

## MINUTES

Pursuant to the City of Roanoke Emergency Ordinance adopted by the Roanoke Valley Transportation Planning Organization (RVTPO) Policy Board on April 23, 2020 and the 2020 Virginia General Assembly legislation H29 enacted April 24, 2020, the March meeting of the RVTPO Policy Board was held a virtually via Zoom on Thursday, March 25, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. Under the current State of Emergency, and until further notice, it has been deemed unsafe to assemble a quorum of a public body in one place.

### TPO VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT

Mickey Johnson	Bedford County
Steve Clinton	Botetourt County
Billy Martin, <i>Chair</i>	Botetourt County
Phil North, <i>Vice Chair</i>	Roanoke County
David Radford	Roanoke County
Robert Jeffrey	City of Roanoke
Stephanie Moon Reynolds	City of Roanoke
Renee Turk	City of Salem
Mike Stovall	Town of Vinton
Keith Liles	Town of Vinton
Kevin Price	Greater Roanoke Transit Company (Valley Metro)
Daniel Sonenklar	Va. Dept. of Rail and Public Transportation
Ken King	Virginia Dept. of Transportation – Salem District

### TPO VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT

Bill Jones	City of Salem
Steve Fijalkowski	Montgomery County

### TPO NON-VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT

Lee Osborne	Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission
Richard Caywood	Roanoke County
Cody Sexton	Botetourt County
Anita McMillan	Town of Vinton
Ben Tripp	Chair of the TPO Transp. Technical Committee

**Others Present:** Terry Durkin, Roanoke Regional Chamber of Commerce; Megan Cronise, Roanoke County; Mark Jamison, City of Roanoke; Michael Gray, Virginia Department of Transportation- Salem District; Liz Belcher, Roanoke Valley Greenway Commission; Luke Pugh, City of Roanoke; David Henderson, Roanoke County; Richard “Pete” Peters, Town of Vinton.

**Staff Present:** Wayne Strickland, Cristina Finch, Bryan Hill, Rachel Ruhlen, Jeremy Holmes, Eddie Wells, Matt Miller, Tim Pohlad-Thomas, and Virginia Mullen.

**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

1. **CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, OPENING STATEMENT BY THE CHAIR**

Chair Martin called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. A quorum was present.

Chair Martin stated that pursuant to the City of Roanoke Emergency Ordinance adopted by the RVTPO Policy Board on April 23, 2020 and 2020 Virginia General Assembly legislation H29 enacted April 24, 2020, the March meeting of the Roanoke Valley Transportation Planning Organization is being held virtually via Zoom today, Thursday, March 25, 2021.

2. **APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

The following Consent Agenda items were distributed earlier:

- A. March 25, 2021 RVTPO Meeting Agenda
- B. February 25, 2021 RVTPO Minutes

**Motion:** by Mr. North to approve items (A) and (B), as distributed. The motion was seconded by Mr. Johnson.

**RVTPO Policy Board Action:** Roll call vote: Ayes- 11 (Johnson, Clinton, Martin, Jeffrey, Moon Reynolds, North, Turk, Liles, King, Price, Sonenklar); Nays-0; Abstentions-0. Motion carried unanimously.

3. **REMARKS BY THE CHAIR**

No remarks were made.

4. **CONTINUED DEVELOPMENT OF THE DRAFT FY22-27/28 SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BLOCK GRANT (STBG) FINANCIAL PLAN**

Cristina Finch presented the latest information regarding the development of the FY22-27/28 STBG Financial Plan including the decrease in funding over the FY22-27 period (the PowerPoint presentation is included with the Minutes). Ms. Finch reviewed each project requesting additional funds or returning funds. She noted two new pieces of information that had not been reviewed by the TTC or accounted for in their recommendation to the Board which included a new request for additional funds for the Tinker Creek Trail Extension project of \$1,589,254 and an updated request for the Walnut Avenue Bicycle and Pedestrian Accommodations (W. Lee Avenue to 1st Street) which has gone up from an additional \$260,330 to \$336,110. At the time of the meeting, there was an estimated funding shortfall to accommodate the requests. The Board was asked to identify its preferences to address the additional funding requests and schedule a public hearing for its next meeting.

Discussion ensued. Mr. King commented that it would be helpful to know if the funding increases for the projects are due to unforeseen cost increase or change in scope. This additional information would be helpful for the public at the public hearing as well. Mr. North commented that it would be helpful to have the projects' construction timelines included in the spreadsheet so the projects could be prioritized based on that information as well.

**Motion:** by B. Martin requesting that the TTC further review its recommendation on the FY22-27/28 STBG financial plan and recommend a preferred funding scenario. The scenario should include the current status of the projects and the projected schedules. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jeffrey.

**RVTPO Policy Board Action:** Roll call vote: Ayes - 13 (Johnson, Clinton, Martin, Jeffrey, Moon Reynolds, North, Radford, Turk, Liles, Stovall, Gray, Price, Sonenklar); Nays-0; Abstentions-0. Motion carried unanimously.

5. **ADOPTION OF 2021 MAP-21 ASSET CONDITION PERFORMANCE MEASURE TARGET: PERCENTAGE OF DECK AREA OF BRIDGES IN GOOD CONDITION**

Mr. Hill informed the Policy Board that the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) made an adjustment to one of six MAP-21 Asset Condition Performance Measures and Targets adopted by the Policy Board on October 25, 2018. The currently established 2021 four-year target, Percentage of Deck Area of Bridges in Good Condition, was adjusted by the CTB from 33.0% to 30.5%. As with all previous MAP-21 performance measures and targets to date, staff recommended using those established by the State/VDOT.

**Motion:** by Ms. Moon Reynolds to adopt the 2021 MAP-21 Asset Condition Performance Measure Target: Percentage of Deck Area of Bridges in Good Condition, as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Radford.

**RVTPO Policy Board Action:** Roll call vote: Ayes- 12 (Johnson, Clinton, Martin, Jeffrey, Moon Reynolds, North, Radford, Turk, Liles, Gray, Price, Sonenklar); Nays-0; Abstentions-0. Motion carried unanimously.

6. **OTHER BUSINESS**

A. **Briefing on the Roanoke Valley Transportation Plan**

As part of the update to the Roanoke Valley's Transportation Plan, Cristina Finch shared the draft of the first ever Transportation Needs Assessment for the region. Ms. Finch described that a need, as was shared at the December meeting, is the problem that people or businesses experience getting to where they are going or moving what they are selling/receiving. She noted the many sources where needs had been identified including past plans and public input. Ms. Finch stated that the needs presented had not yet been prioritized, nor had solutions to address the needs been identified, as these steps would come in a future phase of the plan's development. Ms. Finch shared that the plan's consultant, Cambridge Systematics, was currently working with TTC members to evaluate the extent to which various future factors such as autonomous vehicles, teleworking, etc. should be considered in the plan.

Mr. North commented that a lot of great data was provided and complimented Ms. Finch on her work.

B. **Briefing on the Regional Study on Transportation Project Prioritization for Economic Development and Growth**

Eddie Wells presented an update on the Regional Study on Transportation Project Prioritization for Economic Development and Growth. (The PowerPoint presentation is included with the Minutes.)

**C. Draft Review FY22 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)**

Ms. Finch reviewed the draft FY2022 UPWP citing different tasks that are standing items of the RVTPO's work. Ms. Finch also mentioned the inclusion of some project requests received through the RVARC's Work Program process. The budget is still being developed, and the final UPWP will be presented to the Board next month for adoption.


**7. COMMENT PERIOD BY RVTPO POLICY BOARD MEMBERS AND/OR PUBLIC**

No comments were made.

The meeting adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Wayne Strickland". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Wayne Strickland, Secretary  
Roanoke Valley Transportation Planning Organization



**Roanoke Valley Transportation  
PLANNING ORGANIZATION**  
affiliated by the  
REGIONAL commission

Surface Transportation Block Grant  
(STBG) Funding  
Update

*RVTPO Policy Board*  
March 25, 2021


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### STBG Funding Updates

- FY22-27 funding down by \$4,050,609
- FY22-27 total available funding is \$28,024,625
- FY28 amount assumed - same as FY27
- **Conditionally committed funding:**
  - 7 of 9 projects successful in SMART SCALE Round 4
  - \$7,926,271 recommended for commitment
- **Returning funding:**
  - 2 projects returning \$3,502,469
- **Additional funding requests:**
  - 7 projects asking for \$6,967,221
  - 1 project asking for \$2,076,000 conditional

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### SMART SCALE Round 4 – STBG Projects

**Last year's projects with conditionally committed funding:**

Project	Original Request	Original Committed STBG Amount	Original Conditionally Committed STBG Amount	Total Project Cost	Amount to be received from SMART SCALE
7. Route 220 Superstreet and Access Management	\$924,000	\$924,000	\$2,076,000	\$14,412,482	\$0
12. Route 419 Streetscape Improvements, Phase 2	\$1,505,438	\$1,505,438	\$2,841,712	\$18,469,482	\$14,122,332
12. Aviation Drive/Valley View Blvd. Pedestrian Improvements	\$2,513,437	\$313,500	\$938,500	\$7,178,491	\$5,928,491
12. Valleypointe Parkway Realignment	\$5,352,108	\$782,293	\$1,707,707	\$9,837,072	\$7,337,072

- Previously conditional, now recommended committed: **\$5,485,919**
- Previously conditional, now recommended committed: **\$2,076,000** or less depending on the balance available

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### SMART SCALE Round 4 – STBG Projects

**Last year's Out-of-Cycle Requests:**

Project	Original Request	Original Committed STBG Amount	Original Conditionally Committed STBG Amount	Total Project Cost	Amount to be received from SMART SCALE
12. Route 460 (Orange Ave) Improvements near Blue Hills Drive	\$676,720	\$0	\$676,720	\$5,590,213	\$4,903,493
12. Route 460 (Orange Ave) Improvements at King Street	\$550,280	\$0	\$550,280	\$5,005,724	\$4,455,444
12. Route 460 at West Ruritan Road Intersection Improvements	\$785,549	\$0	\$785,549	\$7,537,497	\$6,751,948
12. Route 460 Intersections from Carson Road to Hurlridge Road	\$427,803	\$0	\$427,803	\$2,766,831	\$2,339,028
13. Route 460 and Route 220 Intersection Improvements	\$2,544,860	\$0	\$2,544,860	\$21,798,864	\$0

- Previously conditional, now recommended committed: **\$2,440,352**
- Conditional funds being returned: **\$2,544,860**


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**Returning STBG Funding**

**2. Roanoke River Greenway – City of Salem to Bridge Street**

- Original funding granted in 2013: \$2,863,800
- Increased of \$1.5M in 2016: \$4,363,800
- Returning \$750,000 - Use of Other Funds / VDOT Agreement did not include this amount
- New Total Funding Recommended: \$3,613,800


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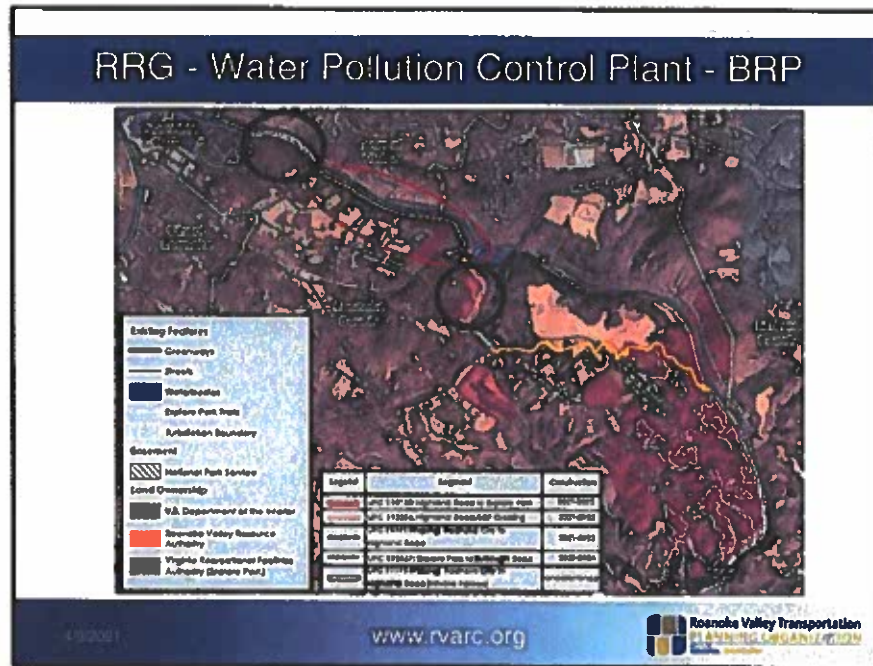
**Returning STBG Funding**

**3. Roanoke River Greenway – Water Pollution Control Plant to the Blue Ridge Parkway**

- Original funding granted in 2013: \$5,857,840
- Reduction of \$1.6M in 2020: \$4,257,840
- Returning \$2,752,469 - Reduction in Project Scope
- New Total Funding Recommended: \$1,505,371

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### Additional STBG Funding Requests

Project Request	Original Amount	Additional Funds Requested	Total Requested
1. Increase Roanoke River Greenway - Greenhill Park (Roanoke County) to Riverside Park (Salen) by \$3,083,069 for a total of \$7,573,829.	\$2,990,760 then \$4,590,760	\$3,083,069	\$7,673,829
2. Increase Roanoke River Greenway - Riverside Park (Salen) by \$3,227,047.	\$2,828,413 then \$3,227,047	\$1,588,254	\$4,816,301
6. Increase Walnut Avenue Bicycle and Pedestrian Accommodations (W. Lee Avenue to 1st Street) funding by \$260,330 for a total of \$805,560.	\$545,230	\$336,110	\$881,380
8. Increase Orange Market Park and Ride Parking Lot Improvements funding by \$692,526 to \$1,236,039.	\$343,573	\$892,526	\$1,236,099
9. Increase Roanoke River Greenway - East project funding by \$750,000 in FY 28 to support construction.	\$835,000	\$750,000	\$1,535,000
10. Increase Gus Nick's Boulevard Pedestrian/Bicycle Crossing funding by \$234,762 for a total of \$403,912.	\$169,650	\$234,262	\$403,912
11. Increase Oak Grove Streetscape Improvements Crosswalk funding by \$192,000 for a total of \$218,748.	\$136,748	\$82,000	\$218,748
<b>TOTAL:</b>		<b>\$6,967,221</b>	<b>\$13,538,202</b>


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### Considerations


- Recommendation/approval based on scores, original cost and scope.
- Significance to the region's transportation system.
- Opportunity for other funding options (future SMART SCALE, TA, local funds etc.)
- VDOT Project Agreements and locality acceptance of cost estimate financial risk when pursuing a project.
- Project schedules / construction readiness
- Current project and SMART SCALE commitments

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### Estimated STBG Funding Summary


• Total available FY14-FY28	\$73,087,867
• Total committed FY14-FY28	\$67,016,559
- Includes SMART SCALE commitments & current projects	
• Remaining available	\$6,071,308
• Requests	\$9,043,221
- 7 additional funding requests + 1 conditional request	
• Shortfall	<b>-\$2,971,913</b>


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## Today's Actions

- Policy Board identifies preferred projects and amounts for STBG funding increases.
- Direct staff to schedule a Public Hearing on April 22, 2021 for any proposed funding increases.

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**Regional Study on Transportation Project Prioritization  
For Economic Development and Growth  
Update**

**Roanoke Valley VTPO Policy Board  
March 25, 2021**

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### 2018 Key Engagement Activities/Deliverables

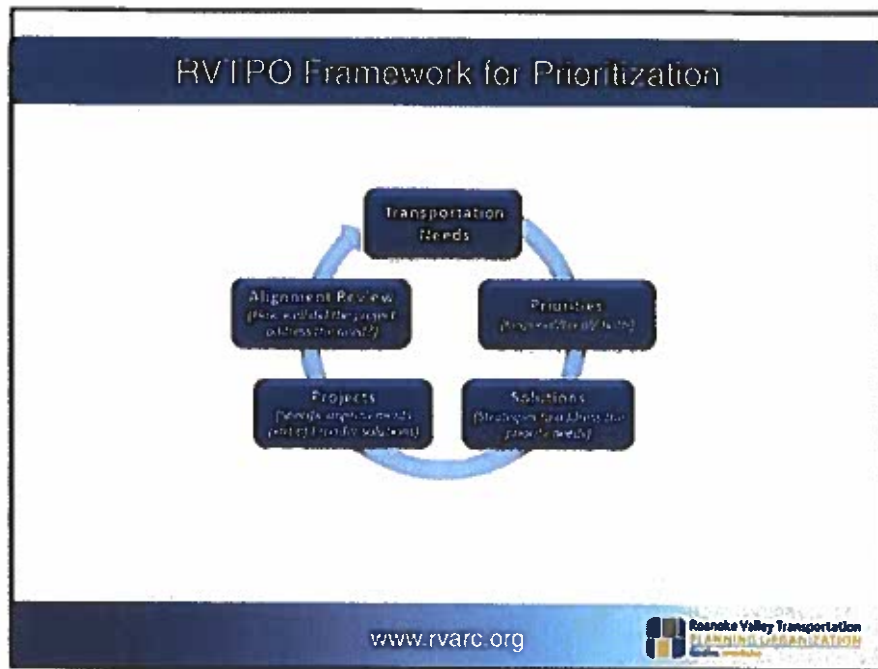
Study Phase	Key Engagement Activities and Deliverables
Understand Economic Development and Transportation Goals and Needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>November 29, 2017 Stakeholder Workshop and Steering Committee Meeting*</li> <li>Technical Memorandum 1</li> </ul>
Profile the Regional Economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Technical Memorandum 2</li> </ul>
Define Needs and Identify Strategies That Reflect Region's Economic Development Goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>January 4, 2018 Meeting with Roanoke Regional Chamber</li> <li>January 18, 2018 Meeting with Economic Development Stakeholders</li> <li>February 2, 2018 Steering Committee Meeting</li> </ul>
Identify Transportation Priorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>February 2018 Interactive Web Feedback on Draft Priorities from Steering Committee</li> <li>Draft Public Information Brochure on Transportation Priorities</li> <li>February 22, 2018 RVTPO Policy Board Meeting</li> <li>March 13, 2018 Stakeholder Workshop and Steering Committee Meeting*</li> <li>March 22, 2018 RVTPO Policy Board Meeting</li> </ul>
Final Project Findings and Recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Final Public Information Brochure on Transportation Priorities</li> <li>Final Report</li> <li>RVTPO Performance Management Recommendations Report**</li> <li>April 26, 2018 Approval of Study Deliverables by RVTPO Policy Board</li> </ul>

\*Conducted in coordination with TAAmerica. \*\*Developed by TAAmerica with input from IZM Group.


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- ### Completed Tasks
- ✓ October 1 - ED Stakeholder Group meeting #1
  - ✓ October/November - Online survey of businesses
  - ✓ December 2 - CEDS Committee briefing
  - ✓ December 3 - ED Stakeholder Group meeting #2
  - ✓ December 10 - Update to TPO and TTC at joint meeting
  - ✓ December 14-18 - individual meetings with ED Stakeholder Group members (8)
  - ✓ January/February - review, clarification, and categorization of identified needs and priorities; added these to the LRTP needs list
  - ✓ Feb 25 - ED Stakeholder final review of needs listing, TPO update
  - ✓ March 3 - CEDS Committee briefing
  - ✓ March 11 - TTC Update and presentation of identified needs
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## Updated Priority Needs

Identified Needs

1. Limited destinations on air travel and high price.
2. Airport is not able to accommodate larger aircraft due to insufficient runway length.
3. Travel times too long for air travel
4. Businesses have a hard time getting employees
5. Congestion on Route 460 East of I-581; too many lights on 460.
6. Safety on Route 460 East of I-581.
7. Only one road (U.S. 220) to get from Roanoke to Franklin County
8. Travel times too long - Roanoke to south – North Carolina, Florida
9. U.S. 220 South safety concerns
10. Congestion on U.S. 220 South of Route 419; can't go fast.


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## Updated Priority Needs

Identified Needs (continued)

11. Left turn lane on Peters Creek Road eastbound to Valleypointe Parkway is too short for stacking vehicles.
12. Valleypointe Parkway does not align well with Woodhaven Road to allow for development of adjacent lands.
13. Woodhaven Industrial Park is a new business development opportunity. Concerns over large vehicles being able to easily get to the site.
14. Congestion on Exit 150 Park and Ride Lot – too small for use by commuters and AT users.
15. Congestion on Route 419 – limited number of entrances, cross access/secondary access to parcels.
16. I-581/Orange Avenue interchange – merging on/off the Interstate is terrible.
17. Long-term parking near Amtrak is not attractive, not well-signed, un-reliable.
18. Major entrances to Botetourt County, City of Roanoke, Roanoke County, Salem, Town of Vinton could be more attractive and provide directional aid to visitors going to destinations.

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## Next Steps

- **March/April - TTC identify possible solutions to address needs**
- **May - TPO Update and presentation of Draft report**
- **June - Finalize document and incorporate into RVTPO Long Range Transportation Plan**

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