

Central Virginia Transportation Authority (CVTA)

Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

Meeting Minutes

Monday, October 6, 1:00 p.m.

Zoom Meeting

Members and Alternates Present:

| Voting Members | | | | | |
|----------------------------|---|-----------------------------|---|--------------------------------|---|
| Town of Ashland | | Charles City County | | Chesterfield County | |
| Nora Amos | X | Sheri Adams | X | Barbara K. Smith, Vice Chair | X |
| Goochland County | | Gary Mitchell (A) | | Chessa Walker (A) | X |
| Patrick Longerbeam | X | Hanover County | | Henrico County | |
| Ray Cash (A) | | Joseph E. Vidunas, Chair | X | Sharon Smidler | X |
| New Kent County | | William Hardman (A) | | Gilberto DeLeon (A) | X |
| Amy Inman | X | Powhatan County | | City of Richmond | |
| | | Ligon Webb | | Dironna Moore Clarke | X |
| Non-Voting Members | | | | | |
| GRTC Transit System | | CVTA | | PlanRVA/RRTPO | |
| Frank Adarkwa | X | Chet Parsons | X | Myles Busching | X |
| | | | | (A) | |
| Patricia Robinson (A) | | VDOT | | RMTA | |
| VDRPT | | Larry Hagin | X | Joi Taylor Dean | |
| Tiffany T. Dubinsky | | Liz McAdory (A) | | Virginia Port Authority | |
| Wood Hudson (A) | X | | | Barbara Nelson | X |

The technology used for the CVTA TAC meeting was a web-hosted service created by Zoom and YouTube Live Streaming and was open and accessible for participation by members of the public. A recording of this meeting is available on our [Plan RVA YouTube Channel](#).

1. Welcome and Introductions

The Central Virginia Transportation Authority (CVTA) Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Chair, Joseph Vidunas, presided and called the CVTA Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) regular meeting to order at 1:02 p.m.

2. Roll Call & Certification of a Quorum

Mo Nyamweya, CVTA, took attendance by roll call and certified that a quorum was present.

3. Consideration of Amendments to the Agenda

A request to amend the agenda was presented by Dironna Moore Clarke, representing the City of Richmond. She proposed adding an action item to discuss

the Diamond District transportation infrastructure project, which is deemed an emergency request for funding in the fiscal year 2026-2027.

Ms. Clarke explained that the City of Richmond had received bids for the project, and the funding consideration is critical for its success and the economic vitality of the region. She emphasized that the city has already committed approximately \$3 million through local CVTA funds and an additional \$34 million through general obligation bonds, totaling around \$37.3 million invested in the project.

The amendment is intended to allow the TAC (Technical Advisory Committee) to hear this information and be aware of the city's funding needs as the mayor and other stakeholders move forward with the project. Ms. Clarke clarified that while the city was seeking to present this information as an action item, they were not requesting a specific recommendation at this time. The goal was to ensure the TAC was informed and could provide input if desired.

Chair Vidunas acknowledged the request and called for a motion to amend the agenda. On motion by Dironna Moore Clarke and seconded by Patrick Longerbeam, the committee voted unanimously to amend the agenda to include this discussion item, designated as item 9-B on the agenda.

4. Approval of September 8, 2025 CVTA TAC Meeting Minutes

With a motion and a second, the members of the CVTA Technical Advisory Committee voted unanimously to approve the meeting minutes as presented (voice vote).

5. Public Comment Period

There were no requests to address the committee.

6. Chesterfield – Project Agreement

Chet Parsons provided an update regarding a project agreement concerning Chesterfield County's CVTA Project 0042, which involves the widening of Route 360 from Woodlake Village Parkway to Otterdale Road. He indicated that this request had been in development for several months and was now ready for consideration.

Mr. Parsons explained that the project had received allocated funds from the regional pot and was prepared to move forward as a locally administered project. He noted that this advancement follows a similar project that had been approved by the Authority in the previous month. Mr. Parsons also mentioned that representatives from Chesterfield County, specifically Ms. Smith and Ms. Walker, were present in the meeting to address any questions from the TAC regarding the project.

On motion by Barb Smith and seconded by Sheri Adams, the TAC voted unanimously to recommend CVTA Project 0042 for review by the Finance Committee (voice vote).

7. Cost Estimate Verification – Update

Chet Parsons provided an update on the cost estimate verification process for the round four applications. He informed the committee that all

applications had been received and that a third-party verification reviewer had obtained the necessary documentation for the round four projects. Mr. Parsons noted that there was one additional project still outstanding but emphasized that memos from the other projects had been received.

Mr. Parsons explained that the next steps would involve either him or someone from Plan RVA providing SharePoint access to the committee members for their project applications. This access would allow members to review the cost estimates and any comments from the verifier, Michael Baker, who would also be reaching out to the members via email to discuss the estimate reviews and any necessary updates.

Parsons highlighted that this process should be familiar to those who had participated in previous rounds, but he encouraged any members who were new or had questions to reach out to him directly for assistance. He also mentioned that they were attempting to conduct estimate verification for each of the proposed bond projects, indicating a more individualized approach with the consultant for those projects.

8. Allocated Regional Project Funding – Status Check

Chet Parsons presented an update on the allocated regional project funding, which was a follow-up to a previous report provided to the TAC. He shared a table that detailed all the projects that had received regional allocations through the first three funding rounds.

Mr. Parsons highlighted that as of August 27, 2025, approximately \$42 million had been reimbursed for the regional allocations across these projects. He pointed out that certain projects, indicated in pink on the table, showed discrepancies between their allocation years and the actual project status. For example, he noted that some projects had not begun as planned, which raised questions about the allocation years and whether they needed adjustments to better reflect the current expectations.

Mr. Parsons emphasized the importance of understanding project statuses as they moved into the next round of funding awards. He indicated that the Finance Committee was particularly interested in the availability of funds and how they could be better utilized in each fiscal year. He concluded by stating that this update was informational, aiming to provide a comprehensive overview of the current funding landscape and to identify potential funds that might be available for reallocation to address other needs in the region.

Barb Smith, Chesterfield County, inquired whether the regional cash flow or spend-down plan was included in the table or spreadsheet that Mr. Parsons presented. She was looking for clarity on whether the information reflected the allocation plan similar to the six-year improvement plan.

Parsons responded by confirming that the expenditure years listed were part of the allocation plans adopted in the previous spring, but he acknowledged that the table did not include a detailed cash flow plan. Ms.

Smith suggested that it would be beneficial to align the CVTA programming with the six-year improvement program and the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to enhance understanding for all involved.

9. Regional Funding Approach – Criteria

- a.** Chet Parsons introduced this agenda item regarding the regional funding approach and the criteria for project funding. He noted that this discussion was timely, given that the TAC had been operating for five years and it was essential to reassess the types of projects that should be prioritized for funding. Chet emphasized that the CVTA was established to address significant regional projects that could not be funded through other means, particularly those that were multi-jurisdictional and required substantial financial investment.

Mr. Parsons posed the question of what the TAC's hopes were for the future of the CVTA funding process and what types of projects should be the focus moving forward. He highlighted the need for a strategic approach to funding, suggesting that the committee should consider both large-scale projects and other regional needs that might arise.

During the discussion, Barb Smith, Chesterfield County, raised a point about the flexibility of the funding framework, noting that while the CVTA was designed for significant projects, it should also accommodate smaller projects that may emerge as regional priorities. She likened the funding approach to personal budgeting, where one must prioritize larger expenses while still addressing smaller needs.

Dironna Moore Clarke, City of Richmond, echoed Ms. Smith's sentiments, mentioning that the framework allowed for a percentage of funds to be allocated to larger projects while still leaving room for smaller initiatives. This flexibility was seen as a strength of the current funding approach.

Chet Parsons acknowledged the importance of leveraging funds and the need to consider various project types. He reiterated that the TAC should be open to discussing the balance between large and small projects and how the funding criteria could evolve to meet the region's needs.

As the discussion progressed, no formal motions were made, but the committee members expressed a consensus on the importance of reviewing and potentially revising the funding criteria to ensure that they aligned with the evolving transportation needs of the region. The conversation underscored the necessity of a collaborative approach to determine the best use of available funds while remaining responsive to both immediate and long-term transportation challenges.

Overall, the item served as a platform for reflection on past funding practices and a call to action for the TAC to consider how best to allocate resources in the future, ensuring that the funding process remains effective and relevant.

- b. Dironna Moore Clarke, City of Richmond, presented an emergency funding request related to the Diamond District redevelopment project. She explained that this project represents a significant opportunity to transform a 67-acre parcel that was historically known as the Diamond. The redevelopment is crucial for the economic vitality of the region, and the city has already committed approximately \$37.3 million to the project through local CVTA funds and general obligation bonds.

Ms. Clarke highlighted that the city had received bids for the project, but the infrastructure costs covered by the City of Richmond were insufficient to meet the bid amounts. As a result, the city was seeking additional funding to close the gap. She emphasized the urgency of the request, noting that the project was critical for the area and that timely funding consideration was necessary to move forward.

The request was framed as an action item for the TAC to consider, with Ms. Clarke clarifying that while they were not seeking a specific recommendation at this time, they wanted the committee to be informed and aware of the situation. She mentioned that the project had not been included in the round four funding cycle because the bids had not yet been received, leading to the current funding shortfall.

During the discussion, several questions were raised:

- o **Inquiry on Bid Details:** A committee member asked Ms. Clarke how many bids were received and if there was a summary of the bid tabulation available. Ms. Clarke responded that she would obtain that information and share it with the committee.
- o **Scope Reduction Consideration:** The same committee member also inquired whether the city had considered cutting the project scope to bring it within budget. Ms. Clarke explained that earlier in the process, transportation infrastructure costs had already been cut from the scope, and there was little left to reduce further.
- o **Rebidding the Project:** Another question was raised about the possibility of rebidding the project. Ms. Clarke indicated that she would check on the feasibility of this option, considering the project's timeline.
- o **Funding Sources:** Another committee member suggested that the TAC consider extending the deadline for regional applications to allow this project to be scored alongside other regional projects. Ms. Clarke noted that the urgency of the funding request was due to the immediate need for construction, which was set to begin in FY 2026-2027.
- o **Recommendation to Finance Committee:** There was a discussion about whether the TAC should provide a

recommendation to the Finance Committee regarding the funding request. Ultimately, it was suggested that the TAC should formally recommend that the Finance Committee evaluate the request following the off-cycle funding process.

Dironna Moore Clarke concluded by reiterating the importance of the project and the need for the TAC's support in moving the request forward to the Finance Committee for consideration. Before calling for a roll call vote to approve the recommendation, Chair Vidunas summarized the discussion regarding the emergency funding request for the Diamond District redevelopment project. Mr. Vidunas clarified that the request was for the TAC to recommend to the Finance Committee that the project be evaluated following the off-cycle funding process. He emphasized the importance of the project for the region and acknowledged the urgency of the funding need.

Chair Vidunas also expressed some concerns about the nature of the funding request, noting that the \$13 million shortfall was not solely due to transportation infrastructure costs but represented an overall shortfall for the project. He indicated that he would feel more comfortable if the funding request was specifically tied to infrastructure needs rather than covering other project costs.

Ms. Clarke responded to Chair Vidunas's concerns, stating that she would provide additional information regarding the bids received, the potential for rebidding, and the timeline for the bids. After this summary and clarification, Chair Vidunas called for a motion to formally recommend the funding request to the Finance Committee, which was seconded. With a second and a motion, the committee voted unanimously to recommend this request for review by the Finance Committee (roll call vote).

| Jurisdiction/Agency | Member | Vote |
|----------------------------|----------------------|-------------|
| Town of Ashland | Nora Amos | Aye |
| Charles City County | Sheri Adams | Aye |
| Chesterfield County | Barbara Smith | Aye |
| Goochland County | Patrick Longerbeam | Aye |
| Hanover County | Joseph Vidunas | Aye |
| Henrico County | Sharon Smidler | Aye |
| New Kent County | Amy Inman | Aye |
| City of Richmond | Dironna Moore Clarke | Aye |

10. Member Photos

Mo Nyamweya, CVTA, addressed the committee, stating that she is looking to update the website with pictures of all TAC members. She mentioned that members could either send in their existing headshots or direct her to where their photos might be available online. Chair Vidunas encouraged all members, including himself, to complete this task within the next couple of weeks to facilitate

the website update. A follow-up email regarding this request was sent out, asking committee members to submit their headshots by October 31st.

11. CVTA TAC Member Comments

Nora Amos, Town of Ashland, raised a question about whether anyone had secured a contractor for the wayfinding signage related to the Fall Line Trail, expressing interest in potentially using the same contractor that Hanover had engaged.

9. Next Meeting: November 10, 2025, at 1:00 p.m.

10. Adjournment

Chair Vidunas adjourned the meeting at 2:11 p.m.