



**Charlottesville-Albemarle Metropolitan Planning Organization
of the Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission**
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CHART Advisory Committee Meeting
August 6th, 2008 Minutes

Present

Members

Stephen Bach
Bobby Burke
James Currie, Chair
Mac Lafferty
Tom Loach
John Pfaltz, Vice Chair
Jon Schroeder
Linda Seaman

Representing

MPO, Bicycling
MPO, Pedestrian
Albemarle County, Environment
Albemarle County At-Large
Albemarle County Planning Commission
City At-Large
City At-Large
City At-Large

Not Attending:

James Burton	City At-Large
Marc Evans	MPO
Jay Gauldin	MPO
Jeff Monroe	Albemarle County At-Large
Bill Wuensch	MPO

Staff:

Cory Anderson	TJPDC
Melissa Barlow	TJPDC
Sarah Eissler	TJPDC
Chuck Proctor	VDOT
Juan Wade	Albemarle County
Ann Whitham	TJPDC

Matters from the Public:

There were no matters from the public.

Approval of the July 2, 2008 Meeting Minutes:

Upon a motion by Mr. Pfaltz, seconded by Mr. Lafferty, the July 2008 meeting minutes were approved as amended.

Nomination and Election of a Chair and Vice Chair:

Upon a motion by Mr. Currie, seconded by Mr. Pfaltz, Ms. Seaman was unanimously elected Chair of the CHART Committee.

Upon a motion by Mr. Pfaltz, seconded by Mr. Bach, Mr. Lafferty was unanimously elected Vice-Chair of the CHART Committee.

Ms. Seaman and Mr. Lafferty thanked Mr. Currie and Mr. Pfaltz for their service as Chair and Vice Chair. Mr. Lafferty also agreed to attend MPO Policy Board meetings as the CHART representative.

UnJAM Document Review

Ms. Whitham introduced the agenda item and accompanying materials. She directed the Committee's attention to the memo summarizing Federal Highways Administration (FHWA) requirements for long range plans, including the inclusion of FHWA's Eight Planning Factors.

The Committee discussed how UnJAM 2035 can address security in the plan and concluded that this is a vague requirement and can be addressed generally. CHART suggested noting that sites such as the Charlottesville Airport, NGIC and Lake Anna could require additional consideration.

Ms. Whitham went over the UnJAM Technical Analysis with the Committee. Mr. Lafferty noted that the apparent trend of faster-than-projected growth in Crozet could be perceived negatively by residents of the Town. Mr. Proctor provided an additional explanation of how travel demand models function and how the data is gathered and used.

Mr. Pfaltz's comments on a Vision for UnJAM

Mr. Pfaltz commented that he would like UnJAM 2035 to list the choke points/problem areas. He also noted that there is nothing wrong with the UnJAM 2025 vision, but it wasn't very specific. He would like more specificity in the vision/

Mr. Anderson noted that some of Mr. Pfaltz's "visions" are more like goals, but Mr. Pfaltz maintained that he wants these specifics listed out.

Ms. Seaman noted that there appears to be no provision for low-speed vehicles: Segways, electric wheel chairs, golf carts, especially with an ageing population in UnJAM 2025.

Ms. Barlow noted that the Vision needs to be on a regional scale, maintaining a united voice.

Mr. Currie suggested that it would be helpful to continue talking about goals and objectives at the September meeting. Mr. Lafferty agreed. Mr. Pfaltz suggested that each member draft a vision statement. Mr. Currie added that this type of discussion is where the CHART Committee can add the most.

Mr. Wade agreed, but stated that there need to be some parameters and a stated outcome. Ms. Barlow agreed.

Mr. Currie noted that if the Policy Board could state that it is the MPO's policy to encourage TDM, transit ridership and decrease single-occupancy vehicle use, then there might be a shift in how we approach long range planning. .

Mr. Lafferty requested a staff-guided explanation of what visions should do.

UnJAM 2025 Fiscally-Constrained Project List Review

Mr. Proctor introduced the item and explained the process that the Committee will go through to create the 2035 project list. He suggested that as a starting point, the Committee review the existing list and recommend projects to be removed or projects from the Vision list that could be moved up to the constrained list.

Mr. Pfaltz recommended that ST-7, Feasibility of a Freight Bypass Study, be removed.

Mr. Lafferty asked what "place-holder" means. Ms. Barlow explained that there are several areas that have been studied and have a package of projects, any of which could be studied. The placeholder means that the MPO does not have to amend the plan to begin one of the projects.

Mr. Wade noted that Albemarle County staff will recommend that the Board of Supervisors allocate \$500,000 for Park & Ride lots in the Capital Improvement Program (CIP). Ms. Barlow added that UnJAM 2035 can still list a project like new Park and Ride lots, even if the County is addressing them through its own CIP.

Mr. Pfaltz would like a placeholder for an Eastern Connector alignment. Mr. Proctor clarified that we could have a placeholder for any of the potential alignments. Ms. Barlow suggested striking "southern route" from the project description.

Ms. Seaman suggested that the Sunset/Fontaine Placeholder should stay.

Mr. Pfaltz noted that the bike project Ivy Road from Emmet to Canterbury should be checked for accuracy.

Ms. Seaman noted that CSX is going to be dramatically increasing its rail traffic in the coming 10 years. This might require additional rail crossings that should be considered for additions to the plan. Mr. Pfaltz suggested that the freight bypass feasibility study could be reworded to address safety at rail crossings.

Ms. Whitham asked if any projects from the vision list could/should be moved up. Ms. Seaman stated that the projects are not defined enough for her to know. The Committee requested information about what the Vision projects actually entail.

Other Business

RTA Joint Work Session: Ms. Barlow provided the Committee with a Summary of events from the August 5th Joint Work Session. She reported that decision makers formed a joint working group to hammer out the details of the RTA and the legislation. The goal is to come together and talk in advance of the 2009 legislative session. Ms. Seaman noted that it will be difficult to pass this in the current general assembly. She suggested that it might be more politically feasible to wait another year and see what happens during the next election. Mr. Currie asked if the RTA is

required to expand service to specific locations like the airport. These service decisions have not been specified yet.

TJPDC Executive Director: Mr. Bach asked for an update on the ED search. Ms. Barlow reported that applications are due by August. TJPDC expects to hire by October and have the new Director beginning work by December.