

**RICHMOND REGIONAL
TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION**

**MINUTES OF MEETING
April 4, 2019**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Patricia S. O’Bannon, **Chairman** Henrico County
John H. Hodges, **Vice Chairman** Town of Ashland
Andreas D. Addison City of Richmond
Parker C. Agelasto City of Richmond
Manuel Alvarez, Jr. Goochland County
Steve A. Elswick Chesterfield County
Kimberly B. Gray City of Richmond
Wayne Hazzard (Alternate) Hanover County
James M. Holland Chesterfield County
John Lumpkins, Jr. Goochland County
Floyd H. Miles, Sr. Charles City County
Cynthia I. Newbille City of Richmond
Patricia A. Paige New Kent County
W. Canova Peterson, IV Hanover County
Mark Riblett (Alternate) Secretary of Transportation Designee
Herbert A. Richwine (Alternate) (Nonvoting) CTAC
Ivan Rucker (Nonvoting) FHWA
Von S. Tisdale (Nonvoting) RideFinders
David T. Williams Powhatan County
Garland W. Williams (Alternate) GRTC Transit System
Christopher Winslow Chesterfield County

MEMBERS ABSENT

Cliff Burnette (Nonvoting) VDA
Charles H. Carter (Nonvoting) CTAC
Joi Taylor Dean RMTA
Jennifer B. DeBruhl DRPT
Angela Kelly-Wiecek Hanover County
Melissa McGill (Nonvoting) FTA
William E. Melton Powhatan County
John B. Rutledge CRAC
Frank J. Thornton Henrico County
Barton A. Thrasher Secretary of Transportation Designee
C. Thomas Tiller, Jr. New Kent County

ALTERNATE MEMBERS PRESENT, NOT VOTING

Tiffany Dubinsky (Alternate) DRPT

CALL TO ORDER

Richmond Regional Transportation Planning Organization (RRTPO) Chairman Patricia S. O’Bannon called the March 7, 2019 RRTPO meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. in the Richmond Regional Planning District Commission board room.

CERTIFICATION OF MEETING QUORUM

RRTPO Secretary Chet Parsons reported that a quorum was present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman O'Bannon led the RRTPO in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

A. ADMINISTRATION

1. Approval of RRTPO Agenda

Chairman O'Bannon called for changes to the agenda and there were none. On motion of Patricia A. Paige, seconded by David T. Williams, the RRTPO policy board unanimously approved the April 4, 2019 meeting agenda as presented.

2. Approval of March 7, 2019 RRTPO Meeting Minutes

Chairman O'Bannon called for changes to the minutes and there were none. On motion of Steve A. Elswick, seconded by Manuel Alvarez, Jr., the RRTPO policy board unanimously approved the minutes of the March 7, 2019 RRTPO meeting minutes as presented.

3. Consent Agenda

On motion of David T. Williams, seconded by Christopher Winslow, the RRTPO policy Board unanimously approved the consent agenda as follows:

a. Roadway Classification, Powhatan County: Carter Gallier Boulevard

RESOLVED, that following an adopted resolution by the Powhatan County Board of Supervisors at their February 25, 2019 meeting, the Richmond Regional Transportation Planning Organization requests that the Federal Highway Administration classify the segment of State Route 1343 (Carter Gallier Boulevard) between U.S. Route 60 (Anderson Highway) and State Route 1451 (Luck Stone Road) as a major collector.

b. Roadway Classification, Powhatan County: Luck Stone Road

RESOLVED, that following an adopted resolution by the Powhatan County Board of Supervisors at their February 25, 2019 meeting, the Richmond Regional Transportation Planning Organization policy board requests that the Federal Highway Administration classify State Route 1351 (Luck Stone Road) as a major collector.

4. Open Public Comment Period

There were no requests to address the RRTPO.

5. RRTPO Chairman's Report

Pat O'Bannon, RRTPO Chairman, said the RRTPO policy board needs to elect officers for FY20 and that while the agenda calls for the establishment of a nominating committee for this purpose, there is only one member from each of the jurisdictions next in line for serve as chairman and vice chairman. John H. Hodges, Town of Ashland, is in line to serve as RRTPO policy board chairman for FY20, and Floyd H. Miles, Sr., Charles City County, is in line to serve as vice chairman. Both candidates were present at the meeting and agreed to serve.

On motion of W. Canova Peterson, IV, seconded by David T. Williams, the RRTPO policy board voted unanimously to approve the slate of officers and elect John H. Hodges, Town of Ashland, as the FY20 RRTPO policy board chairman and to elect Floyd H. Miles, Sr., Charles City County, as the FY20 RRTPO policy board vice chairman, both to serve a term of office from July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020.

6. RRTPO Secretary's Report

Chet Parsons, RRTPO Secretary, reported on the following items:

- a. **Current Work Efforts Update** – Two requests for proposals were received for the Transit Vision Plan Phase II and a selection committee will meet to review the proposals for this work effort to be completed by the end of December 2019. Mr. Parsons reviewed other items in the report including Park and Ride meeting, the Ashland Trolley Line Advisory Group meeting, the Complete Streets Workshop, and the Active Transportation Work Group meeting.
- b. **RRTPO Work Status and Financial Reports for February** – The February 2019 work status and financial report were included under tab four of the agenda package. There were no questions on these reports.

B. NEW BUSINESS

1. FY20 – FY25 RSTP and CMAQ Transfers Approval

Chet Parsons, RRTPO Secretary, reviewed the FY20 – FY25 Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) program project selection and allocation process expressing appreciation for significant VDOT assistance in providing technical support. The RRTPO will be requested to take action at the May 2 meeting to approve the final allocation tables for submission to the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) for inclusion in the FY20 – FY25 Six-Year Improvement Program (SYIP).

Mr. Parsons explained that during the intensive project review, several projects were identified that require allocation transfers to align the project implementation schedule with the proposed funding. There are five new projects to be included in the RSTP/CMAQ allocation tables, as recommended by TAC at their March 12 meeting. These projects would be able to start this fiscal year and utilize unobligated previous CMAQ and RSTP funds. The proposed transfer action would allow these projects to be considered for April CTB action for addition to the SYIP.

There was brief discussion with the following major points brought forward:

- Both RSTP and CMAQ funds both have established evaluation procedures used to score projects. About a quarter of the applications received were funded due to limited funding.
- CMAQ funds are limited for use on projects that impact reduce congestion and improve air quality; those projects score higher.
- These projects are being added early to the SYIP in order to obligate funds that are already allocated so that they can be used immediately, and also to minimize the impact of possible federal rescission of funds.

On motion of W. Canova Peterson, IV, seconded by Patricia A. Paige, the Richmond Regional Transportation Planning Organization (RRTPO) policy board unanimously approved the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Richmond Regional Transportation Planning Organization policy board approves allocations of Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) funds and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) program funds to five new projects as follows:

- UPC 113843: Route 1 (Merriewood Rd. to Elliham Ave.) Sidewalk – Chesterfield – allocates \$200,000 in FY19 CMAQ funds for the preliminary engineering phase.

- UPC T22773: Route 60 (Boulders Parkway – Ruthers Road) Shared-Use Path – Chesterfield – allocates \$544,800 in FY19 CMAQ funds for the preliminary engineering phase.
- UPC T22775: Arthur Ashe Park-N-Ride Bus Purchase – City of Richmond – allocates \$47,456 in FY19 CMAQ funds for the construction phase.
- UPC T22779: I-95 at Commerce Road Access Study – City of Richmond – Port Project – allocates \$240,000 in RSTP funds for the preliminary engineering phase.
- UPC T22783: Parham Road/Hungary Road Bicycle and Pedestrian Study – Henrico County – allocates \$200,000 in RSTP funds for the preliminary engineering phase of the project.

2. SMART SCALE Round 3: Comments to the CTB

Chairman O’Bannon noted the cover letter was e-mailed to the RRTPO yesterday [April 3] and a hard was being distributed at the table. There was a suggestion at the Executive Committee meeting to add a paragraph at the beginning and the end stating the RRTPO policy board action requested. It was noted that limiting the number of projects artificially portrays a smaller need; even the smaller picture of needs cannot be funded through this process. Chairman O’Bannon read excerpts from some of the comments and noted that there are scoring factors that were impacted by the scoring of the Hampton Roads Bridge Tunnel project. She said the RRTPO policy board should be looking at ways to be more competitive and find ways to provide matching funds. Extensive discussion ensued.

Chet Parsons said the original intent was to share technical comments and about the SMART SCALE round 3 process and what the results showed. The comments are organized in three categories: scoring and normalization, project selection process, and local priorities. If these projects reflect priorities, why did the rankings turn out as they did. The RRTPO is asking to know if their comments and observations are inaccurate, please provide feedback and let us know why and what we need to do to improve opportunities in the future. Also asking for more extensive education on the process before round 4 begins. The goal was not to criticize the process, but rather to ask how we can improve to have a better outcome for the region. A suggestion was made to send the cover letter and comments to all CTB members.

Mark Riblett reported that the CTB meetings are April 9 and 10 at the VDOT Central Office Auditorium, 1221 East Broad St. April 9 is the workshop meeting at 10:00 a.m.; April 10 is the action meeting starting at 8:30. On April 25 the CTB Spring Six-Year Plan meeting will be held at 4:00 p.m. at the Richmond Marriott in Short Pump, 4240 Dominion Boulevard in Glen Allen, Virginia, 23060. A VTrans public meeting will be held at 3:00 p.m. All jurisdictions and agencies were encouraged to participate and speak at the Six-Year Plan public meeting.

There was discussion about having the CTB member participate in RRTPO policy board meetings as former CTB members have done in order to provide information and respond to questions and also to voice RRTPO policy board concerns to him as part of an ongoing conversation and communication. Ivan Rucker, FHWA, said the Hampton Roads CTB member is a nonvoting member of the TPO and attends nearly every meeting and frankly is making a big difference. Larger MPOs have a General Assembly member as a member of the MPO. Chairman O’Bannon was requested to prepare and send a letter requesting that Mr. Brown participate on a regular basis in

RRTPO policy board meetings with time on the agenda for him to communicate CTB matters and for him to have a conversation with the RRTPO policy board on matters of importance.

C. AGENCY AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Transportation Agency Updates

a. VDOT – Mark Riblett, alternate designee for the Virginia Secretary of Transportation, reported as follows:

- Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) Meetings Update:
 - The March workshop meeting is scheduled for April 9 with action items on April 10.
 - The Spring Six-Year Plan meeting is April 25 as discussed earlier.
 - At the March CTB meeting it was announced that there are additional District Grant and Statewide grant funds available for SMART SCALE distribution. This will be a topic of discussion at the April and May meetings with voting at the June meeting.
- The Ashland to Petersburg Trail public meeting was held March 26 with 141 present and signed in. They receive 52 completed surveys and 106 mapping comments at that meeting; following the meeting, they received over 500 surveys and over 600 mapping comments for that study.
- Design public hearings are scheduled for April 11 on I-95 Belvidere; April 18 on Fairground Road in Goochland County; and April 22 for South Washington Street in Ashland.

b. DRPT – Chris Arabia, DRPT Manager of Statewide Mobility Programs, reported that DRPT has been working on its portion of the Six-Year Improvement Program and will participate in the Spring Six-Year Plan meeting on April 25.

2. Community Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC) Meeting Report

Herbert Richwine, CTAC Vice Chairman, noted the report included under tab six of the agenda package and reported that Chet Parsons, RRTPO Secretary, had presented information to try to reorganize membership for CTAC with reincorporation of EDAC. He said Mr. Parsons shared information on CTAC's purpose as an advisory group to help the RRTPO policy board. He said they are all looking forward to the next meeting.

D. OTHER BUSINESS

1. RRTPO Member Comments

There were no member comments.

2. Future Meeting Topics

Chairman O'Bannon noted the future meeting topics under tab seven.

3. Next Meeting: May 2, 2019

Chairman O'Bannon noted that the next RRTPO meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 2, 2019 and reminded all present that the June meeting has been rescheduled to June 28, consolidated with the July meeting; the July 4 meeting was canceled.

E. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman O'Bannon adjourned the meeting at 10:25 a.m.