



MINUTES

The June meeting of the Transportation Technical Committee was held on Thursday, June 8, 2023, at 1:30 p.m. at the Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission, 313 Luck Avenue, SW, Roanoke, VA.

1. WELCOME, CALL TO ORDER

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

2. ROLL CALL (including consideration of remote participation)

Mr. Bryan Hill called the roll and stated a quorum was present.

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT

Mariel Fowler	County of Bedford
Nick Baker	County of Botetourt
Isaac Henry	County of Roanoke
Wayne Leftwich	City of Roanoke
Dwayne D'Ardenne	City of Roanoke
Crystal Williams	City of Salem
Josh Pratt	City of Salem
Nathan McClung (<i>Alt. for Anita McMillan</i>)	Town of Vinton
William Long	Greater Roanoke Transit Company
Kyle Kotchou	Roanoke-Blacksburg Regional Airport
Frank Maguire, <i>Vice Chair</i>	Roanoke Valley Greenway Commission
Michael Gray	Virginia Dept. of Transp. - Salem District
Daniel Wagner (<i>joined after roll call</i>)	Virginia Dept. of Rail and Public Transp.

VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT

Jonathan McCoy	County of Botetourt
Dan Brugh	County of Montgomery
Megan Cronise	County of Roanoke
Cody Sexton, <i>Chair</i>	Town of Vinton
Nathan Sanford	Unified Human Serv. Transp. System

NON-VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT

Kevin Jones	Federal Highway Administration
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Others Present: Stephanie Mathena, Franklin County; Baxter Barrett, Roanoke City Manager's Office intern.

RVARC Staff Present: Bryan Hill, Alison Stinnette, Jonathan Stanton, 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

3. **ACTION REQUESTED: APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

The following consent agenda items were distributed earlier:

- A. June 8, 2023 TTC Meeting Agenda
- B. May 11, 2023 TTC Minutes

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

TTC Action: Motion carried unanimously.

4. **CHAIR REMARKS**

- Vice Chair Maguire asked if anyone is interested in serving on the nominating committee to select a chair and vice chair for the next term. Mr. Michael Gray and Ms. Crystal Williams expressed willingness to serve. Vice Chair Maguire appointed Mr. Gray and Ms. Williams to serve on the nominating committee. ***Editorial Note:* staff contacted the TTC following this meeting, making a correction, that elections will occur in July 2024.**
- Vice Chair Maguire announced that Roanoke Parks and Recreation, along with Roanoke Valley Greenway Commission will host a ribbon cutting to celebrate the opening of a new section of Roanoke River Greenway. The ceremony is planned for Friday, July 28th at 10 a.m. at the Bridge Street Trailhead parking lot (592 Bridge Street SW).

5. **RECOMMENDATION OF DRAFT RVTPO CARBON REDUCTION PROGRAM PROJECT DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY AND SELECTION PROCEDURES**

Mr. Bryan Hill reported that a draft RVTPO Carbon Reduction Program Project Development and Selection Procedures was distributed with the agenda packet (pages 14 through 28). Mr. Hill noted that Ms. Cronise submitted a comment, suggesting merging this document with the STBG document under one title: "STBG and Carbon Reduction Program Project Development and Selection Procedures."

Mr. Gray noted a discussion last year to combine the STBG and the TA document and suggested incorporating all three documents (STBG, TA and Carbon Reduction) under one.

Motion: by Michael Gray to recommend to the RVTPO Policy Board a combined STBG and CRP selection procedures document. Additionally, it was recommended that the Transportation Alternatives Program (TA) be included, as it too is a funding stream over which the Policy Board has allocation authority (although VDOT manages the application and scoring process); seconded by Wayne Leftwich.

TTC Action: Motion carried unanimously.

6. **FY24 SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BLOCK GRANT AND CARBON REDUCTION PROGRAM APPLICATION CYCLE FOR NEW PROJECTS**

Mr. Bryan Hill presented the staff report (pages 29 through 31 of the agenda packet), informing members of the new project application cycle and anticipated schedule. Mr. Hill reported that new project applications will be accepted starting July 3, 2023. Alison Stinnette (astinnette@rvarc.org) will send out an email with the application form and folder links to submit materials. Application forms and more information regarding respective funding programs can be located on the webpage at www.rvarc.org/stbg and www.rvarc.org/crp. Applications are due at 5:00 p.m. on Friday, September 29th, 2023.

7. **CONTINUED DISCUSSION OF 2020 CENSUS URBANIZED AREAS, TPO STUDY AREA BOUNDARY AND TIMELINE**

Mr. Jonathan Stanton presented additional information on the 2020 census urbanized area, TPO study boundary and timeline (the handout is included with the Minutes).

8. **OTHER BUSINESS**

Mr. Michael Gray reminded the Committee that the RVTPO received around \$1.9 million in Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA) funding in 2021. This funding supplemented five projects initially funded under the STBG program. Mr. Gray noted that approximately \$575,000 of those funds had to be allocated soon or their obligation authority would be rescinded by FHWA (through the Fiscal Responsibility Act of 2023). Mr. Gray explained that VDOT chose three projects (two that had CRRSAA funding and one that had STBG funding) and swapped the amounts (the dollar amount for each project did not change).

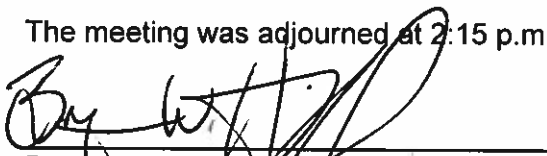
9. **COMMENTS BY MEMBERS AND / OR CITIZENS**

Mr. Kyle Kotchou invited members to attend the Roanoke-Blacksburg Regional Airport's final public meeting to review its draft Master Plan. The meeting will be held today at the Holiday Inn Roanoke Airport Conference Center from 4 pm to 6 pm and will be an opportunity to review recommended improvements to the airport's terminal, general aviation facilities, and runway.

Mr. Wayne Leftwich introduced Mr. Baxter Barrett, who is currently completing an internship program with Roanoke City Manager's office.

10. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:15 p.m.



Bryan W. Hill, AICP, GZA,
Interim Secretary, Transportation Technical Committee

STAFF BRIEFING

RVTPO TTC Meeting June 08, 2023

SUBJ: 2020 Census urbanized area and RVTPO study area boundary adjustment discussion

MPO Study Area boundary adjustment timeline

The following timeline information was found through an FHWA presentation for AASHTO titled "FHWA Adjusted Urban Area Boundaries (AUAB) and Functional Classification (FC)", 3/30/2021:

<https://ctop.transportation.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/57/2021/03/FHWA-Adjusted-Urban-Area-Boundaries-AUAB.pdf>

Other research confirms this general schedule, however staff will reach out to division FHWA representative to verify timeline and ensure consistent understanding on final dates.

Highlighted sections indicate steps most relevant to RVTPO boundary adjustments.

Estimated Schedule of Activities (Abridged)

Fall 2022: USDOT (FHWA and FTA) will publish a Federal Register Notice designating Transportation Management Areas (TMAs) for urban areas with populations of 200,000 or more, as determined by the Census Bureau and the results of the 2020 Decennial Census.

Before Oct 2022: States should revisit their intra-State distribution formulas for metropolitan planning (PL) funds allocations to MPOs to ensure that the new Census 2020 population figures are being used and that any new MPOs are part of the calculation.

Before next regularly-scheduled metropolitan transportation plan update, after October 1st, 2022, or within 4 years of the designation of the new urban area boundary, whichever occurs first: Existing MPO's must expand their Metropolitan Planning Areas (MPAs) to include all territory in urban areas with populations of 50,000 or more, as determined by the Census Bureau and the results of the 2020 Decennial Census (if necessary).

Spring 2023: States produce Adjusted/Smoothed Urban Area Boundaries for urban/rural roadway classification purposes (complete)

Spring/Summer 2023: New MPOs must be designated by Governor(s) to represent all new urban areas with populations of 50,000 or more, as determined by the Census Bureau and the results of the 2020 Decennial Census.

Spring 2024: New TMAs must have a Congestion Management Process (CMP).

April 15th and June 15th, 2024 (date of 2024 HPMS data submission to FHWA): Any adjustments to urban area boundaries must be approved the by Governor(s) and FHWA Division Office(s). FHWA will consider all

urban area boundaries final as of June 1, 2024 and will use the original 2020 Census boundaries for all urban areas that have not been adjusted. The 2024 HPMS data submission must conform to the approved urban area boundary as of April 15th and June 15th, 2024.

Spring/Summer 2026: New MPOs must have formally adopted Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Boundary adjustment considerations

These considerations have been collected from two FHWA presentations; one to AASHTO (cited in the previous section) and one from Kirk Fauver, FHWA Texas Division, July 12, 2022: https://www.texasmpo.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/Kirk-Fauver-AdjUA-2022_WI_Final.pdf

- Boundaries should include at least the entirety of one 2020 Census urbanized area
- Boundaries should consider transportation terminals, routes, and major generators (airports, industrial areas, transit routes, etc.)
- Boundaries should follow municipal limits or physical features
- Boundaries should be easy to discern
- Boundaries should be simple, without irregularities
- Boundaries should be on contiguous area
- Boundaries should not split roadways or ramps
- One census urban area should correlate to one MPA

Upcoming tasks & next steps

During the coming Summer and Fall staff will:

- Reach out to division FHWA representative for further guidance, information, and anything which may differ from the above information
- Coordinate with localities on proposed changes/adjustments and reasoning
- Develop and finalize new Metropolitan Planning Area boundary to be approved by TPO
- Coordinate with VDOT and FHWA for approval