

# Transportation Committee Meeting Minutes of January 14, 2016

## Call to Order:

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

## Members Present

Tim McLaughlin (Chancellor District Supervisor), Chris Yakabouski (Battlefield District Supervisor), Darrell Caldwell (At Large Representative), Arthur Snyder (Livingston Representative), Sean Nelson (VDOT), Dan Cole (staff), Doug Morgan (staff)

## Others Present

Al Esh (Developer/Applicant for *"The Ole Country Store"*).

## Approval of the November 18th, 2015 Minutes

Minutes were approved.

## Public Comment

Al Esh – Mr. Esh is a property owner of *"The Ole County Store"* which was recently approved by the BOS in December, 2015. *"The Old County Store"* is located on Plank Road (Route 3) just to the west of Andora Drive. When the property was approved one of the conditions required the developer to make improvements to a crossover that was to be closed in the near future as a recommendation in the *Route 3 Access Management Study*. Mr. Esh made an appeal to the Transportation Committee to change the decision made during the public hearing. Staff read a statement from the County Zoning Administrator. Mr. Tignor believed *"that there was enough latitude to continue in conformance if the improvement occurred at one intersection further east, if the intersection immediately east was closed per VDOT's recommendation."* The Committee was in agreement with Mr. Esh and the Zoning Administrator on the change. Mr. Nelson said, *"That VDOT's cost of closing the crossover was about \$20,000."* Mr. McLaughlin indicated that the County might be able to find the money in the budget to do the work if other Board members agreed. VDOT will review the change and a decision will be forwarded to the BOS.

## Informational Items

- **HB2 Update:** There was nothing new to report. The results for the three projects that were submitted by Spotsylvania Count will not be scored until sometime next week. Subsequently, the results were posted on Tuesday, January 19<sup>th</sup>. Both district projects; Route 606 improvements West of I-95 and Route 17 Widening and Bridge to Germanna Point/Hospital Boulevard were approved as well as the Park & Ride Lot on Commonwealth Drive.
- **"J' Ramp:** Nothing new to report on the "J' Ramp, Sean Nelson indicated that Elliot Moore (FHWA) is back and that should help in moving things along and getting a decision about the proposed project and study.
- **Route 3 Access Management Study:** Dan Cole updated the committee concerning last night's (Wednesday, January 13<sup>th</sup>) VDOT presentation at Routan Hall. *"It was well attended and received. In all approximately 30-35 residents attended. Several Board members were present - Mr. McLaughlin, Mr. Benton, and Mr. Cebula. Mr.*

*Hennessy was also present to represent the National Park Service. The meeting focused on future conditions. Two more presentations are planned – one to the Planning Commission and another to the Board of Supervisors. No dates for these presentations have been determined.”*

## **Discussion Items**

- **Future Park & Ride Lots:** Staff showed the committee members a map of parcels which consisted of at least 10 acres located within one (1) mile of I-95 near the Thornburg Interchange. A minimum of 10 acres is required to accommodate a 500-1,000 space park & ride lot. Per FAMPO direction a lot would be desirable as a future HB2 project. Staff identified two parcels (63-A-19 and 63-A-42) that looked promising. Site 63-A-19 has two entry/exit points to distribute traffic – US Route 1 and Jim Morris Road. The AS400 did not show any building accessed values so it appears to be undeveloped. Site 63-A-35C was closer to Exit 118 and had a single access point to US Route 1. It also did not show any building structures present. Mr. McLaughlin suggested that the Food Lion and Dominion Raceway parking lots could be used for a Park & Ride lot because they had the capacity, were already built or nearly built, and available spaces would not be utilized because events would likely occur in the evening in the case of the Dominion Raceway. The majority of the Committee members agreed with Mr. McLaughlin’s assessment. Staff will present this idea to FAMPO at the January 19<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- **Comprehensive Plan Changes (Old Plank Road, Orange Plank Road, River Road)** Staff distributed two hand-outs to members of the Committee. The first document was from the Spotsylvania County Travel Forecasting Model which showed future (2030) peak period levels of service in the northwest part of the County. The documents indicted poor level-of-service (LOS F) for essentially all of River Road, the eastern half of Orange Plank Road, and a few segments of Old Plank Road. The second document showed future projected traffic volumes and land use. The document showed the following; volumes on River Road were consistent its entire length from Bragg Road to Route 3 ranging from 12,400 to 14,000 vehicles-per-day, while vehicles-per-day fluctuated significantly on both Old Plank Road and Orange Plank Road. The eastern half of both roads showed significantly higher projected volumes than their western half, ranging from 17,400 and 12,700 down to 4,500 vehicles-per-day. VDOT put together some estimates or assumptions based on traffic volumes, and improvements as follows; eleven foot lanes, six foot shoulders, and four foot ditches. The following estimates were identified; Route 610, Old Plank Road- 4.75 miles at a cost of \$15 million, Route 618, River Road-7.56 miles at a cost of \$23 million, and Route 621, Orange Plank Road- 3.84 miles at a cost of \$11.5 million dollars. VDOT noted that half the length of Orange Plank Road falls within the NPS and Wilderness Battlefield and a smaller portion of Old Plank Road passes twice through NPS land at Chancellorsville which would make it difficult to acquire easements or right-of-way. The estimates presented would likely increase over time.

## **Next Meeting**

The next scheduled Transportation Committee Meeting is Thursday, February 11th.

## **Adjourn:**

The Transportation Committee adjourned at 8:00 pm.