

**RICHMOND AREA**  
**METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION**  
**MINUTES OF MEETING**

**April 8, 2010**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

**REPRESENTING**

Nora D. Amos (Alternate).....	Town of Ashland
Joseph Andrews, Jr. ....	County of Goochland
Richard W. Ayers.....	County of Powhatan
Viktorija W. Badger.....	City of Richmond
James R. Banks (Alternate).....	County of Chesterfield
Malvern R. Butler .....	County of Goochland
Deborah B. Coats (Alternate) .....	County of Hanover
Robert A. Crum, Jr.....	RRPDC
Marleen K. Durfee .....	County of Chesterfield
E. Todd Eure .....	County of Henrico
Thomas E. Flynn.....	City of Richmond
Kathy C. Graziano .....	City of Richmond
Amy M. Inman (Nonvoting Alternate).....	VDRPT
Jean M. Moore .....	County of Henrico
Mark Riblett (Alternate) .....	VDOT
Ellen F. Robertson .....	City of Richmond
Robert R. Setliff.....	County of Hanover
Von Tisdale (Nonvoting) .....	RideFinders
Stran L. Trout.....	County of New Kent
Joseph E. Vidunas.....	County of Hanover
Joseph B. Walton .....	County of Powhatan

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

**REPRESENTING**

Patricia S. O'Bannon, <b>Chair</b> .....	County of Henrico
Edward L. Henson, III, <b>Vice Chair</b> .....	Town of Ashland
Stephen R. Adkins (Nonvoting).....	CTAC
Robert M. Berry.....	RMA
Linda G. Broady-Myers (Nonvoting) .....	EDAC
Cliff Burnette (Nonvoting) .....	VDA
Timothy W. Cotman .....	County of Charles City
Tony Cho (Nonvoting).....	FTA
Tammye Davis (Nonvoting) .....	FHWA
Daniel A. Gecker .....	County of Chesterfield
John Gordon.....	County of Hanover
Thomas A. Hawthorne .....	VDOT
Corey W. Hill (Nonvoting).....	VDRPT
James M. Holland .....	County of Chesterfield
George M. Homewood.....	County of New Kent
John M. Lewis.....	GRTC Transit System

**MEMBERS ABSENT (cont.)**

**REPRESENTING**

John McCracken ..... County of Chesterfield  
John Rutledge.....CRAC  
Frank J. Thornton..... County of Henrico

**OTHERS PRESENT**

**REPRESENTING**

Daniel N. Lysy, (Alternate), **Secretary** ..... RRPDC  
Jon Baliles.....City of Richmond  
David Caudill ..... RMA  
Peter Chapman .....City of Richmond  
Douglas G. Conner (Alternate).....City of Richmond  
Suzette Denslow.....City of Richmond  
Shelbra Jones ..... Serve U Transportation, LLC  
Stephen Story ..... James River Bus Lines  
Ronald Svejkovsky ..... VDOT  
Anne Darby ..... RRPDC  
Chuck Gates ..... RRPDC  
Jin Lee..... RRPDC  
Barbara Nelson..... RRPDC  
Sharon Robeson ..... RRPDC  
Greta Ryan ..... RRPDC  
Randy Selleck ..... RRPDC  
Lee Yolton ..... RRPDC

**CALL TO ORDER**

In the absence of the MPO Chairman and Vice Chairman, Stran L. Trout called the April 8, 2010 meeting of the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) to order at approximately 2:30 p.m. in the Richmond Regional Planning District Commission Board Room.

**MEETING QUORUM**

MPO Secretary Daniel N. Lysy reported that a quorum was present.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

All present stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States flag.

**INTRODUCTION**

New MPO member Mr. Richard W. Ayers, member of the Powhatan County Planning Commission, was introduced. Mr. Ayers replaces Ms. Karin Carmack.

**I. ADMINISTRATION**

**A. Additions/Changes to MPO Agenda –**

Acting Chairman Trout reported a request from the City of Richmond to amend the agenda and Kathy Graziano reviewed the City's request for RRPDC Executive Director Robert Crum to send a letter to Senator Mark Warner, Senator John Webb and Representative Robert Scott on behalf of the City of Richmond for a request for \$1 million in the FY 11 Congressional Authorization Budget for restoration and replacement of the roof at Main Street Station. On motion of Kathy C. Graziano, seconded by Robert R. Setliff, the MPO voted unanimously to add the "Letter of Support for City of Richmond Funding Request for Main Street Station" to the agenda as the first item under New Business.

**B. Minutes of the February 11, 2010 MPO Meeting –**

On motion of Malvern R. Butler, seconded by Kathy C. Graziano, the minutes of the February 11, 2010 MPO meeting were unanimously approved as presented.

**C. Open Public Comment Period –**

There were no requests to address the MPO.

**D. MPO Chairman's Report –**

**1. Resolution of Appreciation –**

On motion of Marleen K. Durfee, seconded by Kathy C. Graziano, the MPO unanimously approved the following resolution:

**WHEREAS**, Karin Carmack has provided valuable public service from March 2008 to March 2010 as a voting member to the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization representing Powhatan County; and

**WHEREAS**, Karin Carmack has offered her dedicated support and commitment to serving the citizens of the Richmond Region in her capacity as a member of the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization sincerely appreciates her contributions and effort;

**AND, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization, this eighth day of April 2010,

acknowledges and commends her dedicated service to the citizens of the Richmond Region.

Richard Ayers will deliver the framed resolution of appreciation to Ms. Carmack.

**2. Other Business –**

No other business was brought forward.

**E. RRPDC Transportation Director’s Report –**

**1. Presentation on MPO at the March 17 Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) Workshop –**

Mr. Lysy reported that staff attended the March 17 CTB meeting at the request of Secretary of Transportation Sean Connaughton who has requested that all MPOs in the state attend a CTB meeting to provide a presentation on their MPO. Mr. Lysy said RAMPO was the first MPO to present and so staff was requested to provide a general overview of MPOs. He said staff also provided information on the Richmond Region’s transportation priority projects and other matters and said the presentation is posted on the RRPDC website. Mr. Lysy noted one issue discussed was the Six-Year Improvement Program and the need for earlier MPO involvement. He said the MPO will make a statement at the May 16 preallocation hearing, but the CTB will explore how best to increase early involvement by MPOs in SYIP development.

**2. Other Business –**

No other business was brought forward.

**II. OLD BUSINESS**

**III. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Letter of Support for City of Richmond Funding Request for Main Street Station –**

Dan Lysy noted the draft letter of support already distributed and said that the MPO Executive Committee took action, with all in favor and one vote opposed, to move this item forward to the MPO. Mr. Peter Chapman, Deputy CAO of Economic and Community Development for the City of Richmond, said the City is pursuing a \$1 million federal appropriations earmark to assist with the expense of repair and replacement of the Main Street Station roof. Mr. Andrews inquired how these funds may differ

from funds shown supporting the Main Street Station project in the Regional Priority Projects Report. Mr. Lysy explained that the City of Richmond has been able to obtain several appropriations from the federal government for Main Street Station and that one purpose of the MPO's list of priority projects is to support such efforts by MPO local governments and others.

On motion of Kathy C. Graziano, seconded by Robert R. Setliff, the MPO voted unanimously to approve the RRPDC Executive Director submitting a letter of support to Senators Warner and Webb and Representative Scott for the City of Richmond's request for \$1 million in the FY 11 Congressional Authorization Budget for restoration and replacement of the Main Street Station roof.

**B. MPO Citizens Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC) Meeting Report –**

In the absence of CTAC Chairman Steve Adkins, Barbara Nelson, lead staff for CTAC, provided a brief report on items in the February 23, 2010 CTAC Meeting Report included under tab three in the agenda package. She also reported that at the April 28 CTAC meeting there will be a briefing on the Route 5 Multimodal Corridor Study and a presentation by VDRPT on the Southeast High Speed Rail Study between Richmond and Raleigh in advance of the public meetings anticipated to be held in June.

Ms. Nelson introduced a resolution for MPO consideration and reported that in response to Virginia State Police (VSP) Captain Richard Denney's presentation at its January meeting, CTAC approved a resolution in support of the "Move Over" campaign and is requesting MPO support in advocating for increased public awareness of the state's "Move Over" law. She said the resolution includes background information on the law as well as low or minimal cost recommendations that CTAC would encourage the MPO to support including member jurisdictions'/agencies' use of "Move Over" bumper stickers on fleet vehicles; use of "Move Over" tag lines and links to the VSP educational video and/or [moveoveramerica.com](http://moveoveramerica.com) on their web sites; encouragement of VDOT to provide signage and use of variable message boards as reminders of the "Move Over" law on interstate highways; and a request for RRPDC staff to work with regional news media to encourage their support of the "Move Over" campaign by including a reminder message during traffic reports.

On motion of Kathy C. Graziano, seconded by Marleen K. Durfee, the MPO unanimously approved the following resolution:

**A RESOLUTION OF THE  
RICHMOND AREA METROPOLITAN PLANNING  
ORGANIZATION  
IN SUPPORT OF THE  
VIRGINIA STATE POLICE CAMPAIGN  
TO CREATE BETTER PUBLIC AWARENESS  
OF THE  
“MOVE OVER” LAW**

**WHEREAS**, every year thousands of law enforcement officers are injured or killed by passing vehicles on our nation’s roads and highways; and

**WHEREAS**, according to FBI statistics, traffic crashes claim the lives of more police personnel than any other cause in the line of duty; and

**WHEREAS**, as of February 8, 2010, law enforcement officer fatalities due to traffic incidents were up 44 percent over 2009, and for the twelfth year in a row, more officers died in traffic related incidents in 2009 than from any other single cause of death according to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2002 the Virginia General Assembly enacted the “Move Over” law, Section 46.2-921.1 of the Code of Virginia, requiring motorists to change into another travel lane or slow down when passing emergency personnel; and

**WHEREAS**, violation of the law is a Class 1 misdemeanor carrying a penalty of up to a \$2,500 fine and/or a year in jail; and

**WHEREAS**, according to National Safety Commission statistics, 71 percent of Americans have not heard of the “Move Over” law, which currently exists in all but two states and the District of Columbia; and

**WHEREAS**, the Virginia State Police (VSP) Move Over Committee was established in March 2007, with no budget, to seek ways to increase public awareness of the “Move Over” law; and

**WHEREAS**, the VSP Move Over Committee has gained significant momentum in citizen education and public awareness about the “Move Over” law by partnering with various agencies and organizations such as the Virginia State Police Association, Virginia Tech, insurance companies, trucking companies, the Virginia Trucking Association, Coca Cola Bottling Company, driver education programs, public schools and numerous others; and

**WHEREAS**, the emergency responder community requests that all citizens and organizations do what they can to increase public awareness and understanding of this important law to create safer conditions for all traveling on Virginia’s highways; and

**WHEREAS**, the Citizens Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC) of the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) has reported to the MPO on the need for greater public awareness of the “Move Over” law and of the campaign by the Virginia State Police to create better public awareness of the “Move Over” law, and has also provided several low cost suggestions to improve public awareness of the “Move Over” law:

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) requests that member local governments, agencies and organizations take action as follows:

- Display “Move Over, Slow Down, It’s the Law!” bumper stickers on all government vehicles and especially those driven on interstate highways; and
- Include a “Move Over, Slow Down, It’s the Law!” tag line on their websites; and
- Provide website links to Virginia State Police educational videos and to the moveroveramerica.com web site;

and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Virginia Department of Transportation allocate funds in its Six-Year Improvement Program for additional signage along the Region’s interstate highways advising motorists of the “Move Over” law; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Virginia Department of Transportation consider developing and placing a brief reminder message on its existing interstate variable message boards to remind motorists of the “Move Over” law; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Richmond Regional Planning District Commission is requested to work with Richmond Region news media to encourage their support of the “Move Over” law including radio and television news media providing consistent and repetitive use of the following message on all traffic reports:

“When you see a roadside incident, remember to move over and slow down; it’s the law!”

Mr. Lysy reported that the MPO will make a formal presentation of the resolution to the Virginia State Police at the May 13 MPO meeting.

### **C. ARRA Projects Status –**

Dan Lysy noted the ARRA Project Tracking Sheet reports from VDOT and GRTC included under tab four of the agenda package. He expressed staff concerns about the status of ARRA/Stimulus funds for the Acca Yard project noting it is key to high speed rail development from Washington,

D.C. to Richmond, a regional transportation priority project. He said the Acca Yard project previously had \$10 million in federal stimulus funds obligated, but that the most recent VDOT tracking sheet shows no obligation date (previous tracking sheets had shown that ARRA funds were obligated on September 25, 2009). Mr. Lysy said it was his understanding that the state was not able to do everything necessary by the deadline, and so rather than lose these funds, they were moved to another project. He said Kevin Page was unable to be present today to brief the MPO on this matter, but that he plans to attend the May MPO meeting to provide information and answer questions related to this project. Amy Inman confirmed that the state experienced difficulty flexing funds over to the Federal Railroad Administration and so VDOT placed the funds on other projects in order to keep them obligated and prevent losing them. Once the project is ready to go, the \$10 million should be reallocated to the Acca Yard project. She said the funding, designated for preliminary engineering, is secure and when the project moves forward, it will be available for the Acca Yard project.

Mark Riblett provided an update on MPO ARRA projects saying all three projects are anticipated to be advertised later this month with bid openings probably in June or July. If the bids come in lower than current project cost estimates, as have those for other projects, then any balance of funds suballocated to the MPO would need to be reallocated to another project so that they can be obligated before the end of the federal fiscal year. Mr. Riblett said they will be under a time crunch working with the MPO to identify projects for reallocating and obligating these remaining dollars and asked that the MPO give early consideration on how to proceed with programming the likely balance of these remaining RSTP/ARRA funds. Dan Lysy said that staff will take that issue to TAC for their recommendation on how to reallocate any stimulus funds that may remain. Responding to a question, Mr. Riblett stated that projects will need to be shovel-ready to be able to have any available ARRA funds obligated to them.

**D. FY 2010 Unified Work Program (UWP) Budget Amendments –**

Dan Lysy noted staff's report on this item in tab five of the agenda package and reported that staff conducted a comprehensive review of staff time spent to date, projected staff time needed for completion of work activities, and staff direct costs to date and for the remainder of FY 10. He said that as a result of this review, staff has developed a revised estimate of staff days allocated to MPO work tasks and a revised UWP task budget which proposes shifts in FHWA/PL funds; however, no shifts are proposed for FTA Section 5303 funds. In addition, staff proposes that no FY 10 PL funds be transferred to the FY 11 UWP and that a fairly large amount of FY 10 FHWA/PL funds should roll over to the FY 12 UWP. Staff has proposed this as a prudent budget management measure due to the uncertainty of SAFETEA-LU reauthorization, uncertainty in future PL

funding levels, and possible rescissions in future PL funds allocations. He said TAC reviewed this matter at their March 18 meeting and recommended approval.

On motion of Kathy C. Graziano, seconded by Robert R. Setliff, the MPO unanimously approved the following resolution:

**RESOLVED**, that the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) amends the FY 2010 Unified Work Program (UWP) to shift Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) PL funds among various Richmond Regional Planning District Commission (RRPDC) staff work tasks as presented.

**E. FY 2011 Unified Work Program (UWP) –**

Dan Lysy noted staff's report included under tab six of the agenda package and the *Fiscal Year 2011 Unified Work Program (FY 11 UWP)* document, which was mailed to the MPO on April 1. Mr. Lysy provided a PowerPoint presentation describing the Unified Work Program (UWP) and where it fits into the MPO planning and programming process; highlighting some of the key work activities in the UWP and briefly discussing significant changes; and reviewing the UWP funding sources, matching requirements and budget. Joe Andrews noted that the staff budget figure is comparable to last year, but he inquired as to how the \$2.8 million figure compares to last year's overall budget. Mr. Lysy said he was not sure, but he believes the \$2.8 million overall staff budget shown in this year's UWP (includes RRPDC and VDOT staffs, the RRPDC consultant and the City of Richmond consultant) is higher than what we presented to the MPO last year due to the inclusion this year of the City of Richmond consultant services (for UWP task 2.9, City of Richmond Strategic Multimodal Plan). Mr. Lysy noted that we felt it important to include information on the City's study in today's presentation since these are Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) funds which can be used for both projects and planning studies, and it is up to the MPO as to how these funds should be allocated. Mr. Lysy reported that TAC took unanimous action at its March 18 meeting to recommend the RRPDC staff budget proposal for the FY 11 UWP work activities as presented for MPO consideration.

On motion of Kathy C. Graziano, seconded by Richard W. Ayers, the MPO unanimously approved the following resolution:

**RESOLVED**, that the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) adopts the FY 2011 Unified Work Program (UWP) as submitted.

**IV. OTHER BUSINESS**

No items were brought forward for consideration.

**V. ADJOURNMENT**

Acting Chairman Trout noted that the next MPO meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 13, 2010. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:15 p.m.