



MINUTES

A Special Called meeting of the Transportation Technical Committee (TTC) was held virtually on Tuesday, April 20, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. Pursuant to the City of Roanoke Emergency Ordinance adopted by the RVARC on April 23, 2020 and 2021 Virginia General Assembly legislation SB1271 passed February 27, 2021, the Special Called Meeting of the TTC was held virtually via Zoom. The purpose of the special meeting was to make a recommendation to the RVTPO Policy Board on the FY22-27/28 STBG Financial Plan.

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT

Marief Fowler	County of Bedford
Dan Brugh	County of Montgomery
Megan Cronise	County of Roanoke
Will Crawford	County of Roanoke
Chris Chittum	City of Roanoke
Mark Jamison, <i>Vice Chair</i>	City of Roanoke
Ben Tripp, <i>Chair</i>	City of Salem
Anita McMillan	Town of Vinton
Nathan McClung	Town of Vinton
Liz Belcher	Roanoke Valley Greenway Commission
Daniel Sonenklar	Virginia Dept. of Rail and Public Transportation
Michael Gray	Virginia Dept. of Transportation - Salem District

VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT

Nathan Sanford	Unified Human Serv. Transp. System (RADAR)
Dorian Allen	Greater Roanoke Transit Company (Valley Metro)

NON-VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT

Kevin Jones	Federal Highway Administration
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Others Present Remotely: Isaac Henry, Roanoke County; Wayne Leftwich, City of Roanoke; Luke Pugh, City of Roanoke; Carol Moneymaker, Virginia Department of Transportation-Salem District; Lindsay Webb, Roanoke County; Richard Caywood, Roanoke County; Jay Guy, Virginia Department of Transportation - Salem District; Steve Sandy, Franklin County.

RVARC Staff Present: Cristina Finch, Jeremy Holmes, and Virginia Mullen.

1. WELCOME, CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL

Chair Tripp called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. A quorum was present.

2. **RECOMMENDATION ON SCENARIO FOR FY2022-2027/28 SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BLOCK GRANT (STBG) FINANCIAL PLAN DEVELOPMENT**

Ms. Cristina Finch stated that at the March 25 RVTPO Policy Board meeting, the Board requested the Transportation Technical Committee (TTC) further review its recommendation on the FY22-27/28 STBG Financial Plan considering new information received. The TTC discussed the matter at its April 8 meeting. Per TTC Chair Trip's request, a RVARC staff met with STBG project managers and VDOT staff on April 14. Some recommendations were made at the project manager's meeting, and it was requested that Jay Guy, Manager of VDOT's Salem District Programming Section review again the VDOT administered Roanoke County project schedules to which he identified some flexibility within the Route 419/U.S. Diverging Diamond Interchange project being able to move money to later years. Ms. Finch presented the staff report (previously distributed) outlining the status of the return of funds, the requests for additional funding, the summary of projects seeking additional funding to cover cost overruns and the summary of other projects requests.

Discussion ensued. Mr. Jamison noted that it is not practical to have projects, that have only design work done, to take up funds for several years waiting for the possibility of construction money. Mr. Gray commented that he agrees with Mr. Jamison's note and added that the focus should be on the active projects that need construction funding within the next twelve to eighteen months, and FY28 funding should not be included in this six-year financial plan development. Mr. Gray noted that the projects with FY28 funding would be a starting point for conversation in October when the next six-year financial plan (FY23-28) discussion starts. Ms. Cronise thanked Cristina Finch and Jay Guy for their work on the latest scenario.

Motion: by Michael Gray to recommend to the RVTPO Policy Board the following project funding returns, total allocation increases and changes to the financial plan. Motion was seconded by Anita McMillan.

TTC recommendation for **projects returning funds**:

1. Accept return of \$2,752,469 from Roanoke River Greenway – Water Pollution Control Plan to the Blue Ridge Parkway due to reduced project scope.
New total funding recommended: \$1,505,371
2. Accept return of \$147,145 from Exit 140 Park and Ride Reconstruction; these are unused funds following project completion.
New total funding recommended: \$2,502,855

TTC recommendation to **increase funding** on the following four projects and proceed with a public hearing on the funding increases at the May RVTPO Policy Board meeting.

1. Increase committed funding by \$3,083,069 towards the Roanoke River Greenway – Greenhill Park (Roanoke County) to Riverside Park (Salem) for a total commitment of \$7,673,829.
2. Increase committed funding by \$82,000 towards the Oak Grove Streetscape Improvements – Crosswalk for a total commitment of \$218,748.
3. Increase committed funding by \$234,262 towards the Gus Nicks Boulevard Pedestrian/Bicycle Crossing for a total commitment of \$403,912.

4. Increase committed funding by \$336,110 towards the Walnut Avenue Bicycle and Pedestrian Accommodations (W. Lee Avenue to 1st Street) for a total commitment of \$881,360.

TTC recommendation to **defer addressing the following four requests at this time** since the construction is still several years away and revisit the requests during next year's new application and adjustment cycle for the FY23-28/29 STBG Financial Plan. The TTC's recommendation is based on the desire to leave FY28 funding available for full consideration in next year's cycle and not commit or conditionally commit any of the funds at this time.

5. Increase committed funding by \$1,589,254 to the Tinker Creek Trail Extension project in FY28, for a total commitment of \$4,816,301 with the hope that in future adjustment years, the funding could move up to FY25/26.
6. Increase committed funding by \$892,526 to Orange Market Park and Ride/Parking Lot Improvements in FY28 for a total commitment of \$1,236,099 with the hope that in future adjustment years, the funding could move up to FY25/26.
7. Increase committed funding by \$750,000 towards the Roanoke River Greenway – East project to support unknown total construction cost for a total commitment of \$1,585,000. (To be programmed in FY28.)
8. **Conditionally Commit** \$2,003,701 to the Route 220 Superstreet and Access Management project to use as leverage in SMART SCALE Round 5. (To be programmed in FY28.)

TTC Action: Roll Call Vote: Ayes – 12 (Fowler, Brugh, Cronise, Crawford, Chittum, Jamison, Tripp, McMillan, McClung, Belcher, Sonenklar, Gray); Nays – 0; Abstentions – 0. Motion carried unanimously.

3. **OTHER BUSINESS**

No other business was discussed.

4. **COMMENTS BY MEMBERS AND / OR CITIZENS**

Megan Cronise and Anita McMillan thanked staff and VDOT for their assistance in the developing of the financial plan.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 a.m.



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