

MINUTES

The December meeting of the Transportation Technical Committee was held on Thursday, December 9, 2021 at 1:30 p.m. at the Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission, 313 Luck Avenue, SW, Roanoke, VA.

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT

Mariel Fowler	County of Bedford
Jonathan McCoy	County of Botetourt
Megan Cronise	County of Roanoke
Will Crawford	County of Roanoke
Wayne Leftwich	City of Roanoke
Mark Jamison, <i>Chair</i>	City of Roanoke
Crystal Williams	City of Salem
Anita McMillan	Town of Vinton
Cody Sexton, <i>Vice Chair</i>	Town of Vinton
William Long	Greater Roanoke Transit Co (Valley Metro)
Frank Maguire	Roanoke Valley Greenway Commission
Michael Gray	Virginia Dept. of Transportation - Salem District
Daniel Sonenklar (<i>via zoom</i>)	Virginia Dept. of Rail and Public Transportation

VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT

David Givens	County of Botetourt
Dan Brugh	County of Montgomery
Nathan Sanford	Unified Human Serv. Transp. System (RADAR)

NON-VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT

Kevin Jones	Federal Highway Administration
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RVARC Staff Present: Cristina Finch, Bryan Hill, Rachel Ruhlen (*via zoom*), Jeremy Holmes (*via zoom*), Amanda McGee (*via zoom*), Andrea Garland and Virginia Mullen.

1. WELCOME, CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL

Chair Jamison called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. and asked Cristina Finch, Secretary to the TTC, to call the roll. Ms. Finch stated that a quorum was present.

2. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

The following consent agenda items were distributed earlier:

- A. December 9, 2021 RVTPO Meeting Agenda
- B. November 15, 2021 TTC Minutes

Motion: by Wayne Leftwich to approve items (A) and (B) under the consent agenda, as presented; seconded by Mariel Fowler.

TTC Action: Motion carried unanimously.

3. CHAIR REMARKS

- Chair Jamison reported that the CTB had approved the funding for the 220 Alternate/460 Project at their December 8th meeting.
- Chair Jamison announced that there will be a Special Called meeting in the first week of January 2022. The purpose of the meeting is to continue the discussion on the update to the Roanoke Valley Transportation Plan.

4. UPDATE ON CONTINUED DEVELOPMENT OF THE UPDATE OF THE ROANOKE VALLEY TRANSPORTATION PLAN

Ms. Finch provided an update on the Roanoke Valley Transportation Plan and explained the role of the TPO, the federal oversight, and reason for changing the process with this plan update. Ms. Finch also apologized for any frustration that was caused at the last meeting because of staff not responding adequately to the comments received back in October. Staff have started individual conversations with members to further understand the concerns and how they can be addressed.

Ms. Finch reported that the Plan consultant team and the OIPI GAP consultant team will continue to work together with the RVTPO staff to refine the needs prioritization methodology, objectives, and performance measures and detail the approach to solutions.

5. UPDATE ON FY24 SMART SCALE RVTPO CANDIDATE PROJECT REQUESTS

Mr. Bryan Hill reported that staff received 10 SMART SCALE candidate project request forms from localities in the Roanoke Urbanized Area. The project request submissions are listed in the following table and described more specifically in the staff report.

Agency	Project Name
City of Roanoke	I-581/Orange Ave Interchange Improvements
City of Roanoke	Orange Ave and Williamson Rd. Intersection Improvements
City of Roanoke	Virginia Tech Carilion Research Institute Interchange Project
Botetourt Co.	Rte. 220 Superstreet Improvement
Botetourt Co.	Exit 150 Improvement Project
Roanoke Co.	West Main Street Phase 3 Sidewalk <i>(If unsuccessful in STBG)</i>

Roanoke Co.	Pedestrian Improvements on Williamson Road (UPC 113947)
Roanoke Co.	U.S. Route 11/460 at Dow Hollow Road Intersection Improvements
Roanoke Co.	Route 419 Intersections/Projects (one or more) between Bower Road and Apperson Drive
Roanoke Co.	Pedestrian Crossing Improvements on Route 419 and at Plantation/Hershberger Intersections (UPC 117212)

Mr. Hill invited each project sponsor to speak about their submissions. Chair Jamison (Roanoke City), Mr. Jonathan McCoy (Botetourt County) and Ms. Megan Cronise (Roanoke County) provided a brief description of the project requests they submitted. Mr. Hill noted that no action was currently required, and this was a first review/discussion of the Round 5 RVTPO SMART SCALE project requests.

6. DEVELOPMENT OF THE SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BLOCK GRANT (STBG) FY23-28/29 FINANCIAL PLAN

A. Action Needed: Status of Current STBG Projects and Recommendation on Requests for Additional Funding

Ms. Finch reported that the status of the currently funded STBG projects was provided in Table 1 of the staff report (pages 49 through 53 of the agenda packet). Ms. Finch noted that two requests for additional STBG funding to cover project cost overruns have been received and noted in Table 2 of the staff report (page 53 of the agenda packet). Staff would like a recommendation to the RVTPO Policy Board regarding the two requests for additional funding. The two projects are as follows:

Project	Current STBG Allocation	Proposed Funding Adjustment
Tinker Creek Trail Extension	\$3,227,047	Request of Additional \$1,589,254
Orange Market Park and Ride/Parking Lot Improvements	\$343,573	Request of Additional \$892,526

TOTAL: \$2,481,780

A brief discussion was held, resulting in members favoring not granting the additional funding. Megan Cronise requested that the matter be reconsidered once the updated financial forecasts were provided in a couple of months.

Motion: by Michael Gray to recommend to the RVTPPO not approving the additional funding requests for the two projects; seconded by Wayne Leftwich.

TTC Action: Roll call vote – Ayes 12 (Fowler, McCoy, Cronise, Crawford, Leftwich, Jamison, Williams, McMillan, McClung, Long, Maguire, Gray); Nays 0; and Abstentions 0. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Action Needed: Recommendation on Prioritization of Candidate Projects

Cristina Finch reported that originally 12 STBG applications were received, but one application was being funded by the Policy Board (action taken on November 4) and the CTB (action taken on December 8), and there are 11 applications now for consideration. The TTC members were tasked with ranking the projects from 12 (best) to 1 (least). Eleven of the sixteen members provided scores. The projects, criteria and score results were provided in the staff report. Ms. Finch shared the staff report on the screen in the room and went over the information. TTC members were asked to review the information and provide a recommendation of priority list of investments to the Policy Board.

Ms. Cronise asked that project #2 "Route 460 at Alternate Route 220 Intersection Improvements" in table 3 "Summary of STBG Round 5 Candidate Project Applications and Relationship to the Roanoke Valley Transportation Plan (RVTP)" be removed since the project is funded. Ms. Finch replied that the project will be removed and only eleven projects will be forwarded to the Policy Board.

Motion: by Michael Gray to recommend to the RVTPPO table 3 from page 54 of the agenda packet as presented minus project #2; seconded by Megan Cronise.

TTC Action: Roll call vote – Ayes 12 (Fowler, McCoy, Cronise, Crawford, Leftwich, Jamison, Williams, McMillan, McClung, Long, Maguire, Gray); Nays 0; and Abstentions 0. Motion carried unanimously.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Gray noted that the SMART SCALE pre-scoping module is new, and some training has been provided. There is information about the changes to the scoring (in particular to land use and environmental) on the website.

8. COMMENTS BY MEMBERS AND / OR CITIZENS

Chair Jamison wished everyone a safe, healthy, and happy holiday season.

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:24 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cristina D. Finch". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath it.

Cristina D. Finch, AICP, LEED AP, Secretary,
Transportation Technical Committee