

RICHMOND REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)
ZOOM MEETING MINUTES
October 10, 2023, 9:00 a.m.

MEMBERS and ALTERNATES (A) PRESENT:

Town of Ashland		Charles City County		Chesterfield County	
Nora D. Amos	X	Gary Mitchell, Vice Chair	X	Barbara K. Smith	X
Goochland County		Rhonda Russell (A)		Chessa Walker (A)	X
Austin Goyne	X	Hanover County		Henrico County	
Thomas Coleman (A)		Joseph E. Vidunas, Chair		Sharon Smidler	X
New Kent County		Randy Hardman (A)		Todd Eure (A)	
Amy Inman	X	Powhatan County		City of Richmond	
Kelli Le Duc (A)		Mike Ciriello		Dironna Moore Clarke	X
Capital Region Airport Commission (CRAC)		Bret Schardein (A)		GRTC	
John B. Rutledge	X	DRPT		Patricia Robinson	X
PlanRVA		Tiffany T. Dubinsky	X	Corey Robinson (A)	X
Myles Busching	X	Daniel Wagner (A)	X	VDOT	
Sulabh Aryal (A)	X	RMTA		Sarah Rhodes	X
RideFinders		Theresa Simmons		Nicole Mueller (A)	
Von S. Tisdale					
John O'Keeffe (A)	X				

The technology used for the RRTPO Technical Advisory Committee 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](#).

Virtual participation of this meeting by members of the committee is authorized under the City of Richmond Res. No. 2020-R025, - declaration of a local emergency due to the potential spread of COVID-19, adopted March 16, 2020. The resolution is available [here](#).

1. Welcome and Introductions

Myles Busching, Director of Transportation, announced that the Chair and Vice Chair were absent and asked for a motion to elect a Chair Pro Tem to preside over the meeting.

On motion by Dironna Moore Clarke, seconded by Barbara Smith, the RRTPO Technical Advisory Committee voted to elect Sharon Smidler as Chair Pro Tem (voice vote):

Chair Pro Tem Smidler presided and called the October 10, 2023, TAC meeting to order at 9:06 a.m.

2. Statement Regarding Virtual Meetings

This statement was provided to members virtually.

3. Roll Call & Certification of a Quorum

Janice Firestone, Program Manager, took attendance by roll call and certified that a quorum was present.

4. Consideration of Amendments to the Meeting Agenda

There were no requested changes to the agenda.

5. Approval of September 19, 2023, Meeting Minutes

The RRTPO Technical Advisory Committee voted to approve the meeting minutes as presented (voice vote; Austin Goyne abstained).

6. Open Public Comment Period

There were no requests to address the committee.

7. TAC Chairman’s Report

Chair Pro Tem Smidler did not have a formal report.

8. Unified Planning Work Program Amendment – Reconnect Jackson Ward Planning Grant

Myles Busching, RRTPO Secretary, presented this request and offered to answer any questions.

Vice Chair Mitchell joined the meeting at 9:12 a.m.

On motion by Dironna Moore Clarke, seconded by Barbara Smith, the RRTPO Technical Advisory Committee voted to recommend RRTPO Policy Board approval of the UPWP amendment – Reconnect Jackson Ward Planning Grant (roll call vote; see below):

Jurisdiction/Agency	Member	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Town of Ashland	Nora D. Amos	X			
Charles City County	Gary Mitchell	X			
Chesterfield County	Barbara Smith	X			
Goochland County	Austin Goyne	X			
Hanover County	Joseph E. Vidunas				X
Henrico County	Sharon Smidler	X			
New Kent County	Amy Inman	X			
Powhatan County	Mike Ciriello				X
City of Richmond	Dironna Moore Clarke	X			
CRAC	John B. Rutledge	X			
DRPT	Tiffany Dubinsky	X			
GRTC	Patricia Robinson	X			
PlanRVA	Myles Busching	X			
RideFinders	John O’Keeffe (A)	X			
RMTA	Theresa Simmons				X
VDOT	Sarah Rhodes	X			

9. FY24 – FY27 Transportation Improvement Program Amendments – GRTC Annual Updates

Mr. Busching presented this request and offered to answer any questions.

On motion by Sharon Smidler, seconded by Amy Inman, the RRTPO Technical Advisory Committee voted to recommend RRTPO Policy Board approval of the proposed TIP amendments - GRTC Annual Updates (roll call vote; see below):

Jurisdiction/Agency	Member	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Town of Ashland	Nora D. Amos	X			
Charles City County	Gary Mitchell	X			
Chesterfield County	Barbara Smith	X			
Goochland County	Austin Goyne	X			
Hanover County	Joseph E. Vidunas				X
Henrico County	Sharon Smidler	X			
New Kent County	Amy Inman	X			
Powhatan County	Mike Ciriello				X
City of Richmond	Dironna Moore Clarke	X			
CRAC	John B. Rutledge	X			
DRPT	Tiffany Dubinsky	X			
GRTC	Patricia Robinson	X			
PlanRVA	Myles Busching	X			
RideFinders	John O’Keeffe (A)	X			
RMTA	Theresa Simmons				X
VDOT	Sarah Rhodes	X			

10. FY24 – FY27 Transportation Improvement Program Amendments – DRPT Annual FTA 5310 Program Updates

Mr. Busching presented this request and offered to answer any questions.

On motion by Amy Inman, seconded by Barbara Smith, the RRTPO Technical Advisory Committee voted to recommend RRTPO Policy Board approval of the proposed TIP amendments – DRPT Annual FTA 5310 Program Updates (roll call vote; see below):

Jurisdiction/Agency	Member	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Town of Ashland	Nora D. Amos	X			
Charles City County	Gary Mitchell	X			
Chesterfield County	Barbara Smith	X			
Goochland County	Austin Goyne	X			
Hanover County	Joseph E. Vidunas				X
Henrico County	Sharon Smidler	X			
New Kent County	Amy Inman	X			
Powhatan County	Mike Ciriello				X
City of Richmond	Dironna Moore Clarke	X			
CRAC	John B. Rutledge	X			
DRPT	Tiffany Dubinsky	X			
GRTC	Patricia Robinson	X			
PlanRVA	Myles Busching	X			
RideFinders	John O’Keeffe (A)	X			
RMTA	Theresa Simmons				X
VDOT	Sarah Rhodes	X			

11. FY24 – FY27 Transportation Improvement Program Amendments – VPRA Request – State-Supported Amtrak Operations

Mr. Busching presented this request and clarified that these are CMAQ funds with additional funding from VPRA.

On motion by Dironna Moore Clarke, seconded by Amy Inman, the RRTPO Technical Advisory Committee voted to recommend RRTPO Policy Board approval of the TIP amendment– VPRA Request – State-Supported Amtrak Operations (roll call vote; see below):

Jurisdiction/Agency	Member	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Town of Ashland	Nora D. Amos	X			
Charles City County	Gary Mitchell	X			
Chesterfield County	Barbara Smith	X			
Goochland County	Austin Goyne	X			
Hanover County	Joseph E. Vidunas				X
Henrico County	Sharon Smidler	X			
New Kent County	Amy Inman	X			
Powhatan County	Mike Ciriello				X
City of Richmond	Dironna Moore Clarke	X			
CRAC	John B. Rutledge	X			
DRPT	Tiffany Dubinsky	X			
GRTC	Patricia Robinson	X			
PlanRVA	Myles Busching	X			
RideFinders	John O’Keeffe (A)	X			
RMTA	Theresa Simmons				X
VDOT	Sarah Rhodes	X			

12. FY24 – FY27 Transportation Improvement Program Amendments – VPRA Request – Hanover Third Track

Mr. Busching presented this request and offered to answer any questions.

On motion by Barbara Smith, seconded by John O’Keeffe, the RRTPO Technical Advisory Committee voted to recommend RRTPO Policy Board approval of the TIP amendments – VPRA Request – Hanover Third Track (roll call vote; see below):

Jurisdiction/Agency	Member	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Town of Ashland	Nora D. Amos			X	
Charles City County	Gary Mitchell	X			
Chesterfield County	Barbara Smith	X			
Goochland County	Austin Goyne	X			
Hanover County	Joseph E. Vidunas				X
Henrico County	Sharon Smidler	X			
New Kent County	Amy Inman	X			
Powhatan County	Mike Ciriello				X
City of Richmond	Dironna Moore Clarke	X			
CRAC	John B. Rutledge	X			
DRPT	Tiffany Dubinsky	X			
GRTC	Patricia Robinson	X			
PlanRVA	Myles Busching	X			
RideFinders	John O’Keeffe (A)	X			
RMTA	Theresa Simmons				X
VDOT	Sarah Rhodes	X			

13. ConnectRVA 2045 Amendment – New Kent County Request – Exit 211 Interchange Improvements

Sulabh Aryal, PlanRVA, presented this request offered clarification on the project and funding.

On motion by Amy Inman, seconded by Austin Goyne, the RRTPO Technical Advisory Committee voted to recommend recommend RRTPO Policy Board approval of amending ConnectRVA 2045 to remove the identified projects from the constrained projects list to add the new project (roll call vote; see below):

Jurisdiction/Agency	Member	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Town of Ashland	Nora D. Amos	X			
Charles City County	Gary Mitchell	X			
Chesterfield County	Barbara Smith	X			
Goochland County	Austin Goyne	X			
Hanover County	Joseph E. Vidunas				X
Henrico County	Sharon Smidler	X			
New Kent County	Amy Inman	X			
Powhatan County	Mike Ciriello				X
City of Richmond	Dironna Moore Clarke	X			
CRAC	John B. Rutledge	X			
DRPT	Tiffany Dubinsky	X			
GRTC	Patricia Robinson	X			
PlanRVA	Myles Busching	X			
RideFinders	John O’Keeffe (A)	X			
RMTA	Theresa Simmons				X
VDOT	Sarah Rhodes	X			

14. RRTPO/Tri-Cities Area MPO Boundary Adjustment

Mr. Aryal presented this request and offered to answer any questions.

On motion by Barbara Smith, seconded by Patricia Robinson, the RRTPO Technical Advisory Committee voted to recommend RRTPO Policy Board approval of the adjusted boundary between RRTPO and TCAMPO (roll call vote; see below):

Jurisdiction/Agency	Member	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Town of Ashland	Nora D. Amos	X			
Charles City County	Gary Mitchell	X			
Chesterfield County	Barbara Smith	X			
Goochland County	Austin Goyne	X			
Hanover County	Joseph E. Vidunas				X
Henrico County	Sharon Smidler	X			
New Kent County	Amy Inman	X			
Powhatan County	Mike Ciriello				X
City of Richmond	Dironna Moore Clarke	X			
CRAC	John B. Rutledge	X			
DRPT	Tiffany Dubinsky	X			
GRTC	Patricia Robinson	X			
PlanRVA	Myles Busching	X			
RideFinders	John O’Keeffe (A)	X			
RMTA	Theresa Simmons				X
VDOT	Sarah Rhodes	X			

15. SMART SCALE Program Update

Sarah Rhodes, VDOT, presented this update and explained that problem statements were identified and analysed from the recent survey. Recommendations were made

on some of the statements. The CTB made additional recommendations on the matters identified.

There was a discussion about the timing; by the time it is on Virginia Scan, it is ready to be developed.

Ms. Rhodes' presentation is posted with the [meeting documents](#).

16. RRTPO Letter regarding SMART SCALE Program Updates

Mr. Busching presented this request and explained that a locality has requested the RRTPO send the proposed letter on the Smart Scale changes. He noted that the Virginia Association of MPOs (VAMPO) has also submitted a letter addressing some concerns with the changes.

Members shared concerns and thoughts on the proposed Smart Scale changes and suggestions for revisions to the letter. Members were asked to submit their recommended changes to the letter by October 20, 2023. Staff will make the changes prior to it being presented to the Policy Board for approval. Ms. Rhodes will provide a summary of the changes after the upcoming CTB workshop.

17. Public Transportation Work Group

Mr. Busching explained that the work group is being reconvened. A formal invitation and agenda for the first meeting will be sent out later this week.

18. Transportation Agency Updates

a. DRPT

Tiffany Dubinsky provided an update on recent and upcoming DRPT activities. The update is posted with the [meeting documents](#).

b. GRTC

Corey Robinson provided an update on recent and upcoming GRTC activities, including:

- GRTC is looking ahead on near and long-term upgrades to individual routes and the network at large.
- The consulting team for the North-South BRT Corridor Study is preparing to deliver the recommended alignment on the second Pulse route.
- Transit Royale will be launched tomorrow. It is a free app and tool for riders for real time Pulse information and directions.
- The first micro-transit zone is scheduled for a soft launch later this month.
- Staffing Updates:
 - Mike Hurt has been promoted to Director of Marketing and Communications
 - Stefan Marks has been hired as Chief Development Officer.

c. RideFinders

John O'Keefe provided an update on recent and upcoming RideFinders activities, including the following:

- Attended Brightpoint Community College Job Fair, distributed information on Employer Services to (33) employers.
- Attended the following events in person- PLANRVA night at the Diamond.
- Set up for TDM Week at the Park and Ride at Target Brook Road in Henrico County to welcome vanpools as they came in and provide riders with promotional items.

- Met with Public Affairs Officer about starting vanpools on the base at Fort Walker.
- Met with the Department of Social Services regarding their office relocation from Richmond to Henrico off of transit lines.
- Working on the replacement of a RideFinders sign on Westover Hills Blvd in the City of Richmond that is damaged.
- Working with FourSquare ITP on RideFinders 5 Year Strategic Plan.
- All staff served as volunteers to disseminate information pertaining to the opening of the new Downtown Transfer Plaza.
- Started schedule and gathering data for grant applications for FY25.

d. VDOT

Sarah Rhodes provided an update on VDOT's recent and upcoming activities. She also noted the following:

- A ground-breaking ceremony will be held soon for Segment A on the I-64 widening project.
- For the Fall Line Trail, the Virginia State Trails Office has a survey out and feedback is being sought.

The update is posted with the [meeting documents](#).

15. Future Meeting Topics

The future meeting topics were included in the agenda packet.

16. TAC Member Comments

There were no member comments.

17. Next Meeting

Vice Chair Mitchell noted the next meeting will be held on November 14, 2023.

18. Adjournment

Vice Chair Mitchell adjourned the meeting at 10:20 a.m.