

**2031 Long-Range Transportation Plan
Advisory Committee Meeting
Richmond Regional Planning District Commission
January 7, 2008**

MEETING ATTENDEES

Viktoria Badger – City of Richmond
Scott Clark – GRTC Transit System
Tom Coleman – Goochland County
Todd Eure – Henrico County
Dan Grinnell – VDOT
Larry Hagin – GRTC Transit System
Kelly Hickok – EDAC -- RIL
George Homewood – New Kent County
Dan Johnson – EDAC –AARP
Meredith Judy– VDRPT
Adele MacLean – CTAC -- VCN
Liz McAdory – VDOT
Jim Ponticello -- VDOT
Mark Riblett – VDOT
Barbara Smith – Chesterfield County
Brandon Stidham – Powhatan County
Michael Testerman – CTAC -- VARP
Joe Vidunas – Hanover County (Chairman)
Lloyd Vye – CTAC – RABA (Vice-Chairman)
John Zeugner – VCN
Lee Yolton - Richmond Regional Planning District Commission
Dan Lysy - Richmond Regional Planning District Commission
Barbara Nelson -- Richmond Regional Planning District Commission
Archita Rajbhandary – Richmond Regional Planning District Commission
Jin Lee – Richmond Regional Planning District Commission
Anne Darby – RRPDC Intern
Tiffany Tran – RRPDC Intern

MEETING NOTES

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Chairman Vidunas at approximately 1:37 pm.

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 December 11 meeting notes as presented.

No one in attendance offered comments during the public comment period.

Business:

Mr. Yolton reminded the Committee of the goal to complete the 2031 project list by the end of January '08 so that it could be forwarded to the MPO for approval at its meeting scheduled in mid-February. To complete this task, Mr. Yolton requested that the Committee establish an additional meeting date in January, prior to the meeting already scheduled for January 29th. After consideration of the matter, the Committee decided to schedule an additional meeting on Thursday January 24th, beginning at 9:00 am. Mr. Lysy noted that the draft project list needs to undergo a public review prior to action by the MPO.

Mr. Yolton distributed a chart to the Committee (the 2031 Funding Methodology Summary) that shows the sources and amount of funds projected to be available for the 2031 LRTP project listing. Mr. Yolton reviewed the chart, noting that it was partially complete at this time. The chart has been completed

insofar as showing the amount and type of funds allocated in the adopted state six-year plan (the "SYIP"), as well as showing the total amount of funds needed to complete the projects in the SYIP (i.e., "balance to complete). In addition, the chart showed the amount of revenue projected for transit, and the total amount to support GRTC's six-year capital improvement plan. These projects constitute the existing plus committed (the "E+C") project list for the 2031 LRTP.

The Committee discussed the next step in developing the 2031 LRTP project list, and that is to formulate an agreed upon list of proposed projects that should be included in the LRTP. Mr. Yolton noted that he had sent an email several days ago to alert Committee members that proposed projects would soon need to be submitted. For each jurisdiction and service provider, the list of proposed projects from the 2026 LRTP was attached to be used as a basis for updating the list for the 2031 LRTP. Since some of the proposed projects from the 2026 LRTP may have advanced over the intervening years, Chairman Vidunas requested that the relevant information from the E+C project list also be provided to Committee members to assist with the update.

To prepare for the next meeting of the Committee on Jan. 24th, it was agreed that proposed projects must be submitted to Mr. Yolton by no later than Jan. 17th. It also was noted that the next item on the meeting agenda (Item #8) allows for any Committee member to present information on proposed future projects, and any Committee member is able to submit proposed projects for consideration.

With regard to Item #8, Mr. Homewood presented three proposed LRTP projects supported by New Kent County: 1) widening of I-64 to six lanes through New Kent to the James City County line; 2) inclusion of rail improvements in the I-64 corridor to facilitate improved passenger rail service between Richmond and Williamsburg; and 3) enhancements in Providence Forge to include streetlights, sidewalks and other improvements. The Committee discussed the need for and possible sources of cost information for these projects.

The next presenter was Mr. Zeugner who spoke in favor of a set aside for transit projects that have yet to be identified. It was noted that a rail feasibility study had been completed several years ago that could be used for potential project information. Mr. Hagin noted that the projected funds available after funding the E+C list do not have to be allocated to future projects per se, but that the requirement was simply to ensure that enough total funds were reasonably available for all the future projects contained in the LRTP.

The Committee discussed the value of a "vision list," as is contained in the 2026 LRTP. Although the vision list is not financially constrained (and not modeled for air quality conformity), it indicates that there are additional projects that could benefit the region even though no specific source of funds have been identified. With the possibility of new legislation for a Richmond area Transportation Authority, a vision list would help support the need for additional transportation revenue sources. A committee member questioned the level of involvement and support from the business community.

Mr. Zeugner suggested that a subcommittee be convened for the purpose of promoting additional transit oriented projects. This informal group will meet at the RRPDC offices on Jan. 15th.

The third presenter, Todd Eure from Henrico County, distributed an information packet regarding proposed improvements to state Rte. 5 in the eastern portion of the county, adjacent to the City of Richmond. This proposal primarily is for right-of-way acquisition at this time, but there also would be a multi-modal corridor study to be conducted. Mr. Eure noted that in essence the proposal is to move this project from the 2026 vision list to the 2031 LRTP constrained project listing. Questions were posed as to the phasing of the project and whether private/local funding sources were involved. Ms. Badger noted that the City was coordinating efforts in this area with Henrico, and Bus Rapid Transit may be considered for this corridor. Although it would be beneficial for several reasons to realign the proposed VA Capital Trail project in this vicinity, this is not likely because of landowner resistance.

Brandon Stidham, representing Powhatan County, was the next presenter. He distributed a handout and noted that the roadway projects he is proposing are a result of the Rte. 711 corridor study conducted by VDOT. These projects are not associated with the large Watkins Center development. Mr. Stidham did not have a time frame associated with the Powhatan projects, and a discussion ensued with Mr. Ponticello describing the timeframes to be used for air quality conformity analysis; namely, that the

following target years would be used: 2011, 2018, 2021 and 2031. The future networks projected to be in place in those years are what will be used for modeling purposes. This relates to the LRTP insofar as the requirement to factor inflation into the project cost estimates for specific timeframes. It was noted that the revenue projections, being tied to gasoline sales (for example), are not subject to the same type of inflation adjustment.

Last, Vickey Badger, representing the City of Richmond, generally supported an increase in passenger rail service to and from downtown.

There were no other presentations given on proposed projects for inclusion in the 2031 LRTP and the Committee confirmed that any additional new proposals should be submitted to staff by Jan. 17th.

The next item on the agenda (Item #9) concerned the draft 2031 LRTP Goals and Objectives element. Mr. Zeugner serves as the chair of the subcommittee to develop the goals and objectives, and he noted his appreciation to the subcommittee members for their effort in developing the draft that was included in the agenda packet for today's meeting. Mr. Zeugner briefly reviewed the draft and it was determined that any comments concerning this item from Committee members should be forwarded to Mr. Yolton by Jan. 22nd. Mr. Vidunas noted that the proposed goals and objectives concern more than just the LRTP project list, and it was suggested that each of the projects should in some manner be linked to the goals and objectives.

There were no items discussed under "Other Business" since the next meeting date of the Committee had been agreed upon earlier in the meeting.

Next Meeting/Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:40 pm. The next meeting is scheduled for January 24, 2008 at 9:00 am.