



## MINUTES

The September Policy Board meeting of the Roanoke Valley Transportation Planning Organization was held on Thursday, September 23, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. at the Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission office, 313 Luck Avenue, SW, Roanoke, VA.

### VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT

Steve Clinton	Botetourt County
Billy Martin, <i>Chair</i>	Botetourt County
Steve Fijalkowski	Montgomery 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
Kevin Price	Greater Roanoke Transit Company (Valley Metro)
Ken King	Virginia Dept. of Transportation – Salem District
Daniel Sonenklar ( <i>remotely, joined later</i> )	Va. Dept. of Rail and Public Transportation

### VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT

Mickey Johnson	Bedford County
Bill Jones	City of Salem
Keith Liles	Town of Vinton

### TPO NON-VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT

Richard Caywood	Roanoke County
Cody Sexton	Town of Vinton

**Others Present:** Megan Cronise, Roanoke County; Anthony Ford, Virginia Department of Transportation - Salem District; Michael Gray, Virginia Department of Transportation- Salem District; Ian Coffey, City of Roanoke; Hong Liu, City of Roanoke; Dwayne D'Ardenne, City of Roanoke; Mark Jamison, City of Roanoke.

**Staff Present:** Bryan Hill, Jeremy Holmes, Cristina Finch, William Long, Rachel Ruhlen and Virginia Mullen.

### 1. WELCOME, CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL

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

**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

**2. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

The following consent agenda items were distributed earlier:

- A. September 23, 2021 RVTPO Meeting Agenda
- B. August 26, 2021 RVTPO Minutes

**Motion:** by David Radford for approval of Consent Agenda Item A & B, as presented. The motion was seconded by Steve Fijalkowski.

**RVTPO Policy Board Action:** Motion carried unanimously.

**3. REMARKS BY THE CHAIR**

- Chair Martin reported that the Roanoke Valley Transportation Needs Assessment has been nationally recognized with a 2021 Aliceann Wohlbruck Impact Award from the National Association of Development Organizations. For the first time ever this past year, the Roanoke Valley TPO comprehensively analyzed existing plans and public survey responses to inventory hundreds of current transportation needs related to access, safety, traffic congestion, and system management. This analysis will establish a foundation for selecting future project investments. The Assessment is a key step as the RVTPO transitions to a new performance based planning and programming process. Congratulations to all the regional and local staff who contributed to this award-winning effort.
- Chair Martin reminded STBG applications are due tomorrow, September 24 by 5p.m. and may be uploaded via the rvarc.org website.

**4. 2021 NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT**

Chair Martin appointed at the June 24, 2021 TPO meeting a Nominating Committee, composed of Steve Fijalkowski (Committee Chair), David Radford and Stephanie Moon Reynolds. The Committee was tasked with presenting a slate of nominees to recommend for the offices of Chair and Vice Chair.

Mr. Fijalkowski, who served as the chair of the Nominating Committee, reported that the committee is recommending that the current officers be reappointed to serve another two-year term (October 2021-2023): Chair- Billy Martin, Sr., and Vice Chair - Phil North.

The floor was opened for additional nominations for Chair and Vice Chair. None were voiced.

By acclamation, the following slate of nominees presented by the Nominating Committee to serve as officers of the Roanoke Valley Transportation Planning

Organization for the upcoming two years (October 2021- September 2023), was unanimously approved.

Chair: The Honorable Billy Martin, Sr. (Botetourt County Representative)

Vice Chair: The Honorable Phil North (Roanoke County Representative)

5. **AMENDMENT #4 TO THE CONSTRAINED LONG-RANGE MULTIMODAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN – VISION 2040: ROANOKE VALLEY TRANSPORTATION PLAN**

Cristina Finch and Rachel Ruhlen presented a PowerPoint presentation on Amendment #4 to the Roanoke Valley Transportation Plan (the presentation is included with the Minutes). The presentation outlined the amendment #4 contents and public input that was obtained.

Mr. Martin asked if the safety factors on 581/Williamson Road/Orange Ave were included - Ms. Finch replied they were. Chair Martin opened the public hearing period. No comments from the public were received. Chair Martin closed the public hearing period.

Chair Martin opened the comment period and asked if there are any comments from the TPO members.

Mr. Sexton asked Rachel to clarify the interpretation on the "Not sure or no opinion" to one of the questions from the survey: "Do you agree that these are the priority transportation needs of the Roanoke Valley?". Mr. Sexton asked if that meant "not sure or no opinion" on the project itself or "not sure or no opinion" if the project is a priority for the Roanoke Valley. Ms. Ruhlen replied with "not sure or no opinion" if the project is a priority for the Roanoke Valley.

Mr. Martin asked Ms. Finch about the reasons for projects that increase in cost more than 10%. Ms. Finch replied that sometimes the project information is not detailed enough when originally included in the plan. Mr. Ken King asked if the project's estimations are based off of what was approved in the plan. Ms. Finch replied with yes. Mr. Sexton asked if the percentage increases are based on FY22 numbers or based on construction estimates compared to original cost? Ms. Finch replied that the numbers are based off of the most recent cost that was approved as part of the six- year improvement program compared to what was reflected in the plan.

Mr. Clinton commented that it would be nice to know what is behind these increases and if this information is available. Ms. Finch replied that staff can look into each one of the projects and contact the project sponsors and find out what drove the increase. Mr. Ken King offered VDOT to help staff look into it and get some answers. He also added that it would be helpful that the dollar increase is shown as well.

6. **CONSIDERATION OF SUPPORTING RESOLUTION APPROVING AMENDMENT #4 TO THE ROANOKE VALLEY TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION CONSTRAINED LONG-RANGE MULTIMODAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN – VISION 2040: ROANOKE VALLEY TRANSPORTATION**

Cristina Finch reported that the resolution approving amendment #4 to the Transportation Plan was distributed with the agenda packet and asked members to consider its approval.

**Motion:** by Mike Stovall to approve the resolution approving amendment #4 to the Roanoke Valley Transportation Plan, as presented. The motion was seconded by David Radford.

**RVTPO Policy Board Action:** Motion carried unanimously.

**7. ENDORSEMENT OF CANDIDATE PROJECTS SEEKING TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES FUNDING AND SUPPORTING RESOLUTION**

Bryan Hill briefed the Policy Board on the Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Block Grant Program, noting that two candidate applications were submitted for endorsement. The TA projects seeking endorsement are as follows:

Applicant	Project Title	TA Funds Requested
City of Roanoke	Williamson Road Pedestrian Improvements	\$460,000
Roanoke County	Glade Creek Greenway Vinyard Park West	\$521,100

The Policy Board heard brief presentations for each project endorsement request. Ian Coffey, Traffic Engineer with the City of Roanoke and Megan Cronise, Transportation Planning Administrator with Roanoke County made the respective presentations. A supporting resolution was included in the agenda packet for the Board's consideration.

**Motion:** by Phil North to approve the resolution endorsing the Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Block grant applications for the Williamson Road Pedestrian and Glade Creek Greenway Vinyard Park West projects, as presented. The motion was seconded by Robert Jeffrey.

**RVTPO Policy Board Action:** Motion carried unanimously.

**8. OTHER BUSINESS**  
**A. LATEST DEVELOPMENTS ON THE UPDATE TO THE ROANOKE VALLEY TRANSPORTATION PLAN**

Cristina Finch presented a PowerPoint presentation highlighting the latest developments on the update to the Roanoke Valley Transportation Plan (the presentation is included with the Minutes).

Mr. King asked if staff is working to align the prioritization of needs with the prioritization process that takes place in SMART SCALE. Ms. Finch replied that the state has a different set of criteria to prioritize needs than the draft regional criteria that was just explained. Ms. Finch added that SMART SCALE is one of the funding sources, and there are different funding sources that can be used to address needs.

Mr. Caywood echoed Mr. King's comment and he emphasized that it is important to align tightly with the criteria used by the funding sources. Mr. Caywood added that the TED study was the driving force of this body for a while which focused on economic development

priorities. The generated applications for funding sources have to be competitive to compete based on the criteria that goes with each program. Having an unfunded priority, no matter how desirable it might be is not efficient.

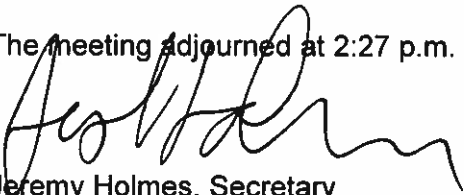
Mr. North noted that the funds that would have been necessary to score a couple of the projects were double digits. Mr. North added that it is unknown what SMART SCALE Round 5 will look like. Mr. North commented that our area is the only one left in the State of Virginia without a taxing authority and is not suggesting getting one, but Central Virginia now has a taxing authority that includes the City of Richmond which presents challenges when competing with areas with more available leverage funds. Mr. North commented that the State of Virginia needs to increase the SMART SCALE 5 funds by a substantial amount and that transportation education to state administration plays a huge role. He also suggested looking into the projects and determining if they can be leveraged with EDA funds. Mr. North encouraged everyone in the room to have legislative meetings with their delegates and senators in November or December so they can educate them on their transportation needs.

Mr. Holmes commented that the Regional Commission does organize a legislative meeting usually in December and will start working on it soon.

**9. COMMENT PERIOD BY RVTPO POLICY BOARD MEMBER AND/OR PUBLIC**

No comments were made.

The meeting adjourned at 2:27 p.m.



Jeremy Holmes, Secretary  
Roanoke Valley Transportation Planning Organization



# Roanoke Valley Transportation Plan Amendment #4

RVTPO Policy Board Meeting, Thursday, September 23, 2021

[www.RVTPO.org](http://www.RVTPO.org)



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## Amendment #4 Contents

- 1. Recently funded projects not in the budget
- 1. Projects in the budget with >10% cost increase
- 1. New project ideas added to the vision list
- 1. Marketing brochure - priority needs and projects identified via the Regional Study on Transportation Project Prioritization for Economic Development and Growth

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## 1. Funded projects not in the budget

26 new funded projects

126 total projects

\$1,449,600,253 total transportation investments anticipated

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## 2. Projects in the budget with > 10% cost increase

Project ID	Project	Agency	Cost Increase
A4-19	Route 220 Superstreet Improvement	Pictetourt County	Full cost
A4-43	Trinker Creek Trail Extension	City of Roanoke	15.90%
A4-2	9th Street Multimodal Improvements	City of Roanoke	10.00%
A4-22	I-581 Exit 2 Interchange Study	City of Roanoke	26.70%
A4-25	Hollins Road & Orange Avenue Intersection Improvements	City of Roanoke	44.10%
A4-26	Aviation Drive / Valley View Boulevard Pedestrian Improvements	City of Roanoke	67.80%
A4-20	Roanoke River Greenway - Aerial Way Drive to Roanoke Avenue	City of Roanoke	\$72.30%
A4-27	Plantation Road Bike / Pedestrian / Streetscape Phase II	Roanoke County	19.90%
A4-6	Route 11 & Route 117 Pedestrian Safety Improvements	Roanoke County	23.20%
A4-10	Roanoke River Greenway - Blue Ridge Parkway Crossing along Highland Road	Roanoke County	43.80%
A4-12	Valleypointe Parkway Realignment	Roanoke County	38.50%
A4-13	Route 419 Streetscape Improvements Phase 2	Roanoke County	66.20%
A4-35	Stanley Road / Buck Mountain Road Intersection Improvements	Roanoke County	78.30%
A4-7	Route 311 / Route 419 Intersection Safety & Congestion Improvements	Roanoke County	92.80%
A4-11	Pedestrian Improvements on Route 11 (Williamson Road)	Roanoke County	100.00%
A4-31	Roanoke River Greenway, City of Roanoke to Route 518	Roanoke County	90.70%
A4-5	Roanoke River Greenway, Green Hill Park to Riverside Park	Roanoke County	133.40%
A4-15	Glade Creek Greenway, Phase 2	Town of Vinton	13.80%
60 and A4-16	Walnut Avenue Bicycle & Pedestrian Accommodations	Town of Vinton	61.70%
A1-12 and A4-17	Hardy Road / Dillon Woods Crosswalk	Town of Vinton	172.10%

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### 3. New projects/ideas added to vision List

- 31 New
- 102 Total
  - 71 with estimated costs :  
\$1,439,157,121
  - 31 with unknown costs: ?

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### 4. Marketing Brochure

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## 4. Marketing Brochure - Priority Needs

- Reduce Congestion on Route 460 East of I-581
- Congestion in Exit 150 Park and Ride Lot - too small for use by commuters and AT users
- Left turn lane on Peters Creek Road eastbound to Valleypointe Parkway is too short for staking vehicles.
- Provide a safer way for people to walk and bike to destinations in Salem, Roanoke City, and Roanoke County.

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## 4. Marketing Brochure - Rt. 460 East

### Transportation Need

Reduction in Congestion on Route 460 East of I-581

#### Priority Project:

Orange Avenue at I-581 Interchange Reconfiguration

#### Description:

Potential application of both I-581 off-ramps to eliminate existing issues. A study in FY22 will clarify recommended improvements and cost.



#### Priority Project:

Orange Avenue at Wilkeson Road Intersection Modification

#### Description:

Accommodate geometric and signal timing changes including dual EB left turn lanes and improvements on the north leg of Wilkeson Road. Total cost unknown.

#### Priority Project:

Orange Avenue & Kerball Avenue/Parkway Road

#### Description:

Widen side street approaches on Kerball Avenue and Parkview Road. Lengthen WB left turn lane on Orange Avenue at Kerball Avenue. Total cost unknown.

#### Priority Project:

Route 460 and Alternate Route 220 Intersection Improvements

#### Description:

Reconstruct the intersection with a Displaced Left Turn configuration. Total cost unknown.

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## 4. Marketing Brochure - Exit 150 P&R

### Transportation Need:

Confusion in Exit 150 Park and Ride lot - too small for use by commuters and Appalachian Trail users

#### Priority Project:

Exit 150 Park and Ride Expansion

#### Description:

Construct a new Park and Ride facility near Exit 150 in Daleville to include bus shelters, bicycle racks, sidewalks, and wayfinding signs. \$11,000,000

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## 4. Marketing Brochure - Walk/Bike Safety

### Transportation Need:

Unsafe route for bicyclists and pedestrians in urban, Roanoke City, and Lincoln County

#### Priority Project:

Build Roanoke River Greenway - Mill Lane - West Riverside Drive

#### Description:

In Salem, construct a 10' wide paved greenway trail from the trailhead on Mill Lane - W Riverside Drive along the Roanoke River to Riverside Park. \$450,000 (0.2 mi)



#### Priority Project:

Build Roanoke River Greenway - Apperson Drive to Cook Drive

#### Description:

In Salem, construct a 10' wide paved greenway trail from Apperson Drive to Cook Drive. \$1,000,000 (1.0 mi)

#### Priority Project:

Build Roanoke River Greenway - Underhill Section

#### Description:

In the City of Roanoke, construct a 10' wide paved greenway trail from the trailhead at the Water Treatment Storage Plant to the existing trail end on Underhill Avenue. \$6,100,000 (1.0 mi)

#### Priority Project:

Build Roanoke River Greenway - Apperson 1.2 mi along the Roanoke River parallel to Highland Road

#### Description:

In Roanoke County, construct a 10' paved greenway trail along the Roanoke River east of the Water Pollution Control Plant and west of the Blue Ridge Parkway on private parcels. \$9,800,000 (1.2 mi)

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## 4. Marketing Brochure - Peters Creek Road turns to Valleypointe Parkway

### Transportation Need:

Left turn lane on Peters Creek Road eastbound to Valleypointe Parkway is too short for stacking vehicles.

#### Priority Project:

I-581 & Peters Creek Road Interchange Improvements (enhancing access to Valleypointe Parkway)

#### Description:

Close two I-581 off-ramps with substandard weave movements. Signalize remaining I-581 off-ramps, restrict left turns from SB Thirlane Road to minimize conflict points near interchange ramps. Add a downstream U-turn along Peters Creek Rd for re-directed left turns. Add a second EB Peters Creek left turn lane onto Valleypointe Pkwy to increase capacity. Add pedestrian and bicycle accommodations along Peters Creek Rd. \$28,200,000



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## Needs Prioritization

- **Consideration of other needs**
  - RTVPO Needs Assessment
  
- **Regional needs compared to VTrans needs**
  - Rt. 460 East  
Priority 1
  - Exit 150 P&R  
N/A
  - Walk/Bike Safety  
Varies
  - Peters Creek/Valleypointe  
Priority 4

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## Public Input Survey

- Five questions on the priority needs and projects
- Comment box for:
  - Budget list
  - Projects with >10% cost increase
  - Vision list

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## Summary of Public Input

- 103 participants
- 26 additional participants since the summary in the agenda packet
- No substantial changes in the trends
- A few additional comments

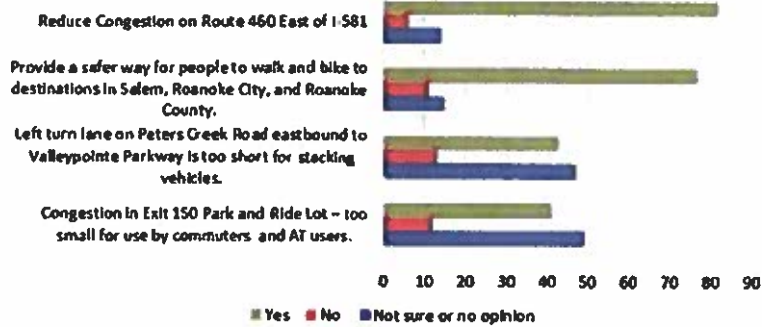
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## Do you agree that these are the priority transportation needs of the Roanoke Valley?

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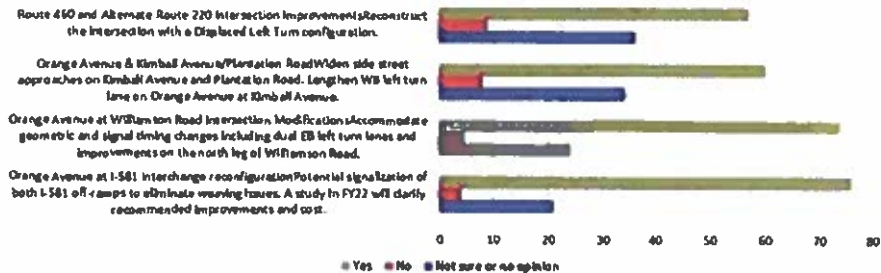
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## Do you agree that these projects are priorities to reduce congestion on Route 460 East of I-581?

Do you agree that these projects are priorities to reduce congestion on Route 460 East of I-581?



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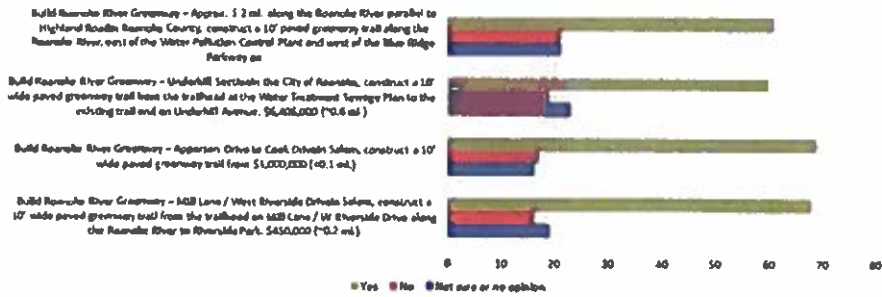


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Do you agree that these projects are priorities to Provide a safer way for people to walk and bike to destinations in Salem, Roanoke City, and Roanoke County?

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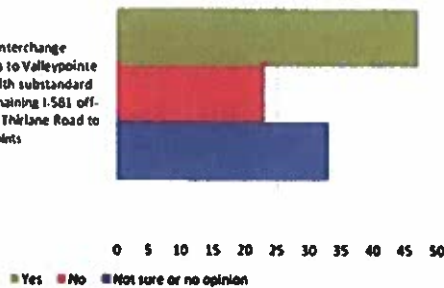


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Do you agree that this project is a priority to address "Left turn lane on Peters Creek Road eastbound to Valleypointe Parkway is too short for stacking vehicles"?

Do you agree that this project is a priority to address "Left turn lane on Peters Creek Road eastbound to Valleypointe Parkway is too short for stacking vehicles"?

1-581 & Peters Creek Road interchange improvements (enhancing access to Valleypointe Dr.) Close two 1-581 off-ramps with substandard weave movements. Signalize remaining 1-581 off-ramps, restrict left turns from SB Thrlane Road to minimize conflict points



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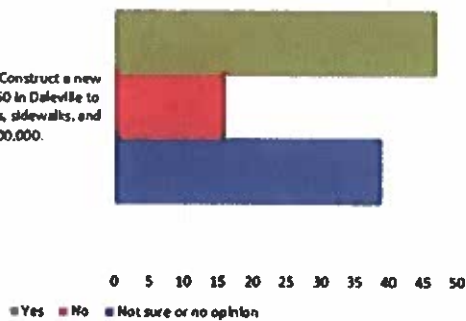


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Do you agree that this project is a priority to address "Congestion in Exit 150 Park and Ride Lot – too small for use by commuters and AT users"?

Do you agree that this project is a priority to address "Congestion in Exit 150 Park and Ride Lot – too small for use by commuters and AT users"?

Exit 150 Park and Ride Expansion Construct a new Park and Ride facility near Exit 150 in Daleville to include bus shelters, bicycle racks, sidewalks, and wayfinding signs. \$11,000,000.



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Do you have any comments on these or other priorities in Amendment #4 of the Roanoke Valley Transportation Plan?

- This is senseless spending and 28 million is ridiculous for a u turn. Greenway spending is stupid and pointless. Just another place to get mugged with the high crime of this city. I think its time to reel in the pipedreams and focus on things that matter.
- Orange Avenue congestion and accidents should be the NUMBER ONE PRIORITY. It is getting worse day after day. I hate driving it and have to drive it at least 2 roundtrips per day. In fact there was an accident today near King Street that had traffic both ways backed up forever it seemed like.

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Do you have any comments on these or other priorities in Amendment #4 of the Roanoke Valley Transportation Plan?

- I think we also need to be looking at TDM and smart traffic signals as ways to improve the flow of traffic through existing infrastructure. Innovative intersections, such as R-CUTs and roundabouts, need to become more broadly used.
- Future greenways need to separate cycling traffic from walking traffic
- 460 CAN'T GET ANY WORSE.

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Do you know of other transportation problems in the Roanoke Valley?

**These comments will be provided in the final summary of public input**

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### Zip code

Zip code	% population	% responses	Difference
24012	11%	8%	3% under
24013	3%	3%	Same
24014	7%	8%	1% over
24015	6%	16%	10% over
24016	3%	3%	Same
24017	9%	4%	5% under
24018	14%	22%	8% over
24019	10%	9%	1% under
24153	14%	7%	7% under
24175	3%	1%	2% under
24179	7%	3%	4% under
Other RVTPO	14%	16%	2% over

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### Race, Ethnicity

Race/ethnicity	% population	% responses	Difference
White	78%	85%	7% over
Black or African American	14%	8%	6% under
Hispanic or Latino	4%	2%	2% over
Other	4%	7%	3% over

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## Household income

Annual household income	% response
Less than \$20,000	4%
\$20,000 to \$44,999	13%
\$50,000 to \$139,999	53%
\$140,000 or more	30%

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## Age

Age	% population	% responses	Difference
18 to 24 years	10%	0%	10% under
25 to 34 years	15%	10%	5% under
35 to 44 years	14%	14%	Same as population
45 to 54 years	16%	19%	3% over
55 to 64 years	17%	25%	7% over
65 years and over	28%	32%	4% under

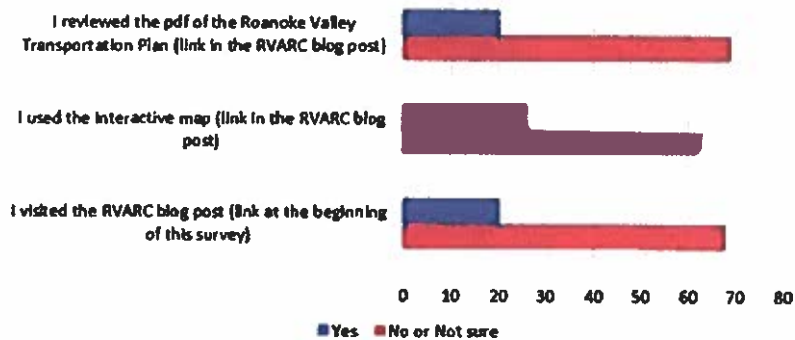
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## Did you use any of the supplementary information when taking this survey?

Did you use any of the supplementary information when taking this survey?



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## Survey Resources

- <https://rvarc.org/vision-2040-amendments/>
- <https://rvarc.maps.arcgis.com/apps/presentation/index.html?webmap=2f9ab5adad5a415789c8ad2587e940c0>

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## Suggestions for improving RVTPO public participation

- Try to limit or better explain the transportation jargon used throughout the survey.
- Scrap the greenway. Its a complete waste of money and get rid of the dimwits insisting on them.

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## Latest Developments on the Update to the Roanoke Valley Transportation Plan

**RVTPO Policy Board**  
September 23, 2021

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### Two Consultant Teams

- **Michael Baker Int'l, High Street and EPR PC**
- **Cambridge Systematics, Foursquare ITP, and EPR PC**
- Process Development
- Plan Development
- How the RVTPO plans for the future
- Conduct the process to create the new plan
- Funded via state grant
- Funded via regional planning funds

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# Process Development

- Current Process
- New Process

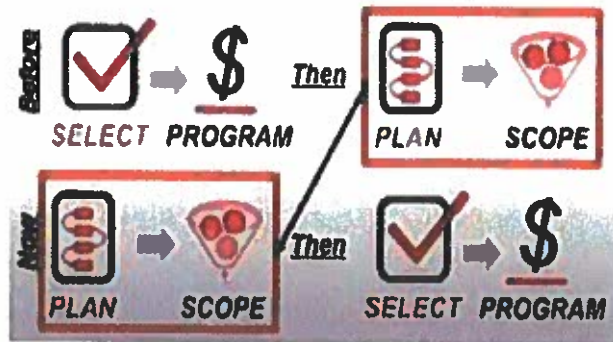


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Roanoke Valley Transportation  
PLANNING ORGANIZATION  
RTPO Commission

# Prioritization Process

RVTPO Framework for Prioritization



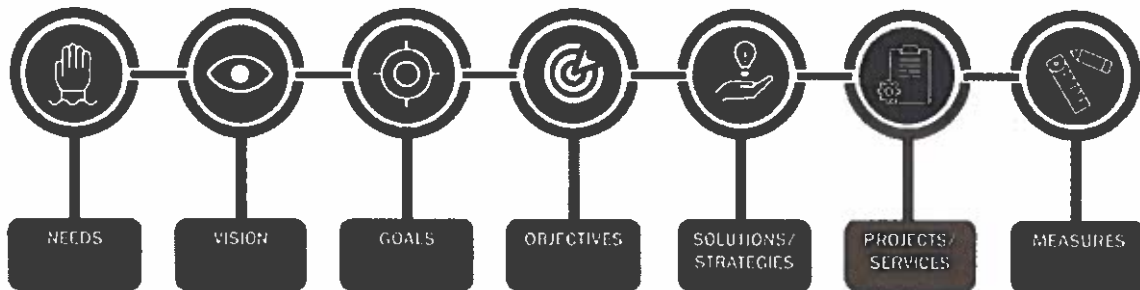
Approved February 2017

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Roanoke Valley Transportation  
PLANNING ORGANIZATION  
Sept. 20, 2021 RVTPO Mtes



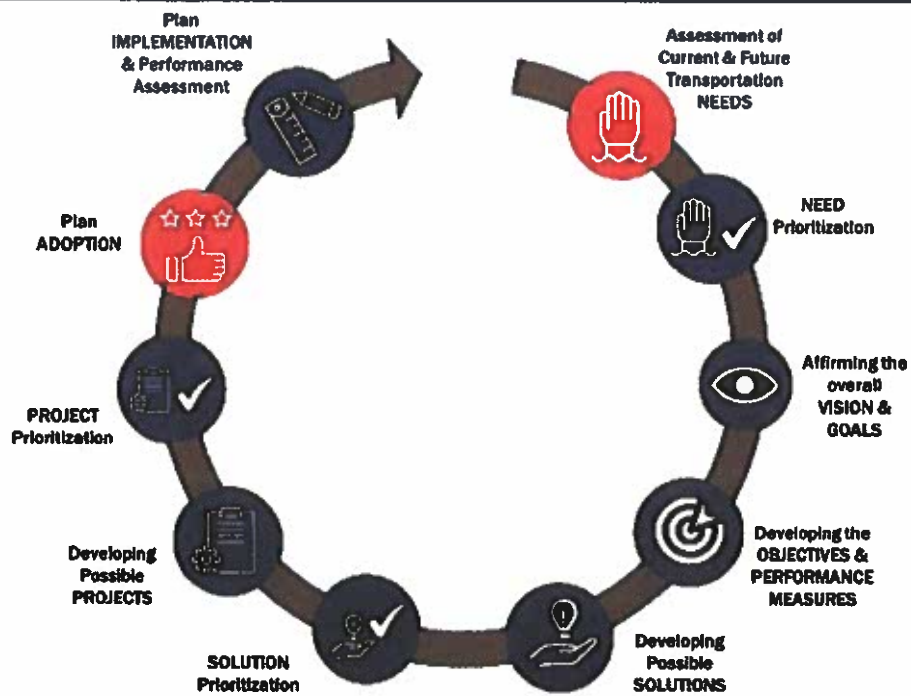
# Elements of the Planning Process



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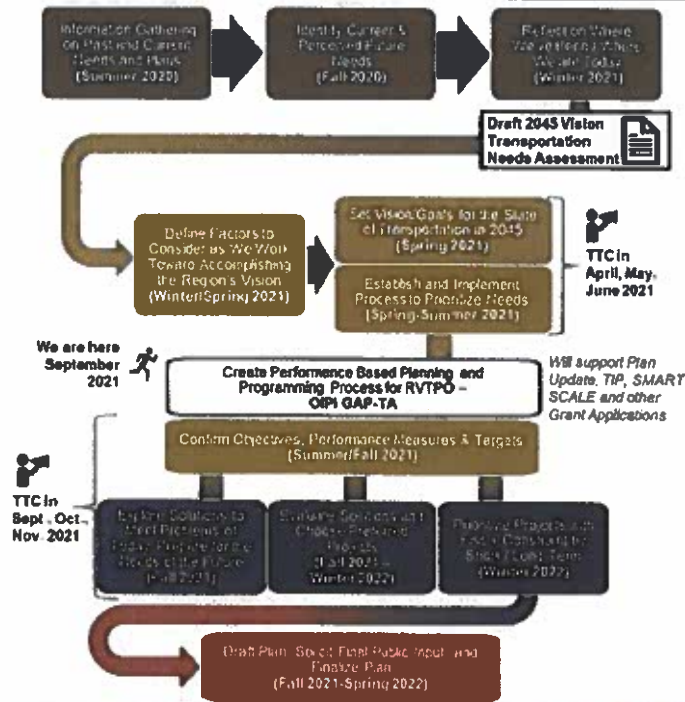
# Draft Performance-Based Planning Process



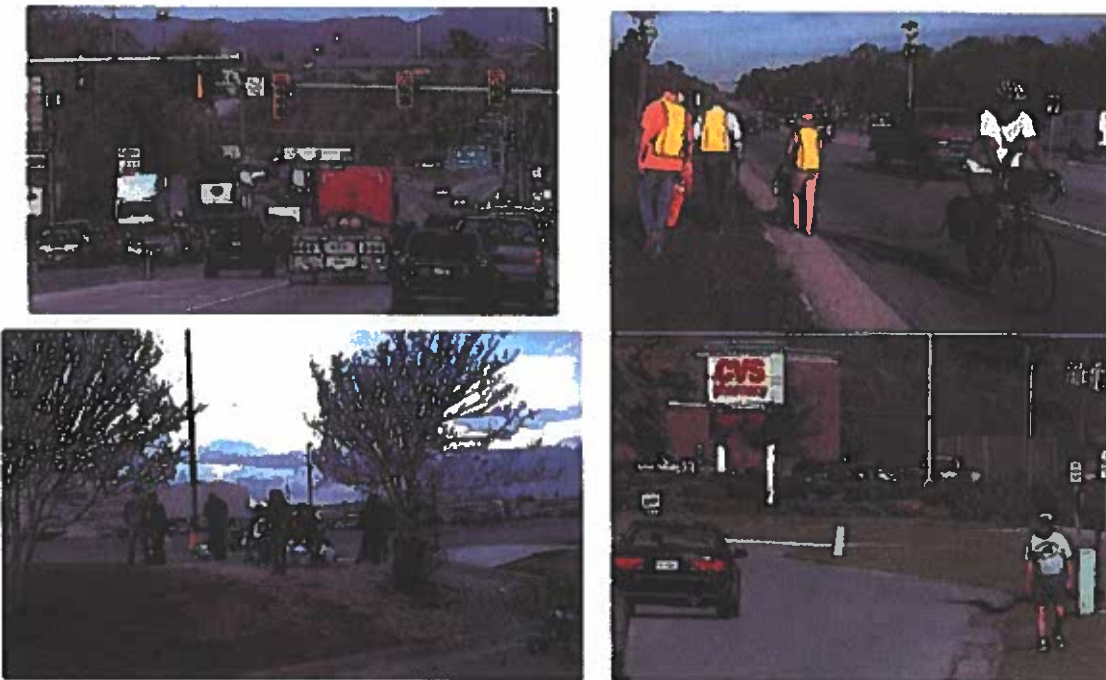
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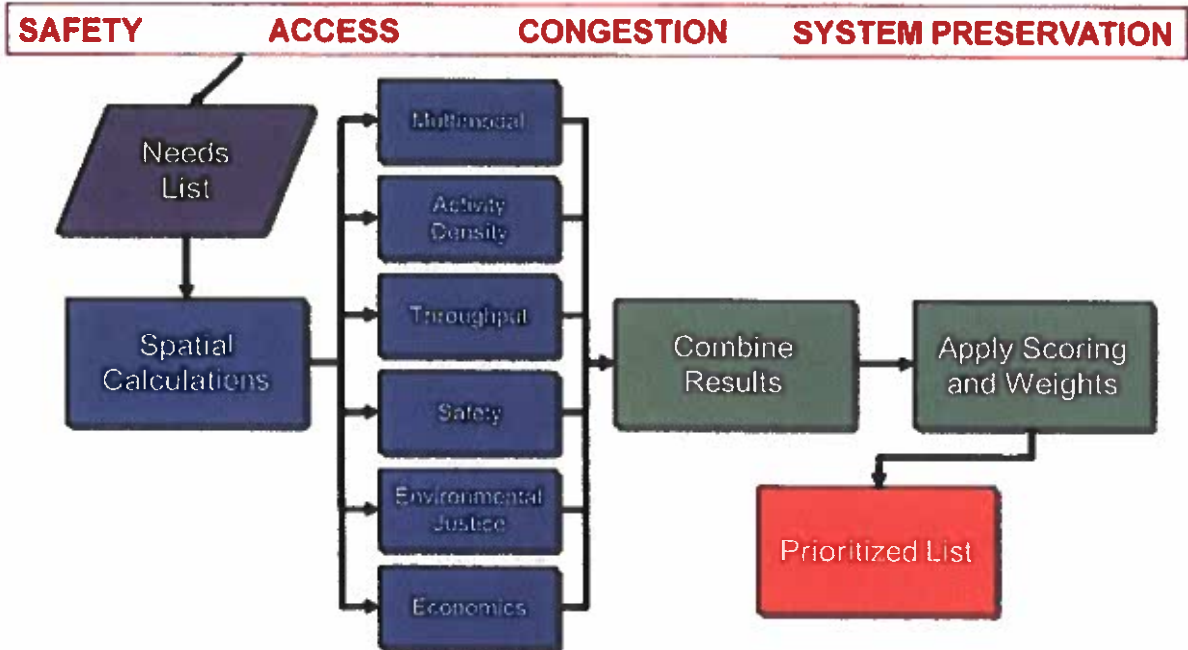
# Plan Development



# Transportation Needs



# Draft Transportation Needs Prioritization



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Roanoke Valley Transportation  
PLANNING ORGANIZATION  
1000 West Market Street, Suite 200  
Roanoke, VA 24011

# Draft Transportation Needs Priority Criteria

Need Type	Multimodal		Density		Throughput		Safety		EJ		Economics	
	Coverage Overlap	District Overlap	Den_2019	Den_2043	Priority Overlap	VMT	Safety Needs Overlap	PSAP Overlap	EJ Overlap	Dev Overlap	UDA Overlap	Access Priority - Destination Overlap
Safety (auto)			5	5		20	50		10	5	5	
Safety (ped)	5	5		10				50	20	5	5	
Safety (bike)	5	5		10				50	10	5	5	
Safety (transit)	5	5		10				50	10	5	5	
Congestion			15	15		15			25	15	15	
System Management (operations, assets)			12.5	12.5	12.5	12.5			25	12.5	12.5	
System Management (transit)	10	10		20		20			20	10	10	
Access (all modes)												

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Roanoke Valley Transportation  
PLANNING ORGANIZATION  
Sept 29, 2021 RVTPO Mtes

## Next Steps

- October 5: TTC reviews needs prioritization methodology & priority needs
- Cambridge Systematics refines needs prioritization methodology/priority needs
- October 14: TTC meeting
- October 28: Policy Board meeting

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