



Central Virginia Transportation Planning Organization
January 16, 2025, 4:00 p.m. Meeting
CVPDC Office, 828 Main St., 12th Floor Lynchburg, VA

Draft Minutes

MEMBERS PRESENT

Jeremy Bryant, Chair Amherst County
Drew Wade Amherst County
Chris Winstead..... VDOT Lynchburg District
Marty Misjuns (virtual)..... City of Lynchburg
Dwayne Tuggle..... Town of Amherst
Josh Moore..... Greater Lynchburg Transit Company
Wynter Benda (virtual) City of Lynchburg
John Sharp Bedford County
Tom Lawton..... Campbell County
Evan Tuten (virtual)..... Virginia Department of Rail & Public Transit

MEMBERS ABSENT

Robert Hiss Bedford County
Kathryn Benedict FHWA-Virginia
Kenny Craig Liberty University
Frank Rogers..... Campbell County

OTHERS PRESENT

Carson Eckhardt (virtual)..... VDOT Lynchburg District
Richard White CVPDC
Alec Brebner CVPDC/CVTPO
Patti Lassiter CVPDC
Kelly Hitchcock CVPDC

1. Call to Order & Establishment of Quorum

Jeremy Bryant called the meeting to order at 4:00, thanked everyone for attending, and stated that the meeting had a quorum. Bryant introduced and welcomed Richard White, Regional Planner, CVPDC. Bryant called for a motion to approve virtual participation by Wynter Benda, Marty Misjuns, and Evan Tuten.

MOTION: Tom Lawton made a motion to approve electric participation by members attending virtually the January 16, 2025 CVTPO meeting. Chris Winstead seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the motion passed

2. Approval of Minutes: November 21, 2024

Bryant asked if there were any corrections, revisions or questions for staff; no comments were received.

MOTION: Dwayne Tuggle made a motion to approve the November 21, 2024, CVTPO Meeting Minutes as submitted. Chris Winstead seconded the motion. All were in favor of the motion.

3. CVTPO 2025 Safety Performance Target

Bryant noted that annually Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) are required to submit safety performance targets to VDOT, which then forwards them to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). The CVTPO has in the past adopted the safety targets set by VDOT. The Technical Transportation Committee (TTC) has recommended continuing this practice.

Kelly Hitchcock expanded the action noting that FHWA requires MPOs to establish targets for five Safety Performance Measures, which inform the Commonwealth's Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP). The five Safety Performance Targets are the number of fatalities, the fatality rate, the number of serious injuries, the serious injury rate, and the number of non-motorized fatalities and serious injuries. The CVTPO targets are incorporated into the state's targets.

MOTION: Dwayne Tuggle made the motion to approve the use of VDOT's Statewide Safety Performance Targets for the FY2025 CVTPO Safety Performance Targets and approves the CVTPO FY25 Annual Safety Performance Target letter, with the correction noting cc: to Rick Youngblood instead of Johnny Roark, as presented. Drew Wade seconded the motion. All were in favor; the motion passed.

4. FY25 Work Program Update

a. CVTPO Selection Intersection Study

Hitchcock provided an overview of the study to evaluate intersections, as identified by Bedford and Amherst County staff, to evaluate safety and movement needs. The CVTPO Select Intersection Study, provided, evaluates conditions and presents recommendations or additional evaluation needs at Amelon Expressway/Amelon Central Parkway, Business 29 at Sprouse Drive and Rothwood Road intersections, Forest Road/Rustic Village/Gumtree Road intersection. Additionally, the project expands the consideration of the Perrowville Road/Mays Mill Road and Elk Creek/Mays Mill Road to account for business expansion/redevelopment at the industrial/manufacturing site. Hitchcock confirmed the study was reviewed by VDOT Salem and Lynchburg Districts and locality staff; all have approved the study. Hitchcock noted this study is presented for informational purposes and does not require CVTPO approval. The study will serve as a foundation for advancing recommendations.

b. Route 221 Study

The evaluation of the Route 221 Corridor, that includes segments and intersections from Perrowville Road to Graves Mill Road, is ongoing. This process includes assessing both short-term and long-term safety and congestion solutions. Preliminary recommendations have been reviewed with staff, who provided detailed feedback to which ERP PC are expanding evaluation and developing final recommendations that will be presented and evaluated at a meeting next month. Hitchcock confirmed there has been good participation and input from These recommendations have been returned to EPR PC, with input from the Salem District and Bedford County staff. The second public meeting will be held in March. Tom Lawton confirmed that the study would be presented to the CVPTO for informational purposes. Hitchcock confirmed the study will be presented to Bedford County Board of Supervisors for approval consideration.

c. Lynchburg Multimodal Plan

Kelly provided a brief overview of the city multimodal plan led by the Timmons Group, noting the last meeting earlier in the day, January 16, 2025. The first project survey is open and Hitchcock encouraged the members to take and share with colleagues/friends, the survey is at [Lynchburg Multimodal Plan – Transportation Network Survey](#)

d. U.S. DOT Thriving Communities Program

The CVPDC received the federal technical assistance grant from USDOT, which is executed in partnership with the City of Lynchburg and GLTC. Hitchcock noted the project began in earnest in January and

that the Community Work Plan outlining the project activities has been approved by USDOT. Hitchcock noted the project will develop an implementation roadmap to facilitate improvements along 12th Street and guide Transit-Oriented-Development (TOD) policies. The project is the first to look at TOD initiative and can provide a framework for the region. The project will also establish an implementation vision for the area around 12th Street and create a funding playbook.

Josh Moore, GLTC, noted that the project is an opportunity to access additional funding that requires less local financing and can qualify for development funds administered by the FTA and noted the project as a crucial step in enhancing accessibility available through these other funding avenues. Hitchcock noted that being part of the Thriving Communities Program opens potential technical assistance with additional federal agencies.

5. Opportunity for Public Comment

Jeremy Briant opened the meeting for public comment. No public comments were received at this time and the public comment session was closed.

6. Matters from the Board and/or Staff

a. State & Federal agency partner update

Evan Tuten, DRPT, noted the deadline for transit grant applications is February 1. Evan can forward details about a how to apply webinar. Additionally, 5303 funding opportunity for FY26 is open and will be open until May 1. Tuten noted Virginia was awarded eight (8) rail crossing elimination grants; none of those awarded were in the CVPDC region. Hitchcock noted that Ada Hunsberger, Program Manager, Central Virginia Commuter Services, would be submitted a Transit Grant to continue the Commuter Assistance Program.

Carson Eckhardt, VDOT-Lynchburg District, provided an overview of Round 6 SMART SCALE, including an overview of Brooke Johnson, VDOT SMART SCALE Program Manager, Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) January meeting summary of recommended awards. Eckhardt reported during this cycle 53 projects are recommended for funding across the Commonwealth. 12 applications from Lynchburg District were submitted, with four District projects, two from the CVTPO area, representing about \$82 million, recommended for funding. Eckhardt was pleased to announce that the Franklin Turnpike project ranked fourth in the Commonwealth with a SMART Scale score of 18.91. Evan concluded his summary expressing gratitude for everyone's participation.

Chris Winstead, District Engineer/Lynchburg District, thanked Carson for his hard work throughout the process and emphasized that the SMART SCALE Round 6 process is ongoing and ample opportunity for public comment. He noted that the findings presented are still in draft form and that public hearings will be held across the Commonwealth in the Spring, with CTP expected to vote in May or June. Winstead noted along with the objective SCALE factors, there is also the benefit score by costs. Projects are then ranked according to scores and awarded until available funding is exhausted. Chris noted that each cycle is a little different, competition of funding is unknown, and VDOT does not know allocated funding until late in the process.

Winstead expressed appreciation for General Assembly forethought in the passing legislation that dedicated funding to each district through the District Grant Program funding. Chris stressed the importance of the region seeking and continuing to receive High-Priority Program funding acknowledging no HHP awards in the current round.

Marty Misjuns requested a link to the CTB presentation and expressed appreciation to VDOT for their hard work on behalf of the District.

Wynter Benda also expressed appreciation to VDOT staff. Benda followed suggesting that the CVTPO and region be mindful of the formula changes impacts our region's ability to be competitive compared to northern Virginia and Hampton Roads, stressing the importance of paying attention to how the dollars are being scaled, keeping the policy boards informed, and in establishing a unified/regional voice on program scoring factors and area grants submitted.

Josh Moore stated that on the transit side, they are having the same issues. We are facing more competition through the scoring metric with Northern Virginia and Richmond. Noting the Richmond has fare-free and thus harder for smaller rural systems that receive lower scores. .

Chris Winstead offered a comment to Benda's comment. Chris reminded the CVTPO that SMART SCALE is comprised of two funding streams. One channel represents the High-Priority Projects. The second being the District Grant Program funding, which accounts for approximately \$700 million of the approximate \$1 billion SMART SCALE program; the balance of funding to the HHP. Winstead noted in review of the DGP awards, Lynchburg district is looking at \$83 million, while Northern Virginia received \$97 million—a relatively small difference. Winstead noted the HHP was allocated to the Richmond District for interchange improvements along the interstate system, specifically for Interstates 95, 64, 85, and 295. They strategically organized these projects to include smaller initiatives, with each project ranging from \$20 to \$25 million. In Northern Virginia, they have decided to tax themselves with a separate authority just for transportation. They have a whole different process for prioritization and an entirely different funding stream.

Tom Lawton asked about the mechanics of the final award process. Winstead confirmed that the Round 6 funding in the HHP and DGP programs is available. There will be the spring CTB public hearing process. Winstead said there have been instances where the draft funding scenario has, due to extenuating circumstances, moved a lower project forward with Winstead noting CTB makes decisions related to HHP and generally, the CTB district representative has more autonomy regarding DGP funding awards.

Winstead expressed gratitude to everyone for their cooperation during the snow events, particularly for staying off the roads. He also acknowledged the City of Lynchburg for their efforts in snow removal. Jeremy Bryant thanked Chris for all that VDOT does to keep us safe by ensuring the roads are plowed and salted.

b. CVTPO 2025 Meeting Calendar

Hitchcock reviewed the CVTPO 2025 meeting calendar, as noted in the Staff Report. Hitchcock noted the TPO is required to meet at a minimum once per quarter. The 2025 proposed meeting dates are March 20, May 15, July 17, September 18, and November 20. Hitchcock noted there are also two tentative dates, August 21 and October 16, that are included to account for the possibility to meet to support VDOT Transportation Alternatives/Revenue Sharing grant round and VDOT HSIP program. These meetings will only be held should Resolutions support be sought.

MOTION: Drew Wade made a motion to approve the 2025 CVTPO meeting calendar as presented. Tom Lawton seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the motion passed

c. Other

Marty Misjuns noted that this meeting might be his last if a replacement is determined. He thanked the members for the opportunity and for all they had taught him. Bryant thanked Misjuns for his service to the CVTPO and region.

7. Central Virginia Safety Action Plan

Kelly provided an update on the Central Virginia Safety Action Plan. Hitchcock noted that stakeholder meetings had been held with each locality and that identified sites, based on locality and VDOT selection, to be evaluated on opportunities to improve safety movement were evaluated by Kimley-Horn engineers, and also with locality and VDOT staff. Sites in Amherst, Bedford, Appomattox and Campbell were evaluated. Lynchburg evaluation of sites has not yet taken place.

Hitchcock provided details of the Central Virginia Transportation Safety Summit that will be held Friday, January 31, 2025, 9:00 a.m. to noon, with doors opening at 8:30 a.m., at the Lynchburg Regional Business Alliance. Hitchcock noted the consultants will present a range of detailed traffic data and guide an interactive session to establish strategies to reduce series and fatal accidents for all users. Timmons Group, consultant for the Lynchburg multimodal project will be at the meeting. Hitchcock encouraged participation, noting the ability to register for the free event, at the cvsafeststreets.com or cvtpo.org sites.

8. Adjourn

MOTION: Drew Wade made the motion for adjournment. The motion was seconded by Tom Lawton. All were in favor and the motion was approved. The meeting adjourned at 4:43 PM.

Informational Item: The CVTPO next meeting: March 20, 2025

The CVTPO ensures nondiscrimination and equal employment in all programs and activities in accordance with Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. If you have questions or concerns about your civil rights regarding participation or need special assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, please contact the CVTPO. Sign language or non-English language interpreters will be provided if needed and requested in advance of this meeting. Please contact the CVTPO at 434-845-3491 to request an interpreter.