

RICHMOND AREA
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
MINUTES OF MEETING

February 10, 2005

MEMBERS PRESENT

REPRESENTING

Russell E. Holland, Chairman	County of Powhatan
Malvern R. Butler, Vice Chairman	County of Goochland
Jack E. Apostolides (Non-voting).....	VDRPT
Rollo Axton.....	GRTC Transit System
Richard W. Ayers.....	County of Powhatan
Viktoria Badger (Alternate).....	City of Richmond
James R. Banks (Alternate).....	County of Chesterfield
Edward Barber.....	County of Chesterfield
Robert Berry.....	RMA
Linda Broady-Myers (Non-voting).....	EDAC
Rebecca Draper.....	County of Hanover
Gary A. DuVal (Alternate).....	City of Richmond
Ralph J. "Joe" Emerson.....	Henrico County
E. Todd Eure.....	County of Henrico
Paul E. Fisher.....	RRPDC
Thomas A. Hawthorne.....	VDOT
Michael Holmes.....	County of Charles City
George Homewood.....	County of New Kent
R. M. "Dickie" King.....	County of Chesterfield
Angela LaCombe.....	Town of Ashland
Joseph T. Lacy.....	County of Goochland
Eugene A. Mason.....	City of Richmond
William Pantele.....	City of Richmond
Robert R. Setliff.....	County of Hanover
Barbara K. Smith (Alternate).....	County of Chesterfield
Frank Thornton.....	County of Henrico
Von Tisdale (Non-voting).....	RideFinders
Stran L. Trout.....	County of New Kent
David T. Williams (Non-voting).....	Citizen Appointee
Joe Vidunas (Alternate).....	County of Hanover

MEMBERS ABSENT

REPRESENTING

Robert Bredehoft (Non-voting).....	CTAC
Cliff Burnette (Non-voting).....	VDA
John Gordon.....	County of Hanover
Pat Kampf (Non-voting).....	FTA
Diane Linderman.....	City of Richmond
Sherman W. Litton.....	County of Chesterfield

MEMBERS ABSENT (Cont.)

REPRESENTING

Jon Mathiasen CRAC
John McCracken County of Chesterfield
Patricia O'Bannon County of Henrico
Ivan Rucker (Non-voting) FHWA
Mohammad A. Zaid City of Richmond

OTHERS PRESENT

REPRESENTING

Dan Lysy, **Secretary** (Alternate) RRPDC
Jameson Auten RideFinders
Pat DeZern AARP
Robert Hodder (Alternate) GRTC Transit System
Latasha James Richmond Voice
Richard S. Ellyson (Alternate) County of New Kent
Mark Riblett (Alternate) VDOT
Bud Vye CTAC
Nick Britton RRPDC
Mike Clements RRPDC
Geleene Goffena RRPDC
Larry Hagin RRPDC
Jin Lee RRPDC
Sharon Robeson RRPDC
Patricia Villa RRPDC

CALL TO ORDER

MPO Chairman Russell Holland called the February 10, 2005 meeting of the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) to order at approximately 2:10 P.M. in the large conference room of the Richmond Regional Planning District Commission (RRPDC).

Mr. Lysy reported on a request from VDOT to add an item to the agenda and recommended it be added as III.A.4 under New Business, FY 2005-2007 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment Request. The information packet staff prepared on this item was distributed. On motion of Bill Pantele, seconded by Ed Barber, the MPO unanimously amended the February 10, 2005 MPO agenda to include New Item III.A.4, FY 05-07 TIP Amendment Request.

I. ADMINISTRATION

A. Certification by MPO Secretary of Meeting Quorum –

Dan Lysy reported that a quorum was present.

B. Minutes of the December 9, 2004 MPO Agenda –

On motion by Ed Barber, seconded by Bill Pantele, the December 9, 2004 MPO minutes were unanimously approved as presented.

C. Open Public Comment Period –

No public comments were offered.

D. MPO Chairman's Report –

1. Resolutions of Appreciation to Outgoing Members –

Chairman Holland noted that there are two resolutions of appreciation to present to outgoing members (resolutions included in the agenda attachments). One for Marty Sparks of the New Kent County Board of Supervisors read as follows:

WHEREAS, the Honorable D. M. "Marty" Sparks has provided valuable public service from January 1, 2004 to January 11, 2005, as one of the New Kent County representatives to the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization; and

WHEREAS, he has offered his dedicated support and commitment to serving the citizens of the Richmond area in his 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 his contributions and effort;

AND, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization, this tenth day of February 2005, acknowledges and commends his dedicated service to the citizens of the Richmond region.

New Kent County representative Stran Trout noted Mr. Sparks' absence and offered to take the framed resolution of appreciation and present it to him. Chairman Holland accepted and expressed appreciation for Mr. Trout's kind offer.

Chairman Holland then asked Rollo Axton to come forward and read aloud the Resolution of Appreciation for Mr. Axton as follows:

WHEREAS, Rollo C. Axton has served with distinction as the GRTC Transit System member to the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) since February 6, 1986; and

WHEREAS, Rollo C. Axton has also served with distinction as the GRTC Transit System member and alternate member to the MPO's Technical Advisory Committee from February 6, 1986 to October 1, 1993; and

WHEREAS, Rollo C. Axton as General Manager and Chief Executive Officer for GRTC Transit System has led it to become one of the nation's finest and most efficient public transportation services; and

WHEREAS, Rollo C. Axton has distinguished himself as an outstanding member of the MPO through his active participation as a voting member of the MPO, through his diligent participation on the MPO's Technical Advisory Committee and Long-Range Transportation Plan committees; and

WHEREAS, Rollo C. Axton has accepted a new position and will soon leave his position with GRTC Transit System;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization does hereby express its sincere appreciation and gratitude this tenth day of February 2005 to Rollo C. Axton for many years of outstanding public service to the citizens of the Richmond region during his membership on the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization and wishes him the best of luck in his new position.

The reading of the resolution was followed by a spontaneous and enduring standing ovation from all present. Mr. Axton responded saying he has been attending MPO and MPO committee meetings for years and commenting humorously that he has many stories, none of which he would share. Mr. Axton wished all God's speed and good luck. Additional applause followed.

2. Introduction of New MPO Members and Alternate –

Chairman Holland introduced and welcomed new MPO members Eugene A. Mason, Jr. representing the City of Richmond, George M. Homewood representing New Kent County, and Ralph J. "Joe" Emerson representing Henrico County. Chairman Holland then introduced new alternate members Richard S. Ellyson and Rodney A. Hathaway, both representing New Kent County. Chairman Holland welcomed all to service on the MPO.

3. RSTP and CMAQ Project Review and Selection Process Committee –

Chairman Holland noted action taken at the December 9 MPO meeting to form a committee of elected officials to examine both the new and previous processes for review and selection of Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) and Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) program projects which would entail meeting with FHWA to determine what in the old process was and was not acceptable under federal requirements. He reported that he accepted Mr. Butler's recommendation and appointed members of the MPO Executive Committee to serve as the CMAQ and RSTP Project Review and Selection Process Policy Committee. He appointed Rudy Butler as Committee Chairman and Ed Barber as Vice Chairman and appointed Rebecca Draper to serve as a nonvoting member to the committee as Secretary/Technical Advisor.

4. Other Business –

No other business was brought forward.

E. RRPDC Transportation Director's Report –

1. VDOT State Transportation Planning Grants –

Mr. Lysy reported that VDOT advised staff at the end of January that an additional \$1.6 million in state planning funds are available under the new State Transportation Planning Grant pilot program and staff is recommending that the MPO submit one or more applications for these funds. The MPO Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) met yesterday in a special called meeting to consider ideas and decided on three recommendations they believe will result in strong applications. Mr. Lysy said those projects are being developed and will be presented for MPO review at the March 10 meeting with the application being due to VDOT the following day. He offered to answer questions. Chairman Holland noted the short time frame established by VDOT for submitting applications and that staff is reacting as fast as they can. He said the MPO should rely on the good work product of staff and the review and recommendation of TAC in this effort.

2. Other Business –

There was no other business for consideration.

F. MPO Bylaws Amendments –

Mr. Lysy said tab four of the agenda package includes information on this item and that it is ready for the second reading and final action to amend the MPO bylaws providing for EDAC membership expansion and providing nonvoting membership status on the MPO to EDAC. Mr. Lysy said EDAC's action recommending amendments to the bylaws was reviewed and approved at the November MPO meeting, and the MPO voted and approved the proposed amendments as the first reading at the December meeting. Mr. Lysy requested suspension of the rules to dispense with the second reading and go straight to the action.

On motion of Ed Barber, seconded by Richard Ayers, the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization suspended rules to dispense with the second reading and unanimously approved the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) approves the second reading of proposed amendments to the MPO bylaws and adopts these proposed amendments as follows:

1. Article III – Membership, Section 3 – to add “MPO Elderly and Disabled Advisory Committee Chairman” to the MPO's list of nonvoting members.
2. Article V– MPO Committees, Section 3 – To insert a new sentence following the fourth sentence that reads as follows:

“The Committee should also have representation from organizations that represent low income persons.”
3. Article V – MPO Committees, Section 3 – To revise the third sentence to read as follows:

“The MPO shall provide for the appointment of up to eighteen (18) member organizations to this committee providing for a maximum of eighteen (18) voting members.”

Following the vote, Dan Lysy introduced EDAC Chairman Linda Broady-Myers and invited her to the table as a nonvoting MPO member. He said EDAC is an active group and Ms. Broady-Myers, the Virginia Rehabilitation Center for the Blind Volunteer Council representative, should be a strong voice for EDAC.

II. OLD BUSINESS

No old business was brought forward for consideration.

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. Consent Action Items –

1. FY 05 UWP Budget Amendments –

Mr. Lysy said there are three consent items on the agenda and the fourth item that was added, the FY 2005-2007 TIP Amendment Request, will be pulled for discussion and separate consideration. Mr. Lysy asked for requests to consider any of the other three consent items separately and there were none.

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

RESOLVED, that the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) amends the FY 05 Unified Work Program (UWP) to shift PL funds among various Richmond Regional Planning District Commission (RRPDC) staff work task budgets as follows:

UWP Task No./ Description	Current PL Budget	Shift	Revised PL Budget
1.1 MPO Maintenance	\$285,611	+\$10,000	\$295,611
2.1 Socioeconomic Data	40,000	- 10,000	30,000
2.5 Transp. Data/GIS	100,000	- 20,000	80,000
3.1 CMS	70,000	- 10,000	60,000
4.1 TIP	100,000	+ 30,000	130,000
5.2 Elderly and Disabled	0	+ 10,000	10,000
6.1 Intermodal Planning	25,000	- 10,000	15,000

2. Section 5310 Funds Application Endorsement –

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

RESOLVED, that the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) endorses those applications for FTA Section 5310 funds as requested and authorizes their inclusion in the Transportation Improvement Program, subject to their selection for funding by the Commonwealth Transportation Board.

3. VDOT TIP Amendment Requests –

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

RESOLVED, that the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization revises the Fiscal Year 2005-2007 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to reflect the fourteen TIP amendments individually numbered 2005-02 through 2005-15 in the attached table: *Richmond Area MPO Fiscal Year 2005-2007 TIP Amendment Proposals*. [Table presented in agenda package and attached to minutes as Attachment One.]

4. FY 2005-2007 TIP Amendment Request –

Mr. Lysy noted that information on this item was passed out earlier in the meeting and the FY 2005-2007 TIP Amendment request was reviewed at the MPO Technical Advisory Committee meeting held yesterday (Wednesday, February 9). Mr. Lysy summarized the request as providing for the obligation of National Highway System (NHS) funds for a project in Chesterfield County, the west bound widening of Route 360 between Winterpock Road and Swift Creek. He said this project is scheduled to go to advertisement soon and VDOT is pushing it along to get the amendment processed as soon as possible. Mr. Lysy asked if there were any questions and there were none.

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

RESOLVED, that the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization revises the Fiscal Year 2005-2007 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to reflect TIP amendment number 2005-16 as shown in the attached table: *Richmond Area MPO Fiscal Year 2005-2007 TIP Amendment Proposals*. [Table for TIP amendment number 2005-16 distributed at MPO meeting and included in table attached to minutes as Attachment One.]

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

Mr. Lysy recognized EDAC Chairman Linda Broady-Myers and asked if she would like to say anything about herself by way of introduction and Ms. Broady-Myers responded with comments about her work and volunteer activities. She said she is a retired vice president and fraud investigator for Wachovia Bank, a volunteer with the Richmond Police

Department, and a secretary for the police academy. She said she is a volunteer for several blind organizations including the Rehabilitation Center for the Blind, Developmental Disabilities with VCU, and a member of numerous other organizations. Mr. Broady-Myers said she has a lot of energy and stress around public transportation issues, mainly paratransit for the elderly and disabled, and she is very thankful and appreciative to be on the MPO board. Chairman Holland thanked her for her comments and asked if there were other comments. There were none.

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

Mr. Lysy reported that CTAC Chairman Robert Bredehoff was unable to attend due to a family illness and Mr. Lysy said he would provide the CTAC report with some assistance from others. Mr. Lysy reported that at the January 26 CTAC meeting, members had numerous questions regarding several projects and that staff will have a report at the next CTAC meeting on those projects. He said that Yolanda Savoy with the Richmond Area Safe Kids Coalition provided a presentation about pedestrian safety and the projects the Coalition has been working on in the City of Richmond. He noted the Coalition is in contact with Chesterfield and Henrico counties considering programs for those jurisdictions as well. Mr. Lysy suggested that Ms. Savoy provide her presentation at an MPO meeting saying the presentation encompasses the importance of pedestrian safety, the various programs provided, and how various departments all work together to promote walking to schools and safe transportation for children.

Mr. Lysy said there are two other items he would like to call to the MPO's attention, one of which is the 2005 Governor's Conference on Greenways, Blueways, and Trails and the kickoff event for the conference in Richmond and he introduced the conference organizer, Pat DeZern, to provide more information on the conference. Ms. DeZern passed out brochures announcing the Governor's Conference saying this is the first Governor's conference on this topic and that this year's focus is on building active communities. She said this is a great opportunity for the region to take advantage of networking, to get technical assistance, and to share expertise with other areas of the state. Ms. DeZern noted that two segments of our population are of serious concern, the growing elderly population and the very young who are developing serious chronic diseases very early due to a sedentary lifestyle and childhood obesity. Ms. DeZern also passed out her business cards saying she is AARP's Active Living Communities Volunteer Project Organizer and said she welcomes requests for additional information. Ms. DeZern also passed out a draft announcement for a kickoff for the Governor's conference that will be a Richmond metro area community event called Walk and Roll Richmond which will encompass pedestrians, bicyclers, and those with mobility

issues confined to wheelchairs or needing other types of assistance. She said the web site should be up by April for sign-up for this event. Chairman Holland thanked Ms. DeZern for her presentation and asked if there were questions and there were none.

Mr. Lysy reported that CTAC had also received a presentation at its January meeting on the Virginia Capital Trail from Doug Ellis, Virginia Capital Trail Foundation president and Harold Dyson, VDOT project manager for the Virginia Capital Trail. He then introduced Lloyd "Bud" Vye, CTAC member for the Richmond Area Bicycling Association (RABA), to provide information about this important regional project. Mr. Vye thanked Chairman Holland for the opportunity to speak about the Virginia Capital Trail. He said the Virginia Capital Trail Foundation has achieved 501(c)(3) status and that RABA has made a generous contribution. He said newly appointed Executive Director Doug Ellis is seeking other private funds from corporations and foundations to assist in construction of this project. Mr. Vye noted some of the history of the project, formerly called the Capital to Capital Bikeway (connecting Williamsburg and Richmond), and said the project is finally gaining traction and that the first groundbreaking will be May 14 in James City County. Mr. Vye described the route for this \$17 million project saying that about \$10 million in funding has been secured and that another \$7 million is still being sought to complete the project all the way to Henrico County's Four Mile Creek Park that is currently being developed. Mr. Vye noted the original goal had been completion of the project by 2007, but that he hopes that the project will be complete at least to the Chickahominy River by 2007. Chairman Holland thanked Mr. Vye for his report asking if there were any questions and none were voiced.

D. Proposed RSTP and CMAQ Projects –

Mr. Lysy introduced staff project manager Larry Hagin who began by noting the information contained in tab eight of the agenda package where he noted a list of projects recommended by the MPO's Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) to receive Fiscal Year 2006 and Fiscal Year 2007 Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) (pages eight and nine) and Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) (pages 10 and 11) allocations. Mr. Hagin said these figures were distributed to the MPO's jurisdictions and agencies for FY 06 and FY 07 using the MPO's previous "fair share" distribution formula (to be replaced with the competitive project review and selection process beginning in FY 08). He said the allocations for individual projects were selected by TAC members with the goal of trying to complete existing projects and not putting money on any new projects so that no new projects would be included. Mr. Hagin said that staff recommends MPO approval of the list as presented and said that following MPO approval, staff will work with VDOT to incorporate these allocations into the Six Year Improvement Program by the end of

February. There were no questions or comments. Mr. Lysy noted the requested motion is included in the agenda attachments under tab eight. Rudy Butler commented while making a motion for approval that the County of Goochland is receiving less than some smaller jurisdictions and stated that he hopes the MPO will come up with a better process on how to distribute the money in the future.

On motion of Rudy Butler, seconded by Angela LaCombe, the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization unanimously approved the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) authorizes the submission of proposed Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) and Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) projects as presented for consideration by the Commonwealth Transportation Board, for inclusion in the VDOT Six Year Improvement Program, and for air quality conformity analysis and public review as part of the MPO's upcoming draft Transportation Improvement Program.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

No other business was brought forward.

V. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Holland noted that the next MPO meeting would be March 10. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:35 P.M.