

Rural Technical Advisory Committee (RTAC)

Minutes: May 19th, 2020

Committee- Voting Members

TJPDC Staff

Dylan Bishop, *Nelson County*

Jessica Hersh-Ballering

Dan Butch, *Albemarle County*

Nick Morrison

Tom Egeland, *Louisa County*

Sandy Shackelford

Douglas Miles, *Fluvanna County*

Brad Robinson, *Fluvanna County*

David Cook, *VDOT Lynchburg District*

Chuck Proctor, *VDOT Culpeper District*

Rick Youngblood, *VDOT Lynchburg District*

Guests:

Matt Lawless, *Scottsville Town Administrator*

Call to Order:

Mr. Egeland called the virtual meeting to order at 1:05

Matters from the Public:

There were no matters from the public

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes were motioned for approval, pending revisions identified by Mr. Miles. Mr. Egeland made a motion for approval with Mr. Butch providing a second and the minutes were passed unanimously.

Smart Scale Standing Update:

Mr. Proctor provided the committee with an update on the status of Smart Scale. All projects were submitted into the Smart Portal and are in the process of pre-screening evaluation by VDOT staff. He anticipated having VDOT staff responses from pre-screening to the localities by early June, coinciding with the Smart Portal reopening for final application submission. Mr. Cook provided an update on the Nelson County Smart Scale projects.

Mr. Morrison provided a brief overview of the PDC's virtual public engagement efforts to solicit feedback on their Smart Scale projects being submitted in this round. The PDC and MPO partnered with

City of Charlottesville and Albemarle County staff to host two virtual webinars in mid-May. Roughly 96 virtual participants were in attendance.

FY-21 Rural Work Program Review:

Mr. Morrison gave an overview of the FY-21 Rural Work Program. He provided background information on how the work program is used and the timeline for developing it. He then detailed the anticipated tasks that were identified to be completed in the coming fiscal year. The main projects entail a regional freight study, a bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure assessment for the towns, and an inventory of electric vehicle infrastructure in the region.

Mr. Butch noted that adding U.S. 250 to the regional freight study would be beneficial. Mr. Proctor noted that there were several ongoing State-led efforts to look at freight traffic through the Commonwealth.

Ms. Bishop added that with Nelson County's tax relief program, funding for the Comprehensive Plan update was cut. Ms. Shackelford added that there may be opportunities for TJPDC staff to assist at a staff level with some of the transportation components.

Discussion on Bicycle and Pedestrian Infrastructure Inventory:

Ms. Hersh-Ballering gave a presentation on previous planning efforts focused on conducting bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure inventories and lessons learned from those efforts. Ms. Hersh-Ballering has had initial conversations with the Town of Scottsville staff to develop strategies for reallocating street space to the pedestrian realm in easy and temporary ways.

Mr. Proctor asked how in previous demonstration projects staff was able to get around DOT standards.

Mr. Lawless noted that the City of Warrenton recently did a demonstration project and that he was working with VDOT on standards for maintaining the clear zone.

Updates and Discussion:

Mr. Egeland said that Louisa County's community development departments is now entering its busy season.

Mr. Miles noted that Fluvanna County currently has five solar projects at each of the County schools. Staff was also working with a local business on additional outdoor seating outside of the VDOT right of way.

Ms. Bishop said that the Comprehensive Plan funding had been pulled, staff is looking at virtual meeting tools, the Crozet Tunnel is still slated to open in July.

Mr. Butch noted that a lot of reviews and site plans were coming through and work continues on the secondary six-year plan. Staff has also been evaluating truck-traffic and work continues on Smart Scale efforts.

Mr. Proctor said that Smart Scale coordination is ongoing as is the Zion Crossroads study with Fluvanna and Louisa. Mr. Cook added that Smart Scale continues to be a focus for district staff.

Additional Matters from the Public:

There were no additional matters from the public and the meeting was adjourned at 1:45.