



## MEETING OF THE I-81 ADVISORY COMMITTEE

October 2, 2023

1:00 p.m.

Virginia Horse Center Foundation – The Mezzanine  
487 Maury River Road  
Lexington, Virginia 24450-3374

Members of the Committee Present: Chairman Frank Friedman, Chairman Randy Pennington, Chairman Hil Johnson, Chairman Dennis Morris, Chairman Phil North, Delegate Terry Austin, Delegate Jason Ballard, Delegate William Wiley, Delegate Tony Wilt, CTB Member Mark Merrill, CTB Member Tom Fowlkes, Director Jennifer Mitchell, and Commissioner Stephen Brich.

Absent Members: Senator Todd Pillion, Senator Creigh Deeds, Senator John Edwards, CTB Member Ray Smoot, Jr.

Committee joined by: Secretary Shep Miller, III.

1. Call to Order – Delegate Terry Austin, Chair of the Committee
2. Procedural business – Delegate Wilt was nominated as vice-chair of the Committee and the typical process and procedure where joint committees are chaired by House and Senate, the other party's vice when members share committee's while honored, he will yield vice-chair to Senator Creigh Deeds.

Motion for Senator Creigh Deeds, Vice-Chair made by Delegate Tony Wilt  
Seconded by: Delegate William Wiley  
Vote: Unanimous

3. Discussion and approval of minutes from July 7, 2022 – Chair of the Committee

Motion for approval of the minutes: CTB Member Mark Merrill  
Seconded by: Delegate Tony Wilt  
Vote: Unanimous

4. I-81 Corridor Improvement Program Update – Dave Covington, Director, I-81 Corridor Program Delivery, VDOT

General Discussion: The Committee was briefed on status of the Program Improvements by the I-81 Corridor Program Delivery Director, Dave Covington.

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5. I-81 Multimodal Improvements Plan – Zach Trogdon, Chief of Public Transportation, Virginia Breeze Intercity Bus, DRPT

General Discussion: The Committee was briefed on the operation of Virginia Breeze Intercity Bus.

6. Finance Update – Laura Farmer, Chief Financial Officer, VDOT

General Discussion: The Committee was briefed on a financial update on the I-81 Corridor Improvement plan by VDOT's Chief Financial Officer, Laura Farmer.

7. Public-Private Partnership (P3) Market Sounding Findings and Analysis  
David Spector, KPMG Infrastructure Advisory  
Sasha Page, IMG Rebel Group

General Discussion: The Committee was briefed on an I-81 P3 Feasibility, summary of market sounding, KPMG and IMG team.

Public Comment

Two public comments: Eric Sichau, Roanoke Chamber of Commerce  
Spencer Sutor, Administrator Rockbridge County

8. Closing remarks – Chair of the Committee
9. The meeting adjourned at approximately 3:45 p.m.

Video of the committee and all presentations can be found at [www.improve81.org](http://www.improve81.org)

**MEMBERS OF THE I-81 ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**Voting**

Delegate Jason Ballard, District 12  
Delegate Terry Austin, District 19  
Delegate Tony Wilt, District 26  
Delegate Bill Wiley, District 29

Senator John Edwards, District 21  
Senator Creigh Deeds, District 25  
Senator Todd Pillion, District 40

Chair Frank Friedman, Central Shenandoah PDC  
Chair Phil North, Roanoke Valley/Alleghany PDC  
Chair Hil Johnson, New River Valley PDC  
Chair Dennis Morris, Northern Shenandoah PDC  
Chair Randy Pennington, Mount Rogers PDC

Ray Smoot, Jr., Salem District CTB Member  
Tom Fowlkes, Bristol District CTB Member  
Mark Merrill, Staunton District CTB Member

**Ex Officio**

Stephen Brich, Commissioner of Highways, VDOT  
Jennifer DeBruhl, Director, DRPT