

**New River Valley
Metropolitan Planning Organization
755 Roanoke Street
Christiansburg, VA 24073**

Minutes

July 26, 2018

MEMBERS

PRESENT:

Craig Meadows	-Montgomery County
Mary Biggs	-Montgomery County
Randy Wingfield	-Town of Christiansburg
Melissa Skelton	-City of Radford
Nick Britton	-DRPT
Tom Fox	-Blacksburg Transit
Michael Sutphin	-Town of Blacksburg
Kali Casper	-Town of Blacksburg
Mike Dunn	-Virginia Tech
Fritz Streff	-New River Community College
Elijah Sharp	-NRVRC
David Clarke	-VDoT
Dan Brugh	-NRV MPO
Randal Gwinn	-Recording Secretary

ABSENT:

Anne McClung	-Town of Blacksburg
Kevin Byrd	-NRVRC
Kevin Jones	-FHWA
Joe Guthrie	-Pulaski County
Tony Cho	-Federal Transit Administration-Region 111
Michael St. Jean	-VA Tech/Montgomery Regional Airport Authority
James Perkins	-Radford University
Trevor Sakry	-Radford Transit
Monica Musick	-Pulaski Transit
Michael Gray	-VDoT
Ken King	-VDoT
Michael Barber	-Town of Christiansburg

OTHERS

PRESENT:

Dr. Bruce Brown	-Guest
Erik Olsen	-NRV MPO/BT
Jeri Baker	-Virginia Tech

DECLARATION OF A QUORUM AND CALL TO ORDER

This being the meeting for the annual election of officers, Executive Director Dan Brugh declared a quorum, called the meeting to order at 2:00 P.M. and asked everyone present to introduce themselves to the group.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Dan presented the proposed agenda with one addendum which was added just before meeting time. The addendum seeks approval of a schedule time change and elimination of a stop on the SmartWay Bus Service for Amtrak. The MPO Policy Board has oversight of the SmartWay Services and is required to approve any schedule changes prior to their implementation.

Dan then asked for comments on the proposed agenda and hearing none, he asked to hear a motion for approval of the agenda.

On a motion by Mary Biggs seconded by Michael Sutphin and carried unanimously, the proposed meeting agenda and its addendum were approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MAY 3, 2018 MEETING

Dan next asked for discussion of or corrections to the meeting Minutes from the May 3, 2018 Policy Board meeting. Hearing none he then called for a motion to approve the Minutes.

On a motion by Mary Biggs seconded by Michael Sutphin and carried unanimously, the Minutes dated May 3, 2018 were approved.

APPROVAL OF BYLAWS REVISION

Dan reported that at our May 3, 2018 meeting it was the consensus of the members present to change the Bylaws so that the elections of the Chair and Vice-Chair would be for two (2) year terms instead of the current one (1) year terms. In accordance with the Bylaws, that change needs to be proposed at a regular meeting and then voted on at the next meeting held. Attachment two of the meeting packet contains the Bylaws Revision and a suggested resolution.

Dan then asked for questions or discussion on the proposed change and hearing none he asked to hear a motion on the suggested resolution.

On a motion by Mary Biggs seconded by Michael Sutphin and carried unanimously, the resolution to change the Bylaws to increase the terms of the Chair and Vice-Chair of the MPO Policy Board to two years was approved and follows in its entirety:

New River Valley

Metropolitan Planning Organization
755 Roanoke Street
Christiansburg, VA 24073

July 26, 2018

Resolution approving an amendment to the MPO bylaws to change election of MPO Officers to two (2) years.

On a motion by Mary Biggs, seconded by Michael Sutphin and carried unanimously,

WHEREAS, the current Bylaws of the MPO require election of Officers every year; and

WHEREAS, since the MPO Policy Board meets only 4-5 times a year; and

WHEREAS, most other MPOs in the State have two (2) year terms for the Officers; and

WHEREAS, this amendment was developed at the MPO Policy Board meeting on May 3, 2018 and has met the requirement of at least 30 days before being voted on;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Policy Board of the New River Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization hereby approves the recommended amendment to the MPO Bylaws to change election of Officers to two (2) years.

Attest: _____
Dan Brugh, Executive Director

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2018-2019

In accordance with the bylaws of the MPO, officers are elected for a two-year term. Officers are eligible for re-election and each of the officers must be from different jurisdictions.

Current officers are: Craig Meadows, Chairman

Anne McClung, Vice Chairman

Dan announced that the floor was open to receive nominations for Chairman. No seconds are required for nominations.

Mary Biggs moved to nominate continuation of Craig Meadows for Chairman and Anne McClung as Vice Chairman.

There were no other nominations made.

Dan then asked for a motion to close nominations.

On a motion by Mary Biggs seconded by Melissa Skelton and carried unanimously, nominations for MPO Chairman and Vice Chairman were closed.

Dan then called for a vote for re-election of Craig Meadows for Chairman and Anne McClung as Vice Chairman. The vote for both was unanimously in favor, Craig will be Chairman and Anne Vice Chairman of the NRV MPO for 2018-20.

Dan then vacated the Chairman's seat and Craig assumed control of the meeting.

SELECTION OF REGULAR MEETING DATE

Selection of a regular meeting date was next discussed. Craig suggested continuing the practice of meeting on the first Thursday of each month at 2:00 PM in the County Admin Conference Room of the Montgomery County Government Center and all were in consensus to do so.

PUBLIC ADDRESS

There were no citizens wishing to address the group.

OLD BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution of Appreciation for Bruce Brown

Craig reported that Dr. Bruce Brown has served on the NRV MPO since the MPO expanded in 2013 to add the City of Radford and a portion of Pulaski County. With Dr. Brown's recent retirement both his term as Mayor of Radford and his appointment to the Policy Board of the MPO have come to an end. The MPO now wishes to recognize his service to further the regional goals of the NRV MPO with a resolution of appreciation. Craig then read aloud the suggested resolution included in the meeting packet and asked to hear a motion for acceptance of the resolution.

On a motion by Melissa Skelton seconded by Mary Biggs and carried unanimously, the suggested resolution of appreciation for Dr. Bruce Brown was accepted and follows in its entirety:

New River Valley

Metropolitan Planning Organization
755 Roanoke Street
Christiansburg, VA 24073

RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION

Dr. Bruce Brown

July 26, 2018

AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE NEW RIVER VALLEY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION HELD ON THE 26th DAY OF July, 2018 AT 2:00 PM IN THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATION MEETING ROOM OF THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER:

On a motion by Melissa Skelton seconded by Mary Biggs and carried unanimously,

WHEREAS, Dr. Bruce Brown has served the New River Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization with dedication and integrity since the MPO was expanded in 2013; and

WHEREAS, the New River Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization recognizes and appreciates his years of service, hard work, and dedication to the MPO.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Policy Board of the New River Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization hereby extends a unanimous vote of appreciation and gratitude to **Dr. Bruce Brown** for his outstanding professional public service and dedication to the MPO and gives their best wishes for continued success in all his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the original of this resolution be presented to **Dr. Bruce Brown** as a testimonial of the high esteem and appreciation in which he is regarded by the New River Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization Policy Board and that a copy be a part of the official minutes of the New River Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization.

Attest: _____
F. Craig Meadows, Chairman

Craig then presented Dr. Brown with an engraved plaque commemorating his years of service to the NRV MPO and congratulations on his recent retirement. Dr. Brown expressed his appreciation for having had the opportunity to serve and for the Policy Board's recognition of that service. He then wished the group well in all their future endeavors and excused himself from the meeting.

Approval of Task Order with the New River Valley Regional Commission (NRVRC) to develop the MPO update to the Constrained Long Range Transportation Plan (2045 CLRTP)

Dan reported that this item is something that we must do every five years as the FHWA requires that we have a constrained plan that extends twenty years into the future thus we extend it five years at a time. This update of the CLRTP will need to be approved by November 2020 and in order for this to be accomplished the MPO needs to begin the process this year. The NRVRC can accomplish all of the update except the traffic modelling and the MPO is working with VDOT on that item. The NRVRC has developed a task order and fee proposal; the fee is approximately \$30,000 less than if we hire an outside consultant. The TAC has reviewed the task order and fee proposal included in attachment #5 of the meeting packet and recommends approval. A recommended resolution is also included in the attachment.

Following Dan's remarks Craig asked if there were any questions and hearing none asked to hear a motion on the proposed resolution.

On a motion by Michael Sutphin seconded by Mary Biggs and carried unanimously, the suggested resolution to approve updating the NRV MPO's CLRTP was approved and follows in its entirety:

**New River Valley
Metropolitan Planning Organization
755 Roanoke Street
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July 26, 2018

Resolution to approve updating the New River Valley Metropolitan Planning Organizations Constrained Long Range Transportation Plan (CLRTP) to year 2045.

On a motion by Michael Sutphin seconded by Mary Biggs and carried unanimously,

WHEREAS, the current 2040 CLRTP will need to be updated by 2020 to meet the required 20-year minimum planning requirement; and

WHEREAS, THE NEW PLAN WILL EXTEND THE CLRTP TO YEAR 2045, AND

WHEREAS, the New River Valley Regional Commission (NRVRC) has developed a task order and cost to update the CLRTP, and

WHEREAS, the funding will come from the 2018-19, 2019-20, and 2020-2021 UPWPs, and

WHEREAS, the TAC has reviewed and recommends approval.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that:

The Policy Board approves the task order to update the NRV MPO CLRTP; and

FURTHER, the NRV MPO authorizes the Executive Director to execute a contract on behalf of the NRV MPO with the New River Valley Regional Commission to accomplish this work.

Approved: _____
F. Craig Meadows, Chairman

Approval of Amendment # 2 to the 2018-2021 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Dan reported that an Amendment to the 2018-2021 TIP is needed to allow Blacksburg Transit to utilize some lapsing federal funds. The Amendment has been advertised in the local newspapers and on the MPO website and sent to the governmental regulatory agencies and the MPO Interested Parties with no comments being received. The 2018-21 TIP with Amendment #2 and suggested resolution is in Attachment #6.

Tom also commented that these changes are mainly moving funds around from project to project as a result of discussions with DRPT and the FTA. The lapsing funds came about as a result of Blacksburg Transit selling some buses and having to use that funding which reduced the federal share on certain projects. The end result of this was we were left with a little extra money we were able to move around. There is no additional money involved, we are just moving some that we have left.

Following Tom's remarks Craig asked if there were any questions and hearing none asked to hear a motion on the proposed resolution.

On a motion by Randy Wingfield seconded by Kali Casper and carried unanimously, the suggested resolution to approve Amendment #2 for the 2018-21 TIP was approved and follows in its entirety:

**New River Valley
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755 Roanoke Street
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July 26, 2018

Resolution Approving Amendment # 2 for the 2018-21 TIP

On a motion by Randy Wingfield seconded by Kali Casper and carried unanimously,

WHEREAS, the MPO approved the 2018-2021 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) on May 17, 2017, and

WHEREAS, Blacksburg Transit can utilize lapsing federal funds, and

WHEREAS, Amendment # 2 was advertised for public comment, sent to the MPO email list, posted on the MPO website and sent to the MPO Interested Parties and Governmental Review Agencies, and

WHEREAS, no comments were received,

WHEREAS, the TAC recommends approval.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the New River Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization approves Amendment # 2 to the 2018-21 TIP.

Approved: _____
F. Craig Meadows, Chairman

Support for projects to be submitted by localities and the MPO through the Smart Scale Program

Dan reported that any projects that are submitted by the localities or by the MPO need to be endorsed by the MPO and also state that the project is identified in the MPO CLRTP or is in compliance with it. Blacksburg will be submitting 1 application, Christiansburg will be submitting 4 applications, Montgomery County will be submitting 2 applications, Pulaski County will be submitting 1 application, and the MPO will be submitting 4 applications. Dan gave a brief overview of each of the projects then submitted suggested resolutions for them. The suggested resolutions were in attachment # 7 of the meeting packet.

Following Dan's remarks Craig asked if there were any questions and hearing none he suggested moving on all twelve of the proposed resolutions as a group and asked to hear a motion to do so.

On a motion by Mary Biggs seconded by Michael Sutphin and carried unanimously, the suggested resolutions in support of the Smart Scale program funding applications submitted by the Localities and the MPO were approved and follow in their entirety:

**New River Valley
Metropolitan Planning Organization
755 Roanoke Street
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July 26, 2018

Resolution in support of Smart Scale program funding application for the Multi Modal Transit Facility in the Town of Blacksburg.

On a motion by Mary Biggs seconded by Michael Sutphin and carried unanimously,

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Commonwealth Transportation Board Smart Scale allocation procedures, local Metropolitan Planning Organization support is required for submission of a grant application; and,

WHEREAS, the Town of Blacksburg will be submitting a grant request for supplemental funding for the Multi Modal Transit Facility,

WHEREAS, this project is included in the New River Valley MPOs Constrained Long Range Transportation Plan, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the New River Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization supports this request and requests the Commonwealth Transportation Board to approve this additional funding request for the Multi Modal Transit Facility in the Town of Blacksburg.

Approved: _____
F. Craig Meadows, Chairman

**New River Valley
Metropolitan Planning Organization
755 Roanoke Street
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July 26, 2018

Resolution in support of the Smart Scale program funding application for a Connector Road from North Franklin Street (Route 460 Business) to Peppers Ferry Road (Route 114) Project in the Town of Christiansburg.

On a motion by Mary Biggs seconded by Michael Sutphin and carried unanimously,

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Commonwealth Transportation Board Smart Scale procedures, local Metropolitan Planning Organization support is required in order that the Virginia Department of Transportation program Smart Scale funding and,

WHEREAS, the Connector Road will provide additional access to both residential and commercial properties as well as serve a new Park and provide accommodations for pedestrians and cyclists; and,

WHEREAS, this project addresses and complies with goals established in the New River Valley MPOs Constrained Long Range Transportation Plan, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the New River Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization supports this request and requests the Commonwealth Transportation Board to approve funding for the Connector Road Project in the Town of Christiansburg.

Approved: _____
F. Craig Meadows, Chairman

**New River Valley
Metropolitan Planning Organization
755 Roanoke Street
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July 26, 2018

Resolution in support of the Smart Scale program funding application for the extension of Parkway Drive in the Town of Christiansburg and Montgomery County.

On a motion by Mary Biggs seconded by Michael Sutphin and carried unanimously,

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Commonwealth Transportation Board Smart Scale procedures, local Metropolitan Planning Organization support is required in order that the Virginia Department of Transportation program Smart Scale funding and,

WHEREAS, the Parkway Drive extension will provide additional access to land recently purchased by the Economic Development Authority to expand the Falling Branch Industrial Park as well as serve as a better access to I 81 for commuters in southern Montgomery County and Floyd County; and,

WHEREAS, this project is contained in the Vision portion of the New River Valley MPOs Constrained Long Range Transportation Plan, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the New River Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization supports this request and requests the Commonwealth Transportation Board to approve funding for the Parkway Drive extension Project in the Town of Christiansburg.

Approved: _____
F. Craig Meadows, Chairman

**New River Valley
Metropolitan Planning Organization
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July 26, 2018

Resolution in support of the Smart Scale program funding application for the North Franklin Street/Depot Street Intersection Improvement Project in the Town of Christiansburg.

On a motion by Mary Biggs seconded by Michael Sutphin and carried unanimously,

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Commonwealth Transportation Board Smart Scale procedures, local Metropolitan Planning Organization support is required in order that the Virginia Department of Transportation program Smart Scale funding and,

WHEREAS, the North Franklin Street/Depot Street Intersection Improvement will provide improve traffic operations through a heavily travelled corridor; and,

WHEREAS, this project is compliant with and supports the goals contained in the New River Valley MPOs Constrained Long Range Transportation Plan, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the New River Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization supports this request and requests the Commonwealth Transportation Board to approve funding for the North Franklin Street/Depot Street Intersection Improvement project in the Town of Christiansburg.

Approved: _____
F. Craig Meadows, Chairman

**New River Valley
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July 26, 2018

Resolution in support of the Smart Scale program funding application for the extension of Falling Branch Road Project in the Town of Christiansburg.

On a motion by Mary Biggs seconded by Michael Sutphin and carried unanimously,

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Commonwealth Transportation Board Smart Scale procedures, local Metropolitan Planning Organization support is required in order that the Virginia Department of Transportation program Smart Scale funding and,

WHEREAS, the extension of Falling Branch Road will provide an access through a commercial area to a residential area and both undeveloped residential and commercial property and,

WHEREAS, the extension will provide additional access to residents and provide direct access to I 81 and Route 460, and

WHEREAS, this project is compliant with and supports the goals contained in the New River Valley MPOs Constrained Long Range Transportation Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the New River Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization supports this request and requests the Commonwealth Transportation Board to approve funding for the extension of Falling Branch Road project in the Town of Christiansburg.

Approved: _____
F. Craig Meadows, Chairman

**New River Valley
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July 26, 2018

Resolution in support of the Smart Scale program funding application for the Peppers Ferry Road (Route 114)/Prices Fork Road (Route 685) Intersection Improvement Project in Montgomery County.

On a motion by Mary Biggs seconded by Michael Sutphin and carried unanimously,

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Commonwealth Transportation Board Smart Scale procedures, local Metropolitan Planning Organization support is required in order that the Virginia Department of Transportation program Smart Scale funding and,

WHEREAS, the Peppers Ferry Road (Route 114)/Prices Fork Road (Route 685) Intersection Improvement project will provide improve traffic operations through a heavily travelled corridor; and,

WHEREAS, this project is compliant with and supports the goals contained in the New River Valley MPOs Constrained Long Range Transportation Plan and is a part of a project contained in the Vision portion of the NRV MPO Long Range Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the New River Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization supports this request and requests the Commonwealth Transportation Board to approve funding for the Peppers Ferry Road (Route 114)/Prices Fork Road (Route 685) Intersection Improvement project in Montgomery County.

Approved: _____
F. Craig Meadows, Chairman

**New River Valley
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July 26, 2018

Resolution in support of the Smart Scale program funding application for the Route 8 Widening and Pedestrian Improvement Project in Montgomery County.

On a motion by Mary Biggs seconded by Michael Sutphin and carried unanimously,

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Commonwealth Transportation Board Smart Scale procedures, local Metropolitan Planning Organization support is required in order that the Virginia Department of Transportation program Smart Scale funding and,

WHEREAS, the Route 8 Widening and Pedestrian Improvement project will provide improve traffic operations and pedestrian/bicycle access in the Riner and connect to a recently completed VDOT intersection project at Route 669 and widening already in place at Auburn High School; and,

WHEREAS, this project is compliant with and supports the goals contained in the New River Valley MPOs Constrained Long Range Transportation Plan and is a part of a project contained in the Vision portion of the NRV MPO Long Range Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the New River Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization supports this request and requests the Commonwealth Transportation Board to approve funding for the Route 8 Widening and Pedestrian Improvement project in Montgomery County.

Approved: _____
F. Craig Meadows, Chairman

**New River Valley
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July 26, 2018

Resolution in support of the Smart Scale program funding application for the Route 11 Operational Improvement Project in Pulaski County.

On a motion by Mary Biggs seconded by Michael Sutphin and carried unanimously,

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Commonwealth Transportation Board Smart Scale procedures, local Metropolitan Planning Organization support is required in order that the Virginia Department of Transportation program Smart Scale funding and,

WHEREAS the Route 11 Operational Improvement Project in will implement improvements recommended in a study conducted by the MPO in 2016; and,

WHEREAS, this project is compliant with and supports the goals contained in the New River Valley MPOs Constrained Long Range Transportation Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the New River Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization supports this request and requests the Commonwealth Transportation Board to approve funding for the Route 11 Operational Improvement Project in Pulaski County.

Approved: _____
F. Craig Meadows, Chairman

**New River Valley
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July 26, 2018

Resolution in support of Smart Scale program funding application for the construction of a Park & Ride lot at I 81 Exit 114 in the Town of Christiansburg.

On a motion by Mary Biggs seconded by Michael Sutphin and carried unanimously,

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Commonwealth Transportation Board Smart Scale allocation procedures, local Metropolitan Planning Organization support is required for submission of a grant application; and,

WHEREAS, the New River Valley MPO will be submitting a grant request for construction of a Park & Ride lot at I 81 Exit 114,

WHEREAS, this project is included in the New River Valley MPOs Constrained Long Range Transportation Plan, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the New River Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization supports this request and requests the Commonwealth Transportation Board to approve this funding request for construction of a Park & Ride lot at I 81 Exit 114 in the Town of Christiansburg.

Approved: _____
F. Craig Meadows, Chairman

**New River Valley
Metropolitan Planning Organization
755 Roanoke Street
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July 26, 2018

Resolution in support of Smart Scale program funding application for Interchange Improvements at I 81 Exit 114 in the Town of Christiansburg and Montgomery County.

On a motion by Mary Biggs seconded by Michael Sutphin and carried unanimously,

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Commonwealth Transportation Board Smart Scale allocation procedures, local Metropolitan Planning Organization support is required for submission of a grant application; and,

WHEREAS, the New River Valley MPO will be submitting a grant request for Interchange Improvements at I 81 Exit 114 in the Town of Christiansburg and Montgomery County,

WHEREAS, this project is included in the New River Valley MPOs Constrained Long Range Transportation Plan, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the New River Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization supports this request and requests the Commonwealth Transportation Board to

approve this funding request for Interchange Improvements at I 81 Exit 114 in the Town of Christiansburg and Montgomery County.

Approved: _____
F. Craig Meadows, Chairman

**New River Valley
Metropolitan Planning Organization
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Christiansburg, VA 24073**

July 26, 2018

Resolution in support of Smart Scale program funding application for Ramp Improvements on the Ramp from Eastbound Route 460 to Westbound Route 460 Business (Franklin Street) in the Town of Christiansburg and Montgomery County.

On a motion by Mary Biggs seconded by Michael Sutphin and carried unanimously,

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Commonwealth Transportation Board Smart Scale allocation procedures, local Metropolitan Planning Organization support is required for submission of a grant application; and,

WHEREAS, the New River Valley MPO will be submitting a grant request Ramp Improvements on the Ramp from Eastbound Route 460 to Westbound Route 460 Business (Franklin Street) in the Town of Christiansburg and Montgomery County, and

WHEREAS, this application is to construct a deceleration lane and add lighting to a previously funded Smart Scale project where these features were removed because of funding constraints, and

WHEREAS, this project is included in the New River Valley MPOs Constrained Long Range Transportation Plan, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the New River Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization supports this request and requests the Commonwealth Transportation Board to approve this funding request for Ramp Improvements on the Ramp from Eastbound Route 460 to Westbound Route 460 Business (Franklin Street) in the Town of Christiansburg and Montgomery County.

Approved: _____
F. Craig Meadows, Chairman

**New River Valley
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July 26, 2018

Resolution in support of the Smart Scale program funding application for the extension of the Smart Road to I 81 in Montgomery County.

On a motion by Mary Biggs seconded by Michael Sutphin and carried unanimously,

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Commonwealth Transportation Board Smart Scale procedures, local Metropolitan Planning Organization support is required in order that the Virginia Department of Transportation program Smart Scale funding and,

WHEREAS, two miles of the Smart Road have been constructed and have been used as a facility to test technologies that improve transportation safety and reliability; and

WHEREAS, Virginia Tech is developing a research presence in Roanoke that will significantly increase the traffic commuting between the two Valleys; and

WHEREAS, additional funding may be available from specific grant programs through the Federal Highway Administration (FhWA), particularly in the Innovation area; and

WHEREAS, the completed facility will be able to provide both a research and usable transportation facility; and

WHEREAS, this project is contained in the Vision portion of the New River Valley MPOs Constrained Long Range Transportation Plan, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the New River Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization supports this request and requests the Commonwealth Transportation Board to fund the extension of the Smart Road to I 81 in Montgomery County.

Approved: _____
F. Craig Meadows, Chairman

Transit Funding and Reforms

Nick Britton gave the group an overview of the changes in funding and other reforms ongoing at VDRPT. Transit Funding Reform topics covered were the Commonwealth Mass Transit Fund, Statewide Transit Capital Prioritization and Recommended Prioritization Principles, Statewide

Transit Operating Funds, Urban Transit Agency Strategic Plans, and the Regional Transit Planning Process. There was a brief question and answer session after the slideshow.

Following the presentation on Transit Funding and Reforms Nick also gave a quarterly update of the ridership on the Virginia Breeze bus service which continues to far exceed initial expectations. December through March ridership was 5,139 which was 109% higher than projected and fares are covering 77% of the costs of operation.

Approval of Time Change and Stop Elimination for the SmartWay Bus

Dan reported that there have been a number of requests from riders on the SmartWay service for Amtrak to leave Blacksburg at a later time. Currently the bus departs Blacksburg at 4:35 am and arrives in Roanoke before 5:40 am, the scheduled arrival time. The train departs at 6:19 am so those boarding have a long wait to get on the train. The suggested departure time is 5:00 am from Blacksburg. In addition, this run does not attract any passengers from the Exit 140 Park & Ride lot at Exit 140. Valley Metro has reviewed this and held a public hearing on it. There were no comments received. While there is some concern that leaving later may create a problem if the bus encounters delays on the trip, Valley Metro is willing to try this new time. The SmartWay Advisory Committee reviewed this request and recommends changing the departure time to 5:00 am and eliminating the stop at the Exit 140 Park & Ride lot. The MPO must approve any schedule changes for the SmartWay Services and a suggested resolution is in attachment # 9 of the meeting packet.

Following Dan's remarks Craig asked if there were any questions and hearing none asked to hear a motion on the proposed resolution.

On a motion by Michael Sutphin seconded by Mary Biggs and carried unanimously, the suggested resolution to approve the departure time change from Blacksburg for service by the SmartWay Bus for Amtrak and elimination of the stop for this run at the Exit 140 Park & Ride lot was approved and follows in its entirety:

**New River Valley
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July 26, 2018

Resolution approving departure time change from Blacksburg for service by the SmartWay Bus for Amtrak and elimination of the stop for this run at the Exit 140 Park & Ride lot.

On a motion by Michael Sutphin seconded by Mary Biggs and carried unanimously,

WHEREAS, the current departure time for the SmartWay service to Amtrak from Blacksburg is 4:35 am; and

WHEREAS, the departure of Amtrak is 6:19 am and there is a considerable wait time from the time SmartWay arrives to when Amtrak departs; and

WHEREAS, riders have requested a later departure time; and

WHEREAS, there are no riders that board the bus on this run at the Exit 140 Park & Ride lot, and

WHEREAS, this has been reviewed by Valley Metro and the SmartWay Advisory Committee; and

WHEREAS, Valley Metro has held a public hearing on changing the departure time from Blacksburg to 5:00 am, and

WHEREAS, the SmartWay Advisory Committee recommends approving the change.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Policy Board of the New River Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization hereby approves the change in departure time from Blacksburg from 4:35 am to 5:00 am and elimination of the stop at the Exit 140 Park & Ride lot for this run only.

Attest: _____
F. Craig Meadows, Chairman

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

David gave an update of activities ongoing at VDOT.

- VDOT personnel met in the Government Center last Tuesday with emergency management personnel from the localities along I-81 in Pulaski and Montgomery Counties to identify alternate routes for use during emergencies on I-81. The goal is to develop detour plans and designated routes along I-81 from the Pulaski/Wythe line to the Montgomery/Roanoke line. A consultant has been hired to assist in the development of the plans and there will be a public meeting in the future to display the information gathered and solicit comments and suggestions from citizens.
- VDOT is also working on the I-81 corridor plan which held a public meeting in Roanoke a couple of months ago. Trouble spots and high accident areas were identified at the meeting and now projects are being developed to address these areas. Thus far adding a northbound lane in Roanoke County between exits 141 and 143 is the only project currently scheduled,

however, VDOT has plans to do many more improvements along the I-81 corridor in the future.

- Work on two projects on Rt. 460 in the area of Blacksburg will begin soon.
- The deadline for submitting Smart Scale project applications has been extended and it is now August 8th.

Eli gave an update Passenger Rail Station Study.

- The Rail Committee met earlier this month and now has an active RFP published in the Roanoke Times for engineering services to develop up to three conceptual site plans and estimates for the station. A big unknown factor with the site is the cost of doing the earthwork so we wanted to get a better idea of the cost associated with that as we are now discussing potential expenses and cost sharing for the site. The deadline for the RFP is August 7th and the amount available for the work is up to \$15,000. The consultant will develop high level concepts and general areas of where parking areas and the building will be located, however, the big deliverable is quantities of materials and costs. The big topic of discussion in our last meeting was ownership models. Different ownership models in Virginia and a few in North Carolina were reviewed and a few of those will be examined in more detail. The Committee then discussed how to create equity in the new shared service between all of the partners involved. Fourteen different scenarios that combined three primary factors; population, projected ridership, and proximity to station were developed. The results of that effort aren't ready to distribute yet and there will be more to follow on this in the future. The Committee will not meet in August so there is time for the consultant to develop the scenarios and identify the costs to factor in for operation before we meet again.
- Dan commented that the consultant is being hired by the Regional Commission but being paid for by the Passenger Rail 2020 group.

Dan reported that we don't have any updated information from VDOT on Performance Measures at this time.

Erik reported on the progress of the Bikeshare program.

- The equipment is in place and it was launched on Saturday, July 21st. 150 trips have been completed in less than five days and with students returning to campus, those numbers will rise rapidly.
- The official kickoff event will be at 10 am next Wednesday, August 1st at the NRV Mall.
- There are 39 bikes in service, 12 stations, and 132 bike racks. There is also now a local General Manager for Roam NRV, Allen McWhirt.
- There have been 127 members sign up, 68% of those were single trips and 28% were founding members who purchased an annual membership for \$48.

OTHER BUSINESS

Randal will be cancelling the August 2nd Policy Board meeting.

INTO CLOSED MEETING – 3:12 PM

Craig announced that there was one item of business needing to be discussed and asked to hear a motion to enter into a closed meeting.

On a motion by Michael Sutphin seconded by Mary Biggs and carried unanimously,

BE IT RESOLVED, The MPO Policy Board hereby enters into Closed Meeting for the purpose of discussing the following:

Section 2.1-3711 (1) Discussion, Consideration, or Interviews of
Prospective Candidates for Employment;
Assignment, Appointment, Promotion,
Performance, Demotion, Salaries, Disciplining or
Resignation of Specific Officers, Appointees or
Employees of Any Public Body

Personnel Matter

OUT OF CLOSED MEETING – 3:22 PM

Business concluded, Craig asked to hear a motion to end the Closed Meeting.

On a motion by Melissa Skelton seconded by Anne McClung and carried unanimously,

BE IT RESOLVED, The MPO Policy Board hereby ends their Closed Meeting to return to Regular Session.

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING

Craig next asked to hear a motion to certify the Closed Meeting.

On a motion by Melissa Skelton seconded by Randy Wingfield and carried by a vote of seven ayes, zero nays and four absences the certification of the closed meeting was completed.

WHEREAS, The MPO Policy Board has convened a Closed Meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3711 of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by the Policy Board that such Closed Meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, The MPO Policy Board hereby certifies that to the best of each member's knowledge (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which this certification resolution applies, and (ii) only such public business matters as identified in the motion conveying the closed meeting were heard, discussed or considered by the Policy Board.

VOTE:

AYES: Craig Meadows, Mary Biggs, Kali Casper, Michael Sutphin, Randy Wingfield, Melissa Skelton, and David Clark.

NAYS: None

ABSENT DURING VOTE: Michael Barber and Joe Guthrie

ABSENT DURING MEETING: Michael Barber and Joe Guthrie

**ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REVIEW OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND
AMENDMENT TO EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT**

Based on Dan's annual performance review a one-time bonus of 3% was recommended.

**New River Valley
Metropolitan Planning Organization
755 Roanoke Street
Christiansburg, VA 24073**

July 26, 2018

Amendment to Employment Agreement

By Consensus of the Policy Board a one-time bonus of 3% will be awarded to Mr. Brugh for his performance for the period of July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018.

BE IT RESOLVED, By the MPO Policy Board that Section (4)1 of the Employment Agreement between John Daniel Brugh and the ~~Blacksburg/Christiansburg/ Montgomery Area~~ New River Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization dated July 22, 2003 is hereby amended effective July 26, 2018 as follows:

(4) COMPENSATION

1. Salary

The MPO shall pay Brugh an annual salary rate of ~~\$48,000 \$48,960 \$51,408 \$53,464 \$55,600 \$58,380 \$59,548, \$61,334, \$66,057~~(5.7% retirement adjustment, 2% performance), ~~\$68,039, \$69740, \$72,530, \$74,706, \$76,574~~, annual salary shall be paid to Brugh in a manner applicable to the fiscal agent for the MPO. The MPO and Brugh may mutually agree to adjust the salary of Brugh during the term of this Agreement. Any adjustment made during the life of this agreement shall be in the form of an amendment and become part of this agreement, but it shall not be deemed that MPO and Brugh have entered into a new agreement. It is agreed that MPO shall review Brugh's performance June of each calendar year.

Attest: _____
F. Craig Meadows, Chairman

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

The next scheduled meeting is September 6, 2018 at 2:00 PM in the Montgomery County Government Center.

AJOURNMENT

There being no further agenda items to discuss, Craig adjourned the meeting at 3:35 PM.

Attest: _____
F. Craig Meadows, Chairman