service agencies.

Meetings are scheduled for 90 minutes but will likely take 1 hour.

Webinar	Date and Time	Link to Register
FY25 CHSM Meeting – Western Region	Monday, October 16 10:00 – 11:30 am	Click here
FY25 CHSM Meeting – Central Region	Monday, October 16 1:00 – 2:30 pm	Click here
FY25 CHSM Meeting – Alleghany Region	Tuesday, October 17 10:00 – 11:30 am	Click here
FY25 CHSM Meeting – Southwest Region	Tuesday, October 17 1:00 – 2:30 pm	Click here
FY25 CHSM Meeting – Northern Region	Wednesday, October 18 10:00 – 11:30 am	Click here
FY25 CHSM Meeting – Tidewater Region	Wednesday, October 18 1:00 – 2:30 pm	Click here

TRIP mid-cycle grant opportunity ends October 24, 2023

Thank you to everyone who attended the Transit Ridership Incentive Program (TRIP) Midcycle Funding Opportunity Webinar. The recording can be found on [DRPT's YouTube Channel, here](#). TRIP provides funding to transit agencies and governing bodies for the purpose of creating more accessible, safe, and regionally significant transit networks.

TRIP originally funded two project categories: Zero and Reduced Fare, and Regional Connectivity. In 2023, the Virginia General Assembly approved [HB 2338/SB 1326](#) identifying two new eligible project categories: TRIP Public Safety and TRIP Passenger Amenities. The webinar provided information on the midcycle funding opportunity timeline, as well as two new eligible project categories recently approved by the CTB.

Application forms and guidance documents for this grant opportunity may be found on [DRPT's website](#). The grant cycle began **Monday, September 25, 2023** for all four TRIP project categories. Applications must be submitted to TRIP@drpt.virginia.gov before the close of the mid-cycle opportunity **ending Tuesday, October 24, 2023**.

Virginia Statewide Trails Plan Survey

The [State Trails Office](#) (STO) is moving forward with their development of the statewide trails plan and is requesting your feedback! This plan will inventory existing and proposed multi-use trails in the Commonwealth, identify key gaps in Virginia's network of multi-use trails, and outline the next steps and best practices in trail development. While Virginia has many different types of trails, the Statewide Trails Plan will focus on multi-use trails that preferably are separated from motor vehicle traffic; preferably have a hard surface; strive for a grade of less than 5%; preferably are wide enough to enable a wide variety of non-motorized users to operate safely; strive for regional connectivity by linking people to places and other trail facilities.

Public participation is a critical part of the planning process, and the State Trails Office just released an [online survey](#) to gather feedback from trail users, non-users, those who are "trail-curious," and the community at-large. The survey will take approximately five minutes to complete, and we encourage you to share it with your family, friends, and colleagues who reside in the Commonwealth.

If you have any questions or would like to learn more about how to get involved in the planning process, please reach out to statetrailsoffice@vdot.virginia.gov. Thank you so much for being a part of the first Statewide Trails Planning effort in Virginia!