



Policy Board
Regular Meeting Minutes
February 1, 2023, 10:00 a.m.

Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission*
112 MacTanly Place, Staunton, Virginia

Voting Members		Non-Voting Members		Others
	City of Staunton		VA DRPT	Others
✓	Brad Arrowood	✓	Grace Stankus	Josh Dunlap, VDOT
	Leslie Beauregard		Wood Hudson	Staff (CSPDC)
✓	John Blair (Alt)		VRT	✓ Bonnie Riedesel
	Augusta County	✓	Steve Wilson	✓ Ann Cundy
✓	Scott Seaton, Vice Chair		Phil Thompson (Alt)	✓ Zach Beard
✓	Tim Fitzgerald		FHWA	✓ Devon Thompson
	Pam Carter (Alt)		Kevin Jones	✓ Paula Melester
	City of Waynesboro		FTA	✓ Rita Whitfield
✓	Jim Wood		Michele DeAngelis	
✓	Todd Wood		VA DOA	
	Michael Hamp (Alt)		Rusty Harrington	
	VDOT		CTB	
✓	Todd Stevens	✓	Mark Merrill	
✓	Adam Campbell (Alt)			
✓	Don Komara (Alt)			
	Matt Dana (Alt)			

Call to Order

The February 1, 2023, meeting of the Policy Board of the Staunton-Augusta-Waynesboro Metropolitan Planning Organization (SAWMPO) was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Dr. Scott Seaton, Chairperson. Based on the 2022 amendment to Virginia's FOIA law, the SAWMPO is eligible to hold up to three meetings virtually each year. The SAWMPO February 1, 2023 meeting was conducted via video conferencing using Zoom.



Chairperson Seaton introduced and welcomed the following new representatives: Mr. Brad Arrowood, City of Staunton; Mr. Jim Wood, City of Waynesboro; and Mr. Todd Stevens, VDOT.

Public Comment

Chairperson Seaton opened the floor for public comment. There were no public comments.

Approval of Minutes

Chairperson Seaton presented the minutes from the December 7, 2022, Policy Board meeting. Mr. Todd Wood moved, seconded by Mr. John Blair, to approve the minutes, as presented. Motion was carried by unanimous vote, 6-0.

Special Election of Vice Chair (Board Action Form #23-01)

Chairperson Seaton stated that Vice Chairperson Carolyn Dull concluded her term on the Policy Board effective December 30, 2022. He noted that due to the vacancy, a new Vice Chairperson needed to be elected to complete the unexpired term, which will expire on June 30, 2024. Nominations for Vice Chairperson were opened.

Mr. Jim Wood nominated Mr. Brad Arrowood for the office of Vice Chairperson, seconded by Mr. John Blair. Nominations for Vice Chairperson were unanimously closed. Motion was carried by unanimous vote, 6-0. Mr. Arrowood was unanimously elected as Vice Chairperson.

Mark Merrill, Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) Member

Ms. Cundy introduced and welcomed Mr. Mark Merrill, Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) member, who was present to give an update on the CTB. Mr. Merrill gave an update on CTB members. He stated that Governor Youngkin approved \$90 million in Virginia Business Ready Sites Program (VBRSP) development grants for 21 sites across the Commonwealth. Mr. Merrill noted that administered by the Virginia Economic Development Partnership (VEDP), this discretionary program helps characterize and develop sites to enhance the Commonwealth's infrastructure with more competitive project-ready sites, to attract new business and accelerate expansion in Virginia.

He noted that the Governor is also proposing an additional \$200 million dollars as part of his budget in the Transportation Partnership Opportunity Fund (TPOF), which is awarded at the discretion of the Governor in the form of grants, revolving loans, or other financial assistance to an agency or local government of the



Commonwealth for activities associated with eligible transportation projects. Mr. Merrill reported on statewide activity in transportation, noting that the metrorail Silver Line from Dulles to Ashburn opened in November 2022; announced that the express lanes on I-66 have been completed; and noted that progress continues with the Hampton Roads Bridge Tunnel.

He reported on the Six Year Improvement Plan, noting that it was favorably improving. Mr. Merrill reported on SMART SCALE applications, noting that there were approximately 400 applications submitted across the Commonwealth submitted in August 2022. He stated that 152 applications were funded, for a total funding of \$1.5 billion. Mr. Merrill stated that 40 applications were submitted in the Staunton District, 15 were awarded, with 5 projects in the SAWMPO area. He reported on funding for I-81, noting that Senator Obenshain and Senator Hanger have each submitted language to obtain additional appropriations for I-81. On behalf of the SAWMPO, Chairperson Seaton expressed his appreciation to Mr. Merrill for his attendance on the Zoom meeting and for his presentation.

SAWMPO Asset Condition and System Performance Targets (Board Memo #23-01)

Chairperson Seaton presented the SAWMPO Asset Condition and System Performance Targets. Mr. Beard stated that in 2016, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) established National Performance Measures to assess asset condition and system performance, which includes bridge and pavement conditions and travel time reliability, on the National Highway System (NHS). He noted that the State and SAWMPO must report targets to FHWA for a four-year performance period. The SAWMPO must concur with VDOT's statewide performance targets or set MPO-specific targets by March 20, 2023.

Mr. Beard stated that by concurring with the statewide targets, the SAWMPO would agree to plan and program projects to contribute toward achieving the State targets. He noted that there is no penalty for not meeting the targets. Mr. Beard stated that SAWMPO asset conditions and system performance measures between 2018 and 2021 reflect statewide trends. However, the MPO has consistently not met the system performance target measuring reliability on the non-interstate NHS.

Mr. Beard reviewed the statewide targets, MPO data, asset conditions (pavement and bridge), and system performance (travel reliability). He reviewed the next steps, noting that MPO staff will submit a letter to OIPI concurring with the statewide targets and continue to monitor the bridge condition and travel reliability measures not meeting statewide targets.



Presentation: *Community Health Needs Assessment Results* – Krystal Moyers, Administrative Director of Community Outreach and Programs for Augusta Health

Mr. Beard welcomed and introduced Ms. Krystal Moyers, Administrative Director of Community Outreach and Programs for Augusta Health. Ms. Moyers gave a PowerPoint presentation on Augusta Health Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) for Staunton, Waynesboro and Augusta County for 2022. She stated that as part of Augusta Health's commitment to the community, Augusta Health coordinates a regular comprehensive CHNA, along with the collaboration and input of many organizations and agencies across all sectors of the community. This initiative began in 2009 and an assessment is completed every three years to ensure that we retain a current picture of our community's needs.

Ms. Moyers noted that the CHNA is a systematic, data-driven approach to determining health status, behaviors, and the areas of greatest health need in our local community. She stated that it provides information so the health issues of greatest concern can be identified, and appropriate resources allocated. Ms. Moyers noted that the areas of opportunity are determined following the review of national benchmark data, number of residents affected, and the potential impact on community health and wellness. She reviewed the current areas of opportunity, based on the most recent assessment completed in 2022.

Ms. Moyers stated that from these areas of opportunity, Augusta Health identified the following significant health issues that we are currently addressing: (1) Mental health and Substance Abuse, (2) Access to Healthcare Services, and (3) Nutrition and Physical Activity. She noted that these areas were selected based on scope and severity, as well as the ability for us to make a positive impact. Ms. Moyers stated the Needs Assessment can be viewed on Augusta Health's website and if anyone had any questions or comments to please let her know.

Agency Updates

Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)

Mr. Campbell gave a report on the SMART SCALE Round 5 applications in the SAWMPO area. He stated that if any jurisdiction wanted to review the scoring results in further detail, to please let him know. Mr. Campbell reported on Transportation Alternatives and Revenue Sharing programs, noting that the SMART Portal will open later this spring to begin application intake.



Mr. Komara reported on the following projects:

- Paving projects on I-81; suggested to visit the [Improve81.org](https://www.improve81.org) website for updates on I-81.
- Barterbrook Bridge replacement project, which is expected to begin this summer.
- I-81 Staunton-area widening design-build project from Exit 221 to Exit 225, noting that bids have been received.
- Weyers Cave climbing lanes, expected to go to advertisement in 2024.
- The Staunton Crossing, completion date scheduled for May 2024.
- Mill Place double turn lane project, expected to go out to bid this summer 2023.
- Widening on Route 262 scheduled for spring of 2023.
- Reported on the status of tree trimming, paving, and snow removal.

Upon a question regarding the status of the Waynesboro Connector Road project, Mr. Stevens stated that the design for the project has been completed and reported on the funding for the project. He stated that the project is scheduled for advertisement for construction at the end of March 2023.

Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT)

Ms. Stankus gave the following update:

- DRPT has completed the update to the 2022 Tier II Group Transit Asset Management (TAM) Plan, which went into effect on October 1, 2022. She stated that MPOs need to adopt Transit Performance Targets into their TIPs by March 30, 2023. A copy of the revised TIP needs to be provided to DRPT before the March 30, 2023 deadline.
- Announced that today is the deadline for FY24 grant applications, noting that the portal will close tonight at midnight. Ms. Stankus noted that if any jurisdiction needed assistance regarding DRPT's Online Grant Administration (OLGA) website, to contact DRPT staff.
- Announced that three discretionary grant opportunities are currently available to eligible applicants through the state: the Areas of Persistent Poverty (AoPP) Program, which provides more resources to underserved and disadvantaged communities seeking to expand or improve transit systems, noting that applications are due March 10, 2023; FY23 FTA Buses and Bus Facilities; and FY23 FTA Low or No Emission Vehicle Program. Ms. Stankus noted that DRPT is hosting a virtual grant writing workshop on February 15, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. to provide an overview of the FTA discretionary application and evaluation process.



Transit

Ms. Thompson gave the following Transit update:

- Reported on the Transit Development Plan (TDP), noting that it was released for public comment on December 19, 2022, and no comments were received. The TDP will be presented to the CSPDC for adoption at their February 6, 2023, CSPDC meeting.
- Noted that the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) FY2024 grant applications are due February 1st. The CSPDC made application for Urban and Rural Operating and Capital (Capital Cost of Contracting). The operating expenses for FY24 included implementation of Saturday paratransit service and decreased hours of service on the BRCC Shuttles (North and South).
- Noted that the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) will be conducting a Triennial Review in 2023. Ms. Thompson noted that the review assesses management practices and program implementation to ensure that FTA programs are being administered in accordance with FTA requirements and are meeting program objectives. She stated that the Recipient Information Request (RIR) is being completed and is due February 3, 2023, and the virtual site visit will take place at the end of July 2023.
- Reported that Kimley-Horn has drafted the Request for Proposals (RFP) for the mobile data collection system (MDCS), and staff anticipates releasing the RFP by early.
- Reported on the Lewis Street Hub, noting that Kimley-Horn was selected and staff are in the process of negotiating a contract.

Ms. Melester gave the following update:

- Announced that the first Afton Express Annual Report was released earlier this month and covers September 2021 through December 2022).
- Reported that the planned expansion of Afton Express services will go into effect February 13th. Ms. Melester stated that the expanded service will provide additional times in the morning and evening to better serve employees whose work schedules are outside the standard 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. times. The schedule was designed specifically for UVA hospital workers who work 12-hour, sometimes overnight shifts.

Locality Updates

There were none.



Other Business

Chairperson Seaton asked if there was any other business. There was no other business at this time.

Upcoming Meetings

Chairman Seaton announced that the next scheduled TAC meeting will be held on February 15, 2023, at 2:00 p.m., and the next Policy Board meeting is scheduled for March 1, 2023, at 10:00 a.m.

Meeting Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Policy Board, Chair Seaton adjourned the meeting at 11:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ann W. Cundy". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Ann W. Cundy
Director of Transportation