

Rappahannock Rapidan Regional Commission
Rural Transportation Technical Committee
December 3, 2008
Minutes

Attendees: Fritz Alderman (Town of Culpeper Planning), Matthew Bolick (VDOT – Culpeper Residency), Rick Carr (Fauquier County Planning), John Cooley (Culpeper County Planning), John Egertson – *Vice Chair* (Culpeper County Planning), Debbie Kendall (Orange County), Patrick Mauney (RRRC), Angela Richards (Virginia Regional Transit) Jeff Walker (RRRC), Cathy Zielinski (RRRC)

Guests & Speakers: Robert Hofrichter (VDOT Central Office)

Welcome and Introductions, Agenda, Minutes, Matters from the Public

J Egertson brought the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. Committee members introduced themselves to first-time attendees A Richards and R Hofrichter.

J Walker asked to add two announcements to agenda item #5 and the agenda was approved with changes.

F Alderman motioned, with a second from D Kendall, to approve minutes from the November 5th meeting. The minutes were approved as is, ayes all.

No members of the public were present.

Update on VDOT Land Use & Land Development initiatives

R Hofrichter presented an update on several ongoing initiatives from the VDOT Land Use & Land Development office.

Access Management: Access Management regulations and standards for principal arterials took effect on July 1, 2008. For minor arterials, collectors and local streets, the regulations will take effect on October 1, 2009. The goal of the access management standards are to reduce crashes and congestion, preserve capacity, support economic development and respect property owners rights to reasonable access through separating entrances, limiting conflict points and reducing speed differentials in accordance with each highway's purpose. More information is available at <http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/accessmgt/default.asp>

Chapter 527/Traffic Impact Analysis Regulations: The TIA regulations direct localities to submit traffic impact analyses to VDOT for development proposals that would significantly impact the state highway system. Currently, VDOT has provided a guidance document based on the amended regulations on its website and is also providing access to the LandTrack database , which houses previous studies and VDOT responses. TIA documents must be submitted by Rappahannock-Rapidan jurisdictions provided they meet the requirements.

Ch. 527/TIA website: <http://www.vdot.virginia.gov/projects/chapter527/default.asp>
LandTrack Database: <http://landtrx.vdot.virginia.gov/>

Secondary Street Acceptance Requirements: Presently, the committee overseeing the Secondary Street Acceptance Requirements has modified the draft requirements and sought additional public comment. The revised requirements will be presented to the Commonwealth Transportation Board on December 18, 2008 and are available for viewing at <http://www.vdot.virginia.gov/projects/ssar/>.

Land Use Permit Regulations: The update to the Land Use permit regulations has been a long process with attempts to update the 1983 regulations beginning in 1992. Some elements of the draft updated regulations include district-wide permits for surveying, utility service connections and temporary logging permits; a change to the requirements for utility permits, including depth and height requirements; permits required for parades or races that block traffic, signage and bus stop shelters. More information is available at <http://www.vdot.virginia.gov/business/bu-landUsePermits.asp>

M Bolick asked for clarification of some of the connectivity requirements included in the Secondary Street Acceptance documents. R Hofrichter stated that the main key is external connections or potential external connections and stated that there are exceptions such as rivers, railroads and interstates, among others.

M Bolick asked about sidewalk requirements and maintenance responsibility. R Hofrichter stated that VDOT will maintain sidewalks provided they are built to VDOT standards and are in the right of way.

R Carr asked about educational outreach in PD9 for the Secondary Street Acceptance Requirements. R Hofrichter stated that, pending the approval from the Commonwealth Transportation Board on 12/18, educational outreach would be expected in late Spring 2009.

HB3202 Comprehensive Plan Requirements

P Mauney provided committee members with a handout summarizing the Comprehensive Plan requirements included in HB3202. In the Rappahannock-Rapidan region, Culpeper, Fauquier and Orange counties will be required to include one or more Urban Development Areas in their comprehensive plans by July 1, 2011. Depending upon their growth rates as of the 2010 U.S. census, Madison and Rappahannock counties may also be required to include an Urban Development area.

Committee members engaged in a discussion of the Comprehensive Plan requirements, as well as the impact fee provisions from HB 3202. J Cooley and J Egertson mentioned that the Culpeper County Board of Supervisors had decided against pursuing an impact fee schedule, while R Carr indicated that Fauquier County was still looking into how it might be able to use the impact fee structure.

Announcements and Other Business

J Walker provided an update on the ongoing Route 29 Corridor Study. A Technical Advisory committee meeting was scheduled for December 4th in Charlottesville where the consultants will provide status reports on their data collection and the listening tour and studio meetings. The next meeting in the Rappahannock-Rapidan region is tentatively scheduled for Friday, January 23rd in Culpeper at a time and location to be announced.

J Walker also informed the committee that the RRRC Commuter Bus initiative was readying for its debut, with Scenic America, Inc. selected through competitive procurement as the provider. The initial route will begin at the Warrenton Park & Ride lot and run into Washington, D.C. with a stop at the Rosslyn Metro Station. Dependent upon demand, there may be the potential for future expansion of the route to Culpeper. Additional information can be accessed at <http://www.rcommute.org>.

Other event announcements included:

- The VDOT Six-Year Improvement Plan Public Hearing will be held on January 6, 2009 at the Culpeper District Auditorium, beginning at 6 p.m.
- Bike Virginia has announced that its 2009 route will include routes in Orange and Culpeper counties. Additional information at <http://www.bikevirginia.org>.

Next Meeting and Adjournment

The next meeting will be held at the regularly scheduled time on January 7th, 2009 at 2pm. There was some question about potentially shifting meeting times to the morning and committee members asked to revisit that question at the January meeting.

J Cooley asked that the committee revisit a couple of past topics of interest at future meetings, including the Risk-Based Corridor Assessment study completed by the Center for Risk Management of Engineering Systems as well as the Athey/Vogel Study committee related to HB3202.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:25 p.m.