



**Charlottesville-Albemarle Metropolitan Planning Organization
of the Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission**

POB 1505, 401 E. Water St, Charlottesville, VA 22902 www.tjpd.org
(434) 979-7310 phone • (434) 979-1597 fax • info@tjpd.org email

Agenda
CHART Citizens' Committee Meeting
Wednesday, June 3rd, 2009 7:00 p.m.
TJPDC Large Conference Room

To download the entire meeting packet as one file, [click here](#).
To download individual items, [click on blue text below](#).

Item	Time	Description
1	7:00-7:05	Matters from the Public: limit of 3 minutes per speaker <i>Members of the Public are welcome to provide comment on any public-interest, transportation-related topic, including the items listed on this agenda.</i>
2	7:05-7:10	Approval of the February 4th Draft Meeting Minutes and April 1st Draft Meeting Minutes: Click here for the draft February minutes Click here for the draft April minutes
3	7:10-7:20	Welcome New TJPDC Executive Director, Steve W. Williams Mr. Williams will introduce himself to the Committee.
4	7:20-7:50	Discussion on the Role of CHART and its Relationship with other Committees There will be discussion on CHART's role after UnJAM and its relationship with the MPO Technical and Community Mobility Committees.
5	7:50-8:05	Update on the CTS Marketing Study and update on RTA Toolkit Staff will provide a brief overview of the CTS Marketing Study, which was recently completed and presented to the MPO Policy Board. Staff will also provide a brief overview of the recently held RTA toolkit Transportation Tomorrow forum.
6	8:05-8:10	Other Business Summer Meeting Schedule
7	8:10-8:15	Additional Matters From the Public: limit of 3 minutes per speaker <i>Members of the Public are welcome to provide comment on any public-interest, transportation-related topic, including the items listed on this agenda.</i>

Upcoming Agenda Items

Summer Topics

FY10 Strategic Planning?	
Places 29 Master Plan Update?	

Click here for [Project Tracking Matrix](#)



**Charlottesville-Albemarle Metropolitan Planning Organization
of the Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission**
POB 1505, 401 E. Water St, Charlottesville, VA 22902 www.tjpd.org
(434) 979-7310 phone • (434) 979-1597 fax • info@tjpd.org email

DRAFT
CHART Advisory Committee Meeting
February 4, 2009 Minutes

Present

Members

Stephen Bach
Bobby Burke
Jim Currie
Mac Lafferty, Vice Chair
Tom Loach
Linda Seaman, Chair
Bill Wuensch

Representing

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

Not Attending:

Marc Evans MPO
John Pfaltz City At-large

Staff:

Melissa Barlow TJPDC
Sarah Eissler TJPDC
Chuck Proctor VDOT
Ann Whitham TJPDC

Ms. Seaman called the meeting to order.

Matters from the Public

There were no matters from the public.

Approval of the Minutes

Upon a motion from Mr. Lafferty, seconded by Mr. Currie, the January 7, 2009 meeting minutes were unanimously approved as amended.

Greene County Multimodal Corridor Study Presentation

Ms. Whitham introduced the Greene County Multi-Modal Corridor Study, a comprehensive transportation study that examines major regional roadways in Greene County including US 29 and US 33. This corridor study will allow Greene County to develop multimodal transportation solutions and encourage more sustainable land use strategies. Ms. Whitham stated that she wanted to bring this project to the committee because it has regional implications for the MPO.

Ms. Whitham stated that TJPDC staff is working with the Renaissance Planning Group and introduced committee member Bill Wuensch who has been working on the project through Renaissance Planning Group.

Mr. Burke asked if the study resembled what was done for Greene County in the UnJAM 2025 plan. Ms. Whitham stated that the current corridor study focused more on land use and transportation scenario planning in conjunction with the comprehensive plan update.

Mr. Wuensch stated that the goal of the corridor study was to review Greene County's growth areas, work with the community to create goals for these growth areas, and preserve/improve the current transportation system in Greene County. The community was engaged in the corridor study through a public participation method called scenario planning, which includes educating the public participants on types of development and then allowing the participants to map the direction and density of new development types. Following this public exercise, Renaissance Planning took these growth scenarios and enters them into a transportation modeling program. This modeling program, when complete, will illustrate how the public's development scenarios will affect the current transportation network. Renaissance Planning will then chose the three most successful scenarios and, at a public meeting in March, asked the participants to choose which scenario they prefer. With this information, Renaissance Planning will create a list of recommendations for helping Greene County preserve and improve its current transportation system and encourage a multi-modal transportation system as new development occurs. Mr. Wuensch also stated that the analysis portion of this project should be concluded by July 2009.

Mr. Loach asked how much of the highway frontage in Greene County is zoned for commercial development. Mr. Proctor stated that most of the commercial development is around Ruckersville and the Albemarle County line.

Mr. Burke asked about the type of commercial zoning. Mr. Proctor stated that the commercial zoning mostly permits small-scale commercial development. Mr. Burke asked how this development pattern would affect the northern Albemarle County. Mr. Proctor stated that some current into-Charlottesville commuters might move towards businesses in Greene County, but development near the County Line is mostly residential.

Mr. Loach asked if Greene County has made previous efforts to shift the heavy commercial development pattern along US 29 North. Mr. Wuensch stated that development in Greene County along US 29 is not as dense as it is in Albemarle County. Ms. Whitham stated that Greene is a small county with funding difficulties, and that discouraging development is not in the County's best interest, however Greene County is aware of the effect of poorly planned development transportation resources. She added that the public workshop participants were interested in fostering better-connected development patterns in order to preserve the County's rural resources. Mr. Proctor stated that this planning process will encourage a parallel road network in Greene County, keeping local commuter traffic off of US 29.

Ms. Whitham also mentioned that the Greene County Multi-Modal Corridor Study is occurring at the same time as VDOT's US 29 corridor study and that the two studies should relate and that the project manager of the VDOT study attended the Scenario Planning Workshop in November.

Ms. Barlow stated that there are several bills in the General Assembly which would allow US 29 to be designated a corridor of regional significance, which would shift land use authority from local to state control.

Mr. Loach asked if the economic recovery legislation would have an effect on proposed interchanges along US 29 in Albemarle County. Ms. Barlow stated that she is unsure because funding streams are uncertain. Ms. Whitham stated that numerous projects are not “shovel-ready.” Mr. Proctor stated that many of the interchanges are dependent upon the construction of a parallel roadway network that needs to be constructed as development and redevelopment occurs.

After clarifying Mr. Loach’s initial question, Ms. Whitham stated that the state-wide VDOT study of US 29 would glean data from Places29, but would not affect Places29. Mr. Proctor stated that the VDOT study is a compellation of numerous specific US 29 corridor studies. Ms. Barlow stated that the final product of the VDOT study will be more policy oriented. She added that February 9th there is a listening meeting scheduled to seek public comment on the study.

Mr. Bach asked if the Norfolk Southern Railroad was located in Greene County. Ms. Whitham stated that the railroad is not in Greene County but in Orange County, and that Greene has no rail.

Ms. Barlow stated that having this corridor study coincide with the Comprehensive Planning Process has encouraged county planners to take an active role in this corridor study, which has strengthened the project.

UnJAM Public Participation Phase II Update

Ms. Whitham stated that the public participation plan has moved forward and that the interactive project map, which describes the project from the CLRP, is almost ready for inclusion on the UnJAM website. She added that a date for the UnJAM 2035 Open House has been arranged for Thursday March 5th at either CitySpace or TJPDC, depending on CitySpace’s schedule.

Butch Davies, the Culpepper representative on the Commonwealth Transportation Board, is scheduled to speak at 5:30pm. Mr. Davies is expected to discuss the transportation issues currently being considered at the Virginia General Assembly. Ms. Whitham also stated that TJPDC staff is currently finalizing the save the date cards for the event and that staff is still reviewing the possibility of broadcasting the event on local access media.

Ms. Barlow stated that she asked FHWA about a possible extension for UnJAM 2035 and FHWA recommended against it.

Other Business

RTA: Ms. Barlow stated that two pieces of legislation were taken to the Virginia General Assembly. One piece of legislation was gave the City and the County the authority to form the RTA. This legislation was passed in the House and has been taken to the Senate. The second piece of legislation, which allowed the City and County to host a public referendum on the issue of levying an additional local tax to fund transit and transportation projects, failed to pass in

House committee. Ms. Barlow also stated that the City was not ready to create an RTA without funding opportunities.

Ms. Barlow also explained that the Richmond RTA enabling legislation passed. She added that the Fredericksburg MPO is not creating an RTA, but a toll road authority, which would use toll funds to alleviate traffic in the Central Park Shopping Center.

Bike Virginia: Mr. Lafferty mentioned that Bike Virginia is hosting a major biking event in Charlottesville from June 19th to June 24th. The event would be a five day ride from Charlottesville to Culpeper and back following the Journey through Hallowed Ground Corridor.

MPO Policy Board Meeting Review: Mr. Lafferty stated that he attended the MPO Policy Board meeting at which the Proffit Road Project on the CLRP was discussed. CHART recommended that it be moved to the vision list, but it was not. Ms. Whitham mentioned that the MPO Technical Committee reached no consensus on how to consider the Proffit Road Project and that the cutting the project was not necessary for balancing the CLRP. Because of this MPO Policy Board decided to keep the project on the CLRP.

Draft FY10 Work Program: Ms. Whitham stated it was time to update the annual work program, which will be approved by the MPO Policy Board in March. This program defines the CHART committee's role for the upcoming year. Ms. Whitham asked the committee what projects they would like to review as their role in updating the long range transportation plan is coming to a close. Ms. Whitham also asked the committee if they wanted to change their meeting schedule from a monthly schedule.

Mr. Bach stated that the committee continued to meet monthly during fallow planning periods and that these meeting were more enjoyable because there was less planning pressing. Mr. Bach also stated that these meetings allowed the committee to discuss other planning issues and concerns.

Mr. Currie mentioned that the committee was involved in the Places29 planning process during a previous fallow period and that it afforded the committee opportunities to branch out.

Mr. Burke stated that in previous slow periods the committee was able to review smaller transportation projects that are often overlooked.

Mr. Currie stated that the regional planning model update is approaching and that he would like CHART to be involved in that project.

Ms. Barlow suggested that an agenda could be sent to the committee chair and vice chair and they could choose whether the agenda merits a meeting.

Ms. Whitham asked how the committee would like to verbally express its role. Mr. Currie stated that defining the committee as consultants for the long range plan was too narrow.

Ms. Barlow mentioned that TJPDC staff discussed other projects the CHART committee could review. She mentioned that CHART could assist the TJPDC in revising their Public Participation Plan. Ms. Whitham mentioned another option stating that the CHART committee

does not have set bylaws and that the committee could create them. Ms. Whitham also mentioned another possibility of creating a citizen's transportation guide.

Mr. Currie asked if TJPDC was anticipating having to cut back on staff. Ms. Barlow stated no cuts were anticipated and funding has stayed fairly stable. Mr. Currie stated that he did not want to generate more work if the TJPDC is understaffed.

Ms. Barlow asked committee members to brainstorm about possible committee projects for the next year. Ms. Whitham stated that the bylaws and the citizen's guide project would have to be taken to the MPO Policy Board for their approval.

Matters from the Public

There were no matters additional matters from the public.

The meeting was adjourned.



**Charlottesville-Albemarle Metropolitan Planning Organization
of the Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission**
POB 1505, 401 E. Water St, Charlottesville, VA 22902 www.tjpd.org
(434) 979-7310 phone • (434) 979-1597 fax • info@tjpd.org email

DRAFT
CHART Advisory Committee Meeting
April 1st, 2009 Minutes

Present

Members

Stephen Bach
Bobby Burke
Jim Currie
Marc Evans
Mac Lafferty, Vice Chair
Tom Loach
Jeff Monroe
John Pfaltz
Linda Seaman, Chair
Bill Wuensch

Representing

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

Staff:

Melissa Barlow TJPDC
Will Cockrell TJPDC
Sarah Eissler TJPDC
Chuck Proctor VDOT
Ann Whitham TJPDC

Ms. Seaman called the meeting to order.

Matters from the Public

Mr. Deily urged the committee to consider more investment in location of transit and not parking garages. Parking garages sabotage transit opportunities. He pointed out that garage costs could be reoriented to pay for a certain amount of light rail.

Mr. Lafferty responded that the library committee at Crozet has discussed this issue and eliminated parking to encourage walking.

Mr. Pfaltz stated that light rail does not meet the same broad audience as a parking garage, but a parking garage could be an asset to transit and combining the two could make transit more robust.

Approval of the Minutes

Approval of the February 4, 2009 minutes was deferred.

Upon a motion from Mr. Lafferty, seconded by Mr. Bach the March 4, 2009 minutes were unanimously approved.

ITS Presentation

Ms. Whitham introduced Mr. Coffman and Mr. Shelley. Several months ago the city requested an ITS Presentation from the Staunton Regional office.

Mr. Coffman presented on the residency's camera system. Mr. Coffman stated that the Staunton office covers all traffic operations in a 20 county area of the Staunton and Culpepper Districts and that the residency is working to enhance the camera service in Charlottesville.

Mr. Coffman mentioned four specific types of services...

- 1) Traffic Engineering
- 2) Regional operation, Traffic Transportation office center
- 3) Safety Service Patrol, white trucks assistance
Incidence management, Maintenance pavement, signs
- 4) Program delivery design and construct ITS projects

Mr. Coffman stated that the monitor system will detect problems, verify incidents conditions, respond to incidents, and inform motorists. The monitoring system will be feed into the 511 systems, Virginia traffic commuter information systems.

Mr. Coffman also discussed the ITS Cameras that are installed or will be installed in various locations in the Charlottesville-Albemarle region. Currently cameras are located at major roadways. A website called trafficland.com allows people to look at traffic cameras anywhere and the Charlottesville cameras will eventually be on this website. The current camera project is fully funded and will finish within the next two months.

Mr. Coffman stated that the project to improve the changeable message signs along major roadways is currently unfunded. The design work was completed, but the project is in limbo.

Mr. Evans asked how the cameras are typically used. Mr. Coffman stated that the cameras are used for visibility only, and could possibly be used for limited observations. Mr. Coffman was unsure of how the cameras could be used in a study capacity. Mr. Shiley stated that the cameras are in real time and that the images are not recorded therefore the cameras cannot currently be used for traffic study purposes.

Mr. Lafferty asked if the office was tied to homeland security. Mr. Coffman said that it was not but those connections are possible in the future.

Ms. Barlow asked if the real time camera feed could allow for changing traffic signals to improve traffic flow. Mr. Coffman stated we would like to be in a responsive mode, but currently are not.

Mr. Coffman also explained that signal coordination has been done on route 29 and Pantops. For any other optimization efforts the residency needs to talk with the City of Charlottesville and return with recommendations. The City and County have currently agreed upon traffic signalized coordination. However, route 20 and route 250 will still have congestion concerns.

Mr. Pfaltz asked if traffic signal cycle time had been increased on route 29. Mr. Coffman said that the city and the county are synchronized currently.

Mr. Barlow asked if the regional operations center was aware of VDOT 29 study. Mr. Coffman stated that they were.

Mr. Lafferty asked about the available methods for changing traffic signals. Mr. Coffman stated that some traffic signals can be changed at the headquarters location with master controllers; however most signal do not have this capacity at this time.

Ms. Seaman asked if funding was available for signalized improvements he mentioned. Mr. Coffman said he is unsure, but the projects are in current plans.

Mr. Lafferty asked how video is transferred back to Staunton. Mr. Coffman stated that a T-1 line was used for video transfer.

Mr. Pfaltz asked if the cameras were a beneficial investment. Mr. Pfaltz elaborated on his concerns explaining that if there was an accident it is likely to be reported before cameras can register it. Mr. Pfaltz asked if there is a long range plan for the monitoring system that will make it more useful. Mr. Coffman responded that these cameras are not intended to tie into independent traffic studies. Mr. Coffman also elaborated on the camera's capabilities stating that cameras can read an entire intersection and can zoom a mile.

Ms. Barlow stated that there is an advantage to setting up the monitoring system infrastructure and then seeing the possibilities.

Mr. Deily asked what kind of time turn-around is the average for getting the information from the cameras to the public. Mr. Coffman stated that the team can turn around information in five minutes.

Mr. Shiley presented the traffic engineering component to the plans for ITS. Mr. Shiley stated that system allows investigation of high crash locations and that this engineering analysis could be used to find problematic traffic patterns and determine remedies for those locations.

Ms. Whitham distributed a memo from Ms. Alexander discussing ITS projects in the City. Ms. Whitham stated that the city ITS software allows them to change signalization from the office unlike the region. Mr. Coffman stated that the Charlottesville system was created to do the in office signalization changes unlike the regional system. Mr. Proctor explained that changing one signal can really affect the entire corridor and it is necessary to have studies and technology to see the effects of total changes.

Transit Survey Efforts Update

Ms. Barlow presented an update to the Regional Toolkit. The toolkit was funded by a grant whose purpose is make transit better for current riders and asked non-riders what amenities would get them to ride transit. SIR used two approaches; short-form surveys for CTS questions about improvements, which included questions about a Regional Transportation Authority. The second survey targeted non- riders. This survey was a random telephone survey approximately

15 minutes long. The telephone survey questions were vetted with several groups and MPO. All groups agreed to the questions. The telephone survey also included questions about the RTA and funding possibilities. The shorter form survey was sent to underrepresented communities and various local media affiliates. The results of this survey process are anticipated for late April to early May.

Mr. Burke endorsed the survey and mentioned CMC is transit oriented and trying to get people to ride buses.

Mr. Bach noted that the telephone survey does not mention biking commutes. Ms. Barlow stated that question was amended.

Mr. Pfaltz stated that the bus survey is excellent. Mr. Pfaltz also expressed concerns that the phone survey might be too long, which will adjust the sample toward citizens who are highly interested in transportation issues. Mr. Pfaltz was also concerned that the telephone survey is solely opinion oriented and includes no data about where respondents live and work. Ms. Barlow responded that surveys are problematic because people don't admit actual behavior. She continued that the goal in telephone survey is to transition survey information into factual information.

UnJAM 2035 MPO-Area Public Outreach Final Steps

Ms. Whitham stated that in reviewing the Public Participation Plan TJPDC staff has become more aware that the participation from low-income and minority areas is extremely low and are trying a new tactic to engage populations.

Mr. Cockrell presented the TJPDC efforts to address these participation gaps. Mr. Cockrell mentioned that the TJPDC has written a short piece about the UnJAM 2035 Plan in Charlottesville Housing Authority newsletter. Also, the Charlottesville Housing Authority communities have regular meetings and TJPDC staff will present on UnJAM 2035 for 15 minutes at each meeting. Mr. Cockrell asked the committee for feedback regarding these public meetings.

Ms. Whitham also mentioned that there is no low-income or minority representation on CHART. She also mentioned that CHART has several vacant committee positions. Mr. Pfaltz stated that the Charlottesville Housing Authority meeting presentations were a great strategy for recruiting in these under-represented communities. Mr. Lafferty asked if help is needed from CHART members at the presentations. Ms. Whitham stated she would contact CHART members if they were needed but that their presence was always helpful in discussing UnJAM with the public. Ms. Seaman mentioned a mobile-home community along 5th street and asked if TJPDC was trying to engage this community. Ms. Whitham stated that there are plans to reach out to underrepresented communities beyond CHA but resources for this are currently limited.

Ms. Whitham also presented the draft of UnJAM 2035 that has been sent to both the Albemarle County and City of Charlottesville Planning Commissions. Both Commissions have meetings scheduled for April 14th. Ms. Barlow continued by stating that the MPO is asking the Commissions for endorsement. The MPO Policy Board will then hold public meetings April and May. Final approval of UnJAM 2035 will be in May.

Mr. Bach asked if the document was on website, because he had some difficulty finding UnJAM on the TJPDC website. Ms. Whitham stated that the documents were available and that staff would verify the accessibility.

Other Business

Mr. Lafferty asked about the status of the TJPDC's new Executive Director. Ms. Barlow stated the director has been selected but the selection is not yet public.

Mr. Lafferty also stated that May is national bicycle month and asked if CHART wanted to participate and asked about ideas to promote "bike month." Mr. Lafferty also asked if ACCT is promoting bike month. Mr. Bach stated that ACCT was especially focused on promoting bike week, which begins May 15th.

Ms. Seaman asked the committee if they would mind not meeting in May. The committee members agreed.

Mr. Bach asked when MPO Policy Board will vote to approve UnJAM 2035. Ms. Barlow stated the vote would occur May 27th.

Matters from the Public

There were no additional matters from the public.

The meeting was adjourned.