

RICHMOND AREA
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

MINUTES OF MEETING

July 21, 2004

MEMBERS PRESENT

REPRESENTING

Russell E. Holland, Chairman	County of Powhatan
Rollo Axton.....	GRTC Transit System
Viktoria Badger (Alternate).....	City of Richmond
Edward Barber.....	County of Chesterfield
Robert Berry.....	RMA
Rebecca Draper.....	County of Hanover
E. Todd Eure.....	County of Henrico
Thomas A. Hawthorne.....	VDOT
R. M. “Dickie” King.....	County of Chesterfield
Diane Linderman.....	City of Richmond
Sherman W. Litton.....	County of Chesterfield
Patricia O’Bannon.....	County of Henrico
William Pantele.....	City of Richmond
Faye O. Prichard (Alternate).....	Town of Ashland
Robert R. Setliff.....	County of Hanover
Barbara K. Smith (Alternate).....	County of Chesterfield
D. M. “Marty” Sparks.....	County of New Kent
Brandon Stidham (Alternate).....	County of Powhatan
Von Tisdale (Non-voting).....	RideFinders
Stran L. Trout.....	County of New Kent
Joe Vidunas (Alternate).....	County of Hanover
Mohammad A. Zaid.....	City of Richmond

MEMBERS ABSENT

REPRESENTING

Jack E. Apostolides (Non-voting).....	VDRPT
Richard W. Ayers.....	County of Powhatan
Cliff Burnette (Non-voting).....	VDA
Malvern R. Butler, Vice Chairman	County of Goochland
Paul E. Fisher.....	RRPDC
John Gordon.....	County of Hanover
Peter R. Grimm.....	City of Richmond
Michael Holmes.....	County of Charles City
Pat Kampf (Non-voting).....	FTA
Angela LaCombe.....	Town of Ashland
Joseph T. Lacy.....	County of Goochland
Jon Mathiasen.....	CRAC
John McCracken.....	County of Chesterfield

Robert Bredehoff.....CTAC
 Ivan Rucker (Non-voting).....FHWA
 Randall R. Silber..... County of Henrico
 Frank Thornton County of Henrico
 David T. Williams (Non-voting)..... Citizen Appointee

OTHERS PRESENT

REPRESENTING

John AmosRRPDC Legal Counsel (Amos & Amos PLLC)
 Dan Lysy, **Secretary** RRPDC
 Jon Chambers..... Kimley-Horn & Associates
 Amy Costello VDOT
 Gary A. DuVal (Alternate) City of Richmond
 Rob Dwyer Henrico County Student Intern
 Roger Henderson Kimley-Horn & Associates
 Robert Hodder (Alternate) GRTC Transit System
 Ron Mustain..... VDOT
 Winston Phillips..... VDRPT
 Mark Riblett (Alternate) VDOT
 John Riley Kimley-Horn & Associates
 Susan Simmers..... VDOT
 Kristin Tew VDOT
 Alan Tobias..... VDRPT
 Scott Carter RRPDC
 Mike Clements RRPDC
 Larry Hagin..... RRPDC
 Jin Lee..... RRPDC
 Liz McAdory..... RRPDC
 Sharon Robeson RRPDC

CALL TO ORDER

MPO Chairman Russell Holland called the July 21, 2004 meeting of the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) to order at 1:05 P.M. He noted Dan Lysy would review a requested amendment to the MPO agenda. Mr. Lysy introduced a request to amend the agenda to add a new administrative item I.F, Amended FY 02/03 – FY 04/05 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment Request for Capital Region Airport Commission (CRAC), Hanover County, and the City of Richmond. Mr. Lysy noted that a copy of the agenda topic for this request was distributed around the table and was also e-mailed to members of the MPO Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) on Monday, July 19, and the request was previously reviewed at the May TAC meeting. On motion of Ed Barber, seconded by Robert Setliff, the MPO voted unanimously to amend the July 21, 2004 MPO meeting agenda as requested.

I. ADMINISTRATION

A. Minutes of the April 8, 2004 MPO Agenda –

On motion by Rebecca Draper, seconded by Marty Sparks, the April 8, 2004 MPO minutes were unanimously approved as presented.

B. Open Public Comment Period –

There were no public comments and Chairman Holland closed the open public comment period.

C. MPO Chairman's Report –

1. Presentation of Plaque and Resolution of Appreciation for Outgoing MPO Chairman –

Chairman Holland asked Mr. Trout to come forward and presented to him a plaque reading the inscription, "To Stran L. Trout in recognition of his outstanding service as Chairman of the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization, February 12, 2004 through June 20, 2004." Mr. Trout expressed appreciation and thanked the MPO for honoring him. Chairman Holland then requested action on the Resolution of Appreciation for Mr. Trout. On motion of Pat O'Bannon, seconded by Ed Barber, the MPO unanimously approved the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Stran L. Trout serves as one of the New Kent County members to the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO); and

WHEREAS, Stran L. Trout has served as MPO Chairman from February 12, 2004 to June 30, 2004; and

WHEREAS, Stran L. Trout during his tenure as MPO Chairman has provided exceptional commitment, guidance and direction for the MPO;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization does hereby express its sincere appreciation and gratitude this twenty-first day of July, 2004 to Stran L. Trout for his leadership and outstanding service as MPO Chairman.

Chairman Holland presented Mr. Trout with a framed copy of the resolution and Mr. Trout thanked the MPO for its support and appreciation of his service.

2. Resolution of Appreciation for Outgoing CTAC Chairman –

On motion of Ed Barber, seconded by Pat O'Bannon, the MPO unanimously approved the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Barbara Nelson serves as Town of Ashland representative to the MPO's Citizens Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC); and

WHEREAS, Barbara Nelson has served as CTAC Chairman from July 1, 2003 to June 30, 2004; and

WHEREAS, Barbara Nelson has served as a non-voting member on the MPO during her term as CTAC Chairman; and

WHEREAS, Barbara Nelson, during her tenure as CTAC Chairman, represented to the best of her ability the interests of CTAC and the citizens of the Richmond area; and

WHEREAS, the members of the MPO, wish to express their sincere appreciation to Barbara Nelson;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization does hereby express its sincere appreciation and gratitude this twenty-first day of July, 2004 to Barbara Nelson, for her leadership and outstanding service as Chairman of the MPO Citizens Transportation Advisory Committee.

3. Resolution of Appreciation for Outgoing EDAC Chairman and EDAC Vice Chairman –

On motion of Ed Barber, seconded by Pat O'Bannon, the MPO unanimously approved the following resolutions:

WHEREAS, Cora Dickerson serves as the United Way Services representative to the MPO's Elderly and Disabled Advisory Committee (EDAC); and

WHEREAS, Cora Dickerson has served as EDAC Chairman from January 25, 2002 to June 30, 2004; and

WHEREAS, Cora Dickerson has served as EDAC Vice Chairman from December 16, 1998 to January 25, 2002; and

WHEREAS, Cora Dickerson, during her long tenure as both EDAC Chairman and EDAC Vice Chairman, represented to the best of her ability the interests of EDAC and the citizens of the Richmond area; and

WHEREAS, the MPO wishes to express its sincere appreciation to Cora Dickerson for her important contributions and leadership;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization does hereby express its sincere appreciation and gratitude this twenty-first day of July, 2004 to Cora Dickerson, for her leadership and outstanding service as Chairman and Vice Chairman of the MPO Elderly and Disabled Advisory Committee.

And,

WHEREAS, Anne S. McKenney serves as the Paralyzed Veterans of America representative to the MPO's Elderly and Disabled Advisory Committee (EDAC); and

WHEREAS, Anne S. McKenney has served as EDAC Vice Chairman from January 25, 2002 to June 30, 2004; and

WHEREAS, Anne S. McKenney, during her tenure as EDAC Vice Chairman, represented to the best of her ability the interests of EDAC and the citizens of the Richmond area; and

WHEREAS, the MPO wishes to express its sincere appreciation to Anne S. McKenney for her important contributions and leadership;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization does hereby express its sincere appreciation and gratitude this twenty-first day of July, 2004 to Anne S. McKenney, for her leadership and outstanding service as Vice Chairman of the MPO Elderly and Disabled Advisory Committee.

Chairman Holland noted that all of the resolution recipients are absent from the meeting and said the framed resolutions would be forwarded to those so honored.

4. Introduction of New MPO Member and Alternate Member –

Chairman Holland noted the absence of MPO Chairman Citizen Appointee David T. Williams stating that Mr. Williams had a previous engagement and was not able to attend today's meeting. Chairman Holland welcomed Gary A. DuVal, new alternate MPO member representing the City of Richmond. Dan Lysy introduced Mr. DuVal,

Department of Transportation Services Manager for the City of Richmond, noting that Mr. DuVal has attended past MPO meetings as an interested party and that he has also attended several TAC meetings. Mr. Lysy asked Mr. DuVal to say a few words about himself and Mr. DuVal said he has worked for the City of Richmond for 25 years for Public Works, then Utilities, and currently in the Department of Transportation Services serving under Mohammad Zaid. Mr. DuVal expressed thanks for being allowed to serve on the MPO and Chairman Holland thanked Mr. DuVal for his willingness to serve.

Chairman Holland offered congratulations to Faye Prichard on her new position as mayor of the Town of Ashland and Ms. Prichard thanked Chairman Holland.

5. MPO Executive Committee –

A handout was distributed prior to the meeting naming appointments to the FY 05 MPO Executive Committee as follows:

Ashland	Angela LaCombe
Charles City	Michael Holmes
Chesterfield	Ed Barber
Goochland	Rudy Butler
Hanover	John Gordon
Henrico	Pat O'Bannon
New Kent	Stran Trout
Powhatan	Russ Holland
Richmond	Bill Pantele

Chairman Holland noted the need to take action to establish the Executive Committee. On motion of Ed Barber, seconded by Marty Sparks, the MPO voted unanimously to establish the FY 05 MPO Executive Committee. Chairman Holland thanked those MPO members noted above for agreeing to serve on the Executive Committee.

D. RRPDC Transportation Director's Report –

Dan Lysy introduced new RRPDC Intern Liz McAdory, a student at Virginia Commonwealth University in the masters program for urban and regional planning. Mr. Lysy noted that Nick Britton, former RRPDC intern is the new Associate Planner in the Urban Transportation Division; however, he was not able to attend today's meeting due to illness.

E. Recommendation of MPO Member to EPA Section 174 Lead Planning Organization (LPO) Board –

Mr. Lysy said that the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality VDEQ has requested the MPO to recommend an appointment to the EPA Section 174 Lead Planning Organization (LPO). This group will be established to oversee work on the State Implementation Plan (SIP), the region's plan for attaining air quality standards. Mr. Lysy noted that Richmond has moved from maintenance status to nonattainment status under the more stringent 8 hour standard for ozone air quality. He said all of Charles City County, the City of Petersburg and the County of Prince George have been added to the Richmond nonattainment area in addition to Chesterfield, Colonial Heights, Hanover, Henrico and Richmond, jurisdictions already in the previous Richmond maintenance area. Mr. Lysy said the Governor appoints members of the LPO and that group will develop the SIP with VDEQ as agency staff for the group. VDEQ has asked all of the member jurisdictions to recommend at least one elected official and one other person for appointment to the LPO and has also asked VDOT, VDEQ, the Richmond Area MPO and the Tri-Cities Area MPO to each recommend a member to serve on the LPO. Mr. Lysy said he had received no volunteers in response to a request for elected officials wishing to serve as the MPO's representative on the LPO and that he has consulted with Chairman Holland on this situation.

Chairman Holland proposed that RRPDC Executive Director Paul Fisher be recommended as the MPO's LPO representative and that Dan Lysy be recommended as the LPO alternate member and asked Mr. Lysy to give further information on the LPO's responsibilities. Mr. Lysy explained that the LPO will be instrumental in working with VDEQ to develop a variety of control measures, actions that can be taken in order to reduce harmful emissions. In the past the LPO has considered transportation control measures, but such measures have shown little in the way of reducing pollutants while incurring significant costs. As a result, VDEQ and the LPO have not moved such measures forward. However, it will be important to balance such measures against the costs and benefits for other control measures and this is where local elected officials representing each of the localities on the LPO can provide the necessary policy direction. Mr. Lysy also noted that VDOT and VDEQ will probably be recommending technical staff for representation on the LPO. Mr. Lysy said it would be appropriate for the MPO to also appoint staff in order to provide technical direction and that RRPDC Executive Director and MPO member Paul Fisher would be the most appropriate person to represent the MPO on the LPO.

In response to questions from Pat O'Bannon Mr. Lysy confirmed that the Richmond region has met all national ambient air quality standards except for ozone. He said the LPO will not consider the designation for all of

Charles City County as a nonattainment area and that Charles City County will have to decide if they should pursue objection to EPA's designation. Mr. Lysy said the MPO submitted a resolution strongly opposing designation of all of Charles City County as a nonattainment area (previously only a small part of the county bounded by the James River, Henrico County, and Routes 5 and 155 constituted the nonattainment and maintenance area), but that EPA is trying to avoid partial designation of jurisdictions and so chose to include the entirety of Charles City County.

Legal Counsel John Amos expressed concern that non-elected officials were to be designated by the MPO as LPO representatives. Mr. Amos noted that on page two, second paragraph, third sentence of Mr. Robert G. Burnley's letter that VEDQ is requesting that we "...recommend two prospective members from each of the localities in the Richmond Nonattainment Area and one from the MPO." Mr. Lysy responded that in the attachment, which is an excerpt from the Clean Air Act (CAA), with language for Section 174, it states under paragraph (a), fourth sentence that "Such organization [i.e., LPO] shall include elected officials of local governments in the affected area, and representatives of the State air quality planning agency, the State transportation planning agency, the metropolitan planning organization designated to conduct the continuing, cooperative and comprehensive transportation planning process for the area..." He noted that he reads this section of the CAA as saying that the MPO did not need to appoint an elected official. Mr. Lysy also noted that ultimately the Governor will need to make these appointments and the MPO should make its recommendation, submit it, and let VDEQ tell us if we need to submit another recommendation.

On motion of Ed Barber, seconded by Pat O'Bannon, the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization unanimously approved the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) recommends the appointment of Paul E. Fisher, RRPDC Executive Director, as the Richmond Area MPO's member to the EPA Section 174 Lead Planning Organization (LPO) Board for the Richmond Nonattainment Area, and further recommends the appointment of Daniel N. Lysy, RRPDC Director of Transportation, as the MPO's alternate member to this LPO Board.

F. Amended FY 02-03 – FY 04-05 TIP Amendment Requests –

Mr. Lysy introduced the amended agenda item I.F. noting that handouts were distributed prior to the meeting. He said there are requests from the Capital Region Airport Commission (CRAC), Hanover County, and the City of Richmond to make changes to various projects currently shown in the Amended FY 02-03 – FY 04-05 Transportation Improvement Program

(TIP). CRAC is requesting that the I-64/Rt. 895 connector project add federal demonstration funds they have received as an earmark, and both Hanover County and the City of Richmond are transferring funds from previous allocations between projects. There were no questions about these proposed TIP amendments.

On motion of Ed Barber, seconded by Marty Sparks, the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization unanimously approved the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization amends the Amended FY 02/03 – FY 04/05 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) as follows:

- To revise the I-64/Route 895 Connector project entry (UPC #66786) by adding \$1,200,000 in FY 2004 Federal Demonstration Funds.
- To transfer \$120,000 in previous CMAQ allocations from the Route 360 signal system project entry (UPC #16097) to the Route 360 intersection improvement project entry (UPC #13551).
- To transfer \$52,000 in previous RSTP allocations from the GRTC Downtown Transit Center – Short Term project entry (UPC #64218) to the City of Richmond Transportation Plan Update project entry (UPC #64222).

II. OLD BUSINESS

No old business was brought forward for consideration.

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. Consent Action Items –

1. Staff Travel Request, ITE Annual Conference –

On motion of Pat O'Bannon, seconded by Faye Prichard, the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization unanimously approved the following resolutions:

RESOLVED, that the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization authorizes staff to attend the Institute of Transportation Engineers 2004 Annual Conference in Lake Buena Vista, Florida.

2. MPO Guidelines for Public Participation –

On motion of Pat O'Bannon, seconded by Faye Prichard, the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization unanimously approved the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization adopts the revised "MPO Guidelines for Public Participation" as presented.

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

Mr. Lysy noted the CTAC report is an information item only and requests no action from the MPO. In CTAC Chairman Robert Bredehoff's absence, Mr. Lysy briefly reviewed information in the CTAC meeting report noting the election of new officers; CTAC's participation in the May 6 federal certification review; and a presentation to CTAC on the Richmond/Hampton Roads High Speed Rail Tier I EIS Alternatives Analysis with CTAC's comments. Mr. Lysy offered to answer questions and there were none.

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

Chairman Linda Broady-Myers was unable to attend the MPO meeting due to a conflict and Mr. Lysy highlighted information in the EDAC meeting report noting it is an information item with no requests for action. He said new EDAC officers were appointed by the MPO chairman upon EDAC's recommendation and they participated in the May 6 MPO federal certification review. Mr. Lysy reported that EDAC is reviewing its membership trying to be more inclusive of representatives of the disabled community and following up on comments made during the certification review regarding the need for including low income groups in the MPO process. Mr. Lysy also reported on CARE service (i.e., Community Assisted Ride Enterprise) improvements saying that CARE has relocated its operations to a facility on Old Midlothian Turnpike in the City of Richmond and has also installed a new ride reservation phone system. Mr. Lysy said the phone system has received very positive comments through EDAC and related that CARE's greatest difficulty with the new system is getting clients to alter the way they use the system to leave messages instead of waiting 20 minutes to speak with an operator. Robert Hodder added that the phone service was brought in house with GRTC in an attempt to take advantage of economies of scale and reported that it has been very successful. Mr. Hodder added that EDAC does a very good job of working with GRTC bringing issues forward and having the two groups work together is beneficial.

D. FY 2005 – 2007 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) –

Larry Hagin provided background on the development of the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and reviewed the new format and function of the document saying significant revisions were made to the TIP in accordance with VDOT's requirement for consistent information from all MPOs necessary to develop a Statewide Improvement Program (SIP) in adherence to federal requirements. He said the TIP is now showing new financial numbers (i.e., funds obligated) as well as other information. Mr. Hagin explained the TIP has three sections, the first of which is introductory in nature including a table of contents. Section two, contains a listing of all road projects by jurisdiction and also includes categories for multi-jurisdictional projects, transit, Capital Region Airport Commission (CRAC), and interstates/toll roads. The third section is the appendix and contains supporting information and documentation.

Mr. Hagin demonstrated changes in the TIP by reviewing the first project on page one of Section II. New information in the TIP highlighted by Mr. Hagin includes the following:

- Project Use Category which indicates how the money is being used with regard to capacity increase, public transit, reconstruction, safety, bike/ped, etc.
- Regionally Significant check box requested by VDOT's Environmental Division to quickly spot projects that need to be analyzed for air quality conformity.
- TIP Amendment column referencing the amendment number and date from where TIP amendments will be tracked.
- Three Fiscal Year Federal Obligations columns for the current and next two fiscal years, which are broken down by fund source, phase, obligation, and state/local match for each fiscal year.

Mr. Hagin explained that previous TIPs showed allocations, but that now the TIP will need to show when and in what phase federal monies and matching funds will be spent. Mr. Hagin offered to answer questions on the new TIP format and there were none. Mr. Hagin continued his presentation saying that the TIP passed air quality conformity analysis and environmental justice analysis for Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) program projects. He said this newly formatted document required a new level of communication and cooperation with VDOT. He also noted that some projects listed are still a work in progress, but these can be modified if necessary by amendment when figures for all of the project funds are finalized. Mr. Hagin offered to answer questions and there was brief discussion on how the amendments would be handled. Mr. Hagin said there would likely need to be minor changes in some of the final

obligation numbers and once those were finalized, staff would bring them to the MPO for TIP amendment action.

Chairman Holland said the MPO staff should be commended for developing and submitting the TIP to the MPO on schedule because they received information from third parties on a very tight timeline and didn't have much reaction time. He said he hopes those parties will provide the information to staff more quickly in the future so that the MPO will have more time to review the information eliminating the need for numerous TIP amendments. Rebecca Draper agreed saying this is good information, that Hanover elected officials are used to seeing budget documents that show expenditure streams, and Hanover's finance people are used to this type format as well. She said the new TIP brought an allocation document into an appropriation format and it was a great idea to have all that information together. Ms. Draper said she wasn't sure whose idea it was, but that it was a great job. Mr. Hagin clarified that he and VDOT's Mark Riblett worked very closely on this project. Mr. Lysy thanked Ms. Draper for her comment saying he also feels the document will be more useful because the TIP information is actually based on schedules reflecting projects that are actually moving forward.

On motion of Ed Barber, seconded by Rebecca Draper, the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization unanimously approved the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization finds the FY 2005-2007 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to be in conformance with all applicable air quality conformity analysis requirements and hereby adopts the FY 2005-2007 TIP and Metropolitan Transportation Planning Process Self Certification Resolution as presented.

E. Richmond Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan –

Susan Simmers, VDOT Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator, said at the time the *Regional Bike and Pedestrian Plan* began, VDOT didn't require localities to have bicycle and pedestrian accommodations in proposed highway projects. This past March, a major change in VDOT policy adopted by the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) states that all new construction projects will begin with the presumption that bicycle and pedestrian accommodations will be included in new projects (those entering the preliminary engineering phase). She introduced study consultant John Riley of Kimley-Horn and Associates in Richmond. He said Kimley-Horn was the lead consultant for the Richmond Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan, and was assisted by sub-consultants Poole Design of Maryland and others. Mr. Riley began with a few opening remarks about the study and noted that work began over two years ago. Mr. Riley

reiterated Susan Simmers' comment about the new VDOT policy for integrating bicycle and pedestrian accommodations and noted a second key reason this study is timely and important – the recent nonattainment status of the region for ozone air quality standards. He said bicycle and pedestrian mobility is a great way to help the cause in terms of reducing pollution and improving the ozone level. Mr. Riley read a few of the several hundred public comments received regarding the plan from citizens around the region saying that the comments received covered a lot of the issues set into the plan and covered some of the key elements of the plan. Mr. Riley proceeded with a PowerPoint presentation on the study addressing various points as follows:

- MPO Presentation (cover slide)
- Why do people bike and walk?
- Bicycle Facilities (photos)
- Pedestrian Facilities (photos)
- Build a solid foundation for incorporating bicycling and walking into Virginia's transportation system.
- What is a bicycle and pedestrian plan?
- Why do we need a bicycle and pedestrian plan?
- Richmond Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan (Project study area)
- Study Purpose
- Study Advisory Committee (SAC)
- Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Symposium, May 2002
- Community Workshops, March 2003
- Presentation of Draft Final Plan, May 2004
- Project Website: www.lets gobikeandwalk.com
- Goal Summary
- Building the Foundation
- Data Collection
- Technical Analysis
- Scientific Approach (Levels of Service)
- Sample Bicycle Levels of Service (BLOS) (photos)
- Sample Pedestrian Levels of Service (PLOS) (photos)
- If we build it, will they use it?
- Development of Recommended Network
- What can be done with the network? (photos) (two slides)
- Supporting Facilities (photos)
- Sample Recommendations (five slides)
- Report Contents
- Next Steps
- Integrating Bicycle and Pedestrian Accommodations
- VTrans 2025
- MPO Action Requested

Following his presentation, Mr. Riley introduced Roger Henderson with Kimley-Horn Associates in Raleigh, North Carolina, who also worked on the plan. Mr. Henderson apologized for being late and recognized Von Tisdale, Chair of the Study Advisory Committee, and thanked her for all her organizational efforts and leadership. Mr. Riley asked if there were questions and there were none. Mr. Lysy noted the resolution on the second page of tab eight to accept the study as work completed; provide for its consideration as a study; make it available for consideration and incorporation in to the MPO's Long-Range Plan; and to conduct specified activities as supportive measures. In response to a question Mr. Lysy confirmed that the activities listed in the resolution are additional work tasks to include a half-day engineering workshop provided by the study consultants; availability of the study consultants to local governing bodies for presentations; and providing other technical reports and documentation noted.

On motion of Ed Barber, seconded by Pat O'Bannon, the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization unanimously approved the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) accepts the Richmond Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan as work completed, that it be considered a study, that it be made available for consideration and incorporation into the MPO's Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), and that the following activities be conducted and supporting documentation be provided:

- Conducting a half-day engineering workshop (to be conducted by VDOT's study consultants).
- Conducting a one-day level-of-service and latent demand model training class.
- Providing presentations of the final MPO accepted study document to local boards of supervisors and city and town councils (presentation to be provided upon the request of the local jurisdiction TAC member).
- Providing RRPDC staff with final technical documentation reports showing each jurisdiction's complete list of roadway segments and the level-of-service (LOS) pedestrian and bicycle ranking (along with background data) for each of these segments.
- Providing technical reports documenting work activities to be conducted as part of the half-day engineering workshop and the one-day LOS and latent demand training classes.

John Riley distributed copies of enlarged jurisdiction maps from the study document to appropriate jurisdiction members (copies were not provided to MPO staff). Mr. Lysy noted the enlarge maps should be easier to read than those in the 11 x 17 document or on the CD.

F. Richmond Regional ITS Architecture and Deployment Plan –

Dan Lysy explained that by April of 2005, the region must have an approved ITS plan so that federally funded ITS projects in the area can be eligible for federal funds. Therefore, Mr. Lysy said, the region needs to have an approved ITS architecture and deployment plan. Mr. Lysy introduced Jon Chambers with Kimley-Horn and Associates who served as the study consultant.

Mr. Chambers said he would provide a brief overview of the progress made over the last 12 months or so developing the ITS architecture for the Richmond region. He started by explaining what an ITS architecture is; why it is necessary to put ITS architecture in place; what's going on in ITS around the state and at the state level; and what is included in the Richmond Regional ITS Architecture. Mr. Chambers began his PowerPoint presentation addressing the following slides:

- Richmond Regional ITS Architecture (cover slide)
- Meeting Agenda
- What is ITS?
- Why Deploy ITS?
- Will ITS Solve All the Problems?
- What is an ITS Architecture?
- Federal Requirements
- Statewide Initiatives
- Richmond Region's Architecture
- Architecture Development Process (flow chart)
- Richmond Regional ITS Architecture
- Thank You

Mr. Chambers completed his presentation and offered to answer questions. Pat O'Bannon inquired if ITS is geared toward everyone having their own individual communication device and computer to carry around with them. Mr. Chambers responded that the ITS Architecture Study deals more with the regional level and that what Ms. O'Bannon is speaking of is more at the user end level. He said there are numerous user end level services that private entities can develop, but that the regional ITS architecture is largely to enable those kinds of services to take place.

Additional questions were asked by Ms. O'Bannon and Marty Sparks regarding pay for use service and its benefits, about incorporation of satellite technology, and whether these strategies would be eligible for homeland security funding. Mr. Chambers provided a couple of examples of how a private company might contract with VDOT for information that could then be used to post on the internet or to notify paying customers about an incident that might affect their travel route. However, Mr. Chambers emphasized that the architecture is not only about information,

but also about coordination between agencies on getting more effective incident response management. He cited VDOT's initiative in connecting with the Virginia State Police computer-aided dispatch system to be electronically notified of an incident so they can get message boards out much sooner than waiting for a dispatcher to communicate with the responder on scene. Mr. Chambers pointed out that satellite is just one technology that might be used along with GPS and others. He said the ITS architecture is a framework to enable a wide variety of measures at a communications level and that it would be up to the region as to how it wants to proceed.

Mr. Chambers said he couldn't speak to eligibility of projects for homeland security funds in specifics, but he believes some of the strategies could be construed as homeland security measures, particularly those dealing with improving operational communications between two or more agencies and public safety entities. Mr. Lysy added that the RRPDC has a Regional Emergency Response Technical Advisory Committee that is currently working with police and fire chiefs for interoperable communications and the region has made a lot of progress in that area and this will be an important component of ITS with state police, local police, fire, and emergency responders all communicating in responding to incidents.

Chairman Holland inquired if the MPO would have an annual report of this nature to vote on and Mr. Lysy responded that it would not be this detailed or specific but it would receive reports on TAC's annual reviews. Mr. Lysy said the MPO is being asked to designate TAC to conduct annual reviews of this report and make updates as necessary, but the reviews are intended primarily as technical reviews looking at various market packages or ITS measures that need to receive higher priority for funding consideration and things of that nature. Additional discussion ensued on the need and value of an annual ITS update, review of ITS projects, and report on new technologies.

On motion of Pat O'Bannon, seconded by Marty Sparks, the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization unanimously approved the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) be provided with an annual report on ITS applications and implementation and to include the status of ITS projects, funding, and new technologies.

Mr. Lysy introduced the resolution in the agenda package on page two under tab nine that says the MPO is accepting the ITS Architecture Report and ITS Architecture Deployment Plan as presented; that the MPO is designating TAC with conducting annual reviews of this report and

architecture deployment plan with VDOT providing technical assistance for these reviews and with TAC and staff reporting on the implementation status of ITS projects and recommendations for updates or changes to the ITS Architecture and Deployment Plan. Mr. Lysy noted that there may be some overlap with the previously approved resolution, but said he believes they complement each other and insure a full, comprehensive ITS report to the MPO every year.

On motion of Stran Trout, seconded by Pat O'Bannon, the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization unanimously approved the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) accepts the "Richmond Regional ITS Architecture Report" and the "Richmond Regional ITS Architecture Deployment Plan Report" as presented; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the MPO Technical Advisory Committee is designated with conducting annual reviews of the "Richmond Regional ITS Architecture Report" and the "Richmond Regional ITS Architecture Deployment Plan", with the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) providing technical assistance for these reviews, and with TAC and Richmond Regional Planning District Commission staff reporting on the implementation status of intelligent transportation system (ITS) projects and recommendations for updates and/or changes to the region's ITS architecture report and deployment plan.

Chairman Holland requested that the first ITS annual report to the MPO be made in calendar year 2005.

G. Richmond/Hampton Roads High-Speed Rail Tier I Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)/Alternatives Analysis –

Dan Lysy introduced Alan Tobias with the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation who would provide an informational presentation about the *Richmond to Hampton Roads High Speed Rail Tier I Environmental Impact Statement Alternatives Analysis*. Mr. Lysy said the study was recently initiated and that it would be important that we start some discussion of various alternatives that VDRPT will need to consider. Mr. Tobias said the study began in late fall of last year and that the initial scoping phase is now complete. Mr. Tobias said he would go over the study background and review the scope of work and schedule, and then began his PowerPoint presentation with the following slides:

- Richmond/Hampton Roads Passenger Rail Study, Project Update, July 2004 (cover slide with photo)
- Agenda

- Background
- Previous/Concurrent Studies
- Vision
- Map (demonstrating alternative routes)
- Project Team
- Scope of Work
- Phase 1 – Scoping
- Phase 2 – Alternatives Development (seven slides)
- Phase 3 – Alternatives Evaluation
- Phase 4 – Draft
- Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS)
- Task 5 – Final Environmental Impact Statement and Record of Decision
- Project Schedule (2004) (chart)
- Public Involvement Plan
- People generally support what they help to create (photo of project team using map)
- Community Outreach Efforts
- Media Outreach
- Quarterly Newsletter (4)
- Web Site (www.rich2hrrail.info)
- Web Page/Information Line Promotion
- Meetings and Hearings
- Reports and Feedback
- Thank You

Mr. Tobias ended his report offering to return to provide regular updates throughout the study process and reminded the MPO of the study web site, rich2hrrail.info. He asked if there were any questions or comments. Pat O'Bannon asked Mr. Tobias to expand on what is happening with federal funding for rail. Mr. Tobias said there has been a lot of talk with reauthorization of the transportation budget and TEA-21 and the most optimistic view would be that the rail chapter is included but with no funding attached. Mr. Tobias said there is talk about innovative financing using tax benefits to provide a way to access capital. There is a group of 25 states, States for Passenger Rail, who have active intercity rail programs and are anxious and actively working to get some level of federal funding. Dan Lysy mentioned a group working throughout the various chambers of commerce in the southeast lobbying for rail funds and Mr. Tobias agreed noting that Atlanta is leading this effort.

Vickey Badger asked Mr. Tobias to return to the PowerPoint slide that shows the map of the entire southeast. Referring to the map Ms. Badger pointed out Richmond is at an important crossroads with rail lines throughout the state converging in Richmond. She said Virginia in general, and Richmond in particular, are well positioned with the states

south of us all having very strong rail components, all with a desire to connect to the northeast corridor. She said we are fortunate to have the strength of those states to help us get rail funding. Mr. Tobias said Virginia is involved in an effort with North Carolina called the Southeast High Speed Rail Corridor and looking at the Washington to Charlotte corridor, there is a rail line from Petersburg to Raleigh for which the Virginia portion of that service was discontinued in the 1980's but which may be rebuilt as a high speed passenger rail corridor. He said the Governor of Virginia has recently appointed a commission for rail enhancement and the commission had its first meeting two days ago. Mr. Tobias noted this high level commission is charged with addressing issues of how we make high speed rail a reality. Chairman Holland thanked Mr. Tobias for his presentation and requested that when he returns in the future he include more information about developments in the southeastern corridor.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Cancellation of the August 12, 2004 MPO Meeting –

Hearing no objections, Chairman Holland cancelled the August 12, 2004 MPO meeting.

V. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Holland adjourned the meeting at approximately 2:55 P.M.