**Rural Technical Advisory Committee**

**Minutes: March 19th, 2019**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Committee – Voting Members</th>
<th>TJPDC Staff</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>*Dan Butch, Albemarle County</td>
<td>Kristian Zimmerman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Chuck Proctor, VDOT Culpeper District</td>
<td>Jakob zumFelde</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Sandy Shackelford, Nelson County</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jim Frydl, Greene County</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Tom Egeland, Louisa County</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jason Stewart, Fluvanna County</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*David Cook, VDOT Lynchburg District</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karen Davis, JAUNT</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Kristian Zimmerman, RideShare</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Represents voting members present

**Call to Order:**
Mr. Egeland called the meeting to order at 1:02 pm

**Matters from the Public:**
There were no matters from the public

**Approval of Minutes:**
The minutes were motioned for approval by Mr. Egeland and seconded by Mr. Proctor.

**Jefferson Area Bicycle-Pedestrian Plan:**
- Mr. Zimmerman noted that the *Jefferson Area Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan* was adopted on February 27th by the MPO Policy Board and the Planning District Commission adopted the Plan on March 7th.
  - The Plan can be found on the TJPDC’s website and can be downloaded as an entire document or by individual chapter. There is also an interactive map that is also located on the website where in-particular elements can be turned on and/or off.
  - Chuck Proctor asked if the Route 76 Bike Route was shown separately on the interactive map.
    - Mr. zumFelde said it is not on the interactive map, however, it is denoted separately within the Plan
  - A member from JAUNT, Mr. Johnson, asked if there is a list of priorities in which the planned infrastructure should be accomplished
    - Mr. zumFelde said that the urbanized area is prioritized, however, the rural area is not
It was noted there are only so many areas where conditions are ideal in the rural areas for the opportunities to pave a shoulder etc.

- Mr. Cook noted there are data gaps, especially in roadway and shoulder widths. There are hopes that by the next time an update for the Plan comes, significantly more thorough and accurate data will be available
  - Mr. Egeland asked who is responsible for inputting the data when a roadway is reconstructed
  - Mr. Proctor noted that VDOT is responsible for updating the data but it is very rarely done
  - Mr. Johnson asked why there is a lack of VDOT updating this data and Mr. Proctor responded that someone needs to be trained to do the task at hand but does not know what it would take for more data to be updated more regularly
  - Mr. Cook noted the UVA Research Council has talked about the need for better standards of updating the data and is looking towards researching the topic

Locality Updates:

Zion Crossroads Small Area Plan/Corridor Study

- At this time, it is unsure of what exactly this plan will be and what the timeline will be. Mr. Proctor and Mr. Egeland did note that the plan needs to deal with connectivity issues in the area.

Nelson County Student Transportation Evaluation Phase II

- Mr. Zimmerman gave an overview of the project at hand. The county administration was seeking a very basic cost analysis and how their services compared to other similar counties. Mr. Zimmerman said this portion of the project had been completed. The morning routes had been mapped and had determined the potential number of students that might be riding the bus. He noted that a school bus system is very different from a public transit system, in that the school buses are not counting how many students get on/off a bus unlike a public transit system. Therefore, the ridership numbers act as a potential number and not an actual count of riders. It was noted that the data is very complex due to student exchanges from one bus to another in the middle of a route and at school drop-offs. It was also mentioned that the data was not overly clear as one would hope it to be. A hopeful end to the project would be to have better communication between the county administrator’s office and the school board office.

Lovingston CDBG Grant

- Mr. Nick Morrison with the TJPDC is working on acquiring this grant for Lovingston in Nelson County. They have been awarded $5,000 from DHCD to and are looking to show a need for the full planning grant of $35,000. At this time, Mr. Morrison and the work group have submitted the
project management and budget plan to DHCD. The TJPDC has also inventoried the properties within the Lovingston study area.

Nelson County Comprehensive Plan Update

- Mrs. Shackelford noted that what she initially hoped for was for the TJPDC to do the scope of work for the project and get the buy-in from the appointed and elected officials. She noted the goal is to get a framework for the costs, timeline, and public involvement elements of the Plan for the early stages. She noted that the County’s comprehensive plan was adopted in 2002 and underwent minor adjustments in 2014. The purpose of completing a full comprehensive plan update is due to the fact a lot has changed, including environmental, economic, and transportation elements, since 2002. Mrs. Shackelford believes there should be a much more stringent land use map for the Route 151 corridor.

Regional Housing Study

- Mrs. Christine Jacobs from the TJPDC is working with other TJPDC staff on a regional housing study. The study had just begun within the past week and has not had a formal kick-off meeting. The study will hold at least ten community meetings and will be developed around a regional strategy and also an individual county strategy. The study hopes to be wrapped up by December 31, 2019 but is not operating off of a hard deadline. The study is being paid for by funds from a grant.

SMARTSCALE

- Mr. Zimmerman posed a question to the group, of how do they feel is the best way to start planning for the next round of SMARTSCALE.
  - Mr. zumFelde noted that at this time it would be good to start determining what projects the localities and as a region, should be applying for.
  - Mr. Cook mentioned that he has finished updating the SMARTSCALE reference map. This map includes updated PSI locations with 2013-2017 data, corridors of statewide significance, and rounds 1, 2, and 3 of SMARTSCALE.

Staff Updates:

- Mr. Zimmerman noted that work was beginning on the Rural Work Program and that the focus for the upcoming fiscal year will focus on the Zion Crossroads Small Area Plan/Corridor Study
  - The PDC will have approved the Rural Work Program before the next Rural Tech meeting in May.
- Mr. Egeland noted that Louisa County is finishing up their public meetings and is moving forward with the writing portion of their comprehensive plan. Louisa County is planning to ask the TJPDC for some help for regional statistics.
- Mr. Egeland was asking for data concerning scenic roads.
Mr. Cook said that VDOT does have data concerning scenic roads
Mr. Butch from Albemarle County noted that DCR has a Virginia Outdoors Plan and Louisa can look to that plan for any roads that might be labeled for scenic roads that have not yet received that designation
  o Mr. Butch said the county has finished its STARS study of 250 West, from US 29 to Crozet
    ▪ There are segment and intersection improvements and will go to the board of supervisors with the projects to determine prioritization
  o Mr. Zimmerman mentioned that RideShare is rolling out a new marketing campaign, website updates, and a new app
  o Mr. Cook noted that VDOT Lynchburg District is conducting a rumble strip analysis
  o Mr. Zimmerman noted that DEQ has extended a contract involving the Watershed Implementation Plan with the PDC’s and will run from March 1st - September 30th

Updates and Discussion:
  • Mr. Zimmerman asked what types of topics the group would like to hear about and have discussions on.
    o Mr. Proctor said that the group used to have zoning, land use, and other topics discussed other than just transportation. He also noted that presenters would come in from time to time.
    o Mr. Egeland would like to have discussions on wine and brewery corridors as they update their comprehensive plan.
    o Mr. Zimmerman said that Greene County has sent out a request for proposals for a zoning audit. The county is also looking at a new marketing and branding of recreational opportunities and has created a sub-committee to take on this task.
    o Mr. Cook asked Mr. ZumFelde if there are any streetlight topics that can be brought to the group. Mr. ZumFelde agreed that data topics would be a good discussion for the group.

Action Items & Other Business:
There were no action items or other business to conduct

Additional Matters from the Public:
There were no additional matters from the public

Closing:
Mr. Egeland motioned to adjourn the meeting at 2:03 pm, Mr. Cook seconded the motion