

Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Regular Meeting Minutes January 18, 2023, 2:00 p.m.

Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission*
112 MacTanly Place, Staunton, VA 24401

Present (17):

Voting Members				Others	
	City of Staunton		VDOT		Staff (CSPDC)
✓	Rodney Rhodes	✓	Don Komara		Ann Cundy
✓	Jeff Johnston	✓	Adam Campbell (Alt)	✓	Zach Beard
	Tim Hartless (Alt)	✓	Josh Dunlap (Alt)	✓	Devon Thompson
	Lyle Hartt (Alt)		VA DRPT	✓	Paula Melester
	Augusta County	✓*	Grace Stankus	✓	Ansley Heller
✓	Doug Wolfe		Wood Hudson		
	Elizabeth Goodloe	Non-Voting Members			Other attendees
	Jeff VanFossen (Alt)		VRT	✓	Krystal Moyers, Administrative Director of Community Outreach and Partnership Programs for Augusta Health
	City of Waynesboro	✓*	Steve Wilson	✓	Carlos Correa, VDOT Edge Program Participant
✓	Leslie Tate, Chairperson		Phil Thompson (Alt)	✓*	Sam Styers, Member of the public
✓	Alisande Tombarge		Federal Highway Admin.		
	Scott Kesecker (Alt)		Kevin Jones		
	Chad Rambo (Alt)		Federal Transit Admin.		
			Michele DeAngelis		
			VA Dept. of Aviation		
			Rusty Harrington		

*A virtual attendance option by Zoom was offered to non-voting members and other attendees. Those who attended virtually are indicated by an asterisk; all others attended in-person.

**A voting member who participated by Zoom per the SAWMPO Resolution outlining electronic participation for voting members; whose home is greater than 60 miles from the meeting location. Participation location is recorded in the file minutes.

Call to Order

The meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) of the Staunton-Augusta-Waynesboro Metropolitan Planning Organization (SAWMPO) was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by Ms. Leslie Tate, Chairperson.

Public Comment

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

Mr. Campbell introduced a participant in the VDOT Edge Program, Mr. Carlos Correa. Mr. Correa recently graduated from Virginia Tech with a Civil Engineering degree.

Approval of Minutes

Chairperson Tate presented minutes from the September TAC Meeting.

Mr. Johnston moved, seconded by Ms. Tombarge, to approve the minutes of November 16, 2022, as presented. Motion carried unanimously (6-0).

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

Chairperson Tate presented the SAWMPO Asset Condition and System Performance Targets. Mr. Beard reminded the TAC that the SAWMPO is required to set safety performance targets annually as well as asset condition and system performance targets for National Highway Systems every four years. Mr. Beard informed the TAC that the MPO must concur with VDOT'S statewide performance targets by mid-march, and reminded them that there were no penalties for not meeting the statewide targets. Mr. Beard presented the Statewide Asset Conditions Targets for pavement and bridge deck conditions before presenting the Statewide System Performance Targets. Mr. Beard explained that the SAWMPO is not required to report on targets for congestion or air quality, due to the MPO's small size.

Mr. Beard described the SAWMPO's pavement conditions, pointing out that the MPO has met pavement condition targets since setting targets in 2018, but that the state of interstate pavement in good condition has decreased by about 10%. Mr. Beard identified Interstate 64 between exits 96- and 99-and-a-half-mile segment of Northbound 262 as NHS segments of with pavement conditions classified either in poor or very poor condition.

Mr. Beard continued his presentation with Bridge condition targets, noting that the MPO has not met the Percentage of Deck Area of Bridges in Good Condition since target setting began in 2018, and is about 10% lower than statewide targets; however, the percentage has remained consistent since 2018.

Mr. Beard continued his presentation with the Travel Reliability targets. He explained that while the MPO met the targets for Percentage of Person Miles Traveled that are Reliable on the interstate, between 2018 and 2021 they did not meet the targets for Percentage of Person Miles Traveled that are Reliable not on the interstate any year, except 2020.

Mr. Beard explained that the SAWMPO intends to concur with statewide targets and that next steps would include sending letters of concurrence to VDOT.

Presentation: Community Health Needs Assessment Results

Mr. Beard introduced and welcomed Ms. Krystal Moyers, the Administrative Director of Community Outreach and Partnership Programs for Augusta Health, and explained that Augusta Health recently completed its tri-annual Community Health Needs Assessment, which helps identify the biggest health needs in the community and strategies ways to address those needs.

Ms. Moyers explained the Community Health Needs Assessment is a requirement from the IRS, and covers the Staunton, Augusta, and Waynesboro areas. Ms. Moyers said that the needs assessment is a coalition of several data sets, primarily from a local health survey looking at individual health needs. Results from the surveys and community partners highlighted mental health, access to health care services, nutrition, physical activity & weight, diabetes, and substance abuse as the top five areas with greatest need. From these categories, Augusta Health prioritized “Mental Health & Substance Use,” “Access to Health Care Services,” and “Nutrition & Physical Activity” as areas for improvement over the next three years.

Ms. Moyers’ key takeaways for “Mental Health” were women, younger adults, and communities of color appear to have greater mental health risks; mental health access is problematic for many people; trends for depression and stress are worsening; and most regional indicators are less favorable than nationwide figures.

Key takeaways for “Substance Abuse” were as unintentional drug-related deaths are increasing sharply, the percentage of adults with high-risk alcohol use has doubled in six years; substance abuse impacts the lives of nearly 40% of residents; and the acknowledged use of illicit drugs has increased with the populations at greatest risk being young adults, low-income residents, and people of color.

Key takeaways for “Access to Health Care Services” were that women, young adults, and lower-income residents faced the greatest difficulty accessing health care; routine physician visits have decreased while emergency department visits has increased; and appointment availability is the most impactful barrier to accessing care when needed, followed by availability of physicians, and office hours.

Key takeaways for “Nutrition & Physical Activity” were that only 14% of adults get enough physical activity; fruit and vegetable consumption has declined; and overweight prevalence in adults has increased 10 percentage points in six years, significantly surpassing the state and nation figures.

Ms. Moyers then discussed Augusta Health’s plans for building implementation strategies. Ms. Moyers explained the creation of internal workgroups around each of the three priority areas, and informed the TAC that the Implementation Strategy will be presented to Augusta Health’s Board in April. Ms. Moyers then opened the meeting to questions and discussion ensued.

Agency Updates

VDOT

Mr. Adam Campbell provided an update on the following:

- SMART SCALE Round 5 scoring results and staff recommended funding results have been presented. The Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) will discuss this draft scenario with applicant communities and then will develop the draft Six Year Improvement Plan (SYIP) to be presented in the spring for a June adoption.
- In the Draft Scenario the VDOT Staunton district had 15/40 applications recommended for funding.
 - 9 - Edinburg Residency, 5 - Harrisonburg Residency, 1 - Lexington Residency
 - Of the five in the SAWMPO region, only one is recommended for funding: Waynesboro's roundabout at Broad St., Main St., and Rosser Ave.
 - The total SMART SCALE Request for all 15 applications is \$96 million.
 - \$43 million in statewide high priority
 - \$31.2 million- For a diverging diamond interchange at I-81 Exit 317
- Mr. Campbell reminded the TAC that Revenue Sharing applications will open in March.

Mr. Don Komara gave the following update:

- Todd Stevens is the new district administrator.
- Barterbrook Rd. bridge replacement project is expected to start in June, simultaneously with the widening project and the bridge will be closed between 12 - 18 months.
- I-81 Staunton-area widening from Exit 221 to Exit 225 – three companies have been short-listed and their technical report presentations are coming up in February or March.
- Weyers Cave climbing lanes projects advertising 2024 start date.
- Harrisonburg area widening is advertised as a 2025-2026 start date.
- Staunton Crossing project has starting with a May 2024 completion date.
- Advertising Mill Place in May.
- 262 widening from 613 to 252 working on plans to advertise spring 2023
- The maintenance schedule is ongoing; wrapping up paving schedules, mowing is ongoing, advertising and hiring snow removal contractors.

DRPT

Ms. Grace Stankus reminded the TAC that February 1st is the deadline for FY-2024 grant applications and DRPT staff is available for any questions.

Transit

Ms. Devon Thompson gave the following update:

- The CSPDC Board of Commissioners released the Transit Development Plan (TDP) for public comment at their Monday, December 19 Executive Committee meeting. The Plan will be posted through Monday, January 30 (online and at local government buildings). Public comments will be

received during this period and will be included in the Final Plan. The TDP can then be approved by the CSPDC Board of Commissioners at their February meeting.

- The Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) FY2024 grant applications are due on Wednesday, February 1. The CSPDC will make application for Urban and Rural Operating and Capital (Capital Cost of Contracting). The operating expenses for FY24 include implementation of Saturday paratransit service and decreased hours of service on the BRCC Shuttles (North and South).
- The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) will be conducting a Triennial Review of CSPDC in 2023. 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. 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.
- Kimley-Horn has drafted the Request for Proposals (RFP) for the mobile data collection system (MDCS), and staff anticipates releasing the RFP by the end of January. Once we receive proposals, we hope to select a vendor by Spring 2023.
- The RFP for design, engineering, and construction administration for the Lewis Street Hub rehabilitation closed at the end of October, and two proposals were received. The proposal review committee reviewed and scored proposals in November, and are working toward awarding the contract in the coming weeks.

Ms. Paula Melester gave the following Afton Express update:

- Ms. Melester informed TAC members that they have received the Afton Express Annual Report via email.
- Ridership continues to grow in 2022 with 777 passenger trips in December as compared to 417 trips in December 2021.
- A new extended bus schedule is expected to be released in February.

Locality Updates

Localities provided the following updates:

Staunton

Mr. Jeff Johnston stated that the City is continuing to be prepared for winter weather, and that Staunton officials will be meeting soon to finalize dates for the summer road closure of Beverly Street. Staunton expects the closure to take place April to October Friday afternoon to Monday morning. Specific dates will be shared.

Augusta County

Mr. Doug Wolfe noted that Augusta County is expecting to go to advertisement for the Verona Pedestrian Project “any day.”

Waynesboro

Chairperson Tate informed the TAC that documents have been executed for the E. Main Streetscape and E. Main Delphine Roundabout, and VDOT has requested the PE phase be opened.

Other Business

Chairperson Tate called for any other business; there was none.

Upcoming Meetings

Chairperson Tate stated that the Policy Board is scheduled to meet on February 1st and the TAC on February 15th on Zoom.

Meeting Adjourned

Chairperson Tate asked if there was any additional business to come before the TAC. There being none, the meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Zach Beard
Senior Planner