# WORK STATUS REPORT

Richmond Regional Transportation Planning Organization

POWERED BY PlanRVA

FY27 - July 2026

# Introduction

The RRTPO is a policy-making organization made up of local elected officials from each of the region's nine member jurisdictions and state and federal transportation agencies, and area transportation service/system operators. PlanRVA serves as lead staff providing administrative and technical services for the RRTPO. In addition, the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) and the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) provide additional technical support.

The purpose of the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) is to promote a unified regional approach to transportation planning to achieve regional goals and objectives. Additionally, UPWP serves to document proposed expenditures of Federal, State, and local transportation planning funds, and provides a management tool for RRTPO and the funding agencies in scheduling major transportation planning activities, milestones, and products.

The UPWP is the RRTPO's budget and work program for the fiscal year which begins on July 1, 2026, and concludes on June 30, 2027. The UPWP addresses federal/state planning and programming requirements, addresses regional transportation planning issues and needs, and includes activities required for the state and region to remain eligible for federal-aid highway and transit funds. The funding sources supporting the RRTPO program activities come from federal, state, and local funds

The RRTPO Work Program Progress Report provides a short summary of each activity for the month of July 2026. Please reference the **FY 2027 UPWP** for details concerning the approved budget and work description for each task. Accompanying this report is a summary of the budget and expenditures year-to-date.

# Task Status

## Task 1: Program Administration

**Purpose:** To provide oversight, management, and staff development needed to support the RRTPO work program and committees

- Ongoing Work
  In July, staff supported a full schedule of RRTPO committee and board activities while also advancing key reporting and orientation materials. Staff prepared for and held one TPO Executive Committee meeting and one Policy Board meeting, as well as one Technical Advisory Committee meeting. The July TAC meeting was held in person, marking the start of a new meeting cadence in which TAC will meet in person quarterly, during the first month of each new quarter, with remaining meetings held virtually. Staff also completed the fourth quarter Work Status Report narrative and developed the FY26 annual narrative for review. In addition, staff prepared for and held one CTAC meeting, which was conducted in person with a virtual participation component. Staff continued work to finalize CTAC Member Orientation materials and developed a general RRTPO orientation for new board members.

- Deliverables
  - Administration and reporting on FY27 UPWP progress **(monthly)**
    - Staff wrapped up the FY26 progress report and billing, as well as prepared a new template for FY27 monthly reporting.
  - Develop FY28 UPWP **(May 2027)**
    - No work on this item has started this month.

## Task 2: Outreach & Engagement

**Purpose:** To ensure the broader public can meaningfully participate in regional planning efforts to ensure plans are centered on people and communities

- Ongoing Work

  To ensure opportunities for all people to provide meaningful contributions to the work of the RRTPO, we identified communications needs, opportunities, and themes to support economic mobility alliance partners in RVA Rising. We also continued to support and promote Open Access Transit via our partnerships, in aligned messaging, and with the public at events. We began our last large public input period for the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) by scheduling engagements with communities, attending events, and getting public input via interactive methods for the public to learn from and engage with. We've created educational and engagement tools, copy, images, and collateral for the LRTP for committees, press, and governing boards.

  We developed a yearly scope of work for the Community Transportation Advisory Committee aligned with the UPWP, recruited new members, and trained new leadership.

  Weekly, we reviewed our websites and channels to ensure accurate information and access. We created regular content for education, engagement, and partner sharing across multiple channels (socials, websites, newsletter). We've continued our research of vendors and internal data preparation for a Customer Resource Management system to be able to better track, sort, and communicate our stakeholder contacts, relationships, and actions.

- Deliverables
  - Publish FY26 Public Engagement Plan Annual Update **(July 2026).**
    - The annual update was publish in early July. This annual update benchmarks how we're meeting high-level engagement strategies. There were increases in views of the

engagement site, media mentions, and newsletter subscribers, and a generally steady, if small decrease from previous year, in events and people engaged. That year had four large plans with public input, so numbers were higher then. We don’t expect numbers to increase exponentially year after year.

## Task 3: Data & Modeling

**Purpose:** To gather and analyze data and develop models and tools to support a data-informed planning process

- Ongoing Work

  The staff has continued supporting several regional data and indicator development works. This includes ongoing data development for the RVA Rising – Rewarding Work pillar and related metrics development for the RVA Rising Indicators Dashboard (also referred to as The Compass tool). Staff also began supporting the next round of data development for the RVA Rising Opportunity-rich and inclusive Neighborhoods pillar which includes identifying relevant indicators, reviewing potential data sources, and preparing the groundwork or future dashboard integration.

- Deliverables
  - Support VDOT development of an updated regional travel demand model in coordination with the Tri-Cities area MPO **(December 2027)**
    - Adopt base year socioeconomic data for 2025 **(September 2026)**
      - The 2025 base-year socioeconomic data development is largely complete. Staff finalized the TAZ boundary review, developed population estimates by TAZ using Weldon Cooper control totals, residential parcels, address points, and ACS Group Quarters data, and completed the base-year data review materials, including the interactive StoryMap and methodology documentation. Findings from the current-year SE data were shared with the SE Data Workgroup on August 8, with an anticipated two-week review period. Employment data development required a methodological pivot after significant quality issues were identified in the Lightcast dataset; staff are now pursuing a controlled allocation approach using QCEW employment controls, Census Nonemployer Statistics, LODES-WAC workplace

patterns, parcel land use, and known major employers. DMV data was received at the end of the reporting period on August 8 and will be incorporated into the dataset over the next few days. Next steps include completing the revised employment estimates, adding DMV-based auto ownership data, finalizing school enrollment allocation, incorporating Workgroup feedback, and beginning the future-year methodology and data development process.

- Adopt future year socioeconomic data for 2055 **(January 2027)**
    - Work on this deliverable is expected to start in August.

## Task 4: Housing & Economy

**Purpose:** To align transportation planning with regional economic development and housing plans

- Ongoing Work
    - PlanRVA staff assisted staff from Chesterfield County and the City of Richmond on their proposals for prioritizing eligible census tracts for Opportunity Zone designation. This included transportation considerations, such as overlaying ongoing or future LRTP projects with their eligible census tracts to evaluate where investment would be most impactful.

- Deliverables
    - Building on the residential Market Value Analysis, develop a regional housing policy and programs playbook to address housing affordability, displacement, and transportation access which can be incorporated into the next Long Range Transportation Plan **(December 2026)**
        - PlanRVA staff began developing the work plan and timeline for the Market Value Analysis Playbook. An email was sent to localities requesting them to identify a point of contact for the project and notify them of an upcoming virtual kick off meeting. The meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 30, 11:00am, and will introduce localities to the project and begin the process of soliciting feedback on the draft.

## Task 5: System Readiness

**Purpose:** To coordinate planning for a transportation system that avoids and recovers from manmade and natural disasters

- Ongoing Work

  PlanRVA staff are preparing a task order for technical consultant services for a regional flood resilience plan for four localities in the PlanRVA and TPO footprint. Consultant services for the plan will be funded through a Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation Community Flood Preparedness Grant. Data and information gathered as part of the planning process will be used to update digital tools and content about flood risk.

  PlanRVA staff are finalizing a critical infrastructure resilience analysis dashboard that was paid for by a FEMA grant and includes flood and other natural hazard risk. Transportation infrastructure was included in the analysis.

  PlanRVA Staff hosted engagement sessions for the regional Resilience Hubs Framework Plan throughout July. Local staff in the plan footprint were invited to the sessions to refresh their understanding of resilience hubs, ask questions about the planning process, and prepare for more in-depth technical analysis to come given recent on-boarding of the technical consultant.

  Staff have coordinated with localities to draft the Natural Resources Plan (NRP). The NRP incudes a Flood Resilience Lens Map, which combines FEMA SFHAs, Dam Break Inundation Zones, Conserve Virginia 3.0 Floodplains and Resilience features, and wetlands. This map can be used in future regional and local transportation planning efforts.

- Deliverables
  - Building on regional extreme heat data and sidewalk gap analysis, complete an analysis of the walkshed of transit stops to assess each stop and walkshed for heat mitigation measures. *This item is a carryover from FY26*. **(September 2026)**

- PlanRVA staff have compiled data and established a methodology for the analysis. The analysis will use average daytime surface temperatures during summer months (30m resolution) to evaluate the heat exposure of pedestrians within a 0.25mi (roughly 5-minute walk shed) around each bus stop. This data will be combined with presence/absence of bus shelters and existing tree canopy data to rank-prioritize bus stops for the best opportunities for heat mitigation strategies.

## Task 6: Environmental Linkages

**Purpose:** To avoid, minimize, and mitigate impacts to communities and the natural environment from transportation plans and projects

- Ongoing Work
  PlanRVA staff are finalizing online maps of the Regional Ecological Framework and other updated environmental data to compliment core plans of the PlanRVA Regional Strategic Plan. The maps include the regional trail spines and spurs in the context of regional proposed greenways and other environmental features as well as anticipated low and high development pressure areas based on future growth scenarios from the Pathways to the Future Scenario Planning project.

- Deliverables
  - Complete update regional mapping of criteria pollutant emissions to inform transportation planning. *This item is a carryover from FY26*. **(September 2026)**
    - PlanRVA staff continue to investigate available data sources. Staff completed training on NASA TEMPO satellite data and explored PurpleAir ground-based monitor data.
  - Develop toolkit for local governments to identify and prioritize emission reduction actions that help mitigate hazards to transportation infrastructure and users **(June 2027)**
    - No work completed this month

## Task 7: Long Range Plan

**Purpose:** To develop policies to address regional planning goals and needs and prioritize regional investments over the long-term (20+ year planning horizon)

- Ongoing Work
    - Staff completed and uploaded a draft of the 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan to the PlanRVA engage page. The draft plan includes Chapters 1-7, as well as completed technical appendices. Additionally, staff worked with the Engagement Team to develop strategies to elicit public input, including establishing simplified baseline information regarding the constrained list of projects, incorporating visuals and graphics, developing questionnaires that gauge the effectiveness of public participation and outreach, and pinpointing target audiences. Staff attended August Urbanism Happy Hour to pass out information on draft plan. Staff also worked with Michael Baker on LRTP wrap-up activities, including ensuring final model outputs and downloadable and functioning, and gathering final invoices.

- Deliverables
    - Complete development and adopt Pathways to the Future: Transportation 2050 with the following key milestones **(October 2026)**
        - Staff received comments on the draft plan from the LRTP AWG and amended the draft plan accordingly. Staff are currently awaiting input from the final public engagement period to make final edits and corrections to the document. The plan is slated for adoption on September 10th.
    - Develop preliminary scope and schedule for the 2055 plan **(June 2027)**
        - Staff attended 2055 SE Data meetings, which serve as the foundation of population/employment projections for the 2055 LRTP. Staff have also reviewed discussed development and refinement of the vision networks and early concepts for the scope of the next update.

## Task 8: Transit & Passenger Rail

**Purpose:** To develop and implement a strategy for public transportation to be a convenient option for regional travel with frequent, reliable service

- Ongoing Work
    - PlanRVA staff met with GRTC to discuss possibilities for further study of rural paratransit needs; staff continues to meet internally to explore options for study and how to tie them into our RVA Rising Goals. In order to gain a clearer understanding of the needs and challenges for Human Service Providers in the Richmond region, PlanRVA staff met with DRPT's 5310 Human Services Program coordinator to discuss establishing a Human Services Provider Round table for the Richmond Region. Staff compiled a list of human service providers and coordinators in the region and has established a point of contact with the Span Center to engage with the Human Services Transportation Coordination Entity.
- Deliverables
    - Coordinate with GRTC to develop the FY28 Regional Public Transportation Plan for investment of Central Virginia Transportation Authority (CVTA) funding **(May 2027)**
        - PlanRVA staff continues to meet with GRTC, and their consultants, Jarrett Walker & Associates (JWA) on a bi-weekly basis to discuss outcomes of previous workshops and to outline upcoming engagement strategies with the GRTC boards and executives, PlanRVA boards and executives, CVTA boards and executives, and members of the public for the FY28 Regional Public Transportation Plan. Recent discussions have surrounded the North-South BRT and Western BRT extension timelines and their role in the transit network scenarios that will be presented to the aforementioned boards. Staff will continue to meet with GRTC and JWA to provide a regional perspective.

## Task 9: Active Transportation

**Purpose:** To develop and implement a strategy for active transportation infrastructure that is safe and comfortable for users of all ages and abilities

- Ongoing Work

  Staff continue to actively participate in statewide, regional and local meetings to advance active transportation. In July, these meetings included the City of Richmond's Safe & Healthy Streets commission and the Friends of Fall Line. Both quarterly meetings provided active transportation updates from localities on progress for Vision Zero projects, safety, and implementation of Fall Line. Staff also reviewed the Tri City Area MPO draft Plan 250 project list for regional trail connections and provided feedback to clarify projects. Staff remain in communication with VDOT and localities for implementing the Fall Line and Appomattox River Trails. Staff continue to support the East Coast Greenway Alliance (ECGA) and accepted a position on the board for the Virginia Trails Alliance (VTA), representing the ECGA. Two VTA board member meetings in preparation for the fall VTA meeting. Staff also hosted VDOT for the quarterly Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee meeting, held at the PlanRVA office on July 28.

- Deliverables
  - Complete study to identify preferred alignment for the western spine in coordination with VDOT, localities, and advocates **(December 2026)**
    - Staff convened City of Richmond staff from the Parks & Recreation and Transportation Departments to discuss potential routes in detail for the ongoing Three Notched Trail Study on July 20. A follow-up meeting with the VDOT State Office of Trails (participant in the stakeholder group) was held to update them on the progress. A second meeting with City of Richmond staff is scheduled for August 7 ahead of the third stakeholder group

meeting of this study effort, scheduled for August 21. Data collection and reconfiguration of maps to reflect the preferences for the potential routes continue as the study evolves.

- Update last-mile-to-transit sidewalk gaps analysis using new VDOT statewide pedestrian infrastructure inventory **(June 2027)**
    - Staff are reviewing the data and preparing for the update to this project following the release in early July of VDOT data on the authoritative statewide sidewalk and crosswalk inventory, which displays the spatial linework of all sidewalk and crosswalk facilities in the commonwealth, including those on the VDOT network, locality network, and private sidewalks.

## Task 10: Freight & Intermodal

**Purpose:** To develop and implement a strategy for the efficient and reliable movement of goods in the region

- Ongoing Work
    - Staff are in the final stages of publishing the freight page on the PlanRVA website. Part of this development is further data collection and compilation of all pertinent regional planning studies and initiatives. This includes draft spatial data from VTRANS freight element. Staff also finalized an update to the Critical Urban Freight Corridor designations as recommended by OIPI.

- Deliverables
    - Develop standardized classification for freight generating areas to incorporate into travel demand modeling and planning work **(June 2027)**
        - Staff conducted preliminary research and peer review of freight generating areas (FGA) classifications. Staff researched models that integrate NAICS economic sector, facility operational, and employment density. Staff evaluated NCFRP Report 19 standards and methodologies.
    - Develop the scope and schedule for the intermodal freight strategy update incorporating data collection and analysis completed over the past two years **(June 2027)**
        - Staff reviewed the 2010 Intermodal strategies study. Staff revisited Freight Corridor Profiles and maps to ensure they are still accurate and adequate for the plan scope.

## Task 11: Financial Programming

**Purpose:** To prioritize regional investments in the near-term to address regional planning goals and transportation needs

- Ongoing Work
    - PlanRVA staff begun processing multiple Amendments and Administrative Modifications to the FY24-27 Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP). The single TIP Amendment requested by VDOT (111716) is being prepared to go to the RRTPO's August 11th Technical Advisory Committee meeting and the September 10th Policy Board meeting. The single TIP Amendment requested by GRTC (GRTC034) is being prepared to go to the RRTPO's September 8th Technical Advisory Committee meeting and the September 10th Policy Board meeting. The remaining eleven Administrative Modifications requested by GRTC (GRTC003, GRTC004, GRTC005, GRTC031, GRTC032, GRTC033, GRTC035, GRTC054, GRTC056, GRTC060, & GRTC065) were processed and completed on August 3rd. In addition to the modifications made to the FY24-27 TIP, staff also added an additional VDOT project (129759) to the project list for the FY27-30 TIP/2050 LRTP Air Quality Conformity Assessment, this project will ultimately be included in the FY27-30 TIP. Beyond work done on the TIP, staff reviewed and submitted applications for Round 7 of the SMART Scale program before the August 3rd deadline with most submitted on 7/31. Additionally, staff coordinated with localities to ensure all MPO-related supporting materials were provided for the applications.

- Deliverables
    - Conduct FY28 - FY33 flexible regional call for existing projects requests and allocation process **(April 2027)**
        - No activity on this deliverable this month. Call for projects expected this winter.
    - Support CVTA project review & selection for off-year requests **(April 2027)**
        - No activity on this deliverable this month.

- Complete rollover amendments for FY27 - FY30 TIP when approved **(February 2027)**
  - No activity on this deliverable this month. Rollover amendments now expected next spring.
- Update project tracking site for FY27 - FY30 TIP **(December 2026)**
  - Staff began development of the updated TIP project tracking site. The enhancements include the addition of support for multiple TIPs as well as enhancements to the tracking of obligations and allocations. This requires a comprehensive review and overhaul of the existing TIP database and website. This updated site will be deployed to support approval of the new STIP and processing of rollover amendments this winter.
- Publish annual obligations report for federal fiscal year 2026 **(December 2026)**
  - No activity on this deliverable this month.

## Task 12: Safe Streets & Roads

**Purpose:** To reduce the number of people killed and seriously injured on our roadways

- Ongoing Work

  The RRTPO Policy Board adopted *Safe by Design* as the region's transportation safety action plan in July, completing the plan's development phase and shifting the safety program's focus toward implementation. Staff participated in the Branders Bridge road safety assessment in Chesterfield County and began planning a CTAC safety field assessment for the fall. Safety work continued at the local, regional, and state levels through Richmond's quarterly Safe and Healthy Streets Commission meeting, participation in the statewide Ped/Bike Safety Assessment, and input sessions for the update to the Virginia Strategic Highway Safety Plan. Public-facing materials were refreshed as well, with updates to the PlanRVA safety page and the safety action plan engagement page reflecting the plan's adoption.

- Deliverables
  - Select one high-injury network corridor with TAC and conduct a road safety assessment with VDOT, impacted localities, and advocates **(June 2027)**
    - Preparation began for selecting a pilot corridor, drawing from the priority safety corridors identified in *Safe by Design*. Participation in the Branders Bridge Road Roadway Safety Assessment with Chesterfield County further informs the approach and partner coordination for the pilot.
  - Set 2027 roadway safety targets **(February 2027)**
    - Monthly crash data collection continued to support target development, supplemented by a review of 2025 national safety trends from the Governors Highway Safety Association to better situate regional numbers within statewide and national context.

## Task 13: System Reliability

**Purpose:** To improve the reliability of regional travel through travel demand management, asset management, and operational improvements

- Ongoing Work

  Staff worked on the creation of templates that will be used to summarize and compare data from localities and the region. These templates are designed to have a short narrative and show the relevant figures. Staff also began preliminary work on the Bridges and Culvert data by locality and region

- Deliverables
  - Evaluate and adopt new 4-year bridge and pavement condition performance targets **(March 2027)**
    - No activity on this deliverable this month.
  - Evaluate and adopt new 4-year reliability performance targets **(March 2027)**
    - No activity on this deliverable this month.

## Task 14: Prioritization Process Pilot

**Purpose:** To develop a transparent prioritization process that accounts for lifecycle cost accounting, multidisciplinary benefits, and future uncertainty building on the Pathways to the Future scenario planning process

- Deliverables
    - Finalize and adopt literature review and detailed methodology for project evaluation including lifecycle costs and monetized benefits and disbenefits **(Sept 2026)**
        - The literature review process has been mostly completed, with some work remaining to organize the materials into one document. Staff anticipates some on-going work throughout the project to research best practices since additional issues and questions may arise as work continues.

    - Acquire, refine, and process data needed to implement methodology **(April 2027)**
        - See below.

    - Create tools for benefit and burden calculations, including updated travel demand model and investment strategy modeling **(Sept 2027)**
        - See below.

    - Develop new or refine existing website to present project scoring and ROI information clearly and transparently to the public **(Sept 2027)**
        - See below.

    - Update regional project selection framework to incorporate the refined approach **(Sept 2027)**
        - Staff has worked in July to draft a consultant task order to assist with each of these deliverables.

**TABLE 1. SUMMARY OF FY 2027 RRTPO UPWP BUDGET**

| Work Task | PL | 5303 | PPPP | GRAND TOTAL |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. Program Administration | $230,049.14 | $95,327.30 | $- | $325,376.44 |
| 2. Outreach & Engagement | $291,900.00 | $125,100.00 | $- | $417,000.00 |
| 3. Data & Modeling | $370,300.00 | $158,700.00 | $- | $529,000.00 |
| 4. Housing & Economy | $70,000.00 | $30,000.00 | $- | $100,000.00 |
| 5. System Readiness | $70,000.00 | $30,000.00 | $- | $100,000.00 |
| 6. Environmental Linkages | $70,000.00 | $30,000.00 | $- | $100,000.00 |
| 7. Long-Range Plan | $162,400.00 | $69,600.00 | $- | $232,000.00 |
| 8. Transit & Passenger Rail | $98,700.00 | $42,300.00 | $- | $141,000.00 |
| 9. Active Transportation | $145,600.00 | $62,400.00 | $- | $208,000.00 |
| 10. Freight & Intermodal | $128,100.00 | $54,900.00 | $- | $183,000.00 |
| 11. Financial Programming | $54,600.00 | $23,400.00 | $- | $78,000.00 |
| 12. Safe Streets & Roads | $97,300.00 | $41,700.00 | $- | $139,000.00 |
| 13. System Reliability | $19,600.00 | $8,400.00 | $- | $28,000.00 |
| 14. Project Prioritization Pilot Program (PPPP) | $- | $- | $1,325,000.00 | $1,325,000.00 |
| TOTAL ($) | $1,808,549.14 | $771,827.30 | $1,325,000.00 | $3,905,376.44 |

**TABLE 2. SUMMARY OF FY 2027 RRTPO UPWP EXPENDITURES**

| Work Task | UPWP Page | Budget | July 2026 Expenditures | Total Expenditures | % of Total Funds Expended |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. Program Administration | 25 | $325,376.44 | $44,887.38 | $44,887.38 | 14% |
| 2. Outreach & Engagement | 27 | $417,000.00 | $24,320.91 | $24,320.91 | 6% |
| 3. Data & Modeling | 28 | $529,000.00 | $57,498.09 | $57,498.09 | 11% |
| 4. Housing & Economy | 29 | $100,000.00 | $10,085.90 | $10,085.90 | 10% |
| 5. System Readiness | 30 | $100,000.00 | $13,321.13 | $13,321.13 | 13% |
| 6. Environmental Linkages | 31 | $100,000.00 | $8,241.65 | $8,241.65 | 8% |
| 7. Long-Range Plan | 33 | $232,000.00 | $40,000.93 | $40,000.93 | 17% |
| 8. Transit & Passenger Rail | 34 | $141,000.00 | $8,898.46 | $8,898.46 | 6% |
| 9. Active Transportation | 35 | $208,000.00 | $14,660.84 | $14,660.84 | 7% |
| 10. Freight & Intermodal | 36 | $183,000.00 | $944.51 | $944.51 | 1% |
| 11. Financial Programming | 38 | $78,000.00 | $5,509.54 | $5,509.54 | 7% |
| 12. Safe Streets & Roads | 39 | $139,000.00 | $12,290.56 | $12,290.56 | 9% |
| 13. System Reliability | 40 | $28,000.00 | $1,463.41 | $1,463.41 | 5% |
| 14. Project Prioritization Pilot Program (PPPP) | 41 | $1,325,000.00 | $16,530.83 | $16,530.83 | 1% |
| TOTAL ($) | | $3,905,376.44 | $258,654.14 | $258,654.14 | 7% |