

Rappahannock Rapidan Regional Commission
Rural Transportation Technical Committee
July 27, 2017
Minutes

Attendees: Salem Bush (Town of Culpeper), Joe Costello (RRRC), Kobina Gaituah (VDOT), Debbie Kendall (Town of Gordonsville), Patrick Mauney (RRRC), Mark Nesbit (VDOT), Marie Pham (Fauquier County), Chuck Proctor (VDOT)

Guests: Julie Hirni, Streetlight Data

Call to Order

P Mauney called the meeting to order at 1:33 p.m. Committee members and guests provided brief introductions.

Election of Chair and Vice-Chair

P Mauney asked for nominations for Chair. S Bush nominated Marie Pham for Chair; 2nd by C Proctor. No other nominations were made. Ms. Pham was elected Chair by unanimous vote.

M Pham opened the floor for nominations for Vice-Chair. P Mauney nominated Salem Bush for Vice-Chair, 2nd by M. Nesbit. No other nominations were made. Mr. Bush was elected Vice-Chair by unanimous vote.

Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was approved as presented. D Kendall moved for approval of the minutes from the May 25th meeting, 2nd by S Bush. The motion passed unanimously.

Streetlight Insight Data Demonstration

Julie Hirni, Strategic Account Executive with StreetLight Data, Inc. presented information to the committee on the StreetLight InSight Transportation Data tool. StreetLight is a web-based tool that utilizes GPS data and Location-Based services data to provide anonymized trip details, including origin/destination and automobile/commercial vehicle information. The tool can be used to develop origin-destination studies, compare planning scenarios at various scales, what-if scenarios based on circuitry, and journey-to-work studies, among other types of studies. GPS data in the tool goes back to 2014 and location-based data to 2016, so look-back comparisons (to compare road improvement projects) are also possible.

Committee members raised several questions, with general answers outlined here.

- Average Annual Daily Traffic counts available through the tool make use of existing VDOT traffic counts to upscale the sample-based data in the tool. The tool is based on a sample of around 10-12% of traffic movements.

- Buses or ridesharing vehicles are accounted for in the database algorithms based on proximity of points and direction of travel
- Bicycle and pedestrian data is forthcoming by the end of 2017.
- Truck traffic can be differentiated by weight. At present, trucks are defined by 0 to 14,000 pound and 14,000 to 28,000 pound segments.
- There is some bias present in the model based on age, but this is becoming less of an issue as the sample size increases.

StreeLight training webinars are held each week.

The "StreetLight InSight for Transportation - Training" is held on Thursdays at 1 pm EDT

Register here: <http://info.streetlightdata.com/streetlight-insight-training-webinar>

View recording here: <http://info.streetlightdata.com/watch-basic-app-training>

The "Introduction to StreetLight InSight" is held on Wednesdays at 1pm EDT

Register here: <http://info.streetlightdata.com/introduction-to-streetlight-insight-webinar>

View recording here: <http://info.streetlightdata.com/watch-introduction-to-streetlight-insight-webinar>

VDOT's existing contract is open to VDOT and PDC staff, as well as consultants. Committee members wishing to run specific tests using the tool can work through RRRC staff or the Culpeper District office.

Smart Scale: Potential Changes for Round 3

P Mauney presented on potential changes to the Smart Scale prioritization process. The Commonwealth Transportation Board has received presentations and information from staff working on Smart Scale in June and July and a number of possible changes have been recommended for consideration by staff. A full copy of the presentation to the committee can be found at <http://www.rrregion.org/trancmte.html>. Highlights of recommended changes are summarized here.

- Application period will move up to a deadline of August 1st. Submission of basic information will be completed by May of each cycle.
- A cap of applications per applicant is recommended. RRRC and all eligible entities in the region will have a maximum of four applications allowed per cycle.
- There are a number of recommended changes to eligibility, primarily designed to ensure that a project meets the intent of Smart Scale funding (i.e., not a maintenance project, not to be used as replacement funding for projects already funded by other means, etc.)
- There are several recommended changes to scoring criteria, including safety, economic development, accessibility, and congestion criteria.

The recommended changes will be available for review in August. A formal comment period will follow and will also include comments taken at the Fall Transportation meetings in each VDOT construction district. The Commonwealth Transportation Board will not consider the changes for adoption until October at the earliest.

The committee held general discussion of the potential changes and asked P Mauney to draft a letter outlining the consensus response related to the recommended changes for the committee to review prior to sending onto the Regional Commission for comment and approval. S Bush asked

about the previous discussion regarding a request to move from Category C to Category D. P Mauney stated that he can include that request in the comment letter, and also draft a second letter that omits the request, should there be any changes to the category weighting when the official public comment period opens. S Bush noted that the request for a category adjustment should be based on the region's similarity to other areas in category D, noting that the region is primarily rural with several small towns, but no urban center.

P Mauney will draft a letter and distribute to the committee for review.

Statewide Policy & Planning Updates

The committee reviewed a document outlining changes to the VDOT Revenue Sharing program that were adopted in July by the Commonwealth Transportation Board.

Committee members also briefly discussed potential applications for the upcoming round of the Transportation Alternatives program due November 1.

Other Business

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

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

The next Rural Transportation Committee is scheduled for **September 28, 2017**.