

**Rappahannock Rapidan Regional Commission**  
**Rural Transportation Technical Committee**  
**November 3, 2016**  
**Minutes**

**Attendees:** Josh Frederick (Orange County), Patrick Mauney (RRRC), Sam McLearen (Culpeper County), Mark Nesbit (VDOT), Dan Painter (VDOT), Charles Rapp (Town of Culpeper), Josh Swatman (Alpha Corporation), Joe Webb (VDOT), Thomas Wysong (Orange County)

**Via Conference Call:** *Stephen Read (VDOT Traffic Engineering Division)*

***Welcome and Introductions, Agenda, Minutes, Matters from the Public***

P Mauney called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

The agenda was approved as presented. Motion by D Painter, 2<sup>nd</sup> by J Frederick.

The minutes from the July 7, 2016 meeting were approved as presented. Motion by D Painter, 2<sup>nd</sup> by S McLearen.

There were no comments from the public.

***Virginia Strategic Highway Safety Plan Update***

Stephen Read presented information to the Committee on the ongoing update to Virginia's Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP). The plan addresses requirements set forth in MAP-21 and the FAST Act and involves federal, state, local, and private sector stakeholders in addressing enforcement, education, emergency response, and engineering in order to improve the safety of the transportation system. The plan (and VDOT, more generally) aspire to the vision "Toward Zero Deaths" and have set goals and objectives to reduce highway deaths and serious injuries by 50% by 2030.

The SHSP is data driven and performance based. Data from all public roadway crashes are analyzed to identify key crash factors and crash types. Safety performance is measured by fatalities and serious injuries, fatality and serious injury rates per vehicle miles traveled, and bicycle and pedestrian fatalities and serious injuries. The plan seeks to identify effective strategies and countermeasures for:

- Roadway departure
- Impaired Driving
- Occupant Protection
- Intersections
- Pedestrians/Bicyclists
- Speeding
- Young Drivers

Mr. Read discussed upcoming SHSP Road Shows in November and December in five VDOT regions and at eight MPO locations. The closest location for Rappahannock-Rapidan localities is in Charlottesville on December 16<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Read also provided information on the value of the SHSP in the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) and Smart Scale funding processes as a method of identifying project locations. A full copy of the presentation is on the committee webpage: <http://www.rregion.org/trancmte.html>.

### ***Review of Round 2 Smart Scale Submissions & Status***

P Mauney provided background on the second round of Smart Scale funding submissions across Virginia and the Culpeper District. Total project submissions rose from 321 in 2016 to 436 in 2017 and the total funding requested rose from \$6.95 billion in 2016 to \$9.25 billion in 2017. Total available funds are projected to be less than 50% of what was available during the first round. In the Culpeper District, the number of projects submitted more than doubled (17 to 35), but the total funding requested was relatively stable (\$310 million in 2016 to \$330 million in 2017).

P Mauney also discussed the removal of “Step 3” from the funding guidelines. In October, the Commonwealth Transportation Board voted to remove that step which funded the next highest scoring project in each district (after District Grant funds were allocated) using High Priority Program funds.

Committee members shared information on project submitted during round two that were previously discussed at the July meeting.

### ***Planning Roundtable***

Committee members provided brief updates on local planning and transportation activities.

C Rapp discussed several projects that the Town of Culpeper submitted for funding through Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) and Transportation Alternatives (TAP). These projects include construction of a sidewalk connection along North Main Street in the area of the new roundabout, construction of a sidewalk on Madison Road from Kestner Wayside Park to Powell Wellness Center, as well as improvements to pedestrian crosswalks along James Madison Highway.

S McLearn apprised that Culpeper County again applied for around \$1 million in revenue sharing funds in order to pave portions of five unpaved roads in the County.

J Frederick discussed an upcoming Route 3 Access Management Study that Orange County and VDOT would be undertaking with assistance from consultants with Michael Baker. This is an extension of a previous access management study from I-95 to the Orange County/Spotsylvania County boundary.

M Nesbit referenced recent discussions regarding a truck stop located off of Interstate 66 in the Markham area. As of October, VDOT suspended development efforts for the truck stop in order to review other alternatives to provide safe parking for trucks traveling the corridor, including legislative and technology solutions.

### ***Announcements & Other Business***

The Fall Transportation meeting for VDOT Culpeper District is scheduled for December 15<sup>th</sup> at the District Auditorium.

The next Rural Transportation Committee is scheduled for **January 5, 2017**.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m.