



**DRAFT MINUTES  
MEETING OF THE INTERSTATE I-81 COMMITTEE**

July 7, 2022

1:00PM

Hotel Roanoke and Conference Center  
110 Shenandoah Ave NE  
Roanoke, Virginia 24016

The meeting of the I-81 Committee was held virtually using electronic communications. The meeting began at 1:02PM on July 7, 2022. The public dial-in number was open for listening and public comment prior to adjournment.

Present: Chairman Frank Friedman, Chairman Willie Greene, Chairman Hil Johnson, Chairman Dennis Morris, Chairman Phil North, Senator Creigh Deeds, Senator Todd Pillion (by phone), Delegate Terry Austin, Delegate Jason Ballard, Delegate William Wiley, Delegate Tony Wilt, CTB Member Mark Merrill, CTB Member Ray Smoot, Jr. Director Jennifer Mitchell, and Commissioner Stephen Brich

Absent: Senator John Edwards and CTB Member Tom Fowlkes

1. Opening statement from Sheppard "Shep" Miller III, Secretary of Transportation.
2. Procedural action: Election of Chair and Vice-Chair

Motion for Delegate Terry Austin for Chair of the Committee made by: Ray Smoot Jr.  
Seconded by: Delegate Tony Wilt  
Vote: Unanimous, roll call to confirm

Motion for Delegate Tony Wilt for Vice Chair of the Committee made by: Delegate William Wiley  
Seconded by: Chairman Phil North  
Vote: Unanimous, roll call to confirm

3. The meeting was called to order at 1:29PM by the Committee Chair, Delegate Terry Austin. Introductions were made by Committee members including Secretary Miller.
4. Approval of minutes from April 21, 2022

Motion by: Delegate Tony Wilt for approval

Seconded by: Mark Merrill

Vote: Roll call to confirm

Abstentions: Delegate Jason Ballard, Delegate Terry Austin, Delegate William Wiley, Senator Creigh Deeds, Chairman Phil North and Chairman Hil Johnson

5. I-81 Corridor Improvement Program Status

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

6. I-81 Multimodal Improvements plan

General Discussion: The Committee was briefed on multimodal improvements by DRPT's Acting Chief of Public Transportation, Grant Sparks and Chief Operating Officer, Mike McLaughlin.

7. Financial Overview

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.

8. Infrastructure Investment Jobs Act (IIJA) Overview

General Discussion: The Committee was briefed on the federal Infrastructure Investment Jobs Act (IIJA) by Deputy Secretary of Transportation, John Lawson.

9. Public Comment

One comment was taken during the public comment period.

10. Closing remarks made by Committee Chair, Delegate Terry Austin.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at approximately 3:30PM. The next meeting date will be determined upon call of the Chair.

All presentations to the Committee and meeting video can be found at [IMPROVE81.ORG](https://www.improve81.org)