

WIN-FRED METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Frederick County ❖ City of Winchester ❖ Town of Stephens City
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400 Kendrick Lane, Suite E, Front Royal, Virginia 22630
 Phone: 540-636-8800
 www.winfredmpo.org

WinFred Metropolitan Planning Organization

Chairman Charles DeHaven, Jr.
Policy Board Meeting Minutes
February 17, 2021

Meeting held via Zoom due to the COVID-19 Pandemic

WinFred MPO Policy Board Member Jurisdiction Representatives					
	Frederick County		VDOT		Staff
✓	Charles DeHaven, Jr.		Randy Kiser	✓	Brandon Davis
✓	Judith McCann-Slaughter		Non-Voting Members	✓	John Madera
✓	Kris Tierney	✓	Richard Duran, FHWA	✓	Karen Taylor
	Winchester		Tony Cho, FTA		Others
✓	John Hill		Ciara Williams, DRPT	✓	John Bishop, Fred. Co.
✓	Daniel Hoffman		Rusty Harrington, FAA	✓	Bob Haas, SAAA
✓	Mayor David Smith		Alternates	✓	Andrea Bieber, NWCS
				✓	Katie Russell, NWCS
	Stephens City		Perry Eisenach (Winchester)	✓	Walter Good, Grafton
	Mike Majher	✓	Tim Youmans (Winchester)		
			Mike Ruddy (Frederick)		
		✓	Terry Short (VDOT)		
			Matt Smith (VDOT)		
			Ed Carter (VDOT)		
			Brad Reed (VDOT)		



WinFred MPO Policy Board Meeting Minutes
Wed, February 17, 2021 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

<https://zoom.us/j/92173375480?pwd=WjFJRy9MU21uTnhyTW0zWnJ1NkhXdz09>

Meeting ID: 921 7337 5480

Passcode: 984853

1. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

- A. Adoption of Agenda – Motion to adopt made by Mr. Short; seconded by Mr. Tierney. Motion carried.
- B. Election of Vice Chair – Motion made by Mr. Tierney to elect Mayor Smith as Vice Chair; motion seconded by Ms. McCann-Slaughter. Motion carried.
- C. Welcome – Chairman DeHaven welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- D. Review and approval of the Draft Minutes of the December 16, 2020 Policy Board Meetings – Motion made by Ms. McCann-Slaughter to adopt; motion seconded by Mr. Short. Motion carried.
- E. Financial Report – Report provided for information only.
- F. Draft Minutes of the February 2, 2021 Technical Advisory Committee – provided for information.
- G. Review and endorsement of a request for FTA Section 5310 Grant assistance from Shenandoah Area on Ageing (SAAA), Grafton and Northwestern Community Services Board Motion made by Ms. McCann-Slaughter to endorse the requests; seconded by Mr. Hill. Motion carried.

2. Public Comment Period – None reported.

3. System Planning Update – John Madera & Karen Taylor, NSVRC/Terry Short, VDOT

- North Winchester Area Study; Millwood Avenue/Mall Blvd; Route 50/522 Realignment Study; Route 7 STARS; City Bikeshare Study Phase II – Staff provided updates on the above projects.

4. Upcoming Meeting Schedule – All meetings begin at 10 a.m. via Zoom

- A. Project Steering Committee: TBD
- B. Technical Advisory Committee: March 2, 2021
- C. Policy Board: March 17, 2021

5. VDOT/DRPT/Staff Updates – Staff is currently working on the FY22 UPWP. Mr. Short gave a SmartScale update.

6. Other Business – None reported.

Meeting adjourned at 10:37 a.m.

Glossary of Acronyms

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CLRP – Constrained Long-Range Plan – A fiscally-constrained list of projects drawn from the Vision Plan element of the LRTP. All CLRP projects must have an estimated cost and a revenue source identified.

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WinFred MPO Policy Board Meeting Minutes

Wed, April 21, 2021 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

<https://zoom.us/j/92173375480?pwd=WjFJRy9MU21uTnhyTW0zWnJ1NkhXdz09>

Meeting ID: 921 7337 5480

Passcode: 984853

1. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

- A.** Adoption of Agenda – Motion to adopt agenda made by Ms. McCann-Slaughter; seconded by Mayor Smith. Motion carried.
- B.** Welcome – Chairman DeHaven welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- C.** Review and approval of the Draft Minutes of the February 17, 2021 Policy Board Meeting – Motion to approve minutes as presented made by Ms. McCann-Slaughter; seconded by Mr. Tierney. Motion carried.
- D.** Financial Report – Report provided for information only.
- E.** Draft Minutes of the April 6, 2021 Technical Advisory Committee – Minutes provided for information only.

2. Public Comment Period – None reported.

3. Presentation of the Draft FY22 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) - Karen Taylor/John Madera, NSVRC

Ms. Taylor and Mr. Madera presented the draft FY22 UPWP to the Board. Following the presentation, a motion was made by Ms. McCann-Slaughter to forward the document to the 20 day public comment period; seconded by Mr. Short. Motion carried.

4. System Planning Update – John Madera & Karen Taylor, NSVRC/Terry Short, VDOT

Staff provided a status update on the following projects:

CLRP Prioritization and the 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan; Millwood Avenue/Mall Blvd.; Route 50/522 Realignment Study; STARS: Pleasant Valley; City Bikeshare Study

5. Upcoming Meeting Schedule – All meetings begin at 10 a.m. via Zoom

- A.** Project Steering Committee: TBD
- B.** Technical Advisory Committee: May 4, 2021
- C.** Policy Board: May 19, 2021

6. VDOT/DRPT/Staff Updates – Mr. Kiser made everyone aware of the virtual spring SYIP meeting scheduled on April 29 at 6 p.m. Mr. Short stated that VTRANS is currently focusing on the Tier I priorities. He stated that a Revenue Sharing workshop is scheduled for April 29 and the TA application period will open on May 17. Mr. Madera stated that Chad Tucker with VDOT will be presenting on SmartScale at the April 8th Rural Transportation Planning Committee.

7. Other Business – None reported.

Meeting adjourned at 10:25 a.m.

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**WinFred MPO Policy Board Meeting Minutes
(meeting held via Zoom)
Wednesday, May 19, 2021, at 10 a.m.**

1. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

- A. Adoption of Agenda – Motion made by Ms. McCann-Slaughter approving the agenda with the addition of the City of Winchester TIP request. Seconded by Mr. Eisenach. Motion carried.
- B. Welcome – Chairman DeHaven welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- C. Review and approval of the Draft Minutes of the April 21, 2021 Policy Board Meetings – Motion made by Ms. McCann-Slaughter approving the minutes. Seconded by Mr. Eisenach. Motion carried.
- D. Financial Report – Report provided for information only.

2. Public Comment Period –

Mr. Eisenach introduced and requested the addition of a project to the WinFred MPO TIP- Winchester Transit Equipment Maintenance Garage Reconstruction. Mr. Eisenach gave an overview of the project. He stated that the City is hoping to receive federal grant funds to construct. Following discussion, a motion was made by Ms. McCann-Slaughter approving the project for inclusion in the WinFred MPO TIP; seconded by Mr. Eisenach. Motion carried.

3. Final approval of the Draft FY22 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) – Karen Taylor, NSVRC

Ms. Taylor reviewed the draft plan and requested approval from the Board. She stated the public comment period ended and none received. **A motion was made by Ms. McCann-Slaughter approving the FY22 UPWP along with permission for the Chairman to sign the resolution; seconded by Mr. Kiser. Motion carried.**

4. Update on the City Bikeshare Study Phase II- Will Cockrell, EPR

Mr. Cockrell provided an update on the study. A brief discussion followed with Mayor Smith asking to take out the streets that are not in the bike route. The study is anticipated to be complete by fall 2021. This is for information only; no action requested.

5. System Planning Update

CLRP Prioritization and the 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan – Mr. Madera stated that the prioritization is complete. Staff will begin updating the 2045 MTP after July 1. This update will include a robust public outreach.

Millwood Avenue/Mall Blvd & Route 50/522 Realignment Study – Mr. Madera stated that these two studies are complete, and the SOW has been met.

6. Upcoming Meeting Schedule – All meetings begin at 10 a.m. via Zoom

- A. Project Steering Committee: TBD
- B. Technical Advisory Committee: June 1, 2021
- C. Policy Board: June 16, 2021

7. **VDOT/DRPT/Staff Updates** – Mr. Reed stated that Mr. Short has taken another position within VDOT and that he and Mr. Campbell will be the VDOT MPO representatives.

8. **Other Business** – None reported.

Meeting adjourned at 10:57 a.m.

A majority of the MPO voting members shall constitute a quorum (5 voting members)

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WinFred Metropolitan Planning Organization

Chairman Mayor John David Smith
Policy Board Meeting Minutes
September 15, 2021

WinFred MPO Policy Board Member Jurisdiction Representatives			
Frederick County	VDOT	Staff	
✓ Charles DeHaven, Jr.	✓ Randy Kiser	✓ Brandon Davis	
✓ Judith McCann-Slaughter	Non-Voting Members	✓ Amanda Kerns	
Mary Beth Price	✓ Kevin Jones, FHWA	✓ Karen Taylor	
Winchester	Tony Cho, FTA	Others	
✓ John Hill	Ciara Williams, DRPT	✓ Mayor Mike Diaz, Town of Stephens City	
Daniel Hoffman	Rusty Harrington, FAA		
✓ Mayor John David Smith	Alternates		
	✓ Adam Campbell, VDOT		
Stephens City	✓ Perry Eisenach (Winchester)		
Mike Majher	✓ Tim Youmans (Winchester)		
	✓ Wyatt Pearson (Frederick)		
	✓ Brad Reed (VDOT)		
	✓ Matt Smith (VDOT)		
	✓ Ed Carter (VDOT)		



WinFred MPO Policy Board Meeting Minutes
Frederick County Administrative Offices, 107 N. Kent St., Winchester, VA
First Floor Conference Room
Wednesday, September 15, 2021 at 10 a.m.

1. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

- A. Adoption of Agenda – Motion made by Ms. McCann-Slaughter adopting the agenda; seconded by Mayor Smith. Motion carried.
- B. Annual election of FY22 Chair and Vice-Chair – Motion made by Ms. McCann-Slaughter nominating Mayor Smith as FY22 Chair of the MPO Policy Board; seconded Mr. Hill. Motion carried. Motion made by Ms. McCann-Slaughter nominating Mr. DeHaven as FY22 Vice-Chair of the MPO Policy Board; seconded by Mr. Hill. Motion carried.
- C. Welcome – Chair Mayor Smith welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- D. Review and approval of the Draft Minutes of the May 19, 2021 Policy Board Meeting
A motion was made by Vice-Chair DeHaven approving the minutes; seconded by Ms. McCann-Slaughter. Motion carried.
- E. Financial Report – For information only; no action required.

2. Public Comment Period – Mayor Mike Diaz of Stephens City introduced himself. The Board welcomed him.

3. Presentation on the 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan Public Outreach – Amanda Kerns, NSVRC

Ms. Kerns gave a powerpoint presentation (attached) on the 2045 MTP public outreach plan. Several Board members gave Ms. Kerns suggestions on local community events that will be good for outreach. Mr. Reed suggested targeted Facebook ads and Metroquest kiosks at community outreach events.

4. System Planning Update

System planning update report is attached to the minutes.

5. Upcoming Meeting Schedule (All meetings are held at the Frederick County Administrative Offices – First Floor Conference Room)

- A. Project Steering Committee: TBD
- B. Technical Advisory Committee: Tuesday, October 5, 2021 @ 10 a.m.
- C. Policy Board: Wednesday, October 20, 2021 @ 10 a.m.

6. VDOT/DRPT/Staff Updates

VDOT Update-

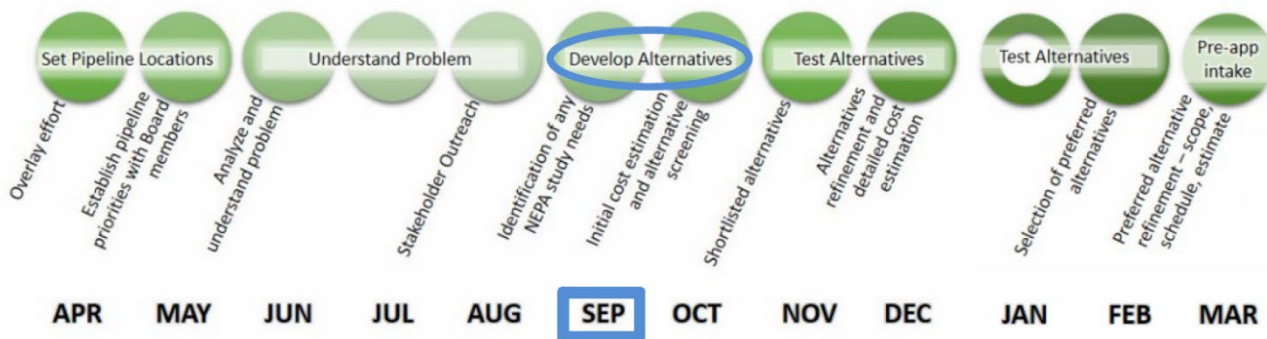
Project Pipeline

Five studies are underway across the District to address high priority VTrans needs through a new study program initiated by OIPI. The study locations are listed below along with the primary VTrans need areas that are being assessed. Also below is a summary of the overall project schedule, work completed to date, and upcoming tasks. VDOT and ATCS will share potential solutions with the City and County in workgroup meetings scheduled for the week of 9/27, then decide which ideas to carry forward for analysis.

Study Locations

Locality	Route	Route Name	Begin Point	End Point	Primary VTrans Need(s) Being Assessed
City of Harrisonburg	11	South Main Street	Mosby Road	Pleasant Valley Road	Safety, Multimodal Access
City of Winchester	11	Valley Avenue	Middle Road	Bellview Avenue	Safety, Multimodal Access
Frederick County	11	Martinsburg Pike	Route 37	I-81 Exit 317	Congestion, IEDA (Development Access), Transportation Demand Management
Frederick County	522	Front Royal Pike	Costello Drive	US-50/17	Safety, Transportation Demand Management, Multimodal Access
Frederick County	522	Frederick Pike	Route 127 (Bloomery Pike)	Route 699 (New Hope Road)	Safety

Schedule & Status



Completed

- Hold initial coordination and study kickoff meetings – July
- Data collection & field visits – July/August
- Finalize study framework documents with stakeholder signatures – August
- Hold initial alternatives brainstorm meetings – August

Underway – August-October

- Analysis to understand problems (VTrans needs) and the causes
- Develop range of potential alternatives to address needs

Route 7 STARS

The final study report was shared with the project team on 9/22 and is being added to the VDOT Study Website. At the recent WinFred MPO policy board meeting, Ms. McCann-Slaughter expressed interest in a presentation of the final report to the board, so VDOT will be working with MPO staff to schedule this at an upcoming meeting. VDOT is also available to provide final presentations at a locality level as staff sees appropriate.

Route 277

277 project is underway and ahead of schedule; should be complete last quarter of 2022.

Opequon Bridge/522 South at Old Charlestown Road

Construction is due to begin in Spring 2024. Ms. McCann-Slaughter expressed concerns in regard to rerouting of traffic. Mr. Carter stated that they would be working closely with Traffic engineering.

7. **Other Business** – Mr. Perry Eisenach requested a letter of support from the MPO regarding the City's Transportation Enhancement grant for the Green Circle Trail. Motion was made by Vice-Chair DeHaven approving the letter of support; seconded by Mr. Hill. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 10: 45 a.m.

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METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT PLAN





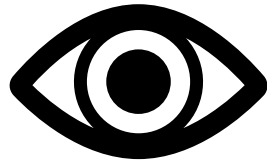
ENGAGEMENT GOALS

- Identify Needs – Early in the engagement process
- Educate and Inform – Ongoing in the process
- Be Transparent and Inclusive - Ongoing in the process
- Review and Affirm – Later in the processes



GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- **Meaningful** – Influences the process and planning document
- **Representative** – Pursues engagement from all parts of the regional community
- **Accessible** – Offers options for everyone to participate in the process
- **Clear** – Presents a process and materials that show how involvement will influence the MTP



ENGAGEMENT PROCESS

- Phase I – Listen (Fall 2021)
 - Previous Feedback through past efforts
 - Community Survey
 - Stakeholder discussions
 - Public Intercepts
- Phase II – Envision (Winter 2021-2022)
 - Open House
 - Stakeholder Discussions
 - TTC and Board Work sessions
- Phase III – Affirm
 - Open House
 - Work sessions
 - Public hearing

COMMUNICATION CHANNELS



Online presence

Information on the website
Social media



Survey

MetroQuest survey



Stakeholder Workshops

Major employers
Advocacy groups
Emergency services
Local, regional, and state officials



Public Intercepts

Existing public events



Public Forums

SURVEY

Survey Distribution Channels:

- The Regional Commission's existing mailing lists.
- Social Media.
- Communication departments within the member governments.
- Major employers, to send to their employees.
- Local religious institutions.
- Cable access.
- Etc.





OTHER OPTIONS

- Public service announcements and interviews on radio and cable television local community channels to explain the subject matter and promote public participation.
- Articles and Press Releases for the newspaper or other widely circulated publications, including those that are known to serve low income and minority households.
- Informal presentations at regional sites, open houses, round tables, or other community forums.
- Formal presentations to various service clubs, civic and professional groups.
- Emails, or mailings for those without email capability, to select individuals, groups or organizations that have expressed interest or made comments at meetings.
- Distribution of information flyers on public transit buses.



PUBLIC INTERCEPT EVENTS

- Access to more diverse crowds
- More quality engagement
- Creative engagement techniques

4IMPRINT – PROMOTIONAL MERCHANDISE



- Up to 10 day turnaround on orders
 - 24 hour production on certain items for an additional fee
 - Extensive variety of items available
 - 1-2 imprint colors
-
- Clip N Go Sanitizer – 100 count min. – \$115
 - Hex Pen – 250 count min. – \$155
 - Mini Fly Swatter – 300 min – \$216



QUESTIONS



WinFred MPO Policy Board Meeting Minutes
Rouss City Hall, 15 N. Cameron St., Winchester, VA
Exhibit Hall, 4th Floor
Wednesday, October 20, 2021 at 10 a.m.

1. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

- A. Adoption of agenda – Motion made by Ms. McCann-Slaughter approving the agenda; seconded by Mr. DeHaven. Motion carried.
- B. Review and approval of the Draft Minutes of the September 15, 2021 Policy Board Meeting – Motion made by Ms. McCann-Slaughter approving the minutes; seconded by Mr. DeHaven. Motion carried.
- C. Financial Report – Report presented for information only.

2. Public Comment Period – None reported.

3. WinTran Update on Grant Application for LFCC Shuttle

Mr. Eisenach presented information on the grant application for the LFCC shuttle. He stated that WinTran intends to begin an express route from the Shihadeh Center to LFCC via I-81. The timeline for implementation has not been confirmed but the shuttle will potentially operate between 8AM to 9PM on an hourly basis. WinTran is coordinating with LFCC to firm up the final details. The City will run a media campaign using social media and will partner with the college to market the new service.

4. Presentation: Route 7 STARS Final Report

Mr. Campbell presented the final report to the Board (attached to the minutes).

5. System Planning Update

MPO staff reported on the following projects (report attached to the minutes)-

Valley Mill Relocation Study; Pleasant Valley Road/Wingate Drive/Featherbed Lane Design Study; Exit 313/Route 50/Route 522 South Area Study Phase 2; City Bikeshare Study Phase 2

6. Upcoming Meeting Schedule (All meetings are held at the Rouss City Hall, 15 N. Cameron St., Exhibit Hall, 4th Floor)

- A. Project Steering Committee: TBD
- B. Technical Advisory Committee: November meeting cancelled
- C. Policy Board: Wednesday, November 17, 2021 @ 10 a.m.

7. VDOT/DRPT Reports

VDOT staff reported on several projects; report is attached to the minutes.

8. Other Business

Ms. Kerns gave an update on the MTP branding and marketing. She discussed the ID and tagline for the project and stated that the MPO Facebook page has been created and is currently live. Staff is recommending the following tagline for social media use “Planning together, moving together.”

9. Meeting adjourned at 11 a.m.

A majority of the MPO voting members shall constitute a quorum (5 voting members)

Glossary of Acronyms

CAC- Citizen Advisory Committee- Serves as an advisory committee to the MPO Policy Board to solicit public input and provide citizen perspective on MPO projects. Conduct public hearings and public input sessions on selected projects at the direction of the Policy Board.

CLRP – Constrained Long-Range Plan – A fiscally-constrained list of projects drawn from the Vision Plan element of the LRTP. All CLRP projects must have an estimated cost and a revenue source identified.

FHWA - Federal Highway Administration - Within the US Department of Transportation, FHWA is responsible for highway issues, including federal laws and regulations related to metropolitan transportation planning.

FTA - Federal Transit Administration- With in the US Department of Transportation, FTA is responsible for public transit issues, including federal laws and regulations related to metropolitan transportation planning.

FTA Section 5303 Funds - This program supports transit planning expenses to support cooperative, continuous, and comprehensive planning for making transportation investment decisions in metropolitan planning areas.

FTA Section 5310 - Transportation for Elderly Persons and Persons with Disabilities - The goal of the Section 5310 Program is to help in meeting the special transportation needs of elderly persons and persons with disabilities. The program is designed to supplement other FTA or assistance programs by funding transportation projects for elderly person and persons with disabilities in all areas – urbanized, small urban, and rural.

LRTP- Long Range Transportation Plan- Also called the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). Developed and approved by the MPO, the LRTP is a regional plan that includes all transportation projects and programs that the MPO realistically anticipates can be implemented over the next 25 years. LRTP's may include a VISION PLAN, which is a list of all projects (a “wish list”) but must also include a CLRP. In order to receive federal funding, transportation projects must be included in the LRTP and the TIP.

MPO - Metropolitan Planning Organization - Federal transportation laws and regulations require the establishment of an MPO in every urbanized area of the U.S. with a population over 50,000. MPOs are responsible for meeting the federal metropolitan planning regulations for transportation.

MTP – Metropolitan Transportation Plan – see **LRTP**.

STP Funds - STP funds are Federal Funds disbursed through State DOT's for Surface Transportation projects.

TAC- Technical Advisory Committee- Serves in an advisory capacity to the Policy Board of the MPO. The TAC works with MPO staff to formulate the UPWP, the LRTP, and provides technical review and assistance on numerous MPO projects undertaken as called out in the UPWP.

TIP - Transportation Improvement Program - Approved by the MPO Policy Board, it is a list of projects and programs that will be implemented over the next six years. In order to receive federal funding, transportation projects must be included in the Constrained Long-Range Plan and the TIP. Amendments are major changes to a project included in the CLRP, TIP or STIP that are not Administrative Modifications.

UPWP – Unified Planning Work Program- MPOs must adopt and implement an annual work program and budget known as the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). The UPWP identifies all activities to be undertaken by the MPO during the fiscal year which begins July 1st and ends the following June 30th.

VDOT - Virginia Department of Transportation – The Agency responsible for statewide transportation facility planning, construction, and maintenance. VDOT is separate from the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (VDRPT).

VDRPT - Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation – The Agency under the Virginia Secretary of Transportation (as is VDOT) provides technical and financial assistance to Virginia's public transit.



WinFred MPO Policy Board Meeting Minutes
Rouss City Hall, 15 N. Cameron St., Winchester, VA
Exhibit Hall, 4th Floor
Wednesday, November 17, 2021 at 10 a.m.

1. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

- A. Adoption of Agenda – Motion to adopt agenda made by Mr. Hill, seconded by Ms. McCann-Slaughter. Motion carried.
- B. Review and approval of the Draft Minutes of the October 20, 2021 Policy Board Meeting – Motion to adopt minutes made by Mr. Hill, seconded by Vice-Chair DeHaven. Motion carried.
- C. Financial Report - Action: for information only.

2. Public Comment Period – None reported.

3. DRPT Transit Equity and Modernization Study – Ciara Williams, DRPT

This item was tabled for a later date due to technical problems.

4. System Planning Update (Attached) -- John Madera & Amanda Kerns, WinFred MPO

Report is attached to the minutes.

5. Upcoming Meeting Schedule (All meetings are held at the Rouss City Hall, 15 N. Cameron St., Exhibit Hall, 4th Floor)

- A. Project Steering Committee: TBD
- B. Technical Advisory Committee: December 7, 2021
- C. Policy Board: December meeting cancelled

6. VDOT/DRPT Reports – VDOT report is attached to the minutes. No report provided by DRPT.

Mr. Carter with VDOT reported that the Route 277 project is on schedule with a completion date of June 2023 or earlier.

Ms. McCann-Slaughter asked for an update on the Opequon Bridge project. Mr. Carter plans to attend the upcoming Frederick County Transportation Committee meeting and will provide an update then.

7. Other Business – None reported.

Meeting adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

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WinFred MPO Staff Report to the Policy Board

November 17, 2021

For background information on studies and projects please visit the individual project pages on the WinFred MPO website. As always, please feel free to reach out to MPO staff with any questions.

Task 6: Bicycle & Pedestrian Planning

Bikeshare Study Phase II

Phase II of the Bikeshare study is completed. Consultants have completed a Public Bike Safety Survey, developed a bike safety marketing campaign, provided recommendations on establishing a bikeshare taskforce and completing the existing bike network, and presented preliminary Phase II work to the City's Pedestrian and Economic Development Committee. Over the next few weeks Consultants provided follow-up information to the PED Committee, meet with the City's Communications Director, and delivered all Phase II findings and recommendations to City Council on October 12.

Task 7: System Planning

US 522 Relocation Study Phase II

The objective of this study is to determine the feasibility and scope of relocating the junction of US 522 Front Royal Pike with US 17/50 Millwood Pike to improve traffic operation. Phase I identified a preferred alignment. Phase II, which kicked off in August, will develop conceptual design, estimate traffic impact, and refine the alignment. The project steering committee met with the consultant on October 15 to review traffic forecast scenarios and to agree on a design typical section. The consultant will develop a conceptual design for committee review, then present before the airport board in December.

Valley Mill Road Relocation Study

This study advances a concept for relocation of the junction of Valley Mill Road with Route 7 at the northbound I-81 ramps, to align with Gateway Drive, to improve traffic flow and reduce the frequency of crashes on westbound Route 7. The project steering committee held a pre-scoping meeting with Pennoni in August. The project scope is contingent on a traffic impact analysis now being conducted by developers of the Washington Commons mixed-use development opposite of Gateway Plaza.

South Pleasant Valley at Wingate Drive Access Management Plan

Prime AE, the project consultant continues work on development of conceptual plans to close left turn access/egress from Wingate Drive to reduce the frequency of crashes, and to extend the southbound right turn lane on Featherbed Lane. The plans will be presented for public input prior to application for funding.

Task 8: Long Range Planning, GIS and Data

WinFred 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan

The consultant, EPR PC, has worked with staff to create a plan for public involvement. Staff has contacted leaders in minority communities to gain insight on effective strategies for public involvement in plan development. An online survey in English and Spanish was launched on November 1st and will remain open through January. Staff is scheduling a series of focus groups, public intercepts and public meetings.

VDOT Report to WinFred MPO Policy Board November 17, 2021

Smart Scale: Please reach out to VDOT District Planning as soon as possible if you are considering submitting a SMART SCALE application in the spring for a project that has not been recommended by a recent planning study. VDOT and local/MPO staff will then work together to assess what level of planning support is needed to develop the project.

Project Pipeline Studies: The Project Pipeline program is currently in 'Phase 2', which includes detailed traffic analysis and alternatives comparison, public outreach, and selection of preferred alternatives. Additional information is available on the [Project Pipeline study page](#). Five studies are underway across the District to address high priority VTrans needs through a new study program initiated by OIPI. The study locations are listed below along with the primary VTrans need areas that are being assessed. Also below is a summary of the overall project schedule, work completed to date, and upcoming tasks. VDOT and ATCS will share potential solutions with the City and County in workgroup meetings scheduled for the week of 11/8, then decide which ideas to carry forward as preferred alternatives.

Study Locations

Locality	Route	Route Name	Begin Point	End Point	Primary VTrans Need(s) Being Assessed
City of Harrisonburg	11	South Main Street	Mosby Road	Pleasant Valley Road	Safety, Multimodal Access
City of Winchester	11	Valley Avenue	Middle Road	Bellview Avenue	Safety, Multimodal Access
Frederick County	11	Martinsburg Pike	Route 37	I-81 Exit 317	Congestion, IEDA (Development Access), Transportation Demand Management
Frederick County	522	Front Royal Pike	Costello Drive	US-50/17	Safety, Transportation Demand Management, Multimodal Access
Frederick County	522	Frederick Pike	Route 127 (Bloemery Pike)	Route 699 (New Hope Road)	Safety

Completed

- Hold initial coordination and study kickoff meetings – July
- Data collection & field visits – July/August
- Finalize study framework documents with stakeholder signatures – August
- Hold initial alternatives brainstorm meetings – August
- Analysis to understand problems (VTrans needs) and the causes - September
- Develop range of potential alternatives to address needs - October

Underway – November-December

- Alternatives testing and selection of preferred alternatives

Shenandoah Valley Rail Trail: The Shenandoah Rail Trail Feasibility Study was submitted to the General Assembly by DCR on November 1. Please visit the [DCR project page](#) and [VDOT project page](#) to stay posted.

CTB Updates: At the October 19 meeting of the Commonwealth Transportation Board ([minutes and video on the CTB site](#)), the Deputy Secretary of Transportation presented on changes to the Commonwealth's revenue forecast that may positively impact transportation funding. Use of the additional, anticipated funds are being considered for allocation to the SMART SCALE program to fund four additional projects from the last round, and to advance schedules for the upcoming round of the Revenue Sharing program. These changes will be under consideration by the CTB and General Assembly, with action being taken in December.

The Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment presented proposed changes to the SMART SCALE scoring measures that will be voted on at the December CTB meeting. The changes include:

Addition of a scoring element to the Environment E.1 measure to quantify the change in estimated Greenhouse Gas emissions before vs. after the project;
Modification of the E.2 impact to natural & cultural resources buffer area to scale the buffer size based on project type; and
Expansion of the Land Use measure to the scoring for Area Types C and D at a 10% weighting.

Please reach out to Brad Reed at VDOT District Planning if you have any questions about these proposals. VDOT and MPO staff are evaluating the proposed changes in order to submit a comment letter to Staunton District CTB member Mark Merrill prior to the next CTB meeting in December, when the Board will act on the recommended scoring measure changes.

Thanks,
Brad



Brad Reed, AICP

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