



Staunton-Augusta-Waynesboro Metropolitan Planning Organization Policy Board Meeting Agenda August 20, 2025, at 10:00 a.m.

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

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Minutes of the July 16, 2025, Policy Board Meeting*
3. Public Comment
4. Resolutions of Support of FY27 Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) Applications (Board Action Form #25-06)*
5. 2050 Long Range Transportation (LRTP) Update (Board Memo #25-07)
6. Presentation: Traffic Garden Planning, Design, and Implementation in Waynesboro; Fionnuala Quinn, Owner of Discover Traffic Gardens
7. Agency Updates
 - VDOT
 - DRPT
 - BRITE & Afton Express
 - Localities
8. Other Business
9. Upcoming Meetings
 - September 3, 2025 – Technical Advisory Committee Meeting at 2:00 p.m.
 - September 17, 2025 – Policy Board Meeting at 10:00 a.m.
10. Adjournment

*Action Required

Staunton-Augusta-Waynesboro Metropolitan Planning Organization

Policy Board Meeting Minutes

July 16, 2025, 10:00 a.m.

Meeting conducted virtually

Attendance

Voting Members		Non-Voting Members		Other Attendees	
City of Staunton		VDOT		Staff (CSPDC)	
	Amanda Kaufman	✓*	Shane McCabe	✓*	Ann Cundy
✓*	Brad Arrowood (Chair)	✓*	Cody Huffman		Zach Beard
✓*	Rodney Rhodes (Alt)	DRPT		✓*	Devon Thompson
Augusta County			Grace Stankus	✓*	Paula Melester
✓*	Tim Fitzgerald	Virginia Regional Transit		✓*	Garreth Bartholomew
✓*	Carolyn Bragg		Steve Wilson		
	Pam Carter (Alt)	✓*	Phil Thompson (Alt)		
City of Waynesboro		Department of Aviation			
✓*	Jim Wood (Vice Chair)	✓*	Rusty Harrington	Others	
✓*	Todd Wood	FHWA and FTA		✓*	Joe Johnson, VDOT
	Michael Hamp (Alt)		Kevin Jones		
VDOT					
	Todd Stevens				
✓*	Brad Reed (Alt)				
✓*	Don Komara (Alt)				

*Virtual attendance

Call to Order

The July 16, 2025, Staunton-Augusta-Waynesboro Metropolitan Planning Organization (SAWMPO) Policy Board meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Chair Brad Arrowood. The meeting was conducted virtually with no in-person option.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Garreth Bartholomew presented corrections to the previous meeting minutes. Under attendance, Amanda Kaufman was shown as present but only Rodney Rhodes was present for the city at the previous meeting. Under locality updates, Staunton's update incorrectly referenced a signal being removed and replaced with stop signs, when it should have referenced turn lanes being removed. The Board was asked for conditional approval of the minutes pending these corrections and any other corrections from members.

A motion to approve the minutes with pending corrections was made by Mr. Jim Wood; seconded by Ms. Carolyn Bragg. The Board approved the motion by unanimous vote.

Public Comment

Chair Arrowood opened the meeting for public comment. There were no public comments.

SAWMPO Internal Process Review (Board Memo #25-06)

Ms. Paula Melester presented information about internal tasks that staff will be working on over the next six to eight months. Ms. Melester explained that SAWMPO staff conducted a staff retreat in April, and one central topic of discussion was how to best navigate changing federal and state funding priorities. In response, the team will be conducting an internal review of processes, procedures, and update governing and planning documents to identify areas for improved efficiency and ensure compliance with changing federal and State requirements while also better serving local and regional transportation needs.

The first step will be meeting with each locality and agency to get feedback on priorities and how staff can best support them. After receiving feedback, staff will examine process and policy documents and update the Title VI Plan, public participation plan, and bylaws, and incorporate new processes and procedures as necessary.

Chair Arrowood asked about which local representatives were invited to the meetings. Ms. Melester explained that invitations were sent to local staff with requests to coordinate internally within each locality to determine participation.

Presentation: 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan Update

Mr. Garreth Bartholomew provided a progress update on the 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). SAWMPO staff are drafting several chapters for TAC review at the August TAC meeting. Mr. Bartholomew then summarized key milestones of the LRTP update since January 2025 for project scoring criteria, LRTP plan goals, and the second round of public engagement.

Goals and Project Evaluation

The Board approved project scoring criteria that translated community priorities into regional goals for each locality. Each locality ranked five different criteria: safety, accessibility, land use, economic development, and environment. The weighted criteria were used to evaluate all projects. The process aligns with Smart Scale. Staff shared the prioritized list of projects with the Board at the May meeting.

Public Engagement Phase II

Phase II of public engagement focused on receiving input on 23 proposed projects and 15 studies through an interactive website and three in-person events, generating 201 contributions with 89% average project support. Safety projects and pedestrian and bicycle projects both scored highly. All proposed projects related to sidewalks, bike lanes, or shared-use paths, along with any project explicitly mentioning safety improvements, received 100% support, and all projects received 89% support overall. Responses for several intersection and roundabout projects were mixed, but overall, these project types also had a high-level of support.

Next Steps

Staff will present the first draft chapters at the August TAC and Policy Board meetings, followed by the complete draft in September. Staff will request that the Board release the document for a 45-day public comment period at the October Board meeting. The document is scheduled to be approved by December 19.

Agency Updates

VDOT

Mr. Brad Reed provided the following updates:

- I-81 Capital Improvement Program Meetings: VDOT held I-81 capital improvement program meetings over two days at Weyers Cave at Blue Ridge Community College and at Shenandoah University, both with good attendance. A comment period is open until the end of July for the proposed improvements. Notably, the Staunton District has the highest I-81 mileage, needs, and safety/operations issues, resulting in the most recommended improvements with just over 70 miles of widening in both directions. Following public input, a Smart Scale-like process will prioritize projects based on the approximately \$2 billion of available funding, with final CTB adoption expected in December.
- VDOT STARS Route 340 Study in Waynesboro: The next Route 340 Rosser Avenue study group meeting will be Friday at 10:00 a.m. to discuss preliminary ideas on how to address corridor issues, particularly safety-related, and operational issues identified during field review.

Mr. Don Komara provided the following updates:

- The Barterbrook Road project is complete with Barterbrook Road open, and work continues on acceleration lanes underneath the new bridge.
- Southern Connector in Waynesboro has minor improvements before the project is complete.
- I-81 through Staunton from mile markers 222 to 225 is progressing well, and automated camera enforcement being is being considered for implementation later this year.
- Weyers Cave area construction by Branch Highways has begun on both sides through mile marker 235, with Jersey barriers on both sides creating a 60-mph zone.
- Fall advertising is planned for improvements in Harrisonburg from the truck stop to Route 33.
- Mill Street in Verona dual left improvements were bid twice, with the second bid receiving two bids.
- Route 250 safety improvement projects for turn lanes had one high bid, so the project is being repackaged for re-advertising.

DRPT

Mr. Bartholomew provided the following DRPT updates on behalf of Grace Stankus:

- DRPT will host their FY26 post-award webinar for all public transit, MPO, and commuter assistance grant recipients on July 23rd at 11:00 a.m.
- DRPT will host an National Transit Institute (NTI) course on State and metropolitan transportation planning at the Plan RVA offices in Richmond on September 15-16th.

BRITE Transit and Afton Express

Ms. Devon Thompson provided the following updates:

- Effective July 1, new stop and route changes were implemented on the 250 Connector and Waynesboro Circulator routes. This change has been well received by riders and was recommended by the Transit Development Plan in 2022.
 - Valley Community Services Board will now be a regular fixed stop with hourly service from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on the 250 Connector, previously having been on-call service three times daily. The West Main Plaza stop has moved to Bookerdale Road and West Main Street and is now served by the Waynesboro Circulator.
 - The Waynesboro Circulator previously traveled in and out of Waynesboro via Rosser Avenue, and will now travel on Lew Dewitt to Bookerdale Road, and turn onto West Main Street.
- For Afton Express, staff continues to work with consultants to analyze ridership data and customer inputs to consider schedule changes that would better align with employer and commuter needs. Consultants at WRA have been drafting alternative schedule scenarios for review with Virginia Regional Transit. The goal is to improve the schedule to utilize the potential of all three buses, continue serving current ridership, but open opportunities for new riders.

Locality Updates

City of Waynesboro

Vice Chair Jim Wood provided the following updates:

- The City continues work to update the comprehensive plan; and the City has received favorable input so far from the public on the new BRITE BUS route changes.
- The Southern Connector project is nearly complete, and the City is excited about the road being operational soon.

Augusta County

Mr. Tim Fitzgerald provided the following updates:

- The County's comprehensive plan draft is available on the county's website for public review. Planning staff will be at the Augusta County Fair next week to discuss the comprehensive plan with attendees, providing opportunities for public comment. Five public meetings are scheduled - one at Blue Ridge Community College and others at county middle schools. Staff will incorporate public input into the final draft, and the County intends to approve the plan by the end of 2025.

City of Staunton

Mr. Rodney Rhodes provided the following updates:

- The City conducted the second public input meeting on the comprehensive plan update with over one hundred citizens attending.
- Two projects in the City are concluding in July: the West Beverly Street project and Churchville Avenue project. The City is considering adding additional bicycle and buffer markings and symbols to further illustrate the intended use of the improvements.
- The City submitted "preliminary applications" for two sidewalk projects, including one on North Augusta Street.

Other Business

There was no other business.



Upcoming Meetings

Chair Arrowood noted that the next TAC meeting is scheduled for August 6, 2025, and the next Board meeting is scheduled for August 20, 2025.

Meeting Adjournment

There being no further business, Chair Arrowood adjourned the meeting at 10:33 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paula Melester". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Paula Melester
Director of Transportation

A short, horizontal red line with a small, dark mark or smudge in the center.

TO: Staunton-Augusta-Waynesboro MPO Policy Board
FROM: Zach Beard, Program Manager
MEETING DATE: August 20, 2025
RE: **Board Action Form #25-06: Resolution of Support for FY27
Transportation Alternative Program Applications**

RECOMMENDATION

Recommend that the SAWMPO Policy Board endorse the Resolutions of Support for three Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Program (TAP) projects in the SAWMPO.

BACKGROUND

VDOT requires that TAP applications for projects in the SAWMPO area have a letter of support from the MPO. The TAP application cycle opens August 15, 2025, and approved applicants have until September 15, 2025, to submit the resolutions with final applications. There are three TAP applications in the SAWMPO this cycle. The TAC recommended that the Policy Board endorse the projects at the August 6, 2025, TAC meeting.

TAP APPLICATIONS

Augusta County

Verona Pedestrian Project – Quicks Mill Road Extension

This project extends previously funded pedestrian improvements in Verona by adding pedestrian accommodations along Quicks Mill Road (Route 612) from US Route 11 west approximately 1,000 feet to Charlottes Court (Route 1943). Building upon the existing core sidewalk network established through a previous TAP project, this extension addresses critical safety needs in an area that has experienced multiple pedestrian fatalities, including a recent incident along the proposed route. The project will provide safe, off-street facilities for neighborhood residents to access nearby services while benefiting both motorized and non-motorized travelers by creating dedicated spaces for each mode of travel.

City of Waynesboro

Race Avenue Sidewalk and Streetscape

This project will construct sidewalks on both sides of Race Avenue to create a vital pedestrian connection between downtown infrastructure and adjacent recreational amenities including parks, greenways, and natural areas. The improvements will include additional parking spaces, landscaping enhancements, and street trees along Race Avenue, creating a more walkable and aesthetically pleasing corridor that enhances connectivity between the urban core and green spaces.

Waynesboro Transit Access Project

This project will implement comprehensive pedestrian safety and ADA improvements at six bus stop locations throughout the City, upgrading stops that are currently marked only by signs. Improvements include new sidewalk tie-ins, pedestrian crossings, bus pads, ADA-compliant ramps, and weather-protective bus shelters at BRITE Bus Transit Service Waynesboro Circulator Route

stops #1, #6, #7, #8, #23, and #26. The project will also add unsignalized pedestrian crossings at stops #7 and #8, ensuring that transit users of all abilities can safely access public transportation while being protected from extreme weather conditions.

ATTACHMENTS

- [Resolution of Support for Verona Pedestrian Project – Quicks Mill Road Extension](#)
- [Resolution of Support for Race Avenue Sidewalk and Streetscape](#)
- [Resolution of Support for Waynesboro Transit Access Project](#)



TO: Staunton-Augusta-Waynesboro MPO Policy Board
FROM: Zach Beard, Program Manager
MEETING DATE: August 20, 2025
RE: **Board Memo #25-07: 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan Update**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

SAWMPO staff has completed drafts of chapters 2 through 5 for the 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) and provided an overview of the chapters to the TAC at the August 6, 2025, TAC meeting. The remaining chapters and draft document will be presented at the September 3, 2025, TAC meeting. Staff will review the draft document with the Policy Board and request that the Board release the document for a 45-day public comment period at the October 15, 2025, Board meeting, and approve the document at the December 17, 2025, Board meeting.

DOCUMENT OVERVIEW

The LRTP is organized into an executive summary, seven chapters, and appendices. Staff has drafted Chapters 2 through 5 for TAC review, and the remaining chapters and overall document will be presented to the TAC at the September 3, 2025 TAC meeting. A summary of each drafted chapter is below.

Figure 1. 2050 LRTP Contents Overview (chapters in red currently drafted and under review)

Chapter 2: Public Engagement

This chapter documents the public engagement process conducted for the 2050 LRTP update. Phase I gathered transportation vision and priorities through an online survey of 284 respondents, three pop-up events, and stakeholder consultations with 20 organizations. Phase II focused on receiving input on 23 proposed projects and 15 studies through an interactive website and three in-person events, generating 201 contributions with 89% average project support. Key findings show results aligning with 2045 LRTP public input priorities. Phase III includes releasing the draft document for public review.

Chapter 3: Regional Context

This chapter profiles the SAWMPO planning area's population, demographics, and employment using 2018-2022 census data, and also includes 2050 population and employment projections. The region is projected to grow from 87,189 residents in 2022 to 100,695 by 2050, which is a 15.5%

Cover Page, Table of Contents, Glossary
Executive Summary

Chapter 1 – Planning Context

Chapter 2 – Public Engagement

Chapter 3 – Regional Profile

Chapter 4 – Existing Transportation Network

Chapter 5 – Transportation Needs

Chapter 6 – Goals and Project Evaluation

Chapter 7 – Transportation Projects (CLRP)

Appendices – Vision List, Revenues, Project Evaluation
Methodology, Public Input Summary, Resource Agency
Comments, Performance Based Planning, Port of Virginia

increase. Augusta County will drive most population growth, while employment distribution remains stable across jurisdictions. The chapter identifies higher-than-average rates of elderly residents, disabled populations, and concentrated poverty areas in comparison to state averages.

Chapter 4: Existing Transportation Network and Conditions

This chapter identifies the region's multimodal transportation infrastructure including roadways, transit, bicycle and pedestrian facilities, rail and air services, and also new sections on freight and truck parking, park and ride lots, and electric vehicle charging.

Chapter 5: Multi-Modal Transportation Needs

This chapter identifies primary transportation needs through 2050 based on capacity analysis, safety data, and connectivity gaps. The analysis confirms that the transportation network can accommodate projected growth with minimal capacity constraints outside the interstate system. Only six roadways are projected to experience significant traffic increases. Safety concerns focus on VDOT potential for safety improvement locations. Transit needs emphasize serving growing disadvantaged populations, while bicycle and pedestrian needs center on addressing safety and connectivity gaps.

NEXT STEPS

The entire draft document will be available for TAC review at the September 3, 2025, TAC meeting. Staff will present the draft document to the SAWMPO Policy Board on October 15, 2025, and request that the document be released for a 45-day public comment period. Both the SAWMPO Board and TAC will have the opportunity to provide input through the public comment period ending on November 28. The document is scheduled to be approved at the December 17, 2025 Policy Board meeting.

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