

Transportation Committee Meeting Minutes of March 10, 2016

Call to Order:

The Transportation Committee meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

Members Present

Chris Yakabouski (Battlefield District Supervisor), Darrell Caldwell (At Large Representative), Don Upperco (School District), Eric Martin (Salem Representative), Robert Fogg (Battlefield Representative), Shawn Hockaday (Berkeley Representative), Sean Nelson (VDOT), Dan Cole (staff), Doug Morgan (staff), Bonnie Jewell (staff), James Perkins (Chancellor District)

Others Present

Mark Taylor (County Administrator), Mark Cole (Deputy County Administrator) Greg Cebula (Berkeley District Supervisor), Ruppert Farley

Approval of the February 11th, 2016 Minutes

Minutes were approved.

Public Comment

No members of the public spoke.

Action Item

- **Presentation of the Route 3 Access Management Study:** The Transportation Committee voted to move the “*Route 3 Access Management Study*” forward to the Planning Commission at the April or May meeting.

Informational Items:

- **FY17-FY23 CMAQ/RSTP Funding Allocations:** The budget for the CMAQ/RSTP allocations has not come out yet for FY17-FY23. The allocations should be available for the April meeting. The committee will be updated next month. All of the County money for FY17 will go towards the US Route 1 & Harrison Road Intersection Project.
- **FY17-FY23 SSYP:** The Secondary Six Year Plan funds are not yet available. VDOT will provide the information when the funding levels are determined sometime next month.

Discussion Items

- **Regional Funding Opportunities:** Paul Agnello (FAMPO) gave a presentation on regional funding opportunities. For the next round of HB2, projects need to be in the 1) Jurisdiction Comprehensive Plan, 2) GWRC/FAMPO Economic Development Plan, and 3) the FAMPO CLRP if

the project is a Statewide High Priority candidate project. The goal is to complete preparation by June or early July. There are three new Federal Funding Opportunities available. They are; 1) FASTLANE, 2) TIGER Grants and 3) Earmarks.

FASTLANE grants are open to all 50 states. Candidate projects need to support increased truck freight mobility. Some preparation work needs to be already complete such as an Environmental Study. The application deadline is April 14th. As a region we are eligible for a single grant. It has already been determined that the candidate project will be the I-95 NB Rappahannock River Crossing.

TIGER grants are for smaller projects. Candidate projects must have NEPA work completed. These grants are geared towards projects with some multimodal aspect. The State Department of Rail and Public Transportation has decided to go for only one rail project in Virginia which is the 3rd track in Northern Virginia between Alexandria and the Occoquan River for \$60 million dollars. The application deadline is April 29th.

Earmark funding will be available in the spring. Funding can only be allocated to a project if an original project incurred cost savings and is within 50 miles of the new proposed project. There is considerable oversight of Virginia use by US Senators and Congressmen. There are no projects in Spotsylvania which meets the 50 mile criteria or has the necessary political support.

- **I-95 Corridor Study:** Paul Agnello (FAMPO) gave a presentation on the proposed FAMPO I-95 Corridor Study, discussing the projects background, existing conditions, input provided on future candidate alternatives, and the next steps. Phase I of the study area will include I-95 from Exit 126 (Spotsylvania) to Exit 143 (Garrisonville). He noted the severe, reoccurring traffic congestion along the I-95 corridor from Quantico to Massaponax and scarce transportation funds for major projects outside of HB2. The objective of the new study is to develop an improvement program to address the needs of the corridor for the year 2040. Improvements will be limited to I-95 and Park and Ride lots near interchanges. The earlier Needs Study showed exiting weekday congestion NB in the AM between exits 136 and 143, and SB in the PM between exits 143 and 130. The average speed during these periods was less than 45 mph. The longest period of congestion was the PM SB direction which lasted over a four hour period. During the weekend congestion was greatest on Saturday in the SB direction between exits 140 and 133 and on Sunday in the NB direction between exits 126 and 133. The average speed for Sunday in the NB direction was below 45 mph. The average speed for Saturday in the SB direction was no lower than 51 mph. The proposed study will assume planned improvements in Stafford near Garrisonville including on I-95 and the 4-lane widening of Route 630. Phase II of the study will look at new access points at Harrison Road (620) and Courthouse Road (628). As part of this study, extending the Rappahannock River Crossing CD lanes from Route 3 to Harrison Road will be explored, including a partial interchange at Harrison Road along with widening of Harrison road to 4 lanes. A draft Exit 127 Courthouse Road Interchange concept will be explored, extending the CD lanes from Harrison Road to Courthouse Road, including a partial interchange

at Courthouse Road. It's likely that with these changes less improvement would be needed at the Exit 126 interchange.

Next Meeting

The next scheduled Transportation Committee Meeting is Thursday, April 14th.

Adjourn:

The Transportation Committee adjourned at 8:30 pm.