

**2031 Long-Range Transportation Plan
Advisory Committee Meeting
Richmond Regional Planning District Commission
December 5, 2007**

MEETING ATTENDEES

Viktoria Badger – City of Richmond
Scott Clark – GRTC Transit System
Tom Coleman – Goochland County
Larry Hagin – GRTC Transit System
Meredith Judy– VDRPT
Adele MacLean – CTAC -- VCN
Liz McAdory -- VDOT
Mark Riblett -- VDOT
Dan Grinnell – VDOT
Kelly Hickok -- EDAC -- RIL
Walter Johnson -- VDOT
Jim Ponticello -- VDOT
Ivan Rucker -- FHWA
Brandon Stidham – Powhatan County
Stephen Story – James River Buslines
Joe Vidunas – Hanover County (Chairman)
Lloyd Vye – CTAC – RABA (Vice-Chairman)
Ford Weber -- LISC
John Zeugner – VCN
Lee Yolton - Richmond Regional Planning District Commission
Dan Lysy - Richmond Regional Planning District Commission
Archita Rajbhandary – Richmond Regional Planning District Commission
Jin Lee – Richmond Regional Planning District Commission

MEETING NOTES

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Chairman Vidunas at approximately 9:15 am.

Administration: The Advisory Committee (the “Committee”) approved the agenda for the meeting as presented in the packet mailed beforehand.

The Committee had no revisions or corrections to the November 28 meeting notes as presented.

During the public comment period Mr. Ford Weber addressed the Committee and expressed his view that the transportation projects underway (i.e., the LRTP and the RMTS) should be more of a “visioning” process and not driven so much by data. And the transportation system should be proactively planned to channel growth that we know is coming to the region. The Committee then briefly discussed the City's recent successful efforts to hold public meetings on the update to the downtown plan, and also that the next LRTP update cycle would perhaps afford better opportunities for general outreach/public participation efforts.

Business:

Mr. Yolton stated that there were a number of questions from the last meeting regarding the forecasted revenues. He asked Mr. Riblett if he could address those questions, and Mr. Riblett stated that some matters were still being researched. Most particularly, in reference to a slide on the screen at the time, the rapid drop and rebound in total projected revenues was still being researched. He noted that the project costs estimates in the six-year plan (the SYIP) are adjusted for inflation. Also, that he had met with the RRPDC staff and outlined a procedure for revising the year-of-expenditure data in the SYIP, since at the previous meeting a slide regarding this matter was misleading.

With reference to the amount of overall revenues in the VDOT forecast, Mr. Yolton distributed a spreadsheet contrasting the current revenue forecast with the forecast adopted with the previous LRTP. In the current forecast overall revenues have increased, but the cost of maintaining the system continues to require a larger share as time goes by. This trend continues throughout the forecast, and a Committee member questioned whether the cost of maintaining the roadway system further reinforces the benefit of transit systems. Also, a question was raised about the definition of maintenance costs and what criteria is used to determine if a project is or isn't a maintenance project. Mr. Rucker volunteered to give the Committee some information regarding this question and made available shortly thereafter a handout with information about determining maintenance eligibility.

Mr. Hagin noted that the forecast revenue handout contained no information about transit related revenue forecasts. Mr. Yolton noted that the information was available from the Regional Mass Transit Study and would be added to the chart along with several miscellaneous revenue categories such as bridge funds and enhancement funds.

On the issue of maintenance, a discussion ensued concerning maintenance costs associated with transit systems. Maintenance is difficult to isolate with regard to transit costs; for instance, Mr. Hagin noted that replacement of worn-out buses is considered a capital expenditure. And he noted that forecasting maintenance costs associated with transit would require knowing what sort of system will be in place years from now.

Mr. Yolton distributed a chart from the 2026 LRTP entitled "Funding Methodology Summary." He confirmed with the Committee that the intent is to follow the same basic methodology for the 2031 LRTP. In particular, projects currently in the SYIP, even if not fully funded prior to FY2013, were committed projects that additional funds would be used for. The most obvious example is the widening of I-64 east where approximately \$180 million would be required for project completion sometime after FY2013.

A question was raised whether the cost estimate for widening I-64 east included a rail component as recommended in the MPO's adopted regional priority list. The cost estimate in the SYIP, however, only includes the road widening. A question was raised about the allocation of interstate funds to the Richmond region and it was noted that VDOT provided an explanation of the distribution methodology included with the revenue forecasts. This mentions that interstate funds are distributed according to the percentage needs identified in the VTRANS 2025 report.

The Committee next took up the matter of Goals and Objectives for the 2031 LRTP (Item 8 on the agenda). Mr. Yolton referenced material included as an attachment to the agenda as well as an additional handout with proposed pedestrian/bicycle goals and a review of local jurisdictions' transportation-related goals and objectives.

The Committee determined that the best way to proceed would be to form a subcommittee to evaluate and produce a draft list of goals and objectives. Toward this end a subcommittee was appointed consisting of the following individuals:

- Barbara Smith
- John Zuegner
- Bud Vye
- Adele MacLean
- George Homewood

The Committee Chairman, Joe Vidunas, was also included as an "ex officio" member.

The Committee next briefly reviewed the material prepared by staff regarding goals and objectives, evaluated and made a number of suggestions regarding updates to the goals, objectives and strategies.

At a post-meeting caucus, the subcommittee for goals and objectives decided to hold a meeting immediately following the next LRTP Committee meeting scheduled for Dec. 11th.

The last business item on the agenda, "Presentation by Committee Members of New or Revised Long-Range Projects" (item #9) was discussed. Mr. Hagin stated that he was prepared with a presentation on a potential major new transit project for the region, but in view of the limited time remaining, it was

decided that this presentation should be given at the next Committee meeting. Mr. Vidunas questioned the intent of this matter being on the agenda and it was explained that the intent is to give Committee members an opportunity early in the process to nominate major new projects for inclusion in the LRTP. This was intended as an opportunity to discuss regionally significant transportation proposals not otherwise in the existing LRTP, or that would be a significant modification of an existing LRTP project. Mr. Vidunas indicated that he also has a project in mind that meets this criterion, and that time should be allotted for this purpose at the next Committee meeting.

Under the "Other Business" category on the agenda, the Committee was reminded that information is still being sought on the amount of private/local (P/L) revenue sources to be included in the funding estimate. This is one of the requirements set forth in SAFETEA-LU metropolitan planning regulations. Staff will be transmitting a "reminder" email on this matter to appropriate Committee members.

Next Meeting/Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:15 am. The next meeting is scheduled for Dec. 11 at 9:00 am.