



## **Technical Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda January 18, 2023, at 2:00 P.M.**

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

OR

Zoom Video Conference

Web Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83788682283?pwd=eHlldFBSWFg0Z0t0ZUtrRS9vUWovZz09>

Dial In (Audio Only): 1-301-715-8592 • Meeting ID: 837 8868 2283 • Passcode: 125975

1. Call to Order
2. Public Comment
3. Approval of Minutes of the November 16, 2022 SAWMPO TAC Meeting\*
4. SAWMPO Asset Condition and System Performance Targets
5. Presentation: Community Health Needs Assessment Results – Krystal Moyers, Administrative Director of Community Outreach and Programs for Augusta Health
6. Agency Updates
  - a. VDOT
  - b. DRPT
  - c. BRITE
  - d. Localities
7. Other Business
8. Upcoming Meetings
  - February 1, 2023 – SAWMPO Policy Board, 10:00 a.m., CSPDC office
  - February 15, 2023 – SAWMPO TAC, 2:00 p.m., CSPDC office
9. Adjournment

\*Action Required



## Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Regular Meeting Minutes November 16, 2022, 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)		<b>VA DRPT</b>	✓	Paula Melester
	<b>Augusta County</b>	✓*	Grace Stankus	✓	Kimberly Miller
✓	Doug Wolfe		Wood Hudson	✓	Joshua Smoot
✓	Elizabeth Goodloe	<b>Non-Voting Members</b>			
	Jeff VanFossen (Alt)		<b>VRT</b>		
	<b>City of Waynesboro</b>		Steve Wilson		
✓	Leslie Tate, Chairperson		Phil Thompson (Alt)		
✓	Alisande Tombarge		<b>Federal Highway Admin.</b>		
✓	Scott Kesecker (Alt)		Kevin Jones		
✓*	Chad Rambo (Alt)		<b>Federal Transit Admin.</b>		
			Michele DeAngelis		
			<b>VA Dept. of Aviation</b>		
			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 Stanton-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. Beard introduced a new regional planner with the CSPDC, Mr. Joshua Smoot, who recently graduated from JMU with a Masters degree in Public Administration.

## **Approval of Minutes**

Chairperson Tate presented minutes from the September TAC Meeting.

***Ms. Tombarge moved, seconded by Mr. Dunlap, to approve the minutes of September 21, 2022, as presented. Motion carried unanimously (7-0).***

## **SAWMPO Bylaws Amendment Regarding Officer Elections and Terms (TAC Memo #22-07)**

Chairperson Tate presented the Bylaws Amendment (moved up on the agenda). Mr. Beard stated that the Board has been discussing the election of officers and the need to amend the Bylaws to better align with locality elections held in November. The Board desires to hold officer elections after the government elections held every other year in November and subsequent committee appointments that follow. The term of office will also be amended to be for two years rather than three years. Based on this amendment, the next election cycle will be prior to June of 2024.

Mr. Beard stated that the Bylaws amendment was reviewed at the last Board meeting and may be voted on after a minimum of 21 days. The Board is expected to approve the amendment at their December meeting.

## **Election of TAC Officers (TAC Action Form #22-03)**

Chairperson Tate presented the election of officers. Mr. Beard stated that Ms. Tate has held the Chair position since December 2021 when she replaced Mr. Todd Wood who moved to the Policy Board. He added that the Vice Chair position has been vacant since Mr. Luke Juday left in the summer.

Mr. Beard stated that the last elections were held in August of 2019, and the current election cycle is every three years, but with the Bylaws Amendment the terms will be for two years going forward. Although both positions are open for nominations, they may not be filled by persons from the same locality.

Chairperson Tate opened the floor for nominations for Chair. Mr. Rhodes nominated Ms. Tate; there were no other nominations. Ms. Tate accepted the nomination.

***The nomination of Ms. Tate for Chairperson carried (6-0; Ms. Tate abstained).***

Ms. Tate opened the floor for nominations for Vice Chair. Mr. Rhodes nominated Mr. Johnson. Mr. Johnson accepted the nomination.

*The nomination of Mr. Johnson for Vice-Chairperson carried (7-0).*

### **Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Administrative Modification (TAC Memo #22-08)**

Chairperson Tate presented the UPWP Modification. Mr. Beard stated that the UPWP is the document that outlines the MPO's annual tasks and budget. This document requires adjustments after the close of the prior fiscal year for the Federal Transit Administration grant funding (FTA 5303). Because there is a carryover option for unused funds, when the UPWP is developed in the spring, the carryover amount is projected and then adjusted with the actual amount once the fiscal year closes.

Mr. Beard stated that the FY23 UPWP administrative modification adjusted the final carryover amount to \$48,617, which replaces the carryover estimate of \$50,000, which resulted in a small overall transit budget decrease of \$1,384. To account for this difference, funding under the 2.02 Short Range Transportation Planning Transit line-item funding was reduced from \$26,924 to \$25,541.

The TAC does not need to take action. Staff submitted the modified TIP to DRPT on October 31, 2022, and posted the updated document on the MPO website TIP page.

### **FY21-24 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment (TAC Memo #22-09)**

Chairperson Tate presented the TIP Amendment. Mr. Beard stated that the MPO's TIP documents projects that are receiving federal funding or deemed regionally significant, and are going to be in some form of development of construction over the next four years. Every MPO's TIP rolls up into the Statewide TIP (STIP). At this time, VDOT is updating all of the TIPs and STIP for FY24-27. Central Office sent out projects in the MPO, and asked the MPO and VDOT to review projects to be included in the new TIP and STIP.

Reviewing the TIP was an opportunity for the MPO to recommend whether any regionally significant projects of a large scale be ungrouped and stand alone to highlight particular projects specifically that are large scale or important (e.g. interstate widening).

Mr. Beard stated that four projects were identified to be ungrouped for the FY24-27 TIP: Staunton Crossing, I-81 Widening between MM221-225, I-81 Truck Climbing Lane at Weyers Cave Northbound, and the I-81 Truck Climbing Lane at Weyers Cave Southbound. The TIP information for each project was included as a link in the mailout memo and the draft document is posted online.

The Board approved releasing the document for a 21-day public comment period at their November meeting. The Board will vote on the amendment at their December meeting.

### **SAWMPO 2023 Safety Performance Targets (TAC Memo #22-10)**

Chairperson Tate presented the 2023 Safety Targets. Mr. Beard stated that in 2016 the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) established national performance measures for safety performance for the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) to assess fatalities and serious injuries on public roads. The FHWA requires that state DOTs and MPOs set statewide annual safety percentage targets for reducing the number

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and rate of fatalities and serious injuries. The SAWMPO must either concur with VDOT's safety targets, or set MPO-specific targets by February 28, 2023. There is no penalty for not meeting the targets.

In June 2022, the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) approved OIPI's proposed methodology and statewide targets for calendar year 2023. OIPI's methodology establishes targets for the five-year trends of the annual number of fatalities, serious injuries, and non-motorized fatalities and serious injuries. In 2023, OIPI projects 1,012 fatalities, 7,465 serious injuries, and 662 non-motorized fatalities and serious injuries statewide. While the CTB approved OIPI's 2023 statewide targets, the Board found the anticipated safety outcomes unacceptable. As a result, the CTB established "Aspirational Safety Performance Goals" to be consistent with the 2022-2026 Strategic Highway Safety Plan, which has a goal to reduce fatalities and serious injuries by 2% annually. Mr. Beard showed a table comparing the approved safety targets with the aspirational goals.

The CTB directed OIPI, VDOT and DMV to work collaboratively to identify strategies that will reduce fatal and serious injury crashes, evaluate how strategies will help achieve aspirational safety performance goals, and present their findings and recommended new strategies to shift the current upward trend and reduce fatal and injury crashes.

Mr. Beard discussed some of the strategies proposed and stated that Virginia's HSIP will continue to accelerate actual physical improvements and the DMV is moving forward with the four emphasis areas and develop marketing materials in early 2023.

The SAWMPO began setting safety targets in 2018 and until 2020, the MPO's actual numbers were below set targets. However, actual numbers have been increasing in the region since 2021. The MPO has recorded eight fatalities in 2021 which matched the 2021 target. The fatality number for 2022 through the end of August has already exceeded the 2022 target. The group discussed that there have been three additional fatalities after August. Motorized and non-motorized non-fatal crashes continue to be below the targets.

Mr. Beard stated that staff will be reviewing the SAWMPO Safety Plan completed by VDOT and summarize the most relevant safety data for the SAWMPO and compare it with the safety targets. Staff will provide a summary of both the Safety Plan and the statewide and MPO safety targets to the Policy Board at their December meeting. SAWMPO staff will review this data and decide to either concur with VDOT's safety statewide targets or set MPO-specific targets by the deadline.

## **Agency Updates**

### VDOT

Mr. Campbell provided an update on the following:

- The SMART SCALE district validation process and cost estimates are underway, with release of scores and recommended funding scenario expected to be provided in January 2023.

Mr. Dunlap gave the following update:

- [Improve81.org](https://www.improve81.org) website contains updates on the I-81 projects.
- I-81 Staunton-area widening from Exit 221 to Exit 225 – three companies have been short-listed and their technical proposals are due in January and pricing in February.

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- Barterbrook Bridge replacement project is expected to start simultaneously with the widening project and the bridge will be closed for about a year.
  - The maintenance schedule is ongoing; wrapping up paving schedules, mowing is ongoing, advertising and hiring snow removal contractors.

#### DRPT

- DRPT has selected Mr. Zach Trogden as the new Chief of Public Transportation, and he joined DRPT on October 25. Mr. Trogden was previously Executive Director of the Williamsburg Transit Authority. Grant Sparks has resumed his role as Director of Transit Planning now that the new Chief is onboard.
- The Virginia Conservation Network, the Electrification Coalition, and DRPT are hosting a webinar tomorrow, November 17<sup>th</sup>, from 1:30-2:30. The webinar will feature a panel of three transit professionals who share their experiences of transitioning their fleet to electric vehicles. Mr. Beard and Ms. Stankus have a registration link to that webinar.
- DRPT is working on the 2022 Coordinated Human Services Mobility (CHSM) plan update and is requesting input by survey to develop needs and recommendations on transportation preferences and uses. The survey is available at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CHSM2022-R>.
- The CTB approved Transit Service Delivery Advisory Committee's recommendations for the merit capital grant program, transit strategic plan guidelines and policy changes at their October meeting. The changes will take effect during the FY2024 grant cycle. Please contact Ms. Stankus for more information, if needed.

#### Transit

Ms. Thompson gave the following update:

- The Transit Development Plan (TDP) draft plan is complete and will be reviewed by the BTAC at their upcoming meeting. Proposed projects to be implemented over the next 10 years include the microtransit pilot project, additional routes, hours and days of service, and route adjustments. Once reviewed by the BTAC, the plan will be presented to the CSPDC Board of Commissioners to be released for public comment prior to Board approval.
- CSPDC staff continues to receive technical assistance from consultant Kimley-Horn to implement a mobile data collection system for BRITE. Following vendor demos, the technical specifications for the RFP were finalized. The draft RFP has been developed and will be reviewed by staff this week. The RFP for the equipment should be released at the end of the month.
- The RFP for engineering and design, construction, and construction management of the Stanton Lewis Street Hub Rehabilitation project was released, and proposals were received at the end of October. The evaluation committee will be meeting in the coming weeks to review the proposals.
- BRITE offered free rides for all passengers on Election Day, Tuesday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, as they have in years past. BRITE routes serve many polling locations in Stanton, Waynesboro and Augusta County.

Ms. Melester gave the following Afton Express update:

- Ridership continues to grow with regular daily passenger trips in the 60s.
- Expansion of the service by the addition of a 3<sup>rd</sup> bus is in the process of being tested and is expected to be launched by February 1<sup>st</sup>. The proposed schedule changes will be released for public review and comment for 30 days in December or January.

### Locality Updates

Chairperson Tate asked if any localities had updates to share.

Mr. Rhodes stated that the City has been working with Timmons Group to design bicycle infrastructure along Churchville Avenue. Proposed changes were presented to City Council and at a public meeting and is being adjusted based on feedback. Work will begin soon.

Mr. Wolfe stated that the referendum for the Augusta County Courthouse being moved to Verona passed at the election and consideration may be needed for a BRITE bus route/stop adjustment.

Mr. Johnson stated that the move of the Augusta County Courthouse will bring some adjustments for Stanton due to Stanton's Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court being housed in the same current building. They will need to relocate when the building is demolished.

Mr. Rhodes stated that there is a multi-family development on Middlebrook Avenue that will require BRITE services. There will be approximately 120 units completed within 18 months.

Ms. Tate stated that Waynesboro submitted two HSIP applications for high-visibility backplates, flashing yellow arrows, and pedestrian intersection projects. Greenway Phase III is moving forward with McCormick Taylor.

Mr. Campbell added that it was shared at the Policy Board meeting that the Federal Lands Access Program approved funding for the western trail at the Crozet Tunnel. Ms. Cundy stated that the grant is for PE and right-of-way and has no match requirement.

### **Other Business**

Mr. Beard stated that the next SAWMPO Small Area Study is the PSI intersection study, which will make safety improvement recommendations for six intersections (two per locality). The first meeting is being scheduled for mid-December.

Mr. Beard added that the 2023 SAWMPO meeting schedule has been completed and will be presented to the Policy Board in December for approval, then advertised per the MPO Public Participation Plan in local newspapers and on the MPO website.

### **Upcoming Meetings**

Chairperson Tate stated that the Policy Board is scheduled to meet on December 7<sup>th</sup> and the TAC on December 21<sup>st</sup> at the CSPDC.



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## Meeting Adjourned

Chairperson Tate asked if there was any additional business to come before the TAC. There being none, the meeting was adjourned at 2:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Zach Beard".

Zach Beard  
Senior Transportation Planner





**TO:** Staunton-Augusta-Waynesboro MPO TAC  
**FROM:** Zach Beard, Senior Planner  
**MEETING DATE:** January 18, 2023  
**RE:** **TAC Memo #23-01: SAWMPO Asset Condition and System Performance Targets**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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). The State and SAWMPO must report targets to FHWA for a four-year performance period, with progress reports every two years.

The SAWMPO must concur with VDOT’s statewide performance targets or set MPO-specific targets by March 20, 2023. By concurring with the statewide targets, the SAWMPO would agree to plan and program projects to contribute toward achieving the State targets. There is no penalty for not meeting the targets.

SAWMPO asset conditions and system performance measures between 2018 and 2021 reflect statewide trends. However, the MPO ranked first in the state with the most number of years for not meeting the system performance target measuring reliability on the non-interstate NHS.

**STATEWIDE TARGETS**

The State and SAWMPO first established asset condition and system performance targets in 2018 to meet FHWA requirements for target setting over a four-year performance period. In September 2022, the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) approved the State’s second set of statewide targets for January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2025 (see **Tables 1 and 2**), along with two-year targets to assess progress. The SAWMPO does not report on air quality measures related to the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ), and reports on nine measures.

**Table 1. Asset Condition (Pavement and Bridges) Statewide Targets**

<b>Asset Condition Measures</b>	<b>Scope</b>	<b>2-Year Target (2023)</b>	<b>4-Year Target (2025)</b>
Percentage of Pavement in Good Condition	Interstate	<b>45%</b>	<b>45%</b>
Percentage of Pavement in Poor Condition	Interstate	<b>3%</b>	<b>3%</b>
Percentage of Pavement in Good Condition	NHS (non-Interstate)	<b>25%</b>	<b>25%</b>
Percentage of Pavement in Poor Condition	NHS (non-Interstate)	<b>5%</b>	<b>5%</b>
Percentage of Deck Area of Bridges in Good Condition	NHS	<b>27.2%</b>	<b>25.1%</b>
Percentage of Deck Area of Bridges in Poor Condition	NHS	<b>3.3%</b>	<b>3.6%</b>

**Table 2. System Performance (Travel Time, Congestion, and Air Quality) Statewide Targets**

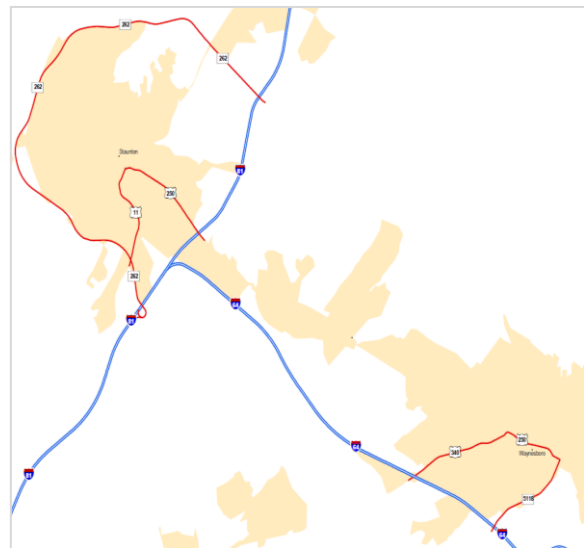
System Performance Measures	Scope	2-Year Target (2023)	4-Year Target (2025)
Percentage of Person-Miles Traveled that are Reliable	Interstate	85%	85%
Percentage of Person-Miles Traveled that are Reliable	NHS (non-Interstate)	88%	88%
Truck Travel Times Reliability Index	Interstate	1.64	1.64
*Annual Hours Peak Hour Excessive Delay Per Capita	NHS	22.5 hours	22.7 hours
*Percentage of Non-SOV Travel	NHS	37.4%	37.7%
*Emission Reductions for Volatile Organic Compounds	CMAQ Projects	0.323 kg day	3.013 kg day
*Total Emission Reductions for Nitrogen Oxides (NOx)	CMAQ Projects	0.612 kg day	4.911 kg day

\*The SAWMPO does not report on these targets.

### MPO DATA

The SAWMPO NHS includes I-81 and I-64; Route 262 (Woodrow Wilson Parkway), US 250 (Richmond Road), and US 11 in Staunton; and US 340 (Rosser Avenue), US 250 (West Main Street), and Route 624 (Delphine Avenue) in Waynesboro (see **Figure 1**).

**Figure 1. NHS network in the SAWMPO region (interstates – blue; non-interstate NHS roads – red)**



### Asset Conditions (Pavement and Bridge)

The SAWMPO has met each statewide target for pavement conditions since setting targets in 2018. However, during the four-year period, interstate pavement in good condition decreased from 83.1 percent in 2018, to 73.0 percent in 2021 (see **Table 3**). Several interstate pavement segments are classified either poor or very poor between I-64 Exits 96 and 99. An approximately half mile segment on northbound U.S. 262 (Woodrow Wilson Parkway) is the only non-interstate NHS road classified as being in poor or very poor condition.

**Table 3. Pavement target and conditions, 2018 - 2021**

	2021 Target	2018	2019	2020	2021
Percent Pavement in Good Condition (Interstate)	45.0	83.1	83.4	78.6	73.0
Percentage of Pavement in Poor Condition (Interstate)	3.0	0	0	0	0
Percent Pavement in Good Condition (Non-Interstate NHS)	25.0	43.7	44.1	42.7	NA
Percentage of Pavement in Poor Condition (Non-Interstate NHS)	5.0	0	0.2	0.2	0.2

The SAWMPO region has not met statewide targets for percent of deck area of bridges in good condition since target setting began in 2018 (see **Table 4**). While the percent of bridges in good

condition has remained consistent over the four-year period, the MPO is nearly 10 percent below the statewide target. These numbers reflect statewide trends in bridge conditions, with 11 of the 15 MPOs in the state also not meeting these targets for most years. The SAWMPO, along with nine of 15 other MPOs, met the bridges in poor condition measure.

**Table 4. Bridge conditions, 2018 - 2021**

	2021 Target	2018	2019	2020	2021
Percent of Deck Area of Bridges in Good Condition (National Bridge Infrastructure on NHS)	30.5	20.5	18.9	20.4	20.3
Percent of Deck Area of Bridges in Poor Condition (National Bridge Infrastructure on NHS)	3.0	0	0	0	0

Target not met

### System Performance (Travel Reliability)

The SAWMPO has met all statewide requirements every year for travel reliability-related measures, except for the percentage of person miles traveled that are reliable on the non-interstate NHS (see **Table 5**). Despite reliability percentage increasing over the four-year period, and nearly meeting the target in 2021, the SAWMPO had the most years of not meeting the non-interstate reliability target in the entire state, and was one of only two MPOs to not meet the 2021 target.

**Table 5. Travel reliability, 2018 - 2021**

	2021 Target	2018	2019	2020	2021
Percentage of Person Miles Traveled that are Reliable (Interstate)	82	100	100	100	100
Percentage of Person Miles Traveled that are Reliable (Non-Interstate NHS)	82.5	75.3	79.3	85.2	81.0
Truck Travel Time Reliability Index (Interstate)	1.56	1.13	1.15	1.10	1.16

Target not met

### NEXT STEPS

MPO staff will continue to monitor the bridge condition and travel reliability measures not meeting statewide targets. Staff will summarize the statewide targets at the February Policy Board meeting, and recommend concurring with statewide targets and submitting the concurrence letter to OIPI.

### ATTACHMENTS

- [DRAFT OIPI Asset Condition and System Performance Letter](#)
- [CTB Asset Condition and System Performance Targets Resolution, September 2022](#)



## **Technical Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda March 15, 2023, at 2:00 P.M.**

Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission  
112 MacTanly Place, Stanton, VA 24401

OR

Zoom Video Conference

Web Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83788682283?pwd=eHlldFBSWFg0Z0t0ZUtrRS9vUWovZz09>

Dial In (Audio Only): 1-301-715-8592 • Meeting ID: 837 8868 2283 • Passcode: 125975

1. Call to Order
2. Public Comment
3. Approval of Minutes of the January 18, 2023 SAWMPO TAC Meeting\*
4. Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Update (TAC Memo #23-02)
5. FY 2024 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Overview (TAC Memo #23-03)
6. Presentation: SAWMPO Regional Safety Study Summary – Zach Beard, SAWMPO
7. Agency Updates
  - a. VDOT
  - b. DRPT
  - c. BRITE & Afton Express
  - d. Localities
8. Other Business
9. Upcoming Meetings
  - April 5, 2023 – SAWMPO Policy Board, 10:00 a.m., CSPDC office
  - April 19, 2023 – SAWMPO TAC, 2:00 p.m., CSPDC office
10. Adjournment

\*Action Required



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

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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 1<sup>st</sup> 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



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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:

#### ***Stanton***

Mr. Jeff Johnston stated that the City is continuing to be prepared for winter weather, and that Stanton officials will be meeting soon to finalize dates for the summer road closure of Beverly Street. Stanton 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.”



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*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 1<sup>st</sup> and the TAC on February 15<sup>th</sup> 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Zach Beard".

Zach Beard  
Senior Planner



**TO:** Staunton-Augusta-Waynesboro MPO Policy Board  
**FROM:** Zach Beard, Senior Transportation Planner  
**MEETING DATE:** March 15, 2023  
**RE:** **TAC Memo #23-02: SAWMPO Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Updates**

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is the region’s federally-required fiscally-constrained four-year programming document for all transportation and transit projects receiving federal transportation funds, requiring federal action, or deemed “regionally significant.”

Staff administratively modified the FY 2021-2024 TIP to include BRITE Transit Asset Management (TAM) Plan performance targets, and is developing the draft FY 2024 – 2027 TIP document, which is scheduled for Policy Board approval in June 2023.

## AMINISTRATIVE MODIFICATION

DRPT released the [Federal Fiscal Year 2022 - 2025 Tier II TAM Plan](#) on October 1, 2022 for rural and small urban transit agencies. The TAM Plan establishes capital asset condition targets to prioritize transit funding from Federal FY 2022 to FY 2025.

Staff reviewed the TAM Plan targets for BRITE and administratively modified the FY 2021 - 2024 SAWMPO TIP to include the updated targets. Tables 12, 13, and 14 on page 19 of the FY 2022 - 2025 TAM document highlight the performance target changes for BRITE Revenue Vehicle Performance, Service Vehicle and Equipment, and Facilities.

The TIP modification is under “Appendix E: Performance Based Planning and Programming for Transit Asset Management” on pages [44 and 45 of the TIP document](#). Staff submitted the modification to DRPT on February 10, 2023.

## FY24 – 27 TIP DEVELOPMENT

VDOT, DRPT and SAWMPO staff are developing the FY 2024 - 2027 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) and the FY 2024 - 2027 SAWMPO Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). MPO staff is reviewing individual projects, project groupings, and fiscal constraint data, and will present a draft document to the TAC and Policy Board in April 2023. The document is scheduled to be released for public comment in April, and approved in May 2023.

## ATTACHMENT

- [FY 2021-2024 TIP Document, Administratively Modified February 8, 2023](#)



**TO:** Staunton-Augusta-Waynesboro MPO Policy Board  
**FROM:** Zach Beard, Senior Planner  
**MEETING DATE:** March 15, 2023  
**RE:** **Board Memo #23-03: FY 2024 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Overview**

**BACKGROUND**

The UPWP is the MPO’s annual work plan and budget. The document details the upcoming fiscal year administrative and planning activities, and the federal, state and local budget funding. VDOT and DRPT provide the MPO with annual planning funding every spring. The budgets for the current and upcoming fiscal years are below:

Revenues	FY 2023	FY 2024
FHWA PL	\$172,753	\$182,112
FHWA PL Carryover	\$100,552	\$118,197
FTA 5303	\$102,363	\$103,287
FTA 5303 Carryover	\$48,617	\$50,000*
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$424,285</b>	<b>\$452,672</b>

\*Estimate

FY23 work is focusing on the Regional Highway Safety Study and Potential for Safety Improvement (PSI) Intersection Study. In FY24, the MPO’s programmatic focus could include completing the PSI Study, beginning a new small area study, beginning the 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) update, or other activities requested by local and state partners. The TAC can make recommendations to MPO staff on the activities and funding for different tasks in the UPWP during the annual update process.

**BIL Impacts**

The 2021 Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) requires MPOs use at least 2.5% of the PL funding for “Complete Streets” multi-modal travel planning that has no match requirement.

**NEXT STEPS**

- March 15 – TAC recommends release of the Draft FY 2024 UPWP to public comment
- May 3 – Policy Board releases the Draft FY 2024 UPWP to public comment
- June 7 – Policy Board approves the FY 2024 UPWP

**ATTACHMENT**

- [FY23 Unified Planning Work Program](#)



## **Technical Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda April 19, 2023, at 2:00 P.M.**

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

OR

Zoom Video Conference

Web Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83788682283?pwd=eHlldFBSWFg0Z0t0ZUtrRS9vUWovZz09>

Dial In (Audio Only): 1-301-715-8592 • Meeting ID: 837 8868 2283 • Passcode: 125975

1. Call to Order
  2. Public Comment
  3. Approval of Minutes of the March 15, 2023 SAWMPO TAC Meeting\*
  4. FY21 – 24 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment (TAC AF #23-01)\*
  5. Draft FY24 – 27 TIP Release for Public Comment (TAC AF #23-02)\*
  6. Draft FY24 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Release for Public Comment (TAC AF #23-03)\*
  7. Potential for Safety Improvement (PSI) Study Update (TAC Memo #23-04)
  8. Agency Updates
    - a. VDOT
    - b. DRPT
    - c. BRITE & Afton Express
    - d. Localities
  9. Other Business
  10. Upcoming Meetings
    - May 3, 2023 – SAWMPO Policy Board, 10:00 a.m., CSPDC office
    - May 17, 2023 – SAWMPO TAC, 2:00 p.m., CSPDC office
  11. Adjournment
- \*Action Required

## Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Regular Meeting Minutes March 15, 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)	<b>VA DRPT</b>		✓	Paula Melester
<b>Augusta County</b>			Grace Stankus	✓	Ansley Heller
✓	Doug Wolfe		Wood Hudson		
✓	Alidia Vane	<b>Non-Voting Members</b>			
	Elizabeth Goodloe (Alt)			<b>Other attendees</b>	
	Vacant (Alt)	<b>VRT</b>		✓*	Sam Styers, Member of the public
<b>City of Waynesboro</b>			Steve Wilson		
✓	Leslie Tate, Chairperson		Phil Thompson (Alt)		
✓	Alisande Tombarge	<b>Federal Highway Admin.</b>			
	Scott Kesecker (Alt)		Kevin Jones		
✓*	Chad Rambo (Alt)	<b>Federal Transit Admin.</b>			
			Michele DeAngelis		
		<b>VA Dept. of Aviation</b>			
			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. Beard introduced Ms. Alidia Vane, a new voting member of the TAC for Augusta County.

## **Approval of Minutes**

Chairperson Tate presented minutes from the January TAC Meeting.

***Mr. Rhodes moved, seconded by Mr. Wolfe, to approve the minutes of January 18, 2023, as presented. Motion carried unanimously (6-0).***

## **Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Update (TAC Memo #23-02)**

Mr. Beard gave an update on the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), reminding the TAC that the TIP is a federally required document that documents all transportation and transit projects receiving federal transportation funds, requiring federal action, or are deemed “regionally significant.” Mr. Beard informed the TAC that SAWMPO staff administratively modified the FY 21-24 TIP to include BRITE Transit Asset Management (TAM) Plan Performance Target Updates.

Mr. Beard informed the TAC that the TAM Updates were submitted to DRPT on February 8<sup>th</sup> and explained that targets include revenue vehicle performance, and service vehicle equipment and facilities. Continuing his update, Mr. Beard explained to the TAC that SAWMPO, VDOT, and DRPT were developing the FY 24-27 TIP and that the draft document would be presented to the TAC in April, and approved in June.

## **FY 2024 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Overview (TAC Memo #23-03)**

Chairperson Tate introduced the agenda item and Mr. Beard explained that the UPWP is the document that tracks the SAWMPO’s work tasks and the budget for the fiscal year. He explained that annual funding was provided every Spring by VDOT and DRPT, and that in the upcoming fiscal year, 2024, SAWMPO will be receiving around \$30,000 more than in FY23. Mr. Beard continued by outlining the projects for the next fiscal year. With the FY24 budget allocations, the SAWMPO will complete the ongoing PSI study, and begin a new small area study, and begin the 2050 LRTP update. Mr. Beard highlighted that the MPO would be asking for input from the TAC on the new small area study, and that the MPO would remain available to undertake any other items that the localities would like. Mr. Beard reminded the TAC that they have the authority to make recommendations to MPO staff about activities and allocations of funds as the MPO continues to update the UPWP.

SAWMPO staff plan to have a draft UPWP ready in April to be released for public comment in May, and adopted in June. Mr. Beard opened the meeting up for questions and Mr. Rhodes asked about the selection of small area plan studies. It was reiterated that small area plan studies were rotated among the SAWMPO

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jurisdictions ever year. The TAC generally agreed that Waynesboro should have priority with determining an FY24 study based on the FY23 study based on Afton Mountain improvements being tabled for a later date.

### **Presentation: SAWMPO Regional Safety Study Summary – Zach Beard, SAWMPO**

Mr. Beard provided a summary of the SAWMPO Regional Safety Study, submitted February 2023 by VHB, as well as a brief update on safety targets submitted by the MPO in December.

#### *Safety Targets Update*

Beginning with an update on safety targets, Mr. Beard reminded the TAC that safety targets are set annually, and that the last review was in December. The SAWMPO has met safety targets every year since targets were first set in 2017. Mr. Beard highlighted the increased trends of fatal and severe trends in 2021 and 2022, for both vehicles and pedestrians. Mr. Beard presented a map of the region highlighting where fatal and severe crashes occurred. Of the 18 fatalities, about half were located on Interstate 81 or Interstate 64. Beard then shifted focus on the SAWMPO Regional Safety Study Summary.

Mr. Beard stated that the focus of the study was to document the where and why of fatal and severe injury crashes in the SAWMPO region. Mr. Beard explained that the SAWMPO Regional Safety Study was intended to inform the location of future projects, and reminded the TAC that the study is using 2017-2021 data because 2022 data was not yet available at the time of study. Mr. Beard pointed out that the study has four total sections, but that his presentation would primarily focus on the section documenting “Crash Characteristics.”

#### *MPO Comparison*

Comparing the SAWMPO to other MPOs in the state, Mr. Beard pointed out that the SAWMPO’s crash rate was the third lowest in the state, at about 145 crashes per million vehicles. SAWMPO remained one of the MPO’s among one of the lowest in the state for fatal crash rates specifically.

#### *Crash Characteristics*

Mr. Beard continued his presentation by delving into the matrix of crash data, explaining what crash characteristics were used and how they function together to show the characteristics of crashes. From the matrix Mr. Beard pointed out that a majority of severe and fatal crashes in the MPO occur at intersections, and likely involve speeding or impaired driving.

Mr. Beard also pointed out that most pedestrian crashes and 100% of the bicycle crashes occurred at intersections, with most involving impaired driving. Mr. Beard continued highlighted crash characteristics by noting that motorcycle crashes are more likely to involve speeding, and that while older drivers are more likely to be involved in a crash, but younger drivers are more likely to be involved in speeding, impaired driving, and occupancy protection cases. Looking at when crashes typically occur, Mr. Beard highlighted that there is a spike in crashes between 3 and 5 p.m. and that 20% of crashes occur between 9 p.m. and 5 a.m. Mr. Beard continued the presentation by narrowing the focus from the MPO more broadly to Staunton and Waynesboro more specifically.

The crash characteristics of Staunton and Waynesboro are very similar, although Waynesboro does have a greater rate of crashes as well as a greater number if pedestrian crashes and impaired driving. Stepping back



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to include Augusta County, Mr. Beard pointed out that there were a greater number of road departure crashes in Augusta County than in the two cities.

### *High Injury Networks*

Mr. Beard continued going into the study, and informed the TAC that the report identifies roads that are considered “high injury networks.” Mr. Beard explained that “high injury networks” are road segments with the highest concentration of fatalities and serious injuries per mile. The networks were organized into tiers with tier one being the most severe where the mean weight score for fatalities and serious injuries was above the mean weighted scores for tier 2. Of the tier 1 high injury network segments, 5 are in Waynesboro and 5 are in Staunton, with 0 in the county. An additional level of crash characteristics showing minor injury crashes, brings in Augusta County with 4 segments in the county.

### *Summary*

Continuing the presentation, Mr. Beard presented a map showing both the high injury networks and locations in the MPO where past transportation studies have been carried out. The map showed where studies have occurred and areas where a study may make sense in the future. To conclude his presentation Mr. Beard reiterated that although the SAWMPO has among the lowest crash rates in the state, fatal and severe crashes have doubled in 2021 and 2022. Mr. Beard repeated crash characteristics for the City of Staunton and the City of Waynesboro, and reminded the TAC that intersections, speeding, and impaired driving were the most common crash characteristics.

Mr. Beard stated that coordination with other MPOs may be useful to see how they are addressing increased crashes and asked that the TAC think about the role of the MPO in addressing crashes and bringing together stakeholders. The presentation was concluded and opened for questions. Discussion between TAC members ensued.

## **Agency Updates**

### ***VDOT***

Mr. Adam Campbell provided an update on the following:

- Revenue Sharing and the TA program is expected to be available in late spring.
- VDOT’s Spring public meeting would be Wednesday May 3<sup>rd</sup> from 4:30 to 6:30 at Blue Ridge Community College.
- The Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment (OIPI) is updating the VTrans needs assessment before the next SMART SCALE round, and that workshops are forthcoming.

### ***DRPT***

There were no attendees from DRPT.

### ***Transit***

Ms. Paula Melester gave the following update:

- *Transit Development Plan (TDP)*

- 
- The CSPDC Board of Commissioners released the TDP for public comment at their Monday, December 19 Executive Committee meeting, based on recommendation from the BRITE Transit Advisory Committee (BTAC).
  - The Draft Plan was posted through Monday, January 30 (online and at local government buildings), and no public comments were received.
  - The CSPDC Board of Commissioners adopted the Plan at their February 9 Commission meeting. The Final Plan was submitted to DRPT.
  - *Intelligent Information Systems (ITS)*
    - The Request for Proposal (RFP) for the Mobile Data Collection System was finalized and released on February 6<sup>th</sup> with proposals due February 24<sup>th</sup>.
      - One proposal was received; Kimley-Horn, CSPDC, and VRT staff are reviewing the proposal, and CSPDC staff is compiling the necessary documentation for a single bid procurement.
  - *Lewis Street Hub*
    - After a competitive procurement process, Kimley-Horn was selected as the most qualified firm and we have contracted with them for A&E design services for the hub.
    - A kick-off meeting was held last week. We had hoped to issue the notice to proceed in December, but the procurement took longer than expected.
    - We should receive a project timeline from Kimley Horn in the next week and will know whether we are still on schedule for construction to take place in 2023, or if it will be delayed until early 2024.
  - *Afton Express*
    - A new schedule went into effect on February 13<sup>th</sup>. We've seen numbers creeping up at the end of February, but March started out even stronger.
    - At the time of the March 15<sup>th</sup> TAC meeting there have been between 70 and 80 passenger trips per day.
    - We are seeing a few people riding the new 5<sup>th</sup> afternoon run, but the increase in ridership is spread out across all of the trips, so it seems that awareness of the service is up overall.
    - We'll keep working with UVA to get the word out to hospital shift workers who may benefit from the new schedule and hope to see the numbers continue to rise.
  - *Other*
    - Transit Operator Appreciation Day/Week (March 18<sup>th</sup> through 24<sup>th</sup>) will be celebrating with our drivers on March 24<sup>th</sup>.
    - DRPT has announced they will run a Discover Transit month campaign in April.

## Locality Updates

### *Staunton*

Mr. Rhodes stated that the City hopes to apply for Revenue Sharing for a streetscape project to extend existing streetscape on Churchville Ave. from Albemarle Ave. to the Thornrose Ave. intersection. Streetscape projects

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would also include putting utilities underground at both sides of the intersection of Thornrose and Churchville Avenues.

### ***Augusta County***

Mr. Doug Wolfe noted that the Verona Pedestrian Project was ongoing. Mr. Wolfe noted that there had been no bids for Verona Pedestrian Project. Mr. Wolfe stated that the County would try to get bids again in April. In addition to the Verona Pedestrian Project, Mr. Wolfe announced that Augusta County was soliciting bids for consulting help updating the county's comprehensive plan.

### ***Waynesboro***

Chairperson Tate said VDOT requested that the preliminary engineering phase begin for the E. Main St. Streetscape and E. Main Delphine Roundabout. Additionally, the Greenway Phase III is nearing completion and the city applied for a RAISE grant for the eastern trail.

### **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 April 5th and the TAC on April 19<sup>th</sup>.

### **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



**TO:** Staunton-Augusta-Waynesboro MPO TAC  
**FROM:** Zach Beard, Senior Planner  
**MEETING DATE:** April 19, 2023  
**RE:** **TAC Action Form #23-01: FY 21-24 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment Release for Public Comment**

## RECOMMENDATION

Recommend that the Policy Board release an amendment for the FY 21-24 TIP for public comment.

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

SAWMPO staff developed an amendment to the Highway Maintenance section of the FY21 – 24 TIP. The amendment includes the following maintenance grouping block adjustments from the FY22 – FY26 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP):

1. Traffic and Safety Operations Grouping – Reflects changes in funding from FY21 through FY24;
2. Preventive Maintenance for Bridges – Reflects changes in funding from FY21 through FY24; and,
3. Preventive Maintenance and System Preservation – Reflects changes in funding from FY21 through FY24.

The changes are documented in Appendix A: TIP Amendments and Administrative Modifications – Highway under “May 2023 Amendment” on page 26 of the document.

## NEXT STEPS

The Policy Board will release the FY21-24 TIP Amendment for a 21-day public comment period at the May 3, 2023 Board meeting, and approve the amendment at the June 7, 2023 meeting.

## ATTACHMENTS

[FY 21-24 TIP Amendment](#)



112 MacTanly Place  
Stanton, VA 24401

Phone (540) 885-5174  
Fax (540) 885-2687

**TO:** Stanton-Augusta-Waynesboro MPO TAC

**FROM:** Zach Beard, Senior Planner

**MEETING DATE:** April 19, 2023

**RE:** **TAC Action Form #23-02 – SAWMPO Fiscal Year 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Release for Public Comment**

#### RECOMMENDATION

Recommend that the Policy Board release the Draft FY 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for the 21-day public comment period.

#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) and the Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) requested the SAWMPO review and approve the FY 2024 – 2027 TIP. The TIP is the region’s fiscally-constrained four-year programming document for all transportation and transit projects receiving federal transportation funds, requiring federal action, or deemed “regionally significant.”

Under CFR Titles 23 and 49, all transportation projects and programs receiving federal funds in the MPO region shall be listed in the TIP and in the Statewide TIP. Funding identified in the SAWMPO TIP is intended to be obligated for the federal fiscal years 2024 – 2027. To be included in the TIP, a project or program must be in the SAWMPO’s Constrained Long Range Plan (CLRP). The FY 2024 – 2027 TIP contains two main updates:

- The Highway TIP, provided by VDOT and reviewed by MPO staff; and
- The Transit TIP developed by MPO staff in partnership with BRITE and human mobility service providers (FTA Section 5310 applicants).

The appendices document compliance with MAP-21 Performance-Based Planning and Programming (PBPP) requirements, and how the TIP helps an MPO meet the Safety, Transit Asset Management, Pavement and Bridges, and Highway System Performance targets.

#### NEXT STEPS

The Policy Board will consider releasing the draft FY 2024 – 2027 TIP to public comment at the May 3, 2023 Board meeting, and approve the document at the June 7, 2023 Board meeting.

#### ATTACHMENT

[Draft SAWMPO FY 2024-2027 TIP](#)



**TO:** Staunton-Augusta-Waynesboro MPO TAC  
**FROM:** Zach Beard, Director of Transportation  
**MEETING DATE:** April 19, 2023  
**RE:** **TAC Action Form #23-03: Draft FY 2024 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)**

### RECOMMENDATION

Recommend that the SAWMPO Policy Board release the draft FY 2024 UPWP for a 21-day public comment period.

### BACKGROUND

The UPWP is the annual MPO work program and budget based on annual VDOT and DRPT planning fund allocations. The budgets for the current and upcoming fiscal years are below:

Revenues	FY 2023	FY 2024
FHWA PL	\$172,753	\$182,112
FHWA PL Carryover	\$100,552	\$118,197
FTA 5303	\$102,363	\$103,287
FTA 5303 Carryover	\$48,617	\$50,000*
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$424,285</b>	<b>\$452,672</b>

\*Estimate

The draft FY24 UPWP focuses on completing the PSI Study, beginning a new small area study, and beginning the 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) update. The document includes three important changes from FY23 activities:

1. More funding for staff hours and consultant support is allocated for long-range planning to account for the 2050 LRTP update;
2. The Public Outreach work element is now included under the Administrative Activities work element 1.0; and
3. The UPWP commits a minimum of 2.5% of the annual budget (\$11,316) to Complete Streets planning activities as required under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL).

### NEXT STEPS

- May 3 – Policy Board releases the Draft FY 2024 UPWP to public comment
- June 7 – Policy Board approves the FY 2024 UPWP

### ATTACHMENTS

- [Draft FY24 UPWP](#)



112 MacTanly Place  
Staunton, VA 24401

Phone (540) 885-5174  
Fax (540) 885-2687

**TO:** Staunton-Augusta-Waynesboro MPO TAC  
**FROM:** Zach Beard, Senior Planner  
**MEETING DATE:** April 19, 2023  
**RE:** **TAC Memo #23-04: PSI Study Update**

## BACKGROUND

The SAWMPO Potential for Safety Improvement (PSI) Intersections Study is analyzing six PSI intersections in Augusta County, Staunton, and Waynesboro to address safety issues and develop engineering and operational solutions for which the localities or MPO can apply for funding through SMART SCALE or the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP). The six study intersections are:

<b>Staunton</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Churchville Avenue/Thornrose Drive</li><li>• Coalter Street and Statler Boulevard</li></ul>
<b>Augusta County</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• US 11 and Laurel Hill Road (VA 612)</li><li>• Laurel Hill Road (VA 612) and I-81 Exit 227 northbound ramps</li></ul>
<b>Waynesboro</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Delphine Avenue and I-61 Exit 96 westbound ramps</li><li>• Delphine Avenue and Windsor Road</li></ul>

CSPDC on-call consultant firm WRA is developing the study. WRA reviewed the existing conditions with the Study Group in December 2023, presented draft improvement concepts to the Study Group in March 2023, and held an additional meeting with Augusta County and VDOT, and MPO staff on April 10, 2023 to discuss revised concepts for the US 11-Laurel Hill Road (VA 612) intersection.

## NEXT STEPS

The final study group meeting will be held in May 2023, and the final report will be presented to the Policy Board this summer.

## ATTACHMENTS

- [PSI Study Kick-off Meeting Presentation, December 14, 2022](#)
- [PSI Study Second Meeting Presentation, March 8, 2023](#)



## **Technical Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda June 21, 2023, at 2:00 P.M.**

Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission  
112 MacTanly Place, Stanton, VA 24401

OR

Zoom Video Conference

Web Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83788682283?pwd=eHlldFBSWFg0Z0t0ZUtrRS9vUWovZz09>

Dial In (Audio Only): 1-301-715-8592 • Meeting ID: 837 8868 2283 • Passcode: 125975

1. Call to Order
  2. Public Comment
  3. Approval of Minutes of the April 19, 2023 SAWMPO TAC Meeting\*
  4. Presentation and Discussion: FY24 SAWMPO Planning Activities
    - a. Afton Mountain Site Assessment Transportation Tasks
    - b. 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)
    - c. Barriers to Safe Access to Transportation Assessment
  5. Agency Updates
    - a. VDOT
    - b. DRPT
    - c. BRITE & Afton Express
    - d. Localities
  6. Other Business
  7. Upcoming Meetings
    - July 5, 2023 – SAWMPO Policy Board, 10:00 a.m., CSPDC office
    - July 19, 2023 – SAWMPO TAC, 2:00 p.m., CSPDC office
  8. Adjournment
- \*Action Required



**Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
April 19, 2023, 2:00 p.m.**

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

**Present (14):**

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)	<b>VA DRPT</b>		✓	Paula Melester
<b>Augusta County</b>		✓	Grace Stankus	✓	Ansley Heller
✓	Doug Wolfe		Wood Hudson		
	Alidia Vane	<b>Non-Voting Members</b>			
	Elizabeth Goodloe (Alt)			<b>Other attendees</b>	
	Vacant (Alt)	<b>VRT</b>			
<b>City of Waynesboro</b>		✓*	Steve Wilson		
✓	Leslie Tate, Chairperson		Phil Thompson (Alt)		
✓	Alisande Tombarge	<b>Federal Highway Admin.</b>			
	Scott Kesecker (Alt)		Kevin Jones		
✓	Chad Rambo (Alt)	<b>Federal Transit Admin.</b>			
			Michele DeAngelis		
		<b>VA Dept. of Aviation</b>			
			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 Stanton-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.

## **Approval of Minutes**

Chairperson Tate presented minutes from the March TAC Meeting.

***Mr. Doug Wolfe moved, seconded by Ms. Alisande Tombarge, to approve the minutes of March 15, 2023, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.***

## **FY 21-24 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment (TAC AF #23-01)**

Mr. Zach Beard gave an update on the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), reminding the TAC that the TIP is a federally required document that documents all transportation and transit projects receiving federal transportation funds, requiring federal action, or are deemed “regionally significant.” Mr. Beard informed the TAC that SAWMPO staff received direction from VDOT to amend three maintenance groupings in the FY 21-24 TIP. These three groupings are considered “high level groupings.”

Mr. Adam Campbell explained that the three maintenance groupings should be thought of as a district wide holding reserve for the three maintenance operations. Mr. Campbell explained that the reserve is updated every year based on state revenue forecasts, estimated state of good repair funding for each district. Grouping the project maintenance into one helps meet STIP/TIP requirements. Chairperson Tate opened the floor up for questions. Hearing no questions, Chairperson Tate asked for a motion to release the FY 21-27 TIP Amendment for 21 days of public comment.

***Mr. Jeff Johnston moved to release the FY 21-24 TIP Amendment for public comment, it was seconded by Mr. Don Komara. The motion carried unanimously.***

## **Draft FY 24-27 TIP Release for Public Comment FY (TAC AF #23–02)**

Mr. Beard explained that two the main updates in the FY 24-27 TIP were the highway TIP, provided by VDOT, and the Transit TIP which is developed in partnership with BRITE and human mobility service providers. Mr. Campbell explained that every MPO has its own TIP for projects happening within their boundaries, and that the state has a statewide TIP (STIP). The STIP combines all of the MPO TIPS into a single document. On October 1<sup>st</sup> 2023, VDOT will submit the STIP to the Federal Highways Administration for approval. Mr. Campbell reminded the TAC that the TIP was a living document and changes can be made throughout its

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lifetime. Chairperson Tate opened the floor for questions. Hearing no questions, Chairperson Tate asked for a motion to approve the FY 24-27 TIP be released for public comment.

***Mr. Rodney Rhodes moved to release the FY 24-27 TIP Amendment for public comment, it was seconded by Mr. Don Komara. The motion carried unanimously.***

**FY24 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Release for Public Comment (TAC AF #23-03)**

Mr. Beard provided an overview of the UPWP, reminding the TAC that it is the annual budget for the MPO, and that SAWMPO will have approximately \$30,000 more in FY 24 than in FY 23. Mr. Beard explained that the FY 24 UPWP highlights projects the SAWMPO intends to focus on in FY 24. Mr. Beard highlighted that in FY 24 the MPO will focus on completing the small area PSI/intersection study, beginning a new small area study, and beginning the SAWMPO 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan.

Mr. Beard highlighted differences between the FY 23 UPWP and the FY 24 UPWP, indicating that in the FY24 UPWP there are more staff hours dedicated to long range planning. One particular change that Mr. Beard took effort to underscore was the combination of the Public Outreach and Administrative Activities work elements. Mr. Beard informed the TAC that there is additional language in the FY24 UPWP to document that the SAWMPO is meeting requirements of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to dedicate a minimum of 2.5% of the total annual budget to Complete Streets planning activities. Mr. Beard stated that the MPO already plans with Complete Streets activities in mind, and that no major changes will take place because of this change.

Chairperson Tate opened the floor for questions. Hearing no questions, Chairperson Tate asked for a motion to release the FY 24 UPWP for public comment.

***Ms. Alisande Tombarge moved to release the FY 24-27 TIP Amendment for public comment, it was seconded by Mr. Rodney Rhodes. The motion carried unanimously.***

**Presentation: SAWMPO Priority Safety Intersection (PSI) Studies Preferred Concepts – Zach Beard, SAWMPO**

Mr. Beard presented the preferred concepts for the six priority safety intersections being studied in the SAWMPO. Staunton, Waynesboro, and Augusta County each have two intersections being studied. The City of Staunton is studying the intersections of N. Coalter St. at Statler Boulevard and Churchville Avenue at Thornrose Avenue. Augusta County is studying the intersections of Laurel Hill Road at I-81 Exit 227 Northbound Ramps and US-11 at Laurel Hill Road. The City of Waynesboro is studying the S. Delphine Avenue at I-64 Exit 96 Westbound Ramps and S. Delphine Avenue at Windsor Road.

Mr. Beard reviewed the following alternatives for each locality:

### ***City of Staunton***

#### *N. Coalter St. at Statler Boulevard*

##### Short-term improvements

- Primary improvements are the west bound right turning lane on Statler Ave with advanced warning signs and pavement markings to increase visibility for drivers.
- There will also be a reduction in overlap phases with the signal to address west bound, right turn volume in the PM and address issues with the south bound right turn.
- All left turns will be converted to flashing yellow arrows.

##### Mid-term improvements

- Remove channelization on the Eastbound right turn to bring the turn up to the signal.

#### *Churchville Avenue at Thornrose Avenue*

##### Short-term improvements

- Remove right turn lane channelizing islands to reduce travel speeds for those making the right-hand turn. This will also improve the crossing distance for pedestrians.

##### Long-term improvements

- Insert a round-a-bout, making Constitution Drive a right in and a right out from the park.

### ***Augusta County***

#### *Laurel Hill Road at I-81 Exit 227 Northbound Ramps*

##### Long-term

- Round about at the intersection to reduce travel speeds and crossroad conflict points. There will be dedicated lanes for east bound Laurel Hill Rd and the I-81 NB On ramp.

#### *US-11 at Laurel Hill Road*

- Ad crosswalks and replace curb ramps at the intersection
- Two options for access control to the shopping center to reduce turning conflicts
  1. Convert the first entrance into the shopping center a right in only and restrict left turns out
  2. Close first entrance and realign access further down US-11

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## ***City of Waynesboro***

### *S. Delphine Avenue at I-64 Exit 96 Westbound Ramps*

Provide right turn lane off of the I-64 off ramp and add signage and striping on Delphine to indicate a turn.

### *S. Delphine Avenue at Windsor Road*

- Option 1
  - a) Limit access to Mountain Rd. for a right in/right out turn by adding a concrete island and remove left turn lane on the south bound Delphine, and stripe the left and right turn lanes on Windsor Rd.
  - b) Close Mountain Rd. and convert to a Cul-de-sac and remove left turn lane on the south bound Delphine, and stripe the left and right turn lanes on Windsor Rd.
- Option 2
  - a) Looking at the Delphine corridor more generally, add lane striping on Windsor Rd and convert the Windsor/Delphine Ave. intersection to a modified T intersection. Add an acceleration lane. Add channelization on Western Rd to convert to right-in, right-out, and left in.

Discussion ensued regarding the Churchville-Thornrose intersection in Staunton with truck traffic/heavy vehicles. The main concern was truck traffic and heavy vehicles making the right turn movement from Thornrose onto Churchville, and the nearby National Guard Armory generating heavy vehicle traffic that would be navigating the intersection. The concern was noted by MPO staff.

## **Agency Updates**

### ***VDOT***

Mr. Campbell provided the following update:

- VDOT's Spring public meeting would be Wednesday May 3<sup>rd</sup> from 4:00 p.m to 6:00 p.m. at Blue Ridge Community College.
- Revenue Sharing does not yet have a date for when it will be active.
- The Transportation Alternatives window is set to begin on May 15<sup>th</sup> through June 30<sup>th</sup>

Mr. Don Komara provided the following update:

- 262 widening from 613 to 252 will begin late spring, early summer
- Exit ramp on 235 is back out for advertisement
- Waynesboro connector project has gone to advertisement
- Industrial access park off of 612 is being advertised for this fall
- The Verona sidewalk projects is waiting on a 3<sup>rd</sup> round of bids

- Work on Staunton Crossing continues to be underway

### ***DRPT***

Ms. Grace Stankus provided the following update:

- FY 24 Draft SYIP has gone live and is available for review on the DRPT Open Data Portal.
- Discover Transit Campaign is back and more information is available on [connectingva.org](http://connectingva.org)
- FHWA Funding opportunity for charging and fueling infrastructure discretionary grant program aimed at deploying publicly accessible EV charging and alternative fueling infrastructure in places where people live and work. The program provides funding in two categories, the Community Program and Corridor Program. Applications are due May 30<sup>th</sup>.

### ***Transit***

Ms. Devon Thompson provided the following BRITE update:

- The FY24 Draft Six-Year Improvement Program has been released and is available for public comment. The CSPDC applications recommended for funding include Urban and Rural Operating and Capital, and Commuter Assistance Operating funds and Technical Assistance for a Strategic Plan.
- The BTAC approved reducing evening hours on the Blue Ridge Community College Shuttles. The decreased hours will be implemented on June 5. Pop-up events were hosted at BRCC, JMU, and Staunton Lewis Street Hub last month to notify riders of the changes and gather their comments and feedback.
- One proposal was received for the ITS-Mobile Data Collection System procurement, and CSPDC staff has been confirming with our lawyer on how to proceed with one submission. CSPDC staff has compiled the necessary documentation for a single bid procurement, and is confirming the proposal meets BRITE's needs.
- Kimley-Horn has been working to develop 30% A&E design plans for the Staunton Lewis Street Hub. CSPDC and VRT staff are reviewing and providing comments.

Ms. Paula Melester provided the following Afton Express update:

- There has been a 6% increase in ridership through the month of February and an 8% increase from February through March.
- Funding was recommended for Afton Express in the SYIP. In FY 24 funding for the Afton Express will fold into the BRITE System.

## **Locality Updates**

### ***Stanton***

Mr. Rodney Rhodes explained that the city is receiving funding from State of Good Repair for paving projects. Including nearly all of W. Beverly from Jefferson St. to Pete St. Paving projects will include ADA improvements at 18 intersections. There will also be additions of the city's bike plan along the street.

Mr. Jeff Johnston announced that painting will resume this summer as well as additional paving projects. Mr. Johnston also reminded the TAC that Stanton's Beverly St. Pedestrian Mall is operational for the season.

### ***Augusta County***

Mr. Doug Wolfe noted that the Verona Pedestrian Project was ongoing. Mr. Wolfe noted that this is the third time the project has been bid. In addition to the Verona Pedestrian Project, Mr. Wolfe announced that Augusta County had received four proposals for consulting help updating the county's comprehensive plan.

### ***Waynesboro***

Chairperson Tate mentioned that the City of Waynesboro has an RFP for on call engineering services to prepare for SMART Scale projects.

## **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 May 3<sup>rd</sup> and the TAC on May 17<sup>th</sup>.

## **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



## **Technical Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda August 16, 2023, at 2:00 P.M.**

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

OR

Zoom Video Conference

Web Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83788682283?pwd=eHlldFBSWFg0Z0t0ZUtrRS9vUWovZz09>

Dial In (Audio Only): 1-301-715-8592 • Meeting ID: 837 8868 2283 • Passcode: 125975

1. Call to Order
2. Public Comment
3. Approval of Minutes of the June 21, 2023 SAWMPO TAC Meeting\*
4. Afton Mountain Transportation Site Assessment Scope of Work (TAC Memo #23-05)
5. Presentation: Proposed SMART SCALE Policy Changes, Adam Campbell, VDOT
6. Proposed SMART SCALE Policy Changes Draft Letter (TAC Memo #23-06)
7. Agency Updates
  - a. VDOT
  - b. DRPT
  - c. BRITE & Afton Express
  - d. Localities
8. Other Business
9. Upcoming Meetings
  - September 6, 2023 – SAWMPO Policy Board, 10:00 a.m., CSPDC office
  - September 20, 2023 – SAWMPO TAC, 2:00 p.m., CSPDC office
  - September 27, 2023 – Joint SAWMPO-Charlottesville Albemarle MPO (CA-MPO) Meeting
10. Adjournment

\*Action Required



**Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
June 21, 2023, 2:00 p.m.**

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

**Present (14):**

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)	✓	Cody Huffman (Alt)	✓	Devon Thompson
	Lyle Hartt (Alt)	<b>VA DRPT</b>		✓	Paula Melester
<b>Augusta County</b>		✓*	Grace Stankus	✓	Ansley Heller
✓	Doug Wolfe				
✓	Alidia Vane	<b>Non-Voting Members</b>			
	Elizabeth Goodloe (Alt)			<b>Other attendees</b>	
	Vacant (Alt)	<b>VRT</b>		✓*	Sam Styers
<b>City of Waynesboro</b>		✓*	Steve Wilson	✓*	Jeff Lineberry
✓	Leslie Tate, Chairperson		Phil Thompson (Alt)		
✓	Alisande Tombarge	<b>Federal Highway Admin.</b>			
	Scott Kesecker (Alt)		Kevin Jones		
✓*	Chad Rambo (Alt)	<b>Federal Transit Admin.</b>			
			Michele DeAngelis		
		<b>VA Dept. of Aviation</b>			
			Rusty Harrington		

## **Call to Order**

The meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) of the Stanton-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.

## **Approval of Minutes**

Chairperson Tate presented minutes from the March TAC Meeting.

***Mr. Rodney Rhodes moved, seconded by Ms. Alidia Vane, to approve the minutes of April 19, 2023, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.***

## **Presentation and Discussion: FY 24 SAWMPO Planning Activities**

Mr. Zach Beard began his presentation on the upcoming FY 24 SAWMPO planning activities. Mr. Beard explained that the Afton Mountain study is forecasted to take less time than a typical study as it is producing general recommendations rather than specific improvements. As a result, there is time and funding available for an additional small MPO study.

### *Afton Mountain Site Assessment Transportation Tasks*

Mr. Beard reminded the TAC that the Afton Site being studied is owned by a private land owner. Mr. Beard highlighted the regional significance of this area due to its proximity to the Blue Ridge Parkway, and other outdoor recreation.

The property has multiple abandoned buildings and discussions with the landowner have been going on and off for years between Augusta County, the CSPDC, and the landowner. In 2021 - 2022 the landowner restarted the discussion about developing the area. With the renewed discussion, Augusta County began working with the Timmons Group, a local engineering firm, to develop a draft scope of work for a redevelopment plan to apply for funding under an economic development administration grant. The Timmons Group's scope of work addressed the proposed study area and outlined several tasks to complete a master plan and redevelopment plan for the site; including land surveying, utility/storm drainage, environmental impact, planning for preferred future development of the site. The scope of work specifically highlighted two transportation sections.

The first transportation section focused on analyzing the traffic patterns in the area, specifically the network along US 250 and Howardsville Turnpike in relation to new development. The task included general existing conditions analysis looking at AM peak hour traffic, crash analysis, and assessing the existing roadway

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infrastructure, access management improvements, and site visits culminating in at least 3 recommendations and a written memo.

The second section of the transportation task is focused on cyclist and pedestrian improvements. The task focused on the bike/ped connectivity improvements which could be made to the site in relation to the nearby outdoor recreation points of interest. This section will also culminate in at least 3 recommendations and a written memo.

This year Augusta County received \$31,000 through the industrial revitalization fund planning grant from the Department of Housing and Community Development and the CSPDC is assisting Augusta County in writing a grant for additional funding with the preferred outcome being a full site assessment, demolition plan, and economic envisioning redevelopment plan to identify the best use for the property. The SAWMPO is positioned to move forward with the transportation tasks outlined by the Timmons Group.

Next steps will involve SAWMPO meeting with Timmons, the City of Waynesboro, and the County to review the transportation elements in the scope and to finalize the roles of each organization.

### ***2050 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)***

Mr. Beard explained that the SAWMPO will begin the 2050 LRTP update this fiscal year. Mr. Beard informed the board that the LRTP is a long range planning document that captures current and projected transportation needs over a 25 year period. Mr. Beard reminded the TAC that the LRTP will start in early 2024 and end in the fall 2025.

### ***Barriers to Safe Access to Transportation Assessment***

Mr. Beard explained that between the Afton Mountain Area Study and the LRTP update beginning there is time to start a smaller study. Mr. Beard informed the TAC that MPO staff brainstormed the idea of a potential study studying barriers to Transportation Access, particularly for disadvantaged populations, the elderly, disabled, disadvantaged communities suffering from economic development issues. Mr. Beard explained that the thought process behind the study was to look at our populations in the region since the region's elderly population is expected to exceed the state average. In addition to the region's elderly population the region is also expecting a larger influx of non-English speakers. These populations along with other disadvantaged populations have unique transportation needs.

Mr. Beard stated that the goal of the study would be to engage with seniors, persons with disabilities, and disadvantaged communities as defined by Justice 40, to identify and analyze the daily transportation barriers and issues, identify best practices, and provide recommendations for our region that can be included in other

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studies. Mr. Beard detailed some types of transportation access barriers as being limited English proficiency, long travel distances, vehicle access, physical infrastructure, and cultural and perceptual barriers.

Mr. Beard explained that the study would also be useful for adding additional information to upcoming studies already planned by BRITE Transit, as well as building the data into the 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan to increase efficiency. The TAC began discussing the usefulness of the study.

Mr. Beard pointed to an example of the planning process carried out by Richmond Connect to study their own disadvantaged populations' access to transportation. Mr. Beard underscored that the Richmond Connect plan would be at a greater scale than would be necessary for the SAWMPO, but that their process could be a useful guideline. Mr. Beard continued to highlight the importance of public engagement in this process, stating that it would be the MPO's goal to have robust engagement.

## **Agency Updates**

### ***VDOT***

Mr. Campbell provided the following update:

- The Transportation Alternatives and Revenue Sharing pre-application period closes June 30. The final application intake period is from August 15th through October 1.
- The May CTB Meeting Consensus SMART SCALE Scenario was presented and recommended for approval and incorporated into the SYIP in June. Mr. Campbell told the TAC that Stanton District's CTB members were able to secure more funding for the district using high priority funding, and 3 additional projects were funded. The remaining balance of the district grant program will fund the I-64 94 off ramp project.
- The Waynesboro's Southern Connector project came in underbid, allowing VDOT to put the funding taken from Waynesboro's Broad St. project for the Connector project back into the Broad St. project.

Mr. Don Komara provided the following update:

- Bids were opened on the 262 widening project. A&J Construction was the low bidder for ~\$2.8 million. The project should start sometime in the fall.
- The exit ramp at 235, General Excavation was the lowest with pre-con beginning this week.
- A public hearing date of July 27th is set for the roundabout at Woodrow Wilson.
- Bartlebrooke Road project is going to advertisement next month.
- Kokosan is moving along with the Stanton 81 widening with the design build and it should begin in the late fall.
- The Verona Project has not had successful bids for their projects, but have been in process to find additional TAP money

### ***DRPT***

Ms. Grace Stankus provided the following update:

- CTB approved DRPT's six year improvement program which will allocate over \$862 million in funding for rail and transit projects in FY 24.

### ***Transit***

Ms. Devon Thompson provided the following BRITE update:

- Evening hours for the Blue Ridge Community College have been reduced to Monday -Friday 7AM to 6pm or 7:30 to 5:30 for the south route. The BTAC approved reducing evening hours at the end of last year.
- BRITE has updated their Title VI Plans. The draft plan was approved and has been sent to FTA for final acceptance.
- The design and engineering phase of the Lewis St. hub moves forward and the 60% plans have been completed and reviewed.

Ms. Paula Melester provided the following Afton Express update:

- Passenger riders continue to grow with the high of 93 passenger trips in a single day. Afton Express is working with UVA market the service to their hospital employees.
- Ms. Melester informed the TAC that Virginia Public Radio ran a feature story highlighting the Afton Express in a series about how CARES funds were used across the Commonwealth.

## **Locality Updates**

### ***Staunton***

Mr. Jeff Johnson noted that the City is seeking a temporary location for parking while the Lewis Street Hub is being renovated. Mr. Johnson said that signs announcing the closure of the Lewis lot from 10pm to 5am will be posted.

### ***Augusta County***

Mr. Doug Wolfe noted that the Verona Pedestrian Project had gone to bid, and they received two bids but they were still substantially outside of the budget.

Ms. Alidia Vane mentioned that Augusta County was in negotiations with contractors for their Comprehensive plan update. was ongoing.

### **Waynesboro**

Chairperson Tate mentioned that the City of Waynesboro has a bid out for the Fourth Street pedestrian project using Block Grant funds.

### **Other Business**

Chairperson Tate called for any other business; Mr. Campbell confirmed that the cities were aware that they had received their HSIP funding and Mr. Beard reminded the TAC that the joint Albemarle MPO and SAWMPO meeting is scheduled for September 27th from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the gymnasium of the Fishburne Military Academy.

### **Upcoming Meetings**

Chairperson Tate stated that the Policy Board is scheduled to meet on July 5<sup>th</sup> and the TAC on July 19<sup>th</sup>.

### **Meeting Adjourned**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Zach Beard  
Senior Planner



112 MacTanly Place  
Staunton, VA 24401

Phone (540) 885-5174  
Fax (540) 885-2687

**TO:** Staunton-Augusta-Waynesboro MPO TAC  
**FROM:** Zach Beard, Senior Planner  
**MEETING DATE:** August 16, 2023  
**RE:** **TAC Memo #23-05: Afton Mountain Transportation Site Assessment Scope of Work**

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The FY24 SAWMPO Afton Mountain Transportation Site Assessment is evaluating existing vehicular and bicycle and pedestrian conditions as part of a larger site assessment conducted by Augusta County. Timmons Group is leading the Afton Mountain Site Assessment activities for the County and the MPO.

## BACKGROUND

In 2021, Augusta County developed a Scope of Work to apply for an EDA CARES grant to conduct a comprehensive site assessment at the Inn at Afton Mountain near the I-64 Exit 99 interchange. While the grant was not funded, Augusta County began survey work earlier this year with Virginia Industrial Revitalization (IRF) grant funds. The SAWMPO is working with the County, the City of Waynesboro, and Timmons to develop the transportation sections of the site assessment.

The MPO-funded transportation tasks will 1) evaluate the existing vehicular network along US 250 including the intersections with Howardsville Turnpike and the Skyline Drive; 2) evaluate the bicycle and pedestrian connectivity between the site and nearby outdoor recreation points of interest; and 3) recommend improvements in relation to a future development scenario.

### *July 21 Meeting*

Augusta County, Waynesboro, SAWMPO, VDOT, and Timmons met on July 21, 2023 to outline a revised Scope of Work. The discussion clarified questions about the original tasks, and highlighted the need to consider Waynesboro's Eastern Federal Lands Access Program (EFLAP) trail project between the City and Afton Mountain, the Round 5 SMART SCALE project at the I-64 Exit 99 ramp intersection with US 250, and the internal site circulation.

After Timmons collects existing conditions data, they will identify a future development scenario to inform recommendations. Some of the Scope elements will be iterative and dependent upon the concurrent progress of the larger site assessment.

## NEXT STEPS

The study is anticipated to be complete in six months. Timmons is finalizing the Scope of Work and will conduct a field visit in September or October 2023.

## ATTACHMENT

[Afton Mountain Transportation Study Area and Sections, 2021](#)



112 MacTanly Place  
Staunton, VA 24401

Phone (540) 885-5174  
Fax (540) 885-2687

**TO:** Staunton-Augusta-Waynesboro MPO TAC

**FROM:** Zach Beard, Senior Planner

**MEETING DATE:** August 16, 2023

**RE:** **TAC Memo #23-06: Proposed SMART SCALE Policy Changes Draft Letter**

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) is considering changes to the SMART SCALE project scoring process that will affect project eligibility and competitiveness for the SAWMPO region. VDOT and MPO staff summarized the proposed SMART SCALE policy changes to the Policy Board during the August 2, 2023 meeting. The Board expressed concerns regarding several of the changes, and in response staff drafted a letter to the CTB outlining the MPO's concerns.

### CTB PROPOSED SMART SCALE CHANGES

The CTB conducted a SMART SCALE retreat on July 19, 2023 to evaluate the program scoring process, and is proposing the following key program changes:

- *Reducing the application cap.* The change reduces the number of applications for all eligible entities to emphasize application quality, which would reduce Tier 1 entities such as the SAWMPO and CSPDC from four to two applications.
- *Restricting eligible project types for High Priority Program (HPP).* The CTB is proposing project type restrictions for HPP to promote projects larger in scope and impact based on concerns that the HPP is implementing mostly smaller projects (less than \$10 million).
- *Adjusting the Land Use scoring factor.* The land use factor would be adjusted from a stand-alone metric to a multiplier for other project benefits. The CTB is concerned that the land use score is disproportionately impacting overall project scoring and selection. Subsequently, the other SMART SCALE scoring factor weights would need to be adjusted to account for the elimination of land use as a standalone factor.

### COMMENT TO CTB

Staff drafted a letter to the CTB addressing the potential impacts of the proposed SMART SCALE changes. Additionally, the Virginia Association of MPOs (VAMPO) is considering submitting a letter to the CTB on behalf of its membership expressing similar concerns.

### ATTACHMENTS

- [CTB SMART SCALE Recording, July 19, 2023](#)
- [CTB SMART SCALE Retreat Slides](#)
- [Draft SAWMPO SMART SCALE Letter to the CTB](#)





## **Technical Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda November 15, 2023, at 2:00 P.M.**

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

OR

Zoom Video Conference

Web Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83788682283?pwd=eHlldFBSWFg0Z0t0ZUtrRS9vUWovZz09>

Dial In (Audio Only): 1-301-715-8592 • Meeting ID: 837 8868 2283 • Passcode: 125975

1. Call to Order
2. Public Comment
3. Approval of Minutes of the August 16, 2023 SAWMPO TAC Meeting\*
4. SAWMPO Current Local Projects Spotlight Discussion
5. SMART SCALE Policy Changes Update (TAC Memo #23-07)
6. Agency Updates
  - a. VDOT
  - b. DRPT
  - c. BRITE & Afton Express
  - d. Localities
7. Other Business
8. Upcoming Meetings
  - December 6, 2023 – SAWMPO Policy Board, 10:00 a.m., CSPDC office
  - December 20, 2023 – SAWMPO TAC, 2:00 p.m., CSPDC office
9. Adjournment

\*Action Required



**Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
August 16, 2023, 2:00 p.m.**

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

**Present (14):**

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)	✓	Cody Huffman (Alt)	✓	Devon Thompson
	Lyle Hartt (Alt)	<b>VA DRPT</b>		✓	Paula Melester
<b>Augusta County</b>		✓*	Grace Stankus	✓	Ansley Heller
✓	Doug Wolfe				
	Alidia Vane	<b>Non-Voting Members</b>			
✓	Elizabeth Goodloe (Alt)			<b>Other attendees</b>	
	Vacant (Alt)	<b>VRT</b>		✓*	Alexandra Castrechini
<b>City of Waynesboro</b>		✓*	Steve Wilson	✓*	Shane McCabe
✓	Leslie Tate, Chairperson		Phil Thompson (Alt)		
✓	Alisande Tombarge	<b>Federal Highway Admin.</b>			
✓	Scott Kesecker (Alt)		Kevin Jones		
	Chad Rambo (Alt)	<b>Federal Transit Admin.</b>			
			Michele DeAngelis		
		<b>VA Dept. of Aviation</b>			
			Rusty Harrington		

## **Call to Order**

The meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) of the Stanton-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.

## **Approval of Minutes**

Chairperson Tate presented minutes from the June 21<sup>st</sup> TAC Meeting.

***Mr. Jeff Johnson moved, seconded by Mr. Doug Wolfe, to approve the minutes of June 21, 2023, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.***

## **Afton Mountain Transportation Site Assessment Scope of Work**

Mr. Beard began with a brief overview of the current site assessment of the Afton Mountain Study Area. Mr. Beard reminded the TAC that in 2021, Augusta County developed a Scope of Work for an EDA CARES grant to conduct a comprehensive site assessment at the Inn at Afton Mountain. While the grant was not funded, Augusta County began survey work earlier this year with Virginia Industrial Revitalization (IRF) grant funds. Mr. Beard explained that the work is being conducted between SAWMPO, Augusta County, the City of Waynesboro, and Timmons Group, a construction engineering company.

Mr. Beard explained that the County, the City, the MPO, VDOT, and Timmons met in July to discuss the scope of work for the Transportation portions of the projects. The draft scope of work has been submitted by Timmons. It highlights eight tasks: roadway geometry, access, traffic volume, operations, bike ped volumes, site constraint, assessment of future bike ped connections along US-250, access management, traffic sites at four sites along US-250 (US-250 at Blue Ridge Parkway, US-250 at Rt. 610, US-250 at Afton Circle, Rt. 610 at Blue Ridge Parkway). The Operational Analysis will look at existing conditions for 2023 and compare to forecasts for a yet to be decided outlook year. The deliverables of the study will include three concept layouts of all improvements in the study area that highlight the proposed bike ped improvements, access and intersection improvements, and property impacts for future planning efforts in the area.

Mr. Beard reminded the TAC that the project has a lot of moving parts, and the Scope of Work was providing flexibility as other parts of the plan are developed. Mr. Beard explained that pending the review the Scope of Work can proceed, with the project likely starting soon. Mr. Beard opened the floor for questions and a short discussion ensued.

Chairperson Tate asked for final questions and moved the meeting on to the next item.

## Presentation and Discussion: Proposed SMART SCALE Policy Changes, Adam Campbell, VDOT

Mr. Adam Campbell began his presentation on the Proposed SMART SCALE Policy Changes by explaining that he had given the same presentation to the SAWMPO Policy Board previously in the month, and that the Policy Board directed SAWMPO staff to write a letter sharing concerns with the CTB related to the process and the changes under consideration for SMART SCALE Round 6. Mr. Campbell quickly explained that after Round 5 SMART SCALE, the Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment (OIPI) led a strong survey campaign to gauge what participants thought was working well or not working with SMART SCALE. Concurrently there are thoughts and concerns in the Secretary of Transportation's office that they would like evaluated. To look at where these concerns can be addressed, OIPI, along with ATCS consultants began doing a deep dive this spring on the process to present options for change to the CTB.

With the history of the policy changes covered, Mr. Campbell began reviewing the potential issues identified from the survey and the potential changes to the process (see **Table 1**). Issues highlighted in yellow in Table 1 will likely have the greatest negative impact on the SAWMPO, as they will limit the ability of the MPO/PDC to go after High Priority funding and reduce the Land Use benefit that has allowed the MPO to be successful in project funding.

Going into greater detail regarding the reduced number of applications, Mr. Campbell explained that for the

Potential Issue Identified	Findings	OIPI Staff Recommendations
Urban Projects are funded more regularly than rural projects	No bias towards urban projects was found.	No changes are recommended at this time.
Leveraged projects are more successful than non-leveraged projects	There is not a perception of non-leveraged projects being less successful	No changes are recommended at this time.
Smaller projects are disproportionately recommended for funding.	A greater number of small projects (\$10 million or less) are being funded.	Redefining eligibility for the statewide High Priority Program to only include interstate and interstate interchange projects, and bridge replacements projects.
Too many applications are being submitted	Staff resources stretched to dedicate to applicant support and application quality	Reduce the number of applications for all entities.
Forward-Looking Congestion Factor	Projects aren't receiving the full projected benefits as they're analyzed in existing year conditions.	Calculate congestion benefits for 10 years in the future.
Forward-Looking Economic Development Factor	There is a disconnect between square footage and economic benefit.	Engaged VEDP to develop a more forward-looking methodology, which will be brought to the CTB in September.
One-Factor Majority - Land Use Factor	Land Use accounted for greater than 40% of total benefit score and increased for smaller projects	Modify the factor weighting for the Land Use factor

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SAWMPO the number of SMART SCALE applications would be reduced from 4 to 2. Mr. Campbell also paid particular attention to the change in the way Land Use is being weighted and explained that ultimately the goal would be to split the Land Use percentage between safety and congestion for areas A,B, C and moving it all to safety for area D. Mr. Campbell also spent more time highlighting the changes being suggested to High Priority Program Project Funding, explaining that they would greatly restrict the type of projects eligible for funding and disallow transit projects. Mr. Campbell continued and reviewed the SMART SCALE prioritization process, and potential process changes before outlining the next steps and schedule. Mr. Campbell noted that the policy adoption by the CTB is scheduled for December 2023.

Chairperson Tate asked if there were any questions, and discussion about the proposed changes and SMART SCALE ensued.

### ***Proposed SMART SCALE Policy Changes Draft Letter***

Mr. Beard explained that a copy of the drafted letter highlighting concerns about the proposed SMART SCALE changes was linked in the meeting mailout packet. He explained that the letter was drafted at the request of the SAWMPO Policy Board saw the same SMART SCALE presentation from Mr. Campbell. He explained that the main concerns highlighted in the letter were the concerns with the number of applications being reduced, the restricted project eligibility for High Priority Program Project Funding, and the adjusted Land Use scoring factor. Mr. Beard explained that the HRMPO has also sent a letter to the CTB, and letters were also forecast from other MPOs as well. Mr. Beard directed the TAC to provide feedback to the letter if they have it, and Chairperson Tate moved the meeting to agency updates.

## **Agency Updates**

### ***VDOT***

Mr. Campbell provided the following update:

- The Transportation Alternatives and Revenue Sharing final application intake period is open until October 2.
- The application cycle for Local HSYP Systemic Applications has opened. The application cycle closed October 31<sup>st</sup>.

Mr. Don Komara provided the following update:

- The 262 widening project has begun with A&J Construction.
- The exit ramp at 235, General Excavation has begun moving dirt. It is expected to finish by the spring.
- The public hearing on July 27th about the improvements at Woodrow Wilson went well with people voicing their thoughts.
- Barter Brooke Road project is being opened on September 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- Kokosan is moving along with the Staunton 81 widening and should begin in the late fall.

- The Verona Project has begun to move forward.
- Bridge Deck Replacement on the ramp from 81-S to 64-E

### ***DRPT***

Ms. Grace Stankus provided the following update:

- Transit oriented development planning funding opportunity, to support planning efforts associated with fixed guideway and port capacity improvement projects. Proposals are due October 10<sup>th</sup> and DRPT is available to provide technical assistance and support.

### ***Transit***

Ms. Devon Thompson provided the following BRITE update:

- CSPDC Recently underwent a FTA Triennial Review. These are conducted every three years and examines how organizations are meeting the statutory and administrative requirements through 23 areas of compliance. The draft report is being completed. In the review there were three findings. Corrective Action Plans are being drafted to address the findings now. The final report will be finalized towards the end of the year.
- The Blue Ridge Community College shuttle has had its hours changed. After hearing public feedback about the reduced hours, an hour was added back to the BRCC shuttle schedule. The shuttle now runs until 7pm. In addition, there will no longer be a distinction between the North and South. They will be combined to be one loop.
- The design and engineering phase of the Lewis St. hub moves forward. Staff is pursuing a certificate of appropriateness from the Staunton's Historical Review Commission. Once the certificate of appropriateness is acquired the project can continue to the 90% design phase for the plan.
- BRITE will be promoted to different community groups and schools through public events as the school year begins.

Ms. Paula Melester provided the following Afton Express update:

- Afton Express is preparing to kick off DRPT's Discover Transit Month with multiple in person events to promote transit.
- On September 1<sup>st</sup> Afton will be fare free to celebrate it's 2<sup>nd</sup> year of operation. To celebrate Afton Express and increase ridership there will be a pop-up event at the UVA hospital stop on September 14<sup>th</sup> and another pop up at the Staunton Mall stop on the 28<sup>th</sup> of September.
- Ridership remains steady over the summer, between about 60 to 80 passenger trips per day.

## **Locality Updates**

### ***Stanton***

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Mr. Jeff Johnson noted that the operational changes closing the Lewis lot from 10pm to 5am have made a substantial difference. The city is implementing the first round of HSIP Systemic funding from last year and is beginning to put together next year's application.

### ***Augusta County***

Mr. Doug Wolfe noted that the Verona Pedestrian Project had received additional funding and presented the contract to the Board and the Verona Pedestrian Project was approved. Augusta County will be taking their recommendation for their consultant for their Comprehensive Plan Update and the Economic Development Strategic Plan to the Board for approval.

### ***Waynesboro***

Chairperson Tate mentioned that the City of Waynesboro's Greenway Phase III Sidewalk project has moved into the right-of-way phase. A contract for the Fourth Street pedestrian project has been awarded with a hopeful Sept. 1<sup>st</sup> notice to proceed date. The Southern Connector should be starting on August 21<sup>st</sup> with a groundbreaking on Sept. 6<sup>th</sup>. Broad Street and Main Street streetscape projects are both in PE and the Rosser and 13<sup>th</sup> St. Roundabout has been started.

### **Other Business**

Chairperson Tate called for any other business; Mr. Campbell confirmed that the cities were aware that they had received their HSIP funding and Mr. Beard reminded the TAC that the joint Albemarle MPO and SAWMPO meeting is scheduled for September 27<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the gymnasium of the Fishburne Military Academy.

### **Upcoming Meetings**

Chairperson Tate stated that the Policy Board is scheduled to meet on September 6<sup>th</sup> and the TAC on September 20<sup>th</sup>.

### **Meeting Adjourned**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Zach Beard, Senior Planner





112 MacTanly Place  
Staunton, VA 24401

Phone (540) 885-5174  
Fax (540) 885-2687

**TO:** Staunton-Augusta-Waynesboro MPO TAC  
**FROM:** Zach Beard, Senior Planner  
**MEETING DATE:** November 15, 2023  
**RE:** **TAC Memo #23-07: Proposed SMART SCALE Policy Changes Update**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) is considering changes to the SMART SCALE project scoring process that will affect project eligibility in the SAWMPO region. VDOT Staunton District and MPO staff summarized the proposed SMART SCALE policy changes to the Policy Board at the August 2, 2023 meeting. The Board expressed concerns regarding several of the changes and directed staff to draft a letter to the CTB outlining the MPO’s concerns. SAWMPO Board Chair Carolyn Bragg signed the letter on September 6, 2023.

During the October 20, 2023 CTB meeting, staff from the Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment (OIPI) and the Virginia Economic Development Partnership (VEDP) presented updates on the policy changes, including proposed revisions to the Economic Development performance measure.

**PROPOSED SMART SCALE CHANGES AS OF OCTOBER CTB MEETING (NOT ALL INCLUSIVE)**

*Reducing the application cap*

OIPI staff presented a modified recommendation to include three Tiers instead of two, and increase the new application cap from two to three applications for Tier 1 applicants like SAWMPO and its member jurisdictions.

	Tier	Localities	MPO, PDC, or Transit Agency	Max Pre-Applications	Max Full Applications
Existing	1	< 200,000	< 500,000	5	4
	2	>= 200,000	>= 500,000	12	10
Option 1				4	3
				7	6
Option 2 (Staff Recommendation)				3	2
				6	5
Option 3 (Revised Staff Recommendation)	1	< 100,000	< 250,000	4	3
	2	100,000 - 200,000	250,000 - 500,000	5	4
	3	>= 200,000	>= 500,000	7	6



*Defining eligible project types for High Priority Program (HPP)*

OIPI and VDOT Central Office staff have presented concerns to the CTB that the HPP is funding smaller projects (less than \$10 million) that are not statewide or regionally significant. The Code of Virginia §33.2-370 defines the roadway types eligible for the program — Corridors of Statewide Significance and Regional Networks — not project types. The proposed change would limit the HPP Program to the following project types on Corridors of Statewide Significance and Regional Network roadways:

- New Capacity Highway
- Managed Lanes
- New or Improved Interchanges
- New or Improved Passenger Rail Stations or Service
- Freight Rail Improvements
- High-Capacity / Fixed Guideway Transit
- Transit Transfer Stations
- New Bridge

*Land Use scoring factor changed to a multiplier*

The land use factor would be eliminated as a stand-alone metric and become to a multiplier for other project benefits. OIPI Staff is concerned that the land use score is disproportionately impacting overall project scoring and selection. The other SMART SCALE scoring factor weights would be adjusted to account for the elimination of land use as a stand-alone factor. The OIPI recommendation is to split the 10% Land Use factor weight between Congestion Mitigation (5%) and Safety (5%) for Typology Area C (the SAWMPO, Staunton, Waynesboro, and Augusta County within the MPO).

*Economic Development Measure ED.1 Changes*

OIPI and VEDP staff presented a revised methodology for scoring projects based on their economic development benefit. For each SMART SCALE application, applicants currently enter parcels or sites that are zoned commercial or industrial, or are in the site development and review process. Transportation projects receive points depending on the size of the parcel, its phase of site development, and how directly the transportation improvement serves the parcel. VEDP presented a revised methodology for scoring projects under the ED.1 Measure:

**Summary of ED.1 Recommendations**

Score Calculation Step (Weight)	Process
1. Determine which sites are eligible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Commonwealth determines buffer based on Transportation Project Tier (Table 10.2 Site Eligibility by Transportation Project Tier in SMART SCALE Technical Guide)</li> <li>▪ Pull in VirginiaScan sites based on coordinates and buffer</li> </ul>
2. Calculate estimated jobs and capital investment factors (Jobs: 40%, Capital Investment: 25%)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Input site characteristics (coordinates, acreage) into historical projects model</li> <li>▪ Determine estimated job creation and capital investment relative to all projects in the funding round</li> </ul>
3. Calculate site funding factor (15%)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Sites that have received funding from GO Virginia, Tobacco Commission, or Virginia Business Ready Sites Program (VBRSP) receive the full weight of the funding factor</li> </ul>
4. Calculate site visit factor (10%)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Determine the number of company and/or site selector visits that occurred on eligible sites for each project in the last three years</li> </ul>
5. Calculate site readiness factor (10%)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Determine the eligible site with the highest VBRSP Tier                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Sites that are VBRSP Tier 4 or 5 receive 5 pts, Tier 3 receive 3 pts, Tier 2 receive 2 pts, Tier 1 receive 1 pt</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
6. Sum for ED.1 Measure (100%)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Add the scores from preceding steps</li> </ul>

When OIPI staff evaluated the Round 5 projects using this proposed methodology, there were no change in outcomes for projects in the SAWMPO region, although the broader CSPDC region saw one project dropped. This is not necessarily indicative of how projects would score in Round 6, but does represent a shift in how applicants will manage their input of sites and tracking of site visits.

OIPI staff clarified that Step 3 in the table above can also include private, local and federal funding sources via manual entry in the application, in addition to the statewide programs listed. MPO staff have requested additional information on VEDP VBRSP sites in our region.

## NEXT STEPS

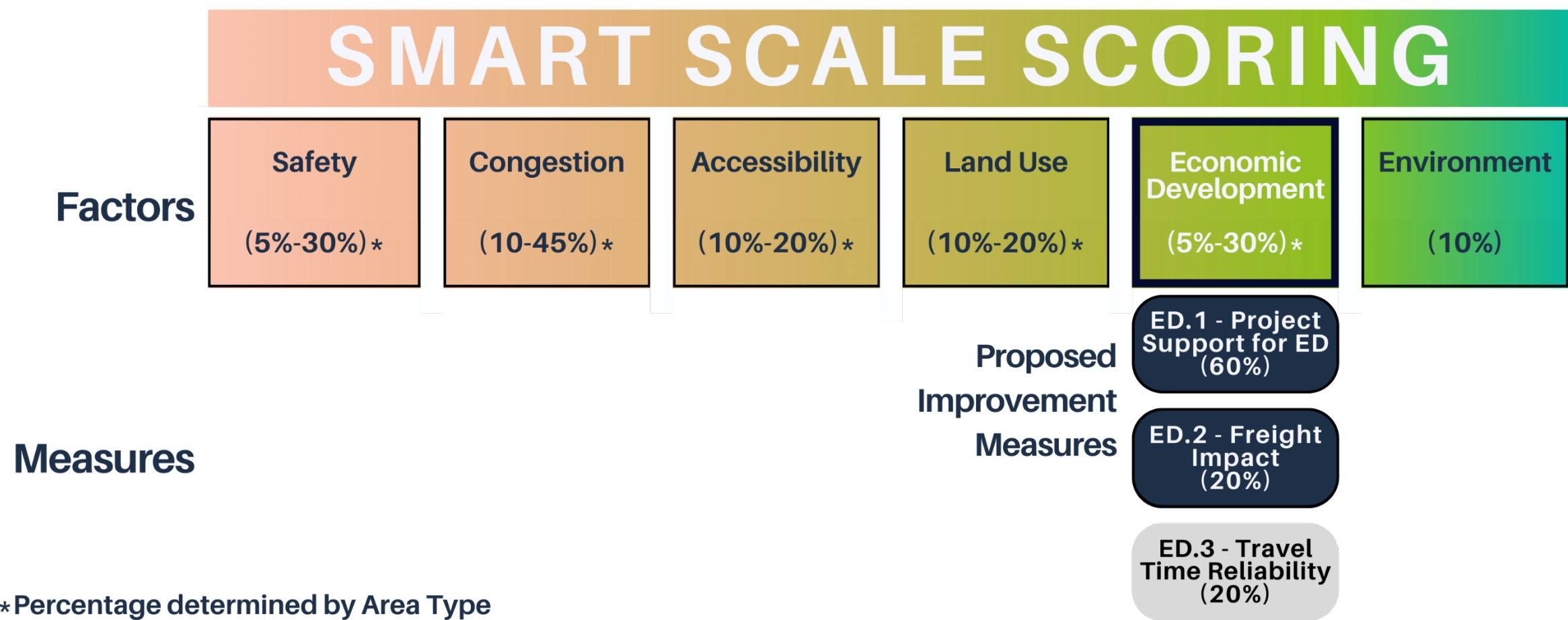
The CTB's next scheduled meeting is December 4, 2023. The CTB meetings represent opportunities to provide comments directly to the CTB and Secretary of Transportation. It is anticipated that the CTB will vote on the policy changes in the coming months prior to Round 6 opening for pre-applications in early 2024.

## ATTACHMENT

SMART SCALE Economic Development Methodology Changes

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# Economic Development Factor Background



\*Percentage determined by Area Type

# Economic Development Factor Methodology Changes

- **Current ED.1 (Project Support for ED) scoring methodology does not incorporate key economic priorities**
  - Needs to better reflect best-in-class economic impact assessments currently used by VEDP
  - Process uses manual process of data entry by applicants and validation by Commonwealth
- **Proposed ED.1 scoring methodology will incorporate key economic priorities, including:**
  - Focus on sites that will attract growth industries, with the inventory captured in a statewide real estate database
  - Job creation and capital investments in sites
  - Estimates potential market demand of sites by including site visits
- **Proposed ED.2 (Freight Impact) scoring methodology focus proposed to shift from freight tonnage moved to freight volume moved**

## Summary of ED.1 Recommendations

Score Calculation Step (Weight)	Process
<b>1. Determine which sites are eligible</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Commonwealth determines buffer based on Transportation Project Tier (Table 10.2 Site Eligibility by Transportation Project Tier in SMART SCALE Technical Guide)</li> <li>▪ Pull in VirginiaScan sites based on coordinates and buffer</li> </ul>
<b>2. Calculate estimated jobs and capital investment factors (Jobs: 40%, Capital Investment: 25%)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Input site characteristics (coordinates, acreage) into historical projects model</li> <li>▪ Determine estimated job creation and capital investment relative to all projects in the funding round</li> </ul>
<b>3. Calculate site funding factor (15%)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Sites that have received funding from GO Virginia, Tobacco Commission, or Virginia Business Ready Sites Program (VBRSP) receive the full weight of the funding factor</li> </ul>
<b>4. Calculate site visit factor (10%)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Determine the number of company and/or site selector visits that occurred on eligible sites for each project in the last three years</li> </ul>
<b>5. Calculate site readiness factor (10%)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Determine the eligible site with the highest VBRSP Tier                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Sites that are VBRSP Tier 4 or 5 receive 5 pts, Tier 3 receive 3 pts, Tier 2 receive 2 pts, Tier 1 receive 1 pt</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>6. Sum for ED.1 Measure (100%)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Add the scores from preceding steps</li> </ul>

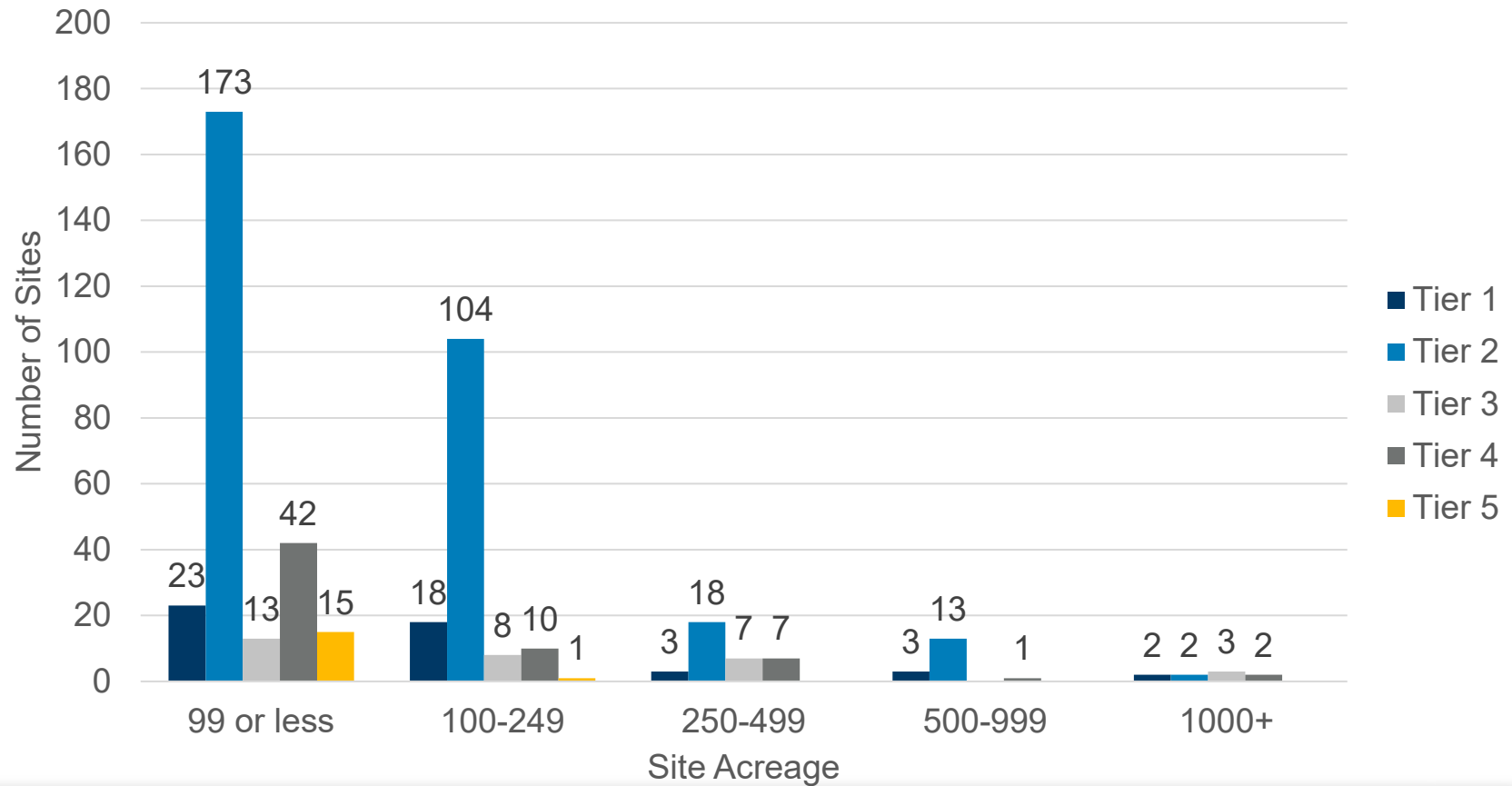
# ED.1 Questions from the September CTB Meeting

What are the available tiered properties in Virginia Scan?

## Tiering System

- 1**
  - Raw land with interested seller
  - Not zoned for economic development use
- 2**
  - Site marketed for development
  - Comp Plan is industrial or commercial land use
- 3**
  - Zoned for industrial or commercial land use
  - Preliminary engineering work completed
- 4**
  - Infrastructure permit issues identified
  - Plans for necessary infrastructure approved
- 5**
  - "Shovel Ready" site cleared & rough graded
  - All site permits in place or identified

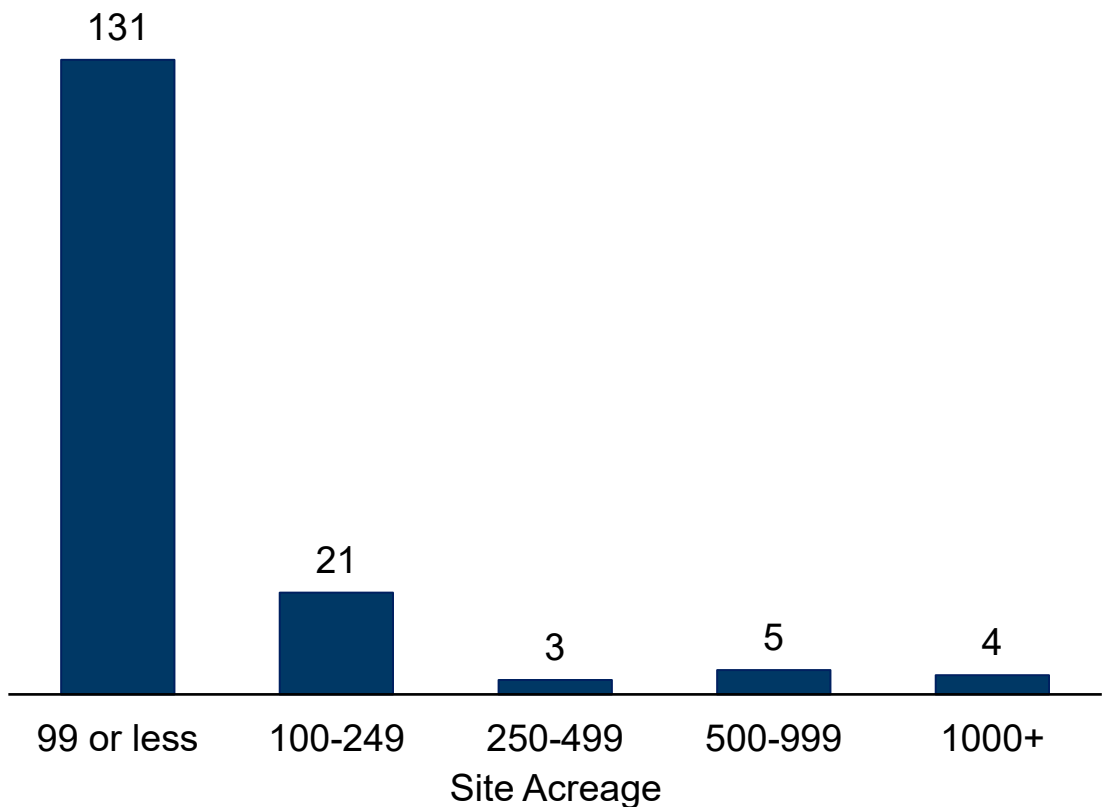
Site Readiness by Tiering in current Virginia Scan database



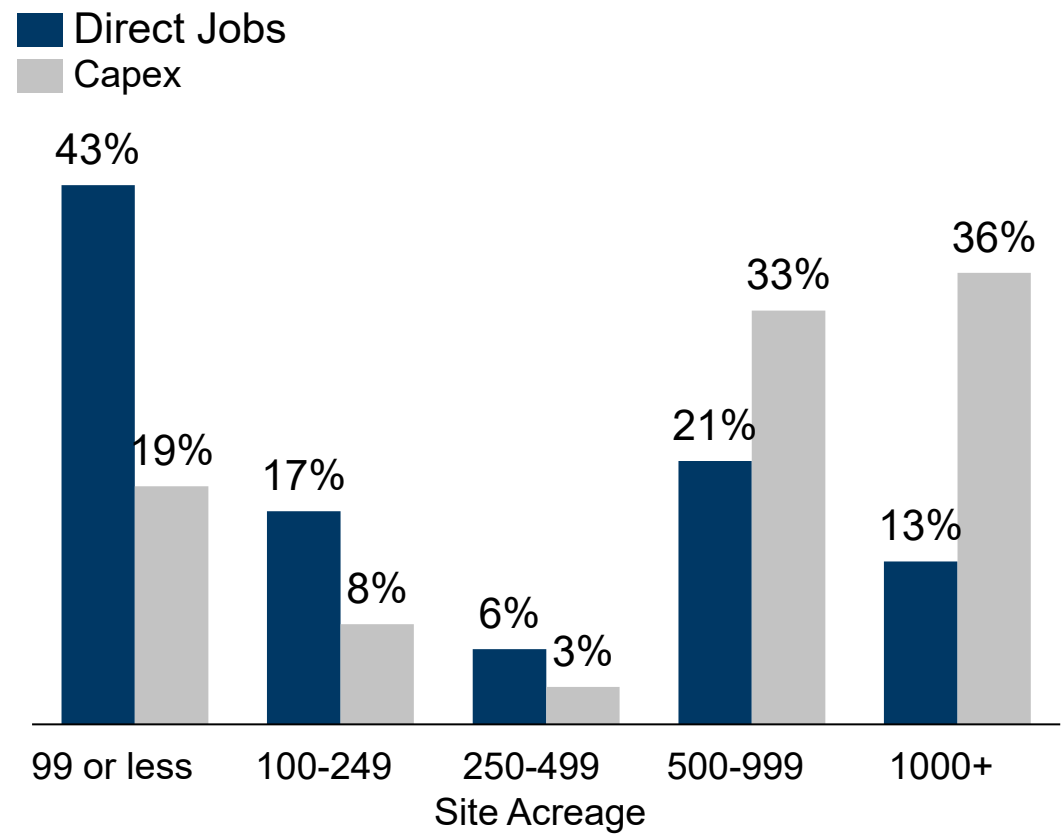
# ED.1 Questions from the September CTB Meeting

What is the site demand for properties in Virginia?

### Real Estate Demand – FY 2023



### Potential Jobs and Capital Investment



## ED.1 Questions from the September CTB Meeting

Could private, local, and federal funding be added to the scoring criteria?

- **Initially, funding from GO Virginia, Tobacco Commission, or Virginia Business Ready Sites Program (VBRSP) was proposed to demonstrate a state priority.**
- **Quantifying private, local, and federal funding sources can be included as a manual entry in the application or as a field in the statewide property database for applicant entry.**



# Impact of Economic Development Changes

- **Top reasons for an increased ED.1 score:**
  - Additional sites were identified using VirginiaScan that the applicant did not include
    - Given land availability, rural areas often have stronger site opportunities
  - VirginiaScan better reflects the value of the site, aligning with the Commonwealth's development priorities
    - Est. jobs, capital investment, meeting market demand, etc.
- **Top reasons for a decreased ED.1 score:**
  - Validation of data using VirginiaScan resulted in sites showing fewer developable square feet than applicants claimed
  - If the property was not listed in VirginiaScan, likely did not have the potential to accommodate high-impact industries
- **ED.2 shift from tonnage to volume did not impact individual project scores but remains the recommended methodology**
- **Economic Development methodology was tested on all 394 applications and the scenario impact was 12 projects added and 9 projects removed**

# Review Illustrative Impacts of Economic Development Scenarios Based on Round 5 Applications – Statewide Summary

	Individual Impacts						Cumulative Impacts	
	Official Round 5 Scenario*	Scenario A: Refine HPP Definition	Scenario B: Eliminate Step 2	Scenario C: Future Congestion	Scenario D: Land Use as a Multiplier	Scenario F: ED.1 and ED.2	Scenario E (A+B+C+D): September Staff Recommended Changes	Scenario G (A+B+C+D+F): Final Staff Recommended Changes
<b>Projects Added</b>	-	1	20	5	27	12	28	30
<b>Projects Dropped</b>	-	25	6	5	48	9	67	69
<b>Net SS Award (millions)</b>	\$1,532.1	-\$9.7	\$78.2	\$28.0	\$25.1	\$58.3	\$35.2	\$41.3
<b>Unallocated HPP (millions)</b>	\$90.1	\$99.8	\$11.9	\$74.1	\$23.0	\$34.1	\$13.5	\$3.7

\*Official Round 5 Staff Scenario funded 152 projects