

Summary Minutes

HRTPO Long-Range Transportation Plan Subcommittee

Meeting of March 6, 2019

1. Call to Order

Chair Robert Lewis called the meeting to order at 11:07 a.m. in the Regional Building Board Room, with the following in attendance:

Members in Attendance:

Robert Lewis (Chair, SU)
Barbara Nelson (VPA)
Troy Eisenberger (CH)
Carol Rizzio (GL)
Mike Hayes (HA)
Bridjette Parker (NN)
Bryan Stilley (NN)
Jason Souders (SU)
Joshua Moore (WATA)
Dannan O'Connell (PQ)

Tara Reel (VB)
Katie Shannon (VB)
Carolyn Murphy (WM)
Tim Cross (YK)
Jamie Jackson (HRT)
Dawn Odom (VDOT)
Eric Stringfield (VDOT)
James Wright (PO)
Carl Jackson (PO)

HRTPO/HRPDC Staff:

Mike Kimbrel
Dale Stith
Theresa Brooks
Keith Nichols
Kendall Miller

John Mihaly
Sam Belfield
Steve Lambert
Jeff Raliski

Others Recorded Attending:

Ray Hunt (VDOT)
Robin Grier (VDOT)
Sonya Hallums-Ponton (VDOT)
Michael Frazier (VDOT)
Karen McPherson (McPherson Consulting)

Tammy Rosario (JC)
Dustin Rinehart (VPA)
LJ Hansen (SU)
Brian Fowler (NO)

2. Public Comment Period

Since the meeting began prior to 11:30 AM, the public comment period was moved to the end (per disclaimer on the website that addresses early meeting starts). There were no public comments.

3. Submitted Public Comments

There were no submitted public comments.

4. Approval of Agenda

Chair Lewis asked for additions or deletions to the LRTP Agenda. Hearing none, Mr. Tim Cross Moved to approve the agenda as written; seconded by Mr. Eric Stringfield. The Motion Carried.

5. Approval of April 4, 2018 Minutes

Chair Lewis reported that the LRTP summary minutes from the April 4, 2018 meeting were included in the March 6, 2019 LRTP Subcommittee Agenda. Chair Lewis asked for any additions or corrections to the minutes. Hearing none, Ms. Carolyn Murphy Moved to approve the minutes as written; seconded by Mr. Joshua Moore. The Motion Carried.

6. Potential Enhancements to the Project Prioritization Tool

The HRTPO Project Prioritization Tool was developed to assist regional decision-makers in prioritizing transportation projects based off technical merits and regional benefits, evaluating projects based on Project Utility (project effectiveness), Economic Vitality (potential for economic gain), and Project Viability (project readiness). The Tool, which has been used in the past two Long-Range Transportation Plan updates and in the identification of the Regional Priority Projects, was designed to be updated periodically to reflect current conditions and regional priorities.

For the past few months, HRTPO staff has been working with the Project Prioritization Working Group and other HRTPO advisory committees to develop potential enhancements to the Tool. In addition, HRTPO staff has referred to SMART SCALE, the DRPT prioritization process, and a scan of national best practices as part of this effort.

As part of her briefing, Ms. Dale Stith summarized the potential enhancements that were identified and discussed with the Prioritization Working Group and other HRTPO advisory committees. This review covered the addition of new criteria, removal/modification of existing criteria, and the adjustment of scoring weights. The max Project Prioritization Tool score of 300 remains unchanged (Project Utility: 100, Economic Vitality: 100, and Project Viability: 100).

The LRTP Subcommittee members engaged in a group discussion throughout this briefing, providing comments and additional input. Topics discussed at length included:

- **Congestion** – As a potential enhancement, HRTPO staff added criteria to capture person throughput (similar to the SMART SCALE process) to the Congestion section under Project Utility; thereby, increasing the congestion weighting factor. Some LRTP Subcommittee members expressed some concern about increasing the weight of congestion and aligning the Tool too much with the SMART SCALE process.
- **Land Use** – As a potential enhancement, HRTPO staff moved the Land Use Compatibility measure from Project Utility to Project Viability to help make the Project Viability component more robust, explaining that many measures in the Tool can be applied in more than one scoring component. Some LRTP Subcommittee members expressed some hesitation with this modification; however some

members also felt that Land Use Compatibility should be weighted more heavily, which can best be done in the Project Viability component.

- **Project Viability** – Some LRTP Subcommittee members expressed concern regarding the project readiness portion of the Project Viability component of the Tool, citing that they believed many candidate projects submitted for LRTP evaluation would not fare well due to lack of project progress in terms of design and the NEPA/Environmental Permit process. HRTPO staff explained that the current structure of Project Viability (prior to incorporating enhancements) is comprised completely of project readiness; with the suggested enhancements, project readiness would be decreased to a little more than half of the maximum 100 points for this component. Some members still felt like half of the 100 points was too much to attribute to project readiness.

As next steps, HRTPO staff will continue outreach to finalize the potential enhancements, including outreach to the public for review.

7. 2045 LRTP: Scenario Planning

Due to time constraints, Ms. Stith provided a quick summary of how scenario planning will be incorporated in the development of the 2045 LRTP, and stated that the Scenario Planning topic will be revisited at the April LRTP Subcommittee meeting. In the meantime, she urged the LRTP Subcommittee members to listen to the scenario planning webinar that was provided by the Regional Connectors Study consultants since scenario planning, an effort shared by the Regional Connectors Study and the 2045 LRTP, requires regional support (webinar link in the March 6, 2019 LRTP Subcommittee Meeting agenda).

8. 2045 LRTP: Visions and Goals

Ms. Stith informed the LRTP Subcommittee members that HRTPO staff plans to use survey products from the Regional Connectors Study and plans to disseminate a web-based survey as part of the visions and goals development for the 2045 LRTP.

9. For Your Information

Chair Robert Lewis highlighted the items in the For Your Information section of the Agenda.

10. Old/New Business

None.

11. Next Meeting

The next LRTP Subcommittee meeting is tentatively scheduled for April 3, 2019 at 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. (following the TTAC meeting).

ADJOURNMENT 1:45 p.m.