

Transportation Focus Group



Below is the meeting summary for the second Transportation Focus Group meeting. The purpose of this meeting was to select approximately three goals per topic for further study. In the following three meetings, groups will determine more specific objectives for each goal. All of the Focus Group information will be incorporated into the Community Strategic Plan document which will be considered by the Board of Supervisors later this year.

Meeting Date: 3/17/16

Recorder: Tammi Wood

Meeting Location: Vinton War Memorial

Number of Participants: 31

Number of Small Groups: 3

Host: Supervisor George Assaid

Lead Staff: Richard Caywood and Megan Cronise

Staff Facilitators: David Holladay, Sarah Vaughan, Karen Oliver, Tammi Wood

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Most Popular Topics by Group Consensus for Meeting 1

Top 3 most popular Topics selected by group consensus at the end of Meeting 1.

1. Infrastructure Improvements
2. Multimodal Connectivity and Balance
3. Connect Roanoke (to the world) (tied for 3rd)
4. Accessibility (tied for 3rd)

Meeting 1 Topics Confirmed at the Beginning of Meeting 2

1. Infrastructure Improvements
2. Multimodal Connectivity and Balance and Accessibility
3. Connect Roanoke (to the world)

Meeting 2: GOALS DEVELOPMENT

GOALS are defined as “What you want to do.”

Topic 1: Infrastructure Improvements

1. Identify and prioritize bridge/roads, tunnels needing improvement
2. Sustainability of repairs
3. Environmental (consciousness)
4. Develop Strategy process to prioritize (HB2)
5. Secure funding for repairs
6. Identify areas needing higher capacity
7. Planning Commission review traffic impacts on development
8. New development = Smart Development
9. Greenway complete – as transportation network
10. Signal “synch”
11. Investigate roundabouts and upgrade
12. Bicycle lanes
13. Non-motorized
14. Better road marking
15. New roadways
16. Develop long term plan – 20+ years
17. Strengthen ordinances and codes for a walkable and accessible community – zoning, ADA, mixed use development
18. Intelligent operations management
19. Sustainable community
20. Citizen advisory committee – Valley Metro
21. Improve direct access to public transit – Valley Metro
22. Access to business centers – bike, walk, public transit
23. Make system seamless – connect services

Topic 2: Multimodal Connectivity and Balance and Accessibility

1. Extend public transit in County
2. Connect business/activity centers, neighborhoods
3. Connect pieces/components of the system
4. Improve/Expand broadband
5. Improve freight movement and access
6. Regional co-operation and coordination
7. Seamless transportation (connect the pieces)
8. Create opportunities for multigenerational access to business/activity centers and neighborhoods, healthcare
9. Design and construct facilities to accommodate all users
10. Encourage/Promote mixed use town centers with multimodal access

Topic 3: Connect Roanoke (to the world)

1. Improve air service
2. Connect neighborhoods and housing developments, schools and service centers and connect greenways to other jurisdictions and Blue Ridge Parkway
3. Bicycle access from trains
4. An intermodal, seamless system
5. Improve freight mobility in and out of Roanoke
6. Improve options for transportation of young people and students
7. ADA connecting Roanoke
8. Improve connections to rail hubs
9. Improve intermodality using Smart Way model
10. Improve I-81
11. Constantly evaluate and meet accessibility needs for all transportation modes
12. I-73 – short term, improve Route 220
13. Develop and maintain relationship with surrounding jurisdictions
14. Plan for emergency connections
15. Improve (Eliminate) congestion
16. Inland Port
17. Adding more options for public transportation
18. Expanding transportation routes and times in Roanoke
19. Position Roanoke as the test path for smart road developed/ing technology similar to Virginia Tech/Carilion med school
20. Roanoke County improve relationship (make it seamless) with Blacksburg and Virginia Tech

End of Meeting 2: Group Consensus on Top Three Goals by Topic

Topic 1: Infrastructure Improvements

- Goal 1. Improve maintenance and construction of roads
- Goal 2. Sustainable, walkable and accessible community
- Goal 3. Coordinate and improve regulations

Topic 2: Multimodal Connectivity and Balance and Accessibility

- Goal 1. Extend public transit in County
- Goal 2. Create opportunities for all uses (multigenerational) to business/activity centers, neighborhoods, healthcare
- Goal 3. Encourage/promote mixed-use town centers with multi-modal access

Topic 3: Connect Roanoke (to the world)

- Goal 1. Develop/Improve relationship with other jurisdictions (e.g. smart road, med school)
- Goal 2. Create a seamless, intermodal system with motorized and people-powered transportation
- Goal 3. Improve air service