

**RICHMOND AREA**  
**METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION**  
**MINUTES OF MEETING**

**October 12, 2006**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

**REPRESENTING**

Robert R. Setliff, <b>Chairman</b> .....	County of Hanover
Jameson Auten (Nonvoting) .....	RideFinders
Viktoria W. Badger (Alternate) .....	City of Richmond
James R. Banks (Alternate).....	County of Chesterfield
Robert M. Berry .....	RMA
William R. Britton, Jr. (Alternate).....	County of Charles City
Linda Broady-Myers (Nonvoting) .....	EDAC
Malvern R. Butler .....	County of Goochland
Ralph J. "Joe" Emerson .....	County of Henrico
E. Todd Eure .....	County of Henrico
Paul E. Fisher .....	RRPDC
Lawrence C. Hagin (Alternate).....	GRTC Transit System
Russell E. Holland .....	County of Powhatan
George Homewood .....	County of New Kent
William C. Nelson, Jr. (Nonvoting).....	CTAC
Stan B. Newcomb (Alternate).....	County of Chesterfield
Vanloan Nguyen .....	City of Richmond
H. Charles Rasnick (Nonvoting).....	MPO Chairman Citizen Appointee
Mark E. Riblett (Alternate).....	VDOT
Steven E. Simonson (Alternate).....	County of Chesterfield
Barbara K. Smith (Alternate).....	County of Chesterfield
Frank Thornton .....	County of Henrico
Stran L. Trout.....	County of New Kent
Joseph E. Vidunas (Alternate) .....	County of Hanover
David T. Williams (Alternate) .....	County of Powhatan
Felicia H. Woodruff (Nonvoting).....	VDRPT

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

**REPRESENTING**

R. M. "Dickie" King, <b>Vice Chairman</b> .....	County of Chesterfield
Cliff Burnette (Nonvoting) .....	VDA
John Gordon.....	County of Hanover
Thomas A. Hawthorne .....	VDOT
Michael Holmes .....	County of Charles City
Patricia A. Kampf (Nonvoting).....	FTA
Joseph T. Lacy .....	County of Goochland
John M. Lewis.....	GRTC Transit System
Sherman W. Litton.....	County of Chesterfield
Eugene A. Mason.....	City of Richmond

**MEMBERS ABSENT (Cont.)**

**REPRESENTING**

John McCracken ..... County of Chesterfield  
Patricia O’Bannon..... County of Henrico  
William Pantele.....City of Richmond  
Faye O. Prichard .....Town of Ashland  
Ivan Rucker (Nonvoting) .....FHWA  
John Rutledge.....CRAC  
Carson L. Tucker .....County of Powhatan

**OTHERS PRESENT**

**REPRESENTING**

Daniel N. Lysy, **Secretary** (Alternate)..... RRPDC  
Liz McAdory..... VDOT  
Brenda “Sam” Snyder .....Planning Commission, County of New Kent  
Jin Lee..... RRPDC  
Barbara Nelson..... RRPDC  
Archita Rajbhandary ..... RRPDC  
Sharon Robeson ..... RRPDC  
Patricia Villa ..... RRPDC  
Lee Yolton ..... RRPDC

**CALL TO ORDER**

MPO Chairman Robert R. Setliff called the October 12, 2006 meeting of the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) to order at approximately 2:30 p.m. in the large conference room of the Richmond Regional Planning District Commission (RRPDC). All present stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag.

**I. ADMINISTRATION**

**A. Certification by MPO Secretary of Meeting Quorum –**

Dan Lysy reported that a quorum was present.

**B. Additions to MPO Agenda –**

There were no additions or changes to the agenda.

**C. Minutes of the September 14, 2006 MPO Meeting –**

On motion by Russell Holland, seconded by David Williams, the October 12, 2006 MPO meeting minutes were unanimously approved as presented.

**D. Open Public Comment Period –**

There were no comments offered and Chairman Setliff closed the Public Comment Period.

**E. MPO Chairman's Report –**

Chairman Setliff noted the lack of action on the Governor's transportation initiative during the General Assembly special session in September. He also reported that on October 24, the MPO will present its regional priority transportation projects list to the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB).

**F. RRPDC Transportation Director's Report –**

**1. Approval of U.S. Bike Routes 1 and 76 Alignments in Chesterfield and Henrico Counties –**

Dan Lysy briefly reported that staff received final approval from the American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials (AASHTO) for changes to U.S. Bike Routes 1 and 76 approved by the MPO last October and subsequently approved by Chesterfield and Henrico counties, where the changes occurred. Mr. Lysy said VDOT and local government staffs are working on signing the routes now.

**2. Introduction of New Staff –**

Mr. Lysy introduced Lee Yolton, new Principal Planner in the Urban Transportation Division who will serve as project manager for the long-range plan and other projects. Mr. Lysy noted that Mr. Yolton was formerly with Henrico County and most recently with King William County. Chairman Setliff welcomed Mr. Yolton.

**3. Other Business –**

Mr. Lysy had no other business to present.

**II. OLD BUSINESS**

No old business was brought forward for consideration.

**III. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Consent Action Items –**

**1. Transportation Enhancement Funds Applications Endorsement -**

On motion of Russell Holland, seconded by Bill Britton, the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization unanimously approved the following resolution:

**RESOLVED**, that the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization endorses those applications for Transportation Enhancement funds that are endorsed by area local governments or by quasi-jurisdictional entities in the region.

**2. Authorization for Staff Travel; TRB Annual Conference –**

On motion of Russell Holland, seconded by Bill Britton, the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization unanimously approved the following resolution:

**RESOLVED**, that the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) authorizes Richmond Regional Planning District Commission (RRPDC) staff to attend the Annual Transportation Research Board Conference in Washington, D.C., January 21-25, 2007.

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

CTAC Chairman Bill Nelson provided a brief report on the September 26 CTAC meeting noting that the primary meeting topic was development of the CTAC regional priority transportation projects list. He said the meeting summary and recommended projects list are included in the agenda package under tab four. Mr. Nelson offered to answer questions and none were voiced. Chairman Setliff thanked Mr. Nelson for his report.

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

EDAC Chairman Linda Broady-Myers noted the September 27 EDAC meeting report under tab five of the agenda package and reported that EDAC would like the MPO to assist in encouraging VDOT to hold public meetings such as the VDOT preallocation hearing for the Commonwealth Transportation Boards (CTB) at a time and location when public transportation is available for the disabled. She said the October 24 hearing, where public comments will be made and discussion will be held, is scheduled for 6:00 p.m. at John Tyler Community College in Chester (in Chesterfield County) and noted that even if disabled persons could get there, there is no public transportation available for the return trip home. She noted past locations for this VDOT hearing have been equally inaccessible to the disabled, a group with a great concern about paratransit and public transportation services. Chairman Setliff said staff would look into this matter with VDOT to see if there can be more sensitivity to the needs of the disabled. Ms. Broady-Myers thanked Chairman Setliff.

**D. MPO Regional Priority Transportation Projects –**

Chairman Setliff noted the information under tab six of the agenda package and in the agenda enclosure and said that staff would pass out the report by the Executive Committee on regional priority transportation projects. Mr. Lysy noted one item of particular concern to the Executive Committee was the “Widen I-64 between I-295 at Short Pump and Rt. 288 to six lanes” project. This project appears to be underway; however, VDOT records in the Six Year Improvement Program (SYIP) show minimal allocations made with a substantial balance to complete. He asked Mark Riblett to address this concern and Mr. Riblett explained that there are two separate projects, one of which is currently underway, but which has been confused with the project on the MPO Regional Priority Transportation Projects list, possibly because of the description. Mr. Riblett explained that when you look up the project on the regional priority projects list by UPC number in the SYIP, it describes a widening project that extends beyond the current construction project to a terminus west of Rt. 623. Rudy Butler expressed concern that the project does not include a cloverleaf and Mr. Riblett explained that the reason this project is being done is to satisfy FHWA conditions involving the Route 288 and I-295 interchanges with I-64 and that a cloverleaf was not included in the interchange plans. Discussion ensued and Mr. Riblett suggested changing the project name in the priority projects list to “Widening of I-64 from Rt. 288 to 1.6 km west of Rt. 623 to six lanes” with a notation that the project is for compliance with federal conditions for interchange approval at I-64/Rt. 288.

Barb Smith requested an amendment to the regional priority projects list to make it more consistent with Chesterfield County’s new priority projects list. She requested moving the “Route 360 west widening in Chesterfield” project from priority number three to the “Other Regional Priorities” list and replacing it with “Rt. 10 widening in Chesterfield from Rt. 10 to Meadowville Rd.” from the “Other Regional Priorities” list. Stran Trout noted the projects are reasonably close in cost, one being \$26 million and the other, \$22 million.

Stran Trout expressed concern with the cost of the “RMA/Powwhite Parkway Extension toll removal” project, which RRPDC staff has reported as an estimated \$263 million for payment of notes/bonds owed for both facilities. George Homewood moved to strike bullet point three, “RMA/Powwhite Parkway Extension toll removal,” from the priority list and the motion was seconded by Stran Trout. Mr. Trout pointed out this project was the second highest cost project on the MPO’s priority project list noting that the tolls paid for construction of these roads and continue to provide funds for maintenance as well. He questioned whether it makes sense to include such a high cost project that would replace several of the other construction projects on the list. Discussion ensued and Mr. Butler noted that the CTB is considering placing tolls on existing roads to finance

new highways and he believes as long as they are considering new tolls, it would be futile to propose toll removal. He also pointed out that if toll removal were to be funded at \$263 million, there would be no funds available for the other projects on the list. Jim Banks said the toll removal is one of Chesterfield County's priorities with the logic that removing tolls would attract vehicles currently using the secondary system to use the RMA/Powwhite Parkway Extension instead, thus lightening the traffic load on secondary roads and reducing the need for construction on those roads.

Chairman Setliff called the question and by show of hands the motion carried, with 12 votes for, five votes in opposition, and two votes in abstention, to remove bullet point three, "RMA/Powwhite Parkway Extension toll removal," from the MPO's regional priority transportation projects list.

In response to a question, Dan Lysy explained that the Regional Mass Transit Study (RMTS) added as a priority project last year has been fully funded and the Executive Committee recommended its removal from the regional priority projects list for that reason.

Barb Smith noted there had been no action on Chesterfield's request to amend the list exchanging the Rt. 360 west widening project with the Rt. 10 widening project. Dan Lysy asked if there were any objections and there were none voiced so that by consensus, the list was amended as requested. Mr. Lysy asked if there were any questions about the renamed project "Widening of I-64 from Rt. 288 to 1.6 km west of Rt. 623 to six lanes" that was discussed earlier in the meeting and there were none voiced.

On motion of George Homewood, seconded by Russell Holland, the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization unanimously approved the following resolution:

**RESOLVED**, that the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) approves the following updated list of Regional Priority Transportation Projects and authorizes the submission of this list to the Commonwealth Transportation Board for its review and consideration in selecting transportation projects and allocating state and federal funds in the upcoming Virginia Department of Transportation Six-Year Improvement Program.

(Regional priority transportation projects are identified and ranked as follows):

<b><u>Priority</u></b>	<b><u>Project</u></b>
1	RIC Expansion and Access Improvements
2	Main Street Station, High-Speed Intercity Rail, GRTC Improvements
3	Route 360 East of I-295 (Hanover) and Route 10 Widening (Route 1 to Meadowville Road, Chesterfield)
4	Parham Road/Patterson Avenue Urban Interchange (Henrico)
5	Huguenot Bridge Reconstruction
6	Route 250 Widening from Rt. 623 to Rt. 621 (Goochland)

**Other Regional Priority Projects**

- I-64 Corridor and Rail Improvements, Richmond to Hampton Roads
- Route 360 Widening (western Chesterfield)
- Widening of I-64 from Rt. 288 to 1.6 km west of Rt. 623 to six lanes [Note: For compliance with federal conditions for interchange approval at I-64/Rt. 288]
- Virginia Capital Trail project (Richmond to Williamsburg)
- I-95/Lewistown Road Interchange Improvements (Hanover)

**IV. OTHER BUSINESS**

No other business was brought forward for consideration.

**V. ADJOURNMENT**

On motion of Russ Holland, seconded by Stran Trout, Chairman Setliff adjourned the meeting at approximately 3:05 p.m.