

RICHMOND AREA
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

MINUTES OF MEETING

December 11, 2003

MEMBERS PRESENT

REPRESENTING

Rebecca Ringley, Chairman	County of New Kent
Roy Harrison, Vice Chairman	County of Powhatan
Jack E. Apostolides (Non-voting).....	VDRPT
Rollo Axton.....	GRTC Transit System
Richard W. Ayers.....	County of Powhatan
Viktoria Badger.....	City of Richmond
James R. Banks (Alternate).....	County of Chesterfield
Robert Berry.....	RMA
Malvern R. Butler.....	County of Goochland
Rebecca Draper.....	County of Hanover
E. Todd Eure.....	County of Henrico
Paul E. Fisher.....	RRPDC
John Gordon.....	County of Hanover
Michael Holmes.....	County of Charles City
Angela LaCombe.....	Town of Ashland
Diane Linderman.....	City of Richmond
Kelly Miller.....	County of Chesterfield
W. R. Mustain, II.....	VDOT
Ivan Rucker (Non-voting).....	FHWA
Steven E. Simonson (Alternate).....	County of Chesterfield
Barbara Smith (Alternate).....	County of Chesterfield
Randall R. Silber.....	County of Henrico
James T. Taylor.....	County of Goochland
Robert C. Thompson (Alternate).....	County of Henrico
Von Tisdale (Non-voting).....	RideFinders

MEMBERS ABSENT

REPRESENTING

Edward Barber.....	County of Chesterfield
Cliff Burnette (Non-voting).....	VDA
W. R. Davis.....	County of New Kent
Pat Kampf (Non-voting).....	FTA
K. E. Lantz.....	VDOT
Jon Mathiasen.....	CRAC
John McCracken.....	County of Chesterfield
Jack McHale.....	County of Chesterfield
Barbara Nelson (Non-voting).....	CTAC Chairman
Patricia O'Bannon.....	County of Henrico

MEMBERS ABSENT (cont.)

REPRESENTING

William Pantele..... City of Richmond
Frank Thornton County of Henrico
J. T. "Jack" Ward..... County of Hanover

OTHERS PRESENT

REPRESENTING

Dan Lysy, **Secretary** RRPDC
Robb Alexander VDOT
Willard Andrews VHSR Development Committee
Jameson Auten RideFinders
Tom Ballou VDEQ
Richard Beadles VHSR
Steve Beckwith Open Roads
William R. Britton (Alternate)..... County of Charles City
Jon Chambers..... Kimley-Horn and Associates
Amy Costello VDOT
Tom Hawthorne VDOT
Robert Hodder (Alternate)..... GRTC
Jim Hunt..... FHWA
John Rutledge..... CRAC
Brandon Stidham County of Powhatan
Carl Tewksbury..... Kimley Horn and Associates
Stran Trout New Kent County Board of Supervisors Member Elect
Nicholas Britton RRPDC
Scott Carter RRPDC
Mike Clements RRPDC
Larry Hagin..... RRPDC
Jin Lee..... RRPDC
Sharon Robeson RRPDC
Patricia Villa RRPDC

CALL TO ORDER

MPO Chairman Rebecca Ringley called the December 11, 2003 meeting of the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) to order at approximately 2:35 P.M., noted a quorum was present, and welcomed all in attendance.

I. ADMINISTRATION

A. Minutes of the October 9, 2003 MPO Meeting –

On motion by Rebecca Draper, seconded by Randall Silber, the minutes of the October 9, 2003 MPO meeting were unanimously approved as presented.

B. Open Public Comment Period –

No public comments were offered and Chairman Ringley closed the public comment period of the meeting.

C. MPO Chairman's Report –

Chairman Ringley reported that she and Dan Lysy attended the VDOT Six-Year Improvement Plan meeting at Union Station in Petersburg on December 1. Chairman Ringley said she presented the MPO priority projects list adopted by the MPO on March 13, 2003 and reaffirmed by the MPO on September 11, 2003.

Chairman Ringley introduced and welcomed Mr. Stran Trout, newly elected incoming member of the New Kent County Board of Supervisors who will take office January 1. Vice Chairman Roy Harrison introduced and welcomed Brandon Stidham, the new Planning Director for Powhatan County. Diane Linderman introduced and welcomed Peter Grimm, newly elected Richmond City Councilman for the Fourth District, who she said would be appointed to the MPO at the next Richmond City Council meeting. Chairman Ringley welcomed all.

1. MPO Officers Nominating Committee –

Chairman Ringley recommended that the MPO follow the Richmond Regional Planning District Commission (RRPDC) recommendation to appoint Mr. Barber, Mr. Gordon, and Mr. Holmes as the nominating committee and to report back as the first order of business at the next meeting with nominations for MPO chairman and vice chairman. Chairman Ringley also noted the recommendation to cancel the January 8 MPO meeting so that the next MPO meeting would be on February 12. On motion of Michael Holmes, seconded by Angela LaCombe, the MPO approved the appointment of the Nominating Committee and the cancellation of the January 8 MPO meeting.

2. Cancellation of January 8, 2003 MPO Meeting –

Action on this item was taken as part of the action on the previous item, MPO Officers Nominating Committee.

3. New MPO Member and Alternate –

Chairman Ringley introduced Ron Mustain, VDOT Principal Transportation Planning Engineer as the new VDOT MPO member and noted that Herbert Pegram, Transportation Engineer Program Supervisor, would be the new VDOT alternate member. Mr. Mustain

said that he has served as the VDOT MPO alternate member for the last 20 years, but due to reorganization of the VDOT Planning Division, he has been appointed as the VDOT MPO member. He said that next month, as VDOT goes through a decentralization process, Tom Hawthorne will become the VDOT voting representative and noted he that an appointment letter would be forthcoming.

4. Other Business –

Chairman Ringley requested that the MPO meeting agenda be amended by consensus to include a new item, EPA Proposed Nonattainment Area Designation for Charles City County, as the first item of business under item III. New Business. There were no objections and the agenda was amended as requested.

D. RRPDC Transportation Director's Report –

1. VTrans 2025 Statewide Transportation Plan –

Dan Lysy reported that VDOT is working on its *Virginia Statewide Transportation Plan*, called VTRANS 2025, and will hold a meeting in Richmond on January 28 with the chairs, executive directors, and transportation directors from PDCs and MPOs to learn more about the effort and possibly to look at a draft of the statewide transportation plan. Chairman Ringley thanked Mr. Lysy for his report.

2. Other Business –

There was no other business to report.

E. MPO Bylaws Amendment –

Mr. Lysy said the MPO is asked to have the second reading and final action on this proposed amendment to Article V, Section 3 of the MPO Bylaws adding language following the eighth sentence as presented in tab three of the agenda package. Mr. Lysy noted that EDAC requested the amendment to provide guidance to the EDAC chairman on sending letters to members who have missed two or more consecutive regularly scheduled meetings. Mr. Lysy said the MPO took unanimous action to approve the first reading of the amendment at its last meeting and proposed dispensing with the second reading. On motion of Richard Ayers, seconded by James Taylor, the MPO voted to dispense with the second reading and to amend the MPO Bylaws as follows:

RESOLVED, that the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) amends Article V, Section 3 of the MPO Bylaws to add language following the eighth sentence as follows:

“Should a member or the member’s designated alternate miss two or more consecutive regularly scheduled meetings, the EDAC Chairman may send the member a letter inquiring as to whether or not the member or the designated alternate plans to attend upcoming EDAC meetings.”

F. MPO/VDOT Statement of Certification –

Mr. Lysy said that Federal planning regulations require that MPOs and state DOTs annually self-certify the metropolitan transportation planning process as being in compliance with federal requirements. This certification statement is usually included as part of the MPO’s action to adopt the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) on an annual basis. However, this year MPOs in Virginia were requested to amend the FY 03/04 – FY 04/05 TIP instead of preparing a new TIP and as a result, no action was taken on the required MPO and VDOT self-certification. Mr. Lysy noted the resolution presented under tab four of the agenda package for MPO consideration. On motion by Richard Ayers, seconded by Michael Holmes, the MPO unanimously approved the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Virginia Department of Transportation and the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Richmond, Virginia Urbanized Area, hereby certify that the transportation planning process is addressing the major issues in the metropolitan planning area and is being conducted in accordance with all applicable requirements of:

- I. 49 U.S.C. Section 5323(k) and 23 U.S.C. 134;
- II. Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Title VI Assurance executed by each State under 23 U.S.C. 324 and 29 U.S.C. 794;
- III. Section 1101 of the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (Pub. L. 105-178) regarding the involvement of disadvantaged business enterprises in the FHWA and the FTA funded project (Sec. 105(f), Pub. L. 97-424, 96 Stat. 2100, 49 CFR part 23);
- IV. The provision of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (Pub. L. 101-336, 104 Stat. 327, as amended) and the U.S. DOT implementing regulation;

V. The provision of 49 CFR part 20 regarding restrictions on influencing certain activities; and

VI. Sections 174 and 176(c) and (d) of the Clean Air Act as amended (42 U.S.C. 7504, 750(c) and (d)).

G. Richmond Urbanized Area Designated Recipient for FTA Funds –

Mr. Lysy said that GRTC Transit System requests that the MPO take action to designate the City of Petersburg, Petersburg Area Transit (PAT) as a recipient for Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Job Access and Reverse Commute Program funding (Section 3037) and for Urbanized Area Formula Program funding (Section 5307). As a result of the merger of the Richmond and Petersburg Urbanized Areas into one Richmond Urbanized Area, the MPO must designate the City of Petersburg/PAT as a designated recipient in order to be eligible to receive these funds, which the City of Petersburg/ PAT has received in the past. On motion by Angela LaCombe, seconded by Rollo Axton, the MPO unanimously approved the following resolutions:

WHEREAS, the Richmond Regional Planning District Commission serves as the contracting agent and lead staff for the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Richmond Area;

WHEREAS, effective May 1, 2002, the U.S. Census Bureau redefined the geographic criteria used to describe the urban area of the cities and counties comprising the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization into an urbanized area with a population greater than 200,000;

WHEREAS, under Section 3037 of the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century the Federal Transit Administration requires applicant(s) for the Job Access and Reverse Commute Program funding in urbanized areas greater than 200,000 in population to be selected by the Metropolitan Planning Organization(s) in the urbanized area;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization hereby selects the City of Petersburg, Petersburg Area Transit as an applicant under Section 3037 of the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century in the Richmond Urbanized Area.

and

WHEREAS, the Richmond Regional Planning District Commission serves as the contracting agent and lead staff for the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Richmond Area;

WHEREAS, effective May 1, 2002, the U.S. Census Bureau redefined the geographic criteria used to describe the urban area of the cities and counties comprising the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization into an urbanized area with a population greater than 200,000;

WHEREAS, under Section 5307 of the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century the Federal Transit Administration requires applicant(s) for Urbanized Area Formula Program funding in urbanized areas greater than 200,000 in population to be selected by the Metropolitan Planning Organization(s) in the urbanized area;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization hereby selects the City of Petersburg, Petersburg Area Transit as an applicant under Section 5307 of the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century in the Richmond Urbanized Area.

II. OLD BUSINESS

No old business was brought forward for consideration.

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. EPA Proposed Nonattainment Area Designation for All of Charles City County –

Chairman Ringley introduced the amended agenda item III.A., EPA Proposed Nonattainment Area Designation for Charles City County, and staff distributed a copy of the proposed resolution. Mr. Lysy noted that a memo had been mailed to the MPO on Monday, December 8, concerning this matter, but that some members may not yet have received it in the mail. Mr. Lysy said the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has advised that under the new 8-hour ozone air quality standards, all of Charles City County is proposed to be included in the nonattainment area. Mr. Lysy noted that under the current 1-hour standard, only a small portion of Charles City County is under maintenance area designation, that area of the county bounded by the James River, the Charles City County/Henrico county line, State Route 5/156 and State Route 106/156. Mr. Lysy said there is an air quality monitoring station in that area and it

picks up ozone formation coming from the plants in the Petersburg/Chesterfield area. Mr. Lysy read from the resolution a passage reflecting EPA's assumptions that Charles City County is metropolitan in nature and likely not only exhibits poor air quality, but also contributes to the ozone air quality in the Richmond area. Mr. Lysy continued reading from the proposed resolution the portion which states that EPA's assumption that Charles City county is metropolitan in nature is totally incorrect; that the county's total population is less than 7,000 persons; and it's population density is approximately 31 persons per square mile, while the U.S. Census Bureau uses a criteria of 1,000 persons per square mile to define urbanized area. He continued reading from the resolution a statement that no significant growth is projected for Charles City County for the next 20 years and that the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality provided EPA with substantial amounts of data supporting the need to have only a small portion of the county included in the proposed nonattainment area. Mr. Lysy said the proposed resolution resolves to express concern and disapproval of EPA's recommendation to include all of Charles City County in the proposed Richmond Nonattainment Area under the new 8-hour ozone air quality standards and respectfully requests EPA to reconsider its recommendation in light of factual and other information conveyed by the resolution and by others. Mr. Lysy said the resolution further resolves that the MPO submit this resolution to Governor Mark Warner and to Donald Welsh, Region Three Administrator for EPA with copies submitted to Virginia's U.S. Senators and Congressmen and to Virginia Senators Benjamin Lambert and Virginia Delegate Floyd Miles, who is present at today's meeting.

Chairman Ringley introduced Delegate Floyd Miles, thanked him for attending the MPO meeting, and asked if he would like to speak concerning this issue. Delegate Miles thanked Chairman Ringley and the MPO for the opportunity to speak saying that Charles City County had dealt with this issue back when he served on the County's Board of Supervisors and that it was proven then that the whole county should not have been included in the non-attainment area. He said that is why it was agreed to include only that portion of the county right at Shirley Plantation as specified in the resolution and that he would ask the MPO to consider keeping it that way. Delegate Miles reiterated that the whole county does not need to be included by EPA in the ozone nonattainment area. Chairman Ringley thanked Mr. Miles for his comments and concurred that Charles City County is not metropolitan, but rather very much a rural county.

Vice Chairman Roy Harrison moved to approve the proposed resolution and asked to speak to it. Angela LaCombe seconded the resolution. Mr. Harrison then detailed some of the history of this matter saying years ago the reason the Richmond region went into nonattainment for ground level

ozone was based on monitor number 45 B in Charles City County which detected ground level ozone that was obviously being produced and coming across the river from the Hopewell plants. He said the Richmond region went into nonattainment status because of a condition outside of the Richmond region that was so significant that if every other source of ozone in the Richmond region had been shut down, the region still would not have been removed from nonattainment status because of the ozone pollution coming from the Hopewell area. He noted that Charles City County only has four gasoline stations. He further recalled that EPA had tried to include Powhatan, Goochland, and New Kent counties because they were in the metropolitan statistical area, not because of actual ground level ozone pollution in those areas. He said he believes this is a problem that is going to continue to present itself, that he opposes inclusion of all of Charles City County in the nonattainment area, and that he would recommend that the MPO continue to oppose this matter in the future. Chairman Ringley thanked Mr. Harrison for his comments and asked if there were other comments. Michael Holmes said he believes it is an issue worthy of further investigation trying to find out what is happening that would cause EPA to keep bringing this up every few years, saying it's probably going to continue to pop up for other jurisdictions as well just because they are in the metropolitan statistical area. Mr. Lysy assured Mr. Holmes that staff would keep an eye on this matter. He said that EPA is taking first steps to establish nonattainment boundaries under the new 8-hour ozone standard, which is a broader more stringent requirement to meet. Mr. Lysy said he would be glad to report on this matter at future meetings and suggested that Tom Ballou with VDEQ staff, who was present at the meeting, might address questions on this matter. However, there were no questions for Mr. Ballou and Chairman Ringley called the question. The MPO unanimously voted to approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, under the Clean Air Act (CAA) of 1990 as amended, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is charged with designating those areas of the country that have high levels of ground-level ozone, a major constituent of smog; and

WHEREAS, under the current 1-hour ozone air quality standard, a portion of Charles City County is designated as part of the Richmond Maintenance Area under the CAA; and

WHEREAS, the current boundaries for that portion of Charles City County that is within the Richmond Maintenance Area are the James River, the Charles City County/Henrico County line, State Route 5/156, and State Route 106/156; and

WHEREAS, a monitoring station which measures ozone air quality levels is located within this portion of Charles City County and this station has, on occasion, recorded exceedences in ozone air quality standards; and

WHEREAS, it has been previously recognized by EPA and the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (VDEQ) that the vast majority of ozone emissions recorded at this station is the result of transport from other areas, particularly from industrial plants located to the south and west of Charles City County, and from various other sources located outside of the county; and

WHEREAS, following a presentation by VDEQ at the May 11, 2000 meeting of the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) on the upcoming designation by EPA of nonattainment areas under the new 8-hour standard, the MPO took action to recommend continuation of the current boundary line for EPA's proposed 8-hour standard nonattainment area; and

WHEREAS, EPA has recently recommended that under the new 8-hour ozone air quality standards, all of Charles City County would be included in the proposed Richmond Nonattainment Area; and

WHEREAS, in its reasoning for including all of Charles City County in the proposed Richmond Nonattainment Area, EPA stated "Given the metropolitan nature of Charles City County, it is highly likely that this county not only exhibits poor air quality but also contributes to the ozone air quality in the Richmond area;" and

WHEREAS, EPA's assumption that Charles City County is "metropolitan in nature" is totally incorrect; that in fact, the county's total population is less than 7,000 persons and its population density is approximately 31 persons per square mile, while the U.S. Census Bureau uses a criteria of 1,000 persons per square mile in defining urbanized areas; and

WHEREAS, at its closest point, the Richmond Urbanized Area boundary line is approximately six miles away from the Charles City County line; and

WHEREAS, Charles City County has very little business and industry that can contribute to ozone formation; that in fact, its total employment for that part of the MPO study area is estimated at 1,301 employees for the year 2000, and it is projected to be 1,568 employees by the year 2026, which shows almost no growth in the more populated part of Charles City County over the next 20 years; and

WHEREAS, VDEQ did in fact provide EPA with substantial amounts of data supporting the need for having only a small portion of Charles City County included in the proposed Richmond Nonattainment Area; and

WHEREAS, inclusion of all of Charles City County in the proposed Richmond Nonattainment Area under the new 8-hour ozone air quality standard as recommended by EPA will impose significant unnecessary hardships and burdens on Charles City County;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) does hereby express its concern and disapproval of EPA's recommendation to include all of Charles City County in the proposed Richmond Nonattainment Area under the new 8-hour ozone air quality standards, and respectfully requests that EPA reconsider its recommendation in light of factual and other information conveyed by this resolution and by others and recommends that the proposed Richmond Nonattainment Area include only that part of Charles City County located within these boundaries: the James River, the Charles City County/Henrico County line, State Route 5/156, and State Route 106/156; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the MPO submit this resolution to Mark R. Warner, the Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia and to Donald Welsh, the Region Three Administrator for the United States Environmental Protection Agency, with copies of this resolution submitted to U.S. Senators John Warner and George Allen, U.S. Congressmen Robert Scott, Eric Cantor and Randy Forbes, and to Virginia Senator Benjamin J. Lambert, III and Virginia Delegate Floyd H. Miles, Sr.

B. Consent Action Items –

On motion of Angela L. LaCombe, seconded by Rollo C. Axton, the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization unanimously approved the following consent agenda items as presented:

1. RRPDC FY 04 UWP Budget Amendment Request –

RESOLVED, that the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization amends the FY 04 Unified Work Program (UWP) to add \$18,077 in FY 03 Section 5303 funds for Richmond Regional Planning District Commission staff work on UWP task 2.2, Long-Range Transportation Plan Update.

2. Chesterfield County FY 04 UWP Amendment Request –

RESOLVED, that the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization amends the FY 04 Unified Work Program (UWP) to program revised UWP task 2.3, Chesterfield County Public Involvement Media, as presented.

3. City of Richmond FY 04 UWP Amendment Request –

RESOLVED, that the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization amends the FY 04 Unified Work Program (UWP) to delete UWP task 5.4, Downtown Transit Center Need and Location Study and that UWP task 2.4, City of Richmond – Update of the Transportation Element of the City Master Plan be revised as presented.

4. City of Richmond Amended FY 02/03 – FY 04/05 TIP Amendment Request –

RESOLVED, that the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization amends the Amended FY 02/03 – FY 04/05 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to delete the Downtown Transit Center Need and Location Study and to shift funds previously programmed for this study to the Richmond Transportation Plan Update (Study Only) project as presented.

5. Henrico County Amended FY 02/03 – FY 04/05 TIP Amendment Request –

RESOLVED, that the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization amends the Amended FY 02/03 – FY 04/05 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) (i.e., current TIP) to transfer CMAQ funds programmed for the Route 157 (Pemberton Road) at Mayland Drive Traffic Signal Installation Project to Henrico County CMAQ Contingency funds and that \$250,000 in State Improvement Funds be programmed for the Route 157/Mayland Drive traffic signal project.

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

In the absence of CTAC Chairman Barbara Nelson, Mr. Lysy noted information under tab seven of the agenda package and briefly reviewed the CTAC meeting report. He said staff is working through CTAC to finalize the “MPO Guidelines for Public Participation” and staff plans to have a final draft ready for CTAC review and recommendation at its

January meeting. Mr. Lysy noted there were a couple of status report items to CTAC, one of which CTAC found disappointing. Mr. Lysy said a lot of the Capital to Capital Bikeway Project, which is now called the Virginia Capital Trail project, will not be completed in time for the worldwide Jamestown 2007 celebration. He said that repaving of I-64 and work on a small portion of the trail are about the only projects scheduled for completion at this point. Mr. Lysy said CTAC has some concern about this situation and wanted to bring it to the MPO's attention.

D. MPO Elderly and Disabled Advisory Committee (EDAC) Meeting Report –

Mr. Lysy reported that EDAC Chairman Cora Dickerson had phoned to say both she and Vice Chairman Anne McKenney have the flu and will not be in attendance at today's meeting. Mr. Lysy reported that EDAC continues to actively review ridership from GRTC and CARE letting GRTC know when there are problems, and that GRTC addresses problems promptly. Mr. Lysy expressed appreciation to GRTC for all the support and help they provide EDAC. Mr. Lysy informed the MPO of a work item being considered as part of the Unified Work Program for FY 05 that would look at elderly and disabled transportation needs and ridership estimates. He said he is currently working with some of the EDAC members to develop a draft work task for TAC consideration in late February or March. Chairman Ringley thanked Mr. Lysy for his report.

E. Richmond/Tri-Cities Areas ITS Regional Architecture Study –

Chairman Ringley said the next agenda item would be a presentation by VDOT study consultants on the Richmond and Tri-Cities Areas Intelligent Transportation System Regional Architecture Study. Dan Lysy introduced Carl Tewksbury who is with Kimley-Horn and Associates, the VDOT study consultant. Mr. Lysy said that according to federal requirements, the MPO must have a regional Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) architecture in place by April 2005 in order to have projects funded. He said it is something we will be seeing more of in the future.

Mr. Tewksbury provided a PowerPoint presentation the following slides:

- Meeting Agenda
- What is ITS?
- What is ITS? (photos)
- Why Are We Here? (two slides)
- Why deploy ITS? (four slides)
- Reported ITS Benefits
- Will ITS Solve All the Problems?

Mr. Tewksbury then turned the meeting over to Dan Chambers who continued with the PowerPoint presentation discussing ITS architecture as follows:

- What is an ITS Architecture?
- Why Bother?
- What's Next in the Process? (flow chart)
- Stakeholders and Steering Members
- Thank You - Questions?

Chairman Ringley thanked Mr. Chambers and Mr. Tewksbury for their presentation and, noting the late hour, asked MPO members to hold discussion to one or two quick questions. There were no questions and Chairman Ringley directed the MPO to the resolution presented under tab nine of the agenda package establishing the steering committee with the list of organizations and jurisdictions listed. Mr. Lysy noted that the resolution would also amend the Unified Work Program to incorporate that task in the UWP. On motion by Richard Ayers, seconded by Rebecca Draper, the MPO unanimously approved the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization amends the FY 04 Unified Work Program (UWP) to include a new UWP task 3.3, Richmond/Tri-Cities Areas ITS Regional Architecture Study, and that the MPO take action to establish the ITS Regional Architecture Study Steering Committee as a joint Richmond Area MPO and Tri-Cities Area MPO special purpose committee, with membership from area jurisdictions and agencies as follows:

- VDOT Richmond District ITS Coordinator
- VDOT Richmond District Transportation Planner
- RRPDC
- Crater PDC
- GRTC Transit System
- City of Petersburg and other jurisdictions and/or agencies as determined by the Tri-Cities Area MPO
- Virginia State Police
- Town of Ashland
- Chesterfield County
- Goochland County
- Hanover County
- Henrico County
- City of Richmond

and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the ITS Regional Architecture Study Steering Committee is charged with reviewing work conducted by the study consultants; providing comments on draft reports, technical documents, and other work as may be requested by VDOT; providing information and assistance as may be appropriate to this study; and providing its comments and recommendation on the draft final Regional ITS Deployment Plan for MPO review and consideration.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Lysy told Chairman Ringley what a pleasure it was having her serve as MPO chairman and expressed appreciation for all her work and assistance saying staff and the MPO will miss her. Mr. Lysy also thanked and expressed appreciation to Vice Chairman Roy Harrison for his hard work saying he will also be missed.

Vickey Badger with the City of Richmond reminded the MPO of the Wednesday, December 17 opening of Main Street Station saying all members should have received their invitations by now. Ms. Badger reminded that the project began with the MPO 12 years ago and is the beginning of a real multi-modal rail era. She passed out some materials on Main Street Station and thanked Chairman Ringley. Chairman Ringley responded with congratulations to all that have been involved saying that Vickey Badger has been instrumental in getting this project accomplished. Chairman Ringley expressed what a pleasure it has been for her being a part of the MPO and being chair for the last six months.

V. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Ringley offered best wishes to all and adjourned the meeting at approximately 3:05 P.M.