

Memorandum

To: Planning District Commission
From: Jessica Hersh-Ballering, Transportation Planner
Date: March 4, 2021
Reference: Route 29 Corridor Study Overview

Purpose: To give a brief overview of the Route 29 Corridor Study to be completed with funding from both the MPO and the Rural program in FY21 and FY22.

Background: The Route 29 Corridor Study intends to develop transportation recommendations that complement the existing land use designations in the study area (Airport Road to Route 33). These recommendations will guide and support future transportation funding requests. At the request of Albemarle County and Greene County planning and economic development staff, the corridor study recommendations will focus on 1) the connections between housing and employment/education opportunities and 2) road user safety. The study will consider transit, bicycle, and pedestrian travel, in addition to other road users.

The Route 29 Corridor Study will take place over the course of about 18 months in both FY21 and FY22. The study will conclude in June 2022. In FY21, the MPO has approximately \$30,000 budgeted for this study and the rural program has approximately \$20,000 budgeted for this study. Funding for this study in FY22 is yet to be determined.

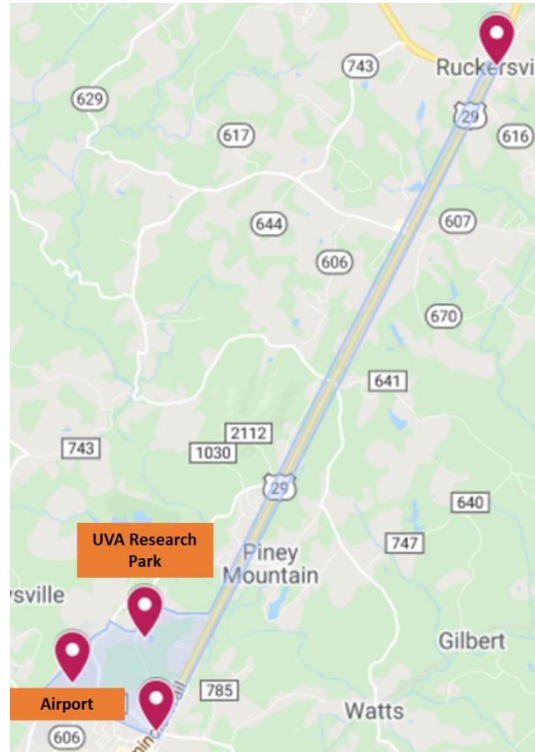
Study area: The study area extends from Airport Road to Route 33 in Ruckersville and includes the Charlottesville-Albemarle Airport and UVA Research Park on the southern end. (See next page.)

Staff efforts: TJPDC staff have met with planning and development staff from Albemarle and Greene counties to discuss study goals. TJPDC staff also met with VDOT staff to discuss possible VDOT-funded technical assistance in roadway data collection and identify metrics of interest (such as roadway volumes, level of service, queue length at intersections, and safety analyses). TJPDC staff also identified potential organizations to be represented on a technical advisory group for the project, such as staff and elected officials from Albemarle and Greene counties, major employers, and transit agencies.

Next steps: In the coming months, TJPDC staff will work with staff from Albemarle and Greene counties to finalize membership for the technical advisory group. We will also work with VDOT to formally request technical assistance to collect roadway data. The technical advisory group and interested members of the public will review the data collected as a means of better understanding how the corridor functions for various roadway users and where the greatest safety concerns might be. Staff and the technical advisory group will then create a scope of work for the remaining components of the corridor study based on the data and public input. The scope of work will clarify how staff and the advisory group will identify priorities for the corridor and make recommendations to address those priorities.

Action Items:

- Consider a resolution to request technical assistance from VDOT for this project is included in this packet.



The study area extends along Route 29 from Airport Road to Route 33 in Ruckersville. It includes the airport and the UVA Research Park.