

August 4, 2022

MEMORANDUM

TO: Members, Transportation Technical Committee

FROM: Cristina Finch, AICP, LEED AP, Secretary to the Transportation Technical Committee

SUBJ: August 11, 2022 TTC Meeting/Agenda

The August meeting of the Transportation Technical Committee (TTC) will be held Thursday, August 11, 2022 at 1:30 p.m. at the Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission office (Top Floor Conference Room), 313 Luck Avenue SW, Roanoke VA.

TTC AGENDA

1. Welcome, Call to Order..... *Chair Sexton*
2. Roll Call (including consideration of remote participation).....*Chair Sexton*
3. **Action Requested:** Approval of Consent Agenda:.....*Chair Sexton*
 - A. *Approval of the Agenda*
 - B. Action on the June 9, 2022 TTC Minutes, pp.2-6
4. Chair’s Remarks.....*Chair Sexton*
5. Continued Development of the Update to the Roanoke Valley Transportation Plan, p. 7-8.....*David Jackson, Cambridge Systematics and RVARC Staff*
6. Overview of the Transportation Improvement Program.....*Bryan Hill*
7. Draft of Amendment #6 to the Vision 2040: Roanoke Valley Transportation Plan.....*Cristina Finch*
 - A. Projects with Estimated Budget Adjustments 10% or More, p. 9...*Alison Stinnette*
 - B. Inclusion of New Projects which have Received Funding since the Last Plan Adoption, p. 10.....*Bryan Hill*
8. Comments by TTC Members and/or Citizens
9. Adjournment (by 3:00 p.m.)

TPO POLICY BOARD: Cities of Roanoke and Salem; Counties of Bedford, Botetourt, Montgomery and Roanoke; Town of Vinton; Greater Roanoke Transit Company (*Valley Metro*); Roanoke-Blacksburg Regional Airport; Virginia Department of Rail & Public Transportation; Virginia Department of Transportation

MINUTES

The June meeting of the Transportation Technical Committee was held on Thursday, June 9, 2022 at 1:30 p.m. at the Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission, 313 Luck Avenue, SW, Roanoke, VA.

1. WELCOME, CALL TO ORDER

Chair Jamison called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL (including consideration of remote participation)

Cristina Finch, Secretary to the TTC, called the roll and stated a quorum was present.

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT

David Givens	County of Botetourt
Jonathan McCoy	County of Botetourt
Megan Cronise	County of Roanoke
Isaac Henry	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
William Long	Greater Roanoke Transit Company
Michael Gray	Virginia Dept. of Transportation - Salem District
Daniel Wagner (<i>via zoom</i>)	Virginia Dept. of Rail and Public Transportation

VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT

Mariel Fowler	County of Bedford
Dan Brugh	County of Montgomery
Cody Sexton, <i>Vice Chair</i>	Town of Vinton
Frank Maguire	Roanoke Valley Greenway Commission
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, Alison Stinnette, Jonathan Stanton, Emma Howard - Woods, and Virginia Mullen.

Others Present: David Jackson, Cambridge Systematics; Carol Linkenhoker, Virginia Department of Transportation - Salem District.

3. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

The following consent agenda items were distributed earlier:

- A. June 9, 2022 TTC Meeting Agenda
- B. May 12, 2022 TTC Minutes

Motion: by Anita McMillan to approve items (A) and (B), under the consent agenda, as presented; seconded by Jonathan McCoy.

TTC Action: Motion carried unanimously.

4. CHAIR'S REMARKS

- Chair Jamison asked members to be mindful about providing input information to staff in a timely manner, so staff can develop the staff reports and agenda packets in time. Chair Jamison asked staff to send out reminders to members when information is due.

5. NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT/ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Chair Jamison noted that at the May 12, 2022 TTC meeting, he appointed Wayne Leftwich and Mariel Fowler to serve on the 2022 Nominating Committee. The Committee was tasked with preparing a slate of nominees for the TTC Offices of Chair and Vice Chair (two-year terms ending at the conclusion of the July 11, 2024 meeting).

Mr. Wayne Leftwich presented the following slate of nominees for consideration:

Chair Cody Sexton (Town of Vinton representative)

Vice Chair Frank Maquire (Greenway Commission representative)

Chair Jamison opened the floor for additional nominations. None were voiced. The nominations were declared closed.

Motion: by Crystal Williams to approve the proposed slate, as presented; seconded by Anita McMillan.

TTC Action: Motion carried unanimously.

6. CONTINUED DEVELOPMENT OF THE ROANOKE VALLEY TRANSPORTATION PLAN

Cristina Finch thanked members for meeting with staff over the last couple of weeks. Ms. Finch reported that the RVTP plan development team continues to implement the new performance-based planning process being developed by the OIPI GAP -TA team to define common transportation solutions, determine priority gap needs, and identify potential solutions. Ms. Finch invited Mr. David Jackson with Cambridge Systematics to provide an update on the plan’s development (the PowerPoint presentation is included with the Minutes).

Ms. Finch asked members to email her and Jonathan Stanton with information on plans and studies that members are working on and have not been included in the original needs assessment. The information would be used while developing the solutions.

Ms. Carol Linkenhoker asked if there will be a step in the development process that involves looking into available funding programs and using them as part of the prioritization process. Ms. Finch replied that the money piece will be looked at as part of the project prioritization phase to follow the solutions phase which they are in now.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Discussion on Federal Grant Opportunities

Mr. Jonathan Stanton and Mr. Bryan Hill provided members with information on various federal grant opportunities through the 2021 Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (the PowerPoint presentation is included in the Minutes). The grants discussed in the presentation, many of which are already programmed in the FY2023-2028 Six-Year improvement Program, are:

Program	Purpose
PROTECT Program (Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-saving Transportation)	Planning, resilience improvements, community resilience and evacuation routes, and at-risk coastal infrastructure
Reconnecting Communities Pilot Program	Restore community connectivity by removing, retrofitting, or mitigating highways or other transportation facilities that create barriers to community connectivity, including to mobility, access, or economic development
Bridge Investment Program	Improve bridge (and culvert) condition, safety, efficiency, and reliability.

Charging and Fueling Infrastructure	Deploy electric vehicle (EV) charging and hydrogen/propane/natural gas fueling infrastructure along designated alternative fuel corridors and in communities.
MEGA/INFRA/Rural Grants	Surface Transportation Infrastructure Projects in urban or rural areas with national or regional impact.
RAISE Grants (Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity)	Supporting infrastructure and modernization projects with significant local and regional impact
Safe Streets for All Grants	Supporting plans and projects to help communities reach zero traffic deaths

Ms. Anita McMillan asked if there is a notice of funding for the electric charging stations. Mr. Hill replied that he hasn't seen one yet.

Ms. Megan Cronise commented that Roanoke County would like to support the Regional Commission to submit a regional application for charging study infrastructure. Mr. Hill indicated staff's willingness to do so.

Ms. McMillan asked if a safety action plan can be accomplished regionally. Mr. Jonathan McCoy also expressed an interest in doing something regionally for the safety action plan. Mr. Stanton replied that joint applications are possible and it could come in the form of one regional comprehensive safety plan or individual comprehensive plans for each locality administered by the leading agency.

Chair Jamison wondered if the existing pedestrian vision plan, transit vision plan and potentially the bikeway plan could fulfill some of the requirements for the safety action plan. He asked staff to research the requirements.

Mr. Hill noted that the last page of the presentation has a link to the U.S. Department of Transportation Notice and Funding Opportunities. Chair Jamison asked Mr. Hill to email the link to members.

William Long shared that there is an opportunity to flex funds from the federal highway administration funding to FTA for transit access projects. More information is available at www.planning.dot.gov/flex.

Chair Jamison encouraged members to take a survey on the improvements for Williamson Rd between Orange Ave and Hershberger Rd. The survey will be active until June 20th and can be found here: https://metroquestsurvey.com/fb6j6q_or_VAProjectPipeline.org.

8. COMMENTS BY MEMBERS AND / OR CITIZENS

No comments were made.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

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

STAFF BRIEFING

August 11, 2022 TTC Meeting

SUBJ: Continued Development of the Roanoke Valley Transportation Plan

The RVTP plan development team continues to implement the new performance-based planning process developed by the OIPI GAP-TA team to identify potential solutions, highlight preferred solutions, and establish projects, services, and studies for potential inclusion in the RVTP. This process will be finalized in August and September in parallel to RVTP materials development, including the RVTP report, interactive maps and databases, and interactive on-line plan.

The potential solutions, preferred solutions, projects, services, and studies will be documented within the RVTP in a variety of methods, including via the NEST, a supporting database, and project profile sheets within the final document. This approach will enable planning partners and the public to view the outcomes of the performance-based planning process for individual priority gap needs and provide the background to support future studies, project development, and grant applications.

The performance-based planning process supports development of a unified RVTP that will include funded projects over the next four years within the Transportation Improvement Program, fiscally constrained projects to pursue, and vision list projects and solutions under development. Within the RVTP, the RVTPO's list of projects, services, and studies will be organized as follows:

RVTP Funded Projects – RVTPO Transportation Improvement Program (Jan., 2023)

- Funded projects with no planned obligations after fiscal year (FY) 2023
- Funded projects with planned obligations in FY24-27
- Funded projects with planned obligations after FY27

RVTP Unfunded Projects – RVTPO Long-Range Plan (Jan., 2023, update by Jan., 2028)

Priority projects to pursue (fiscally constrained list) – Projects with defined scopes and cost estimates developed through recent or ongoing planning and project development activities that address one or more transportation need(s).

- **Short Term** – Desired project allocations through FY34 (priority projects meeting regional goals and objectives for future grant cycles)
- **Long-Term** – Desired project allocations FY35 to FY45 (projects for long-term funding cycles including higher-risk, higher-cost projects requiring further project development)

Other projects and preferred solutions to pursue (vision list) – Priority gap needs with potential and preferred solutions requiring further study and project development activities prior to developing priority projects to pursue (the fiscally constrained list).

- **Short-term** – Studies and project development between now and 2028 (represents higher-priority studies and project development based on higher scored priority gap needs)
- **Long-term** – Studies and project development 2029 and beyond (represents lower-priority studies and project development based on lower scored priority gap needs)

Note, an overarching purpose of the above structure is to position the region to be prepared and opportunistic in advance of grant cycles, such as SMART SCALE and STBG, but also new formula and discretionary grant opportunities through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

For reference, SMART SCALE:

Short – 2024 (FY26 SYIP), 2026 (FY28 SYIP), 2028 (FY30) application cycles

Long – 2030 (FY32), 2032 (FY34), 2034 (FY36), 2036 (FY38), 2038 (FY40) application cycles

For reference, STBG:

Short – 2023, 2025, 2027 application cycles

Long – 2029, 2031, 2033, 2035, 2037, 2039 application cycles

TTC Action: None.



Roanoke Valley Transportation PLANNING ORGANIZATION

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STAFF REPORT August 11, 2022

Draft of Amendment #6 to the Vision 2040: Roanoke Valley Transportation Plan: Projects with Estimated Budget Adjustments 10% or More

Following the July Work Session, RVARC staff reached out to localities for additional information on projects requiring budget adjustments. A summary of the feedback received is found below.

Town of Vinton: UPC 111649 Walnut Avenue Bike/Ped Accommodations (5th St. to town limit)

- The original cost estimate was done in 2017 for a pedestrian bridge and the project was amended to bike/ped accommodation.
- VDOT oversight charges were not in the original cost estimates.
- Increase cost in construction materials and labor.
- Delay in surveying work.
- Negotiations with property owners including Norfolk Southern.
- 2020 and 2021 COVID-19 led to delay in right-of-way negotiations and completion of the engineering plans.

Staff continues to seek information from the localities and VDOT regarding the projects with estimated budget adjustments. Staff recommends the following projects for update in the Roanoke Valley Transportation Plan, based upon having project budget adjustments of 10% or more:

Locality	Project Name	Project Description	Original Cost	New Estimated Cost
Roanoke City	9th Street Multimodal Improvements	Pedestrians, cyclist, and vehicle operators could benefit from sidewalks and on-road parking.	\$625,000	\$889,000
Roanoke City	Roanoke River Greenway Bridge the Gap Phase 2 Segment 2	People could safely walk or bike along Aerial Way Drive from the Norwich neighborhood.	\$7,985,000	\$9,726,000
Vinton	Walnut Ave Bike/Ped Accommodations (5th St to Town Limit)	Pedestrians and cyclists could travel on Walnut Ave. and 5th St. to the Vinton town limit.	\$1,684,030	\$2,068,000
Roanoke County	Roanoke River Greenway through Explore Park	Pedestrians and cyclists could travel through the Explore Park to Rutrough Rd.	\$3,020,308	\$4,222,000
Roanoke County	#SMART18- West Main Street Sidewalk Installation	People could benefit from new sidewalk installation.	\$1,037,000	\$1,152,000
Salem District-Wide	Rte 220 Access Management Project	This will improve traffic flow and safety on Rte. 220.	\$10,196,000	\$11,696,000
Roanoke County	Pedestrian Improvements on Route 11 (Williamson)	Improvements for pedestrians along Williamson Road.	\$1,500,000	\$2,573,000
Roanoke County	Dry Hollow Road Safety Improvements	Safety Improvements around West River Rd.	\$2,185,000	\$4,637,000
Salem	Downtown Salem – Roanoke Boulevard	Improvements for pedestrians and cyclists.	\$1,000,000	\$1,841,000
Salem	Elizabeth Greenway	Pedestrian and cyclists could travel through this path to connect between East Main Street and Mason Creek Greenway.	\$1,104,400	\$1,832,000
Salem	#SGR18LB – Apperson Drive Bridge Replacement	Bridge replacement.	\$7,497,000	\$8,438,000
Roanoke City	Franklin Road Sidewalk Improvements – Rte 220 B Phase 2	People could benefit from the sidewalk, crosswalk, and drainage improvements.	\$1,791,000	\$2,241,000

Table 1: Acceptance of Projects with Cost Estimates Greater than 10% over Original Costs

*For additional information, the full draft amendment follows this series of staff reports. *

TTC Action: Consideration of Draft Amendment #6 to the Roanoke Valley Transportation Plan.

MPO POLICY BOARD: Counties of Bedford, Botetourt, Montgomery and Roanoke; Cities of Roanoke and Salem; Town of Vinton; Federal Highway Administration; Federal Transit Administration; Greater Roanoke Transit Company (Valley Metro); Roanoke-Blacksburg Regional Airport Commission; Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission; Virginia Department of Rail & Public Transportation; Virginia Department of Transportation



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STAFF REPORT August 11, 2022

SUBJ: Draft of Amendment #6 to the Vision 2040: Roanoke Valley Transportation Plan: Inclusion of New Projects to the Plan

As discussed at last month's TTC Work Session, the FY23-28 Six-Year Improvement Program was adopted in June, with several new projects funded in the RVTPO Service Area. As such, these projects which have received funding since the most recent amendment must be added to the Roanoke Valley Transportation Plan's (RVTP) Constrained List of Projects.

Project Number	UPC	Project Name	Locality	Cost Estimate
A6-13	120996	#BF - Salem Year 3 - Bridge Rehab Contract (B)	Botetourt County	\$6,156,000
A5-33	N/A	Rt 779 Appalachian Trail Safety Improvements	Botetourt County	\$1,159,501
A6-15	T26374	Churchill And Grandview - Drainage Improvements - Roanoke	City of Roanoke	\$838,000
A6-16	T26375	3600 Block Peakwood Dr - Drainage Improvements - Roanoke	City of Roanoke	\$471,000
A6-17	T26384	Shenandoah Ave Diversion - Drainage Improvements - Roanoke	City of Roanoke	\$3,764,000
A6-18	T26386	1400-1500 Block Main St Drainage Improvements - Roanoke	City of Roanoke	\$1,969,000
A6-19	T26392	West End Drainage Project - Phase 1 - Roanoke	City of Roanoke	\$1,168,000
A6-20	T26395	18th St. SE (Wise - Tazewell)- Curb, Gutter, SW - Roanoke	City of Roanoke	\$3,297,000
A6-14	T26782	Williamson Rd Pedestrian Safety - Roanoke	City of Roanoke	\$575,000
A6-21	T27104	#BF - City of Roanoke - Bridge Replace Persinger Rd - Year 4	City of Roanoke	\$3,905,000
A6-22	T27105	#BF - City of Roanoke - Super Replace 13th Street - Year 4	City of Roanoke	\$6,822,000
A6-23	121969	8th Street, NW - Curb, Gutter, SW - Roanoke	City of Roanoke	\$3,077,000
A6-24	121999	Grayson Ave, NW - Curb, Gutter, SW - Roanoke	City of Roanoke	\$3,135,000
A6-25	121971	#SGR23LP - Roanoke FKEY 1556 Campbell Ave SW	City of Roanoke	\$381,000
A6-26	121977	#SGR23LP - Roanoke FKEY 1554 Campbell Ave SW	City of Roanoke	\$451,000
A6-27	122001	Tyree and Tennessee Drainage Improvements - Roanoke	City of Roanoke	\$849,000
A6-28	122002	4000 Block Virginia Ave, NW - Drainage Improvements - Roanoke	City of Roanoke	\$893,000
A6-29	T26754	I-581-Exit 2 (Peters Creek Rd) Interchange Improvements Ph 1	Multi-jurisdictional	\$16,998,000
A6-30	T26802	Glade Creek Greenway Vinyard Park West - Roanoke Co	Roanoke County	\$651,000
A6-31	121998	Salem - Franklin Street Improvements	Salem	\$5,485,000
A6-34	N/A	I-81 Bypass along Texas St. from Roanoke Blvd. to Electric Rd. - Salem	Salem	Undetermined
A6-32	T26750	Glade Creek Greenway Phase 3 PE/Study	Vinton	\$275,000

Table 1: New Projects from the FY23-28 Six-Year Improvement Program

The first column of the table above references assigned project numbers in draft Amendment #6 to the RVTP.

Staff recommends these projects for inclusion in the RVTP.

For additional information, the full draft amendment follows this series of staff reports.

Recommended Action: Consideration of Draft Amendment #6 to the Roanoke Valley Transportation Plan.

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