



**Staunton Augusta
Waynesboro**
Metropolitan Planning
Organization

112 MacTanly Place
Staunton, VA 24401

Phone (540) 885-5174
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Policy Board Meeting Agenda June 5, 2024, at 10:00 a.m.

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

Zoom Video Conference

Dial In (Audio Only): 1-301-715-8592 • Meeting ID: 849 8242 3114 • Passcode: 976960

1. Call to Order
2. Public Comment
3. Approval of Minutes of the May 1, 2024, Policy Board Meeting*
4. Election of Officers (Board Action Form #24-05)*
5. FY24-27 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment Release for Public Comment and Conditional Approval (Board Action Form #24-06)*
6. SMART SCALE Round 6 Resolutions of Support (Board Action Form #24-07)*
7. Functional Classification Update Resolution of Support (Board Action Form #24-08)*
8. Staunton Amtrak Station Improvements Letter of Support (Board Memo #24-06)
9. Presentation: The Value of the Afton Express: A UVA Perspective – Kendall Howell, Assistant Director of Parking and Transportation, University of Virginia
10. Agency Updates
 - VDOT
 - DRPT
 - BRITE & Afton Express
 - Localities
11. Other Business
12. Upcoming Meetings
 - June 19, 2024 – Technical Advisory Committee Meeting, CSPDC Office, 2:00 p.m.
 - July 3, 2024 – Policy Board Meeting, CSPDC Office, 10:00 a.m.
13. Adjournment

*Action Required



**Policy Board
Regular Meeting Minutes
May 1, 2024, 10:00 a.m.**

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

Voting Members		Non-Voting Members		Others	
	City of Staunton	✓	Shane McCabe (Alt)		Staff (CSPDC)
✓	Brad Arrowood, Vice Chair		Cody Huffman (Alt)	✓	Ann Cundy
✓	Amanda Kaufman		VA DRPT	✓	Zach Beard
	John Blair (Alt)	✓*	Grace Stankus		Devon Thompson
	Augusta County		VRT	✓	Paula Melester
✓	Tim Fitzgerald		Steve Wilson		Allyson Finchum
✓	Carolyn Bragg (Chair)		Phil Thompson (Alt)		Others
	Jennifer Whetzel (Alt)		Kevin Jones	✓	Thomas Ruff, Timmons
	Pam Carter (Alt)		FTA		
	City of Waynesboro		Chelsea Beytas		
✓	Jim Wood		VA DOA		
✓	Todd Wood		Rusty Harrington		
	Michael Hamp (Alt)		CTB		
	VDOT		Mark Merrill		
	Todd Stevens				
	Brad Reed (Alt)				
	Don Komara (Alt)				
✓	Matt Dana (Alt)				
✓* Indicates Zoom Participants					

Call to Order

The SAWMPO Policy Board meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Ms. Carolyn Bragg, Chair. Pursuant to §2.2-3708.2 of the Code of Virginia, SAWMPO Policy Board members may participate in meetings of the SAWMPO or its committees through electronic communication means. Those who attended virtually were indicated by an asterisk; all others attended in-person.

Public Comment

Chair Bragg opened the floor for public comment. There were no public comments.

Approval of Minutes

Chair Bragg presented the minutes from the April 3, 2024, Policy Board meeting. Mr. Tim Fitzgerald moved, seconded by Mr. Jim Wood, to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was carried by unanimous vote.

FY2025 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) (Board Action Form #24-04)

Chairperson Bragg presented the draft FY2025 UPWP. Ms. Ann Cundy stated that the draft UPWP was released for a 21-day public comment period, and no public comments were received. She stated that the total FY25 budget, including new and carryover funds, is approximately \$500,000, with a significant portion allocated to updating the Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). Ms. Cundy noted that minor edits were made to the document based on feedback from FTA, but these changes did not impact the overall budget.

Mr. Brad Arrowood moved to approve the FY2025 UPWP as presented; the motion was seconded by Mr. Wood and carried unanimously (7-0).

Presentation: Afton Mountain Transportation Studies

Mr. Zach Beard introduced the topic of the Afton Mountain Small Area Study, which complements Augusta County's comprehensive site assessment. Mr. Beard introduced Mr. Thomas Ruff, project manager with Timmons Group, who presented an overview of the draft study. The study evaluated existing site conditions, including traffic volume and crash history, development scenarios, and recommendations. Three future year development scenarios were established to project growth in the area based on average daily traffic (ADT) thresholds.

Based on the analysis, any level of development greater than 2,500 trips per day will likely need an alternative intersection configuration at the US Route 250 and Route 610 intersection. Mr. Ruff noted the primary recommendation from the study is the consideration of a roundabout at the Rt. 250/Howardsville Turnpike intersection. Mr. Ruff also discussed multi-modal access to the Blue Ridge Tunnel, noting the significant expense of a parallel shared-use path to Rt. 250 due to topography; he suggested further exploration of a trail through adjacent properties may be more feasible.

General Board discussion expressed support for the study recommendations. Mr. Fitzgerald discussed recent activities in the Afton area, noting that the County is pursuing funding to study water/sewer infrastructure, removal of abandoned structures, and development of a master plan for the 83-acre site adjacent to Exit 99. He stated that a new hotel is envisioned at the top of the mountain, with a visitor center and commercial



development, but that the property owner wishes to retain ownership of the parcel. Mr. Fitzgerald continued by noting challenges with topography and sight distance for the existing entrance, adding that relocation of the entrance may be considered as part of future redevelopment.

Agency Updates

Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)

Mr. Shane McCabe gave the following updates:

- SMART SCALE Round 6 pre-application evaluation continues, with 31 pre-applications received by the Stanton District. VDOT staff are screening the projects and will provide feedback to the applicants. Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) resolutions will be due by August 1 in advance of the full application deadline.
- Stanton District held the SYIP public hearing on April 24; an in-person public meeting is planned for May 15 for the Exit 235 SMART SCALE project.
- Construction continues on the Exit 235 widening project, and the Route 635 bridge project is ahead of schedule. Mr. Fitzgerald noted that the widening created a pavement discontinuity on the exit ramp.

DRPT

Ms. Grace Stankus gave the following updates:

- DRPT will conduct a virtual public meeting on May 16 for the FY25 SYIP. The program includes transit capital funding for BRITE.

BRITE Transit

Ms. Paula Melester gave the following updates:

- A new stop has been added to the 250 Connector at the VCSB building in Fishersville. Service began May 1st with three trips per day.
- Construction on the Lewis Street Hub began on April 15th. Work is progressing well with completion anticipated in September. Monthly coordination meetings are being held.
- The mobile data collection system continues to roll out. Drivers are collecting data on tablets while still using paper manifests for validation purposes.

Afton Express

Ms. Melester gave the following Afton Express updates:

- A trial stop at the UVA Research Park is anticipated to begin at the end of May to coincide with planned construction activities. She reminded the Board that May is Bike Month and the Afton and BRITE buses are equipped with bike racks.



Localities

City of Waynesboro

- Mr. Jim Wood noted that the City is anticipating a soft opening for the new Sunset Park in the near future. Invitations will be sent to the Board members. Increased traffic is expected in the area, especially initially.

City of Staunton

- No updates provided.

Augusta County

Mr. Tim Fitzgerald gave the following update:

- The Comprehensive Plan update is ongoing. The Board appointed a Steering Committee and will work with a transportation focus group.

Other Business

Ms. Ann Cundy mentioned that the Harrisonburg-Rockingham MPO (HRMPO) is assisting with the 2024 Bike-Walk Summit in Harrisonburg and features a speaker from Arkansas discussing trail development in rural areas.

Upcoming Meetings

Chairperson Bragg reminded the Board that the next TAC meeting will be held on May 15 and the next Board meeting will be held on June 5 at 10:00 a.m. at the CSPDC office.

Meeting Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Policy Board, Chair Bragg asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was made by Mr. Arrowood and seconded by Mr. Jim Wood. The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Paula Melester".

Paula Melester
Director of Transportation



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Staunton, VA 24401

Phone (540) 885-5174
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TO: Staunton-Augusta-Waynesboro MPO Policy Board
FROM: Paula Melester, Director of Transportation
MEETING DATE: June 5, 2024
RE: **Board Action Form #24-05: Election of Officers**

RECOMMENDATION

Nominating Committee to recommend candidates for the positions of Chair and Vice Chair.

BACKGROUND

According to the SAWMPO Bylaws, the election of MPO officers shall be held prior to June 30, 2024, with subsequent election of officers held every two years. New elected members begin assuming duties on July 1, 2024.

The Bylaws also state that the Policy Board Chair must appoint a Nominating Committee before the elections. The Board Chair appointed Tim Fitzgerald, Amanda Kaufman, and Todd Wood to serve on the Committee at the May 1, 2024 Policy Board meeting. The Nominating Committee reports officer recommendations for Chair and Vice Chair to the Policy Board for Board consideration.

A Staunton, Waynesboro, or Augusta County representative must serve as Chair and Vice Chair. Both officer positions must be appointed with representatives from different localities. The CSPDC Executive Director assumes the position of MPO Secretary-Treasurer.

ATTACHMENTS

[SAWMPO Bylaws](#)

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TO: Staunton-Augusta-Waynesboro MPO Policy Board

FROM: Zach Beard, Senior Planner

MEETING DATE: June 5, 2024

RE: **Board Action Form #24-06: FY-24-27 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment Release for Public Comment and Conditional Approval**

RECOMMENDATION

Recommend that the Policy Board release the FY24-27 TIP Amendment for public comment and conditionally approve the document.

TIP AMENDMENT AND ADMINISTRATIVE MODIFICATIONS

SAWMPO staff are amending the Highway Maintenance section of the FY24 – 27 TIP to reflect an additional \$4,809,000 in federal funding for Federal FY 24 through the National Highway Performance Program (NHPP) for Preventive Maintenance for Bridges throughout the Staunton Construction District (see Figure 1).

The changes are documented in Appendix A: TIP Amendments and Administrative Modifications – Highway under “June 2024 Amendment” on page 26 of the document. Staff provided an update on the amendment during the May SAWMPO TAC meeting, and the TAC recommended the Board release the document to a 21-day public comment period.

Figure 1: TIP Amendment Block

SAW MPO
Project Groupings

GROUPING	Maintenance : Preventive Maintenance for Bridges					
PROGRAM NOTE	Funding identified to be obligated districtwide as projects are identified.					
ROUTE/STREET					TOTAL COST	\$34,588,836
	FUND SOURCE	MATCH	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY27
CN	Federal - NHS/NHPP		\$0	\$5,564,556	\$755,556	\$755,556
	Federal - STP/STBG		\$0	\$6,648,943	\$6,675,613	\$6,730,320
CN TOTAL			\$0	\$12,213,499	\$7,431,169	\$7,485,876
MPO Note	TIP AMD - add an addit'l \$4,809,000 (NHPP) FFY24					

NEXT STEPS

Staff will release the FY24-27 TIP Amendment for a 21-day public comment period. Staff is recommending that the Board conditionally approve the document during the June meeting pending no public comments.

ATTACHMENTS

[Draft FY 24-27 TIP Amendment](#)





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TO: SAWMPO Policy Board
FROM: Zach Beard, Senior Planner
MEETING DATE: June 5, 2024
RE: **Board Action Form #24-07: SMART SCALE Round 6 Resolutions of Support**

RECOMMENDATION

Recommend that the SAWMPO Policy Board approve the resolutions of support for the SMART SCALE Round 6 full applications.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Five projects from the SAWMPO region are advancing to the final SMART SCALE Round 6 full application submission cycle. While the SAWMPO submitted two Round 6 pre-applications on behalf of Augusta County for the WWRC Long-term Access Improvements project and the I-64 and US 250 Exit 99 Intersection Improvements project, only the WWRC pre-application is advancing to the full application phase due to the Exit 99 project improvements being funded through the VDOT Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP).

The full application cycle deadline is on August 1, 2024. SMART SCALE requires MPO Resolutions of Support for projects within the MPO boundary that are not listed in the MPO’s Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Constrained Long-Range Plan (CLRP). Following precedent, the SAWMPO is providing a resolution for all applications submitted from the MPO area, regardless of CLRP status.

FULL APPLICATIONS IN THE MPO REGION

Smart Scale Round 6 Full Applications

Project	Description
Augusta County	
WWRC Long-term Access Improvements* (SAWMPO submission)	Construct 3,700 feet of new alignment to connect US 250 to WWRC.
Route 256 and I-81 Interchange Three Lane Bridge	Includes the addition of left turn lanes through a bridge deck widening between the north and southbound ramps. This project is adjacent to a funded project that adds east and west bound turn lanes from Rt. 256 onto the I-81 ramps. The two projects will complement one another with the extension of a shared use path and addition of east and west bound left turn lanes.
Waynesboro	
Crozet Tunnel Trail	Construct a ~1.3-mile shared use path roughly parallel to US-250 from 1800 East Main Street to the western trail of the Blue Ridge Tunnel Phase III project.

Project	Description
Lew Dewitt Pedestrian Project	Construct approximately 6,045 ft. (1.1 miles) of sidewalk along the west side of Lew Dewitt from West Main Street to Lucy Lane. Project includes a signalized pedestrian crossing at Lucy Lane. Total sidewalk facility would be about 7,000 ft. (1.3 miles) including existing sidewalk and entrances.
Waynesboro Transit Access Project	<p>Provide improved bus stops at 6 locations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walmart: tie new sidewalk and crossing Rosser and the proposed crossing of Lennox Lane, 1 bus pad, 3 ADA ramps, 200 linear feet of sidewalk, 1,500 square feet of right of way, and 120 linear feet of pavement marking. • Walmart Market: 1 bus shelter, 1 bus pad, site grading, and 30 linear feet of block retaining wall. • Mountain View apartments: tie to existing sidewalk on west side of Ivy Street, 1 bus shelter 1 bus pad, 2 ADA ramps, 175 linear feet of sidewalk, 4 crossing signs, and 2 rectangular rapid flashing beacon (RRFB) systems. • DMV-Food Lion: tie to existing sidewalk on east side of King Ave, 1 bus shelter, 1 bus pad, 4 ADA ramps, 200 linear feet of sidewalk, 4 crossing signs, general regrading and ditch alignment, 250 linear feet of pavement marking, 2,000 square feet of right of way, and 2 RRFB systems. • Speedway: 1 bus shelter, 1 bus pad, 1000 square feet of right of way, 30 linear feet of sidewalk, 500 square foot curb and pad buildup in asphalt area, and entrance reconstruction. • Kroger: 1 bus shelter and 500 square feet right of way.

RESOLUTIONS

- [WWRC Long-term Access Improvements](#)
- [Route 256 and I-81 Interchange Three Lane Bridge](#)
- [Crozet Tunnel Trail](#)
- [Lew Dewitt Pedestrian Project](#)
- [Waynesboro Transit Access Project](#)





TO: Staunton-Augusta-Waynesboro MPO Policy Board

FROM: Zach Beard, Senior Planner

MEETING DATE: June 5, 2024

RE: **Board Action Form #24-08: Federal Functional Classification Update Resolution of Support**

RECOMMENDATION

Recommend that the Policy Board approve the proposed Federal Functional Classification (FFC) updates.

FEDERAL FUNCTIONAL CLASSIFICATION UPDATE

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Federal Functional Classification (FFC) system designates public roads into classes based on the service type and traffic volume. FFC designations include arterials, collectors, and local roads. Federal funding varies depending on the road's functional class. In urban areas, federal aid is available for roads that are functionally classified as urban minor collectors or higher.

VDOT is conducting a statewide update to the Federal Functional Classification, which has historically occurred following the decennial Census. The most recent update, the 2010 Functional Classification for Virginia, was approved in 2014 by FHWA. In March 2022, the US Census released the 2020 Census data, which serves as the basis for the current statewide update.

The MPO and localities have an opportunity to review the proposed FCC changes, and also suggest new changes to the FCC designations.

MPO REVIEW

VDOT Staunton District Staff, MPO staff, and locality staff each reviewed the proposed functional classification in the SAMWPO and had no comments. VDOT is requesting that each MPO approve a resolution acknowledging the coordination effort within Virginia on the FFC Update to document VDOT's cooperation with local officials to FHWA.

Following the MPO review, VDOT will submit the updated functional classification to FHWA for their review and approval by September 2024.

ATTACHMENTS

- [Map of existing Functional Classification and proposed changes](#)
- [Resolution of Support](#)



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TO: Staunton-Augusta-Waynesboro MPO Policy Board
FROM: Ann Cundy, SAWMPO Secretary/Treasurer
MEETING DATE: June 5, 2024
RE: **Board Memo #24-07: Staunton Amtrak Station Improvements**

BACKGROUND

The Virginia Passenger Rail Authority (VPRA) requested that the SAWMPO provide a letter of support for a grant application that is addressing ADA improvements at the Staunton Amtrak station. The historic Staunton Amtrak station is non-compliant with ADA law and has a backlog of repairs necessary at the platform and canopy. The VPRA is applying for FY23 and FY24 Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI) grant funds for the Staunton Station ADA Improvements and State of Good Repair Project.

The Project will design and construct needed operational and structural improvements to improve the platforms which board and alight customers. MPO staff reviewed the request and provided a letter of support to VPRA.

ATTACHMENT

[Letter of Support](#)
