

PANTOPS COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE IN-PERSON MEETING

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2023, 6:15 – 7:30 PM

Kessler Conference Room, Martha Jefferson Hospital Outpatient Center Charlottesville

1. Call to order, Introductions & Agenda Review

- A. The meeting was called to order by Chair Dick Ruffin at 6:15 pm. The meeting agenda was reviewed.
- B. CAC members present were: Richard Ruffin, Stephanie Lowenhaupt – Vice Chair, Judith Joyce, Henry Light, Michael Spatz, Ida Lee Wooten, and Michael Fraser (absent: Kate Kaminsky, Anne Oliver, Ron Brownfield, Lou Falzer) C. **Khalilah Jones**, Community Connector, Albemarle County, was present.
- D. Guest: Sandy Shackelford, Charlottesville-Albemarle Metropolitan Planning Organization, Harold Jones, VDOT
- E. A quorum was confirmed to be present.

2. Approve Meeting minutes–Dick Ruffin, Chair

The minutes of the August 28, 2023, meeting were approved.

3. Presentation- Sandy Shackelford

- A. The Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) goals and requirements were explained. This included the federally mandated requirement of planning for 20 years in the future (our MPO plans for 25 years) with updates every 5 years.
- B. The MPO for this area included Charlottesville and urbanized Albemarle.
- C. The committee members voiced their suggestions which included:

- i Improving Free Bridge traffic congestion ii Adding a pedestrian/bike bridge over Rivanna River next to Free Bridge iii Considering an Eastern bypass to divert traffic from 64 to 29 North iv Traffic safety concern with U-turn on 250 at Peter Jefferson traffic light
- v Encourage businesses to use flex time to reduce peak traffic vi For safety, prioritize separating bike lanes from cars

4. The Micro-Transit plan for Pantops was discussed. The company chosen is VIA. Drivers are prescreened. At first free, then will become affordable price.

- A. Toyota Sienna Hybrids
- B. 2 -3 wheelchair accessible
- C. Will be able to go from Pantops to 29 North and back
- D. Curb to curb service
- E. Likely start in October. An app will be available to call for service.

5. Cornerstone Church project resubmitted with some changes. The new application will be presented at a Planning Commission meeting yet to be scheduled.

6. Hal Jones of VDOT distributed a brochure describing five current projects in the County and invited feedback on these and any other subjects of concern to the community.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Judith Joyce

Acting Secretary