

2008 Policy Committtee Meeting Minutes

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Minutes of the January 29, 2008 Tri-Cities Area Metropolitan Planning Organization – Policy Committee meeting held at 4:30 p.m. in the Petersburg Train Station located at 103 River Street in Petersburg.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ken Emerson, Hopewell; Annie Mickens, Petersburg; Dorothy Jaeckle, Chesterfield ; John Wood, Colonial Heights; Pam Thompson (alternate Prince George); Tom Hawthorne, VDOT; Denny Morris, Crater PDC;

MEMBERS ABSENT: Doretha Moody, Dinwiddie; PAT (vacant)

OTHERS PRESENT: Dama Rice, Petersburg; Chris Bell, Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (VDR&PT); Unwanna Dabney, FHWA; Ron Svejksky, Mark Riblett, Jim Ponticello, Dan Grinnell, VDOT; Barbara Smith, Chesterfield; Dick Lockwood, VHB, Inc. , Joe Vinsh, Crater PDC.

Chair Mickens called the meeting to order at approximately 4:30 p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – October 11, 2007

Upon a motion by Mr. Morris seconded by Mr. Emerson and carried, the minutes of the October 11, 2007 meeting were approved.

CITIZEN INFORMATION PERIOD

No comments

STATUS REPORT ON 2031 TRANSPORTATION PLAN UPDATE

Mr. Vinsh summarized information recently provided by VDOT on maintenance and construction financial forecasts by program category to be used for the 2031 Transportation Plan Update. The need for highway maintenance funding in the Tri-Cities Area is projected to increase about 2.5

times between FY 2008 and FY 2031. A comparison of the 2031 projected construction funding levels with previous projections for similar program categories indicates interstate funds are significantly increased. Primary funding is significantly reduced. CMAQ and RSTP are increased. Urban and secondary programs are significantly reduced.

Mr. Vinsh made reference to the preliminary 2031 project list and reviewed the format being used for the 2031 Transportation Plan Update. The preliminary 2031 project list has been under development for the past several months. The projects are listed in priority order by program category and are based on local comprehensive planning. Under SAFETEA-LU metropolitan planning regulations, projects in the financially constrained plan are required to be shown by funding category by “Year of Expenditure” (YOE). The “Current Cost” column indicates the project cost estimate taken from the Six-Year Improvement Program or are developed using the 2006 VDOT Cost Estimation Model. A 3 percent inflation factor is applied to the current cost estimate for projects not currently listed in the Six-Year Improvement Program. The planning horizon period is separated several time periods. The mid-point of the time period during which sufficient projected funds are expected to be available to fund each financially constrained project is used to project the future project cost in the “YOE” column. Projects shown in bold are considered to be financially constrained and projects shown in italic are considered vision projects. Both types of projects reflect need, but financially constrained projects are considered to be of greater priority and have identifiable future funding sources.

Mr. Vinsh commented that the effective reduction in projected primary funding has resulted in some Fort Lee expansion projects being shown as vision projects. Mr. Vinsh also commented on the need to refine the scope of work for the proposed Rt. 1 project in Dinwiddie and the proposed I-95 & Southpark Boulevard project in Colonial Heights.

Mr. Vinsh stated that the Technical Committee is refining the preliminary 2031 project list. Mr. Vinsh further indicated more information is being provided with the 2031 project list than with similar lists in the past; however, the 2031 list is still a projection for future planned transportation improvements.

Mr. Emerson asked if priorities could be changed under the urban program for Hopewell so that a less costly project can be constructed with projected funds within the planning horizon period.

Mr. Vinsh indicated that this could be done if a less expensive priority project was found or if another priority project could be phased and a portion be completed during the planning horizon period.

Mr. Ponticello reviewed a handout showing the schedule being used for preparing the FY 2009 – 2012 Transportation Improvement Program and the 2031 Transportation Plan Update for both the Richmond MPO and the Tri-Cities MPO, including to key dates for public review of draft transportation documents and the conformity findings.

Mr. Ponticello indicated MPO – Policy Committee endorsement of the 2031 Transportation Plan

project list would be requested on February 14, 2008 and the Inter-Agency “Kickoff” meeting with Richmond and Tri-Cities MPO representatives would be held on February 21st.

Mr. Ponticello explained the purpose of the conformity analysis was to demonstrate that the new transportation plans and programs meet applicable federal requirements related to the 8- hour ozone standard.

Ms. Jaeckle asked if the future number of cars generated on the roads is considered in the conformity analysis.

Mr. Ponticello responded that the database for the conformity analysis includes population, households, vehicles and other indicators.

Ms. Jaeckle stated that this seems odd because this area is not heavily populated.

Mr. Morris commented the Crater PDC has previously challenged the designation of Petersburg and Prince George by the U.S. EPA as being classified nonattainment for ozone. However, this challenge was not successful.

STATUS REPORT ON FORT LEE EXPANSION TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

Mr. Vinsh briefly reviewed a handout profiling Fort Lee Expansion transportation improvement projects. The signal and improvements at Shop Road Gate have been completed. The scoping process for Hickory Hill Road improvements is continuing. The scoping process for the Temple Avenue and Oaklawn Boulevard project is scheduled to begin soon.

Mr. Vinsh also stated VDOT – Richmond District has designated a BRAC coordinator for transportation projects related to Fort Lee expansion The MPO – Technical Committee is very positive about this development and sees this as an opportunity to complete several projects within the Route 36 Corridor between I-295 and Lee Avenue more efficiently, including several previously planned CMAQ projects.

Mr. Vinsh commented that Prince George County recently received a \$750,000 Congressional earmark for Fort Lee transportation improvements and that the proposed roundabout project at Jefferson Park, Bull Hill, Adams is receiving further evaluation by the military via the Defense Access Road (DAR) Program.

Mr. Morris added that while there is no current DAR funding available for this roundabout project, the military is currently assessing the need for this project.

A period of general discussion followed on the status of several Fort Lee related projects.

REPORT ON TRANSIT FUNDING AND PLANNING NEEDS

Mr. Vinsh stated that as a follow up to the September MPO – Policy Committee discussions regarding transit planning needs, two developments have emerged. First, on the need for a short term planning study to help define local shares for the deficits during the current operating year for routes operated by PAT outside of Petersburg, VDR&PT has offered the services of its current on-call consultant at this time. Second, on the discussion for long term transit planning needs, the Crater PDC plans to file a \$70,000 technical studies grant application with the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation to use this agency's on-call consultant resources after July 1, 2008 to update the 1993 Transit Development Plan for the Tri-Cities Area.

Mr. Vinsh added that VDR&PT has indicated both of these projects are potentially available as work for its on-call consultant services.

Mr. Vinsh requested a recommendation from the MPO-Policy Committee to the Crater PDC regarding the technical studies grant application. The Crater PDC would be providing 10 percent of the project cost for the proposed VDR&PT technical study project to update the 1993 Tri-Cities Transit Development Plan.

Upon a motion by Mr. Emerson, seconded by Mr. Morris and carried, a motion was adopted to recommend to the Crater PDC that this agency make application to the VDR&PT for a State Technical Studies grant for \$70,000 to update the 1993 Tri-Cities Area Transit Development Plan.

REVIEW ON PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE FY 2006 – 2008 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) FOR A CAPITAL REPLACEMENT PROJECT DURING FY 2008 FOR CRATER AGREA AGENCY ON AGING

Mr. Vinsh stated a request from the VDR&PT has been received to amend the current TIP to include a project for the Crater Area Agency on Aging to replace an existing vehicle during FY 2008 for a total cost of \$124,000.

Upon a motion by Mr. Emerson, seconded by Mr. Morris and carried, a motion was adopted to amend the current TIP to include the vehicle replacement project as recommended by VDR&PT.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:20 p.m.

Minutes of the February 14, 2008 Tri-Cities Area Metropolitan Planning Organization – Policy Committee meeting held at 4:30 p.m. in the Petersburg Train Station located at 103 River Street in Petersburg.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ken Emerson, Hopewell; Annie Mickens, Petersburg; Dorothy Jaeckle, Chesterfield; Doretha Moody, Dinwiddie; Mark Riblett, VDOT (alternate); Denny Morris, Crater PDC.

MEMBERS ABSENT: John Wood, Colonial Heights; Henry Parker, Prince George.

OTHERS PRESENT: Dama Rice, Petersburg; FHWA; Ron Svejksky, Mark Riblett, Jim Ponticello, VDOT; Barbara Smith, Chesterfield; Joe Vinsh, Crater PDC.

Chair Mickens called the meeting to order at approximately 4:30 p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – January 29, 2008

Upon a motion by Mr. Morris, seconded by Ms. Moody and carried, the minutes of the January 29, 2008 meeting were approved.

CITIZEN INFORMATION PERIOD

No comments

REVIEW OF 2031 TRANSPORTATION PLAN PROJECT LIST AND FY09 – FY12 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM PROJECT LIST FOR TRANSPORTATION CONFORMITY

Mr. Vinsh commented on changes made in the 2031 Transportation Plan project list since the January 29, 2008 meeting. Further guidance was received from VDOT earlier this month advising to show less unallocated funding for program categories and to include narrative explaining additional projects would be developed for all program categories.

Mr. Vinsh also commented revised cost estimates are being developed for several of the BRAC related projects and this information would probably be available for the March meeting.

The 2031 project list includes approximately 211 projects. Of these projects, approximately 110 are shown in bold print and are considered to be financially constrained. The remaining projects are considered as vision projects and are shown in italic.

Under the Interstate category, Phase I & Phase II of the I-85/I-95/Rt.460 interchange project has been listed as a constrained project.

Under the transit projects, preliminary 2031 financial forecast were prepared by the CPDC staff and including in the year of expenditure project listing.

Under the Enhancement category, known projects were identified and language included that additional potential enhancement projects would be developed.

Under Safety category, known projects were identified and language included that additional potential safety projects would be developed.

Under the Private/Local category in Chesterfield, the category was changed to Private as no local funding is being proposed for the projects identified in this category.

Under the Private category, amounts for several projects in the Branders Station development were included in the 2031 project listing.

Ms. Jaeckle commented that this was the way future funding is anticipated to be obtained for similar projects.

Mr. Ponticello reviewed a handout showing the general schedule for completing the 2031 Transportation Plan, the FY09 – FY12 Transportation Improvement Program and the conformity analysis of both documents for the Richmond and Tri-Cities MPOs.

Upon a motion by Mr. Morris motioned, seconded by Ms. Moody and carried, the 2031 Transportation Plan project list and the FY09 – FY12 Transportation Improvement Program project list were endorsed for the conformity analysis.

STATUS REPORT ON THE I-95 & TEMPLE AVENUE INTERCHANGE NORTHBOUND ON-RAMP PROJECT (UPC72469) AND I-95 & TEMPLE AVENUE INTERCHANGE SOUTHBOUND OFF-RAMP PROJECT (UPC85623)

Mr. Vinsh stated the City of Colonial Heights recently asked for updates these projects.

Mr. Svejkovsky stated construction is continuing on the northbound ramp project. This project is on schedule to be completed this July and is under budget.

Mr. Svejkovsky stated the scoping meeting for the southbound ramp project was held last month, a project manager has been named and construction is scheduled to begin in 2011.

REVIEW OF NEW SIX YEAR CMAQ AND RSTP FINANCIAL FORECAST FOR THE TRI-CITIES AREA

Mr. Vinsh commented the MPO – Technical Committee would be considering this item during its March meeting. Additional projects from the 2007 project rating process would be recommended for allocation. Mr. Vinsh also mentioned progress is being made on refining the scope of work for the Rt. 1 RSTP project in Dinwiddie. RSTP funds transferred from the Rt. 1 project to the Hickory Hill Road project would need to be restored.

Mr. Morris commented on the need to have a complete list of revised cost estimates for the BRAC, CMAQ and RSTP projects. Mr. Morris stressed the importance making up the funding shortfalls of projects with some previous allocation.

Mr. Vinsh indicated this information would be needed for the March MPO – Technical Committee meeting.

Mr. Vinsh distributed recent 6 year projections for CMAQ and RSTP funds anticipated to be available for allocation to project in the Tri-Cities over the next several years.

MPO BREIFING REPORT

As an “Other Business” item, Mr. Vinsh distributed copies of a MPO briefing report received from our FHWA representative, Ms. Dabney. Mr. Vinsh explained, Ms. Dabney has offered to work with the MPO – Policy Committee and present this information or portions of the report, depending on local needs. Mr. Vinsh indicated this item was in response to discussion during the previous meeting regarding a need for more background information on the various functions of the MPO.

Chair Mickens suggested the report be presented in sections for about 10 to 15 minutes each during future meetings.

Mr. Morris commented he had reviewed the report earlier and found the first 13 pages provide an excellent overview of MPO functions and requirements.

After a brief period of discussion, it was the consensus of the committee that the next meeting would include 15 to 20 minutes for both presentation and questions/comments of the material contained in the first 13 pages. Additional sections would be determined for coverage during future meetings.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:25 p.m.

Minutes of the March 13, 2008 Tri-Cities Area Metropolitan Planning Organization – Policy Committee meeting held at 4:30 p.m. in the Petersburg Train Station located at 103 River Street in Petersburg.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ken Emerson, Hopewell; Annie Mickens, Petersburg; Dorothy Jaeckle, Chesterfield; Doretha Moody, Dinwiddie; Mark Riblett, VDOT (alternate); Denny Morris, Crater PDC.

MEMBERS ABSENT: John Wood, Colonial Heights; Henry Parker, Prince George.

OTHERS PRESENT: Unwanna Dabney, FHWA; Dama Rice, Petersburg; FHWA; Ron Svejkovsky, VDOT; Barbara Smith, Chesterfield; Joe Vinsh, Crater PDC.

Chair Mickens called the meeting to order at approximately 4:30 p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – February 14, 2008

Upon a motion by Mr. Morris, seconded by Ms. Moody and carried, the minutes of the February 14, 2008 meeting were approved.

CITIZEN INFORMATION PERIOD

No comments

BRIEFING ON PROCESS AND FUNCTIONS OF THE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO)

Ms. Dabney a planning specialist from the Federal Highway Administration – Richmond Field Office, provided materials and an overview of a portion of a U.S. Department of Transportation document describing the MPO model for process, functions and key documents of the regional transportation planning process.

Following about a 10 minute presentation by Ms. Dabney, the membership asked several questions focused on the responsibilities of a transportation management area (TMA), the relationship between the Tri-Cities and Richmond MPOs and transit service funding.

REVIEW OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE FY 2006 – FY 2008 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Mr. Vinsh indicated a request had been received from VDOT to amend the current TIP to include 2 bridge projects in Petersburg, UPC68730 at Hinton Street over Brickhouse Run and UPC68731 Bollingbrook Street over Lieutenant Run. The third project was for \$23,000 to pay preliminary engineering work for a project at Graham Road (UPC 15957) that was cancelled.

Mr. Svejkovsky indicated amendment action was only needed on the 2 bridge projects. Upon a motion by Ms. Moody, seconded by Mr. Emerson and carried, a motion was adopted to amend the current TIP for the 2 bridge projects in Petersburg.

REVIEW OF RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CONGESTION MITIGATION AND AIR QUALITY (CMAQ) AND REGIONAL SURFACE TRANSPORTATION PLANNING (RSTP) ALLOCATIONS

Mr. Vinsh indicated the Technical Committee reviewed this item during the March 7 meeting. However, no recommendations were made for new allocations because of pending scope of work and/or cost estimate refinements for several projects.

Mr. Vinsh reviewed a handout dated March 13, 2008 summarizing available allocations, the status of projects with some prior allocation and new priority projects from the 2007 CMAQ and RSTP rating process.

Mr. Vinsh indicated this same item would be on the April agenda for action.

After a period of further discussion regarding the Hickory Hill Road project and several other Fort Lee expansion transportation projects, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:40 p.m.

Minutes of the April 10, 2008 Tri-Cities Area Metropolitan Planning Organization – Policy Committee meeting held at 4:30 p.m. in the Petersburg Union Train Station located at 103 River Street in Petersburg.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ken Emerson, Hopewell; John Wood, Colonial Heights; Dorothy Jaeckle, Chesterfield; Doretha Moody, Dinwiddie; Mark Riblett, VDOT (alternate); Denny Morris, Crater PDC.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Annie Mickens, Petersburg; Henry Parker, Prince George.

OTHERS PRESENT: Unwanna Dabney, FHWA; Dama Rice, Petersburg; FHWA; Ron Svejkovsky, VDOT; Barbara Smith, Chesterfield; Joe Vinsh, Crater PDC.

Vice-Chair Emerson called the meeting to order at approximately 4:30 p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – March 13, 2008

Upon a motion by Mr. Wood, seconded by Ms. Jaeckle and carried, the minutes of the March 13, 2008 meeting were approved.

CITIZEN INFORMATION PERIOD

No comments

STATUS REPORT ON SELECTED FORT LEE EXPANSION TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

Mr. Vinsh indicated the Crater Planning District Commission has secured additional funding from the Virginia Military Strategic Response Funds

Mr. Vinsh indicated the Technical Committee had recently been advised by VDOT that there is a possibility the previous allocation of \$5,000,000 for FY 10 and FY 11 in State Primary funds for Rt. 36 & Rt. 144 BRAC improvements may be lost because of reduced anticipated State transportation construction revenues.

Mr. Vinsh distributed an updated version of the profile of Fort Lee expansion projects reflecting the anticipated \$5,000,000 reduction in State Primary funds for Rt. 36 & Rt. 144 BRAC improvements, including a strategy for funding the current cost estimate for the Oaklawn/Temple split intersection project.

After a period of discussion regarding the pending loss of primary funds, Mr. Morris made a motion, seconded by Ms. Jaeckle and carried, that the Policy Committee seek restoration of the \$5,000,000 in State primary funds at the April 23, 2008 pre-allocation public meeting scheduled by the Commonwealth Transportation Board in Richmond and alternative funding sources for the Oaklawn/Temple split intersection project not be considered at this time.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CONGESTION MITIGATION AND AIR QUALITY (CMAQ) AND REGIONAL SURFACE TRANSPORTATION PLANNING (RSTP) ALLOCATIONS

Mr. Vinsh indicated the Technical Committee reviewed this item during its March and April meetings and has recommended FY 2009, FY 2010 and FY 2011 allocations consistent with the 2007 priority ratings of candidate CMAQ and RSTP projects as follows:

CONGESTION MITIGATION & AIR QUALITY (CMAQ)

Fiscal Year	Project	UPC #	Amount
FY 2009	Rt. 10 & Hummel Ross	12955	91,015
FY 2009	Ozone Alert	N/A	8,000
FY 2009	Oaklawn & Jefferson Park	19003	143,766
FY 2009	Rt. 36 Signal System	57963	66,000
FY 2009	Rt. 1 Sherwood to Temple	77600	3,400
	(Signal Coordination)		
FY 2009	Redwood Lane to Jefferson Park	80457	9,600
	(Sidewalk)		
FY 2009	Oaklawn to Owens Way	T6557	140,000
	(Sidewalk)		
FY 2009	Rt. 1 Windsor to Pickwick	T6558	859,305
FY 2009	CMAQ Unallocated Balance	N/A	330,272
	Total		1,651,358

FY 2010	Rt. 1 Boulevard to Pickwick	T6558	900,695
FY 2010	Rt. 1 at Woods Edge	T6559	49,840
FY 2010	CMAQ Unallocated Balance	N/A	722,634
	Total		1,673,169

FY 2011	Rt. 1 at Woods Edge	T6561	458,160
FY 2011	CMAQ Unallocated Balance	N/A	1,240,350
	Total		1,698,510

REGIONAL SURFACE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM (RSTP)

FY 2009	MPO Supplemental Planning	72904	72,765
FY 2009	Rt. 1 & Rt. 226	73268	150,000
FY 2009	Rt. 36 & Rt. 144	87464	1,600,000

FY 2009 Rt. 36 Eastbound Lane 89720 39,990
FY 2009 RSTP Unallocated Balance N/A 426,184
Total 2,257,320

FY 2010 MPO Supplemental Planning 72904 72,765
FY 2010 Rt. 1 & Rt. 226 73268 2,167,885
FY 2010 RSTP Unallocated Balance N/A 0
Total 2,240,650

FY 2011 MPO Supplemental Planning N/A 72,765
FY 2011 Rt. 1 & Rt. 226 73268 1,383,199
FY 2011 RSTP Unallocated Balance N/A 820,749
Total 2,276,713

Upon a motion by Mr. Wood, seconded by Ms. Jaeckle and carried, the recommend CMAQ and RSTP allocations were endorsed. An understanding was made that only the Hopewell portion of the preliminary engineering cost of the Oaklawn eastbound lane project (UPC 89720) is authorized to be funded with RSTP. Preliminary engineering funding for the Prince George portion of this project is to be provided by VDOT with \$157,825 in Primary System funds.

REVIEW OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE FY 2006 – 2008 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP)

Mr. Vinsh made reference to an attachment in the agenda packet and indicated VDOT has made a request on behalf of the City of Colonial Heights for a Safe Routes to School Project (UPC 87317).

Ms. Jaeckle asked for information relating to the purpose of this project.

Ms. Smith explained the Safe Routes to School Program is aimed at promoting a safe walking environment for homes within 2 miles of schools and to encourage the use of fewer vehicles on these streets based on an adopted plan.

Upon a motion by Mr. Wood, seconded by Ms. Jaeckle and carried, a motion to amend the existing TIP for UPC 87317 was approved.

REVIEW OF DRAFT FY 2009 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM

Mr. Vinsh indicated the narrative portion of the document had recently been updated to reflect the status of several topics, including upcoming transit planning projects.

Upon a motion by Ms. Jaeckle, seconded by Mr. Morris and carried, a motion was approved to endorse the FY 2009 Unified Planning Work Program.

REVIEW OF PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) FORMAT

Mr. Vinsh made reference to several attachments to the agenda package regarding this item and explained the Technical Committee would probably have a recommendation available for Policy Committee consideration regarding this VDOT proposal for the May meeting.

Mr. Vinsh briefly explained the concept of the format change would be to consolidate some projects into groups. The positive aspects of grouping projects appears to be that it would offer greater flexibility for funding certain projects, reduce the need for TIP amendments and increase the amount of federal funds able to be accessed by the State for projects under certain funding categories. The negative aspects of grouping projects appears to be it would make it difficult to track previous project allocations by fiscal year by funding category for projects eligible for grouping.

Ms. Dabney stated FHWA has worked with VDOT in developing an agreement to modify the TIP format but there was no intention to restrict information on projects from the MPO. The intent was to streamline the process by reducing the need for amendments for qualified projects.

Mr. Riblett indicated similar comments have been expressed by the Richmond MPO and that the MPO needs to identify projects that it would prefer not be grouped.

Mr. Wood stated it is important to monitor project funding.

After a brief period of further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:50 p.m.

Minutes of the June 12, 2008 Tri-Cities Area Metropolitan Planning Organization – Policy Committee meeting held at 4:30 p.m. in the Petersburg Union Train Station located at 103 River Street in Petersburg.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Annie Mickens, Petersburg; Ken Emerson, Hopewell; John Wood, Colonial Heights; Dorothy Jaeckle, Chesterfield; Doretha Moody, Dinwiddie; Tom Hawthorn, VDOT (alternate); Denny Morris, Crater PDC.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Henry Parker, Prince George.

OTHERS PRESENT: Tammy Davis FHWA; Dama Rice, Petersburg; FHWA; Mark Riblett; Jim Ponticello, Ron Svejovsky, Eric Stringfield, Dan Grinnell, VDOT; Barbara Smith, Chesterfield; Al Cruz, Andrew Dugan, Fort Lee; Joe Vinsh, Crater PDC.

Chair Mickens called the meeting to order at approximately 4:30 p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – April 10, 2008

Upon a motion by Ms. Moody, seconded by Mr. Emerson and carried, the minutes of the April 10, 2008 meeting were approved.

CITIZEN INFORMATION PERIOD

No comments

REVIEW OF PROPOSED CHANGES IN THE FUNCTIONAL CLASSIFICATION OF SEVERAL STREETS IN THE CITY OF PETERSBURG

Mr. Svejkovsky stated VDOT had recently made a study of how streets in the City of Petersburg are functionally classified, such as arterial, collector, or local. VDOT has made recommendations for several changes. These changes were included in an attachment to the meeting agenda packet. The recommended changes are for several streets located in the vicinity of Southside Regional Medical Center.

Mr. Svejkovsky further stated the City of Petersburg and the MPO – Technical Committee has recommended Policy Committee endorsement of the changes.

Upon a motion by Mr. Emerson, seconded by Ms. Moody and carried, a motion was adopted to accept the VDOT recommended changes in street functional classification in the City of Petersburg.

REPORT ON ADMINISTRATIVE AMENDMENTS RECENTLY PROCESSED FOR THE FY 06 – FY 08 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Mr. Vinsh reported that since the April meeting administrative amendments were processed for projects at the intersection project at Middle Road and Prince George Drive and for a roadway project on Squirrel Level Road.

REVIEW OF PROPOSED HUMAN SERVICE AGENCY TRANSPORTATION PLAN, DESIGNATION OF GREATER RICHMOND TRANSIT COMPANY (GRTC) AS “RECIPIENT” FOR FEDERAL TRANSIT PROGRAMS UNDER SECTION 5316 (Job Access and Reverse Commute) and Section 5317 (New Freedom) PROGRAMS IN THE RICHMOND, VA URBANIZED AREA AND ENDORSEMENT OF THE PROPOSED GRTC MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THESE TRANSIT PROGRAMS

Mr. Vinsh stated the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transit had recently completed a

SAFETEA-LU compliant Coordinated Human Service Mobility Plan for the Richmond, VA Urbanized Area. Human service agencies from the Tri-Cities participated in this effort. Under SAFETEA-LU, matching funds made available for the Job Access and Reverse Commute and the New Freedom programs amount to approximately \$500,000 for fiscal years FY 06 thru FY 08 for the Richmond Urbanized Area. It has been determined that Petersburg Area Transit (PAT) is not in the position of operating either of these programs. The Greater Richmond Transit Company has indicated a willingness to be the recipient of these grant funds and administer a process for making grant awards to eligible projects in the Richmond Urbanized Area.

Mr. Vinsh made referenced to files attached to the agenda packet regarding the Mobility Plan and proposed GRTC sponsored administrative process and indicated representatives from GRTC, the Richmond and Tri-Cities MPOs and PAT had agreed to move forward with designating GRTC as recipient and for establishing a Project Selection Committee consisting of the following membership:

- 1 Tri-Cities MPO member
- 1 Richmond MPO member
- 1 State official with expertise in human services transportation
- 1 member from the Tri-Cities area with expertise in human services transportation
- 1 member from the Richmond area with expertise in human services transportation.

Mr. Vinsh requested actions to rescind a previous resolution designating PAT as a recipient for Section 5316 and Section 5317 funds, to endorse the recently prepared Coordinated Human Service Mobility Plan and to endorse GRTC as the recipient for Section 5316 and Section 5317 funds for the Richmond, VA Urbanized Area.

Upon a motion by Mr. Emerson, seconded by Ms. Moody and carried, a motion was adopted to accomplish the 3 actions requested.

REPORT ON PUBLIC COMMENTS RECEIVED ON THE FY 2009 – FY 2012 DRAFT TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM, THE 2031 DRAFT TRANSPORTATION PLAN AND THE DRAFT AIR QUALITY CONFORMITY ANALYSIS AND EVALUATION OF EFFECTIVENESS OF CURRENT PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROCEDURES

Mr. Vinsh reported the adopted public participation plan was followed and the 30 day public notice period for the above mentioned 3 draft documents was begun on May 12, 2008. A public meeting was held on June 10, 2008. No public comments were received on the 3 draft documents.

Mr. Vinsh also reviewed an attachment to the agenda packet containing an evaluation of the effectiveness of 10 existing public involvement strategies and measures. The evaluation considered the timing element of when each measure/strategy was being implemented; the cost to implement each measure/strategy; and, the effectiveness of the measure/strategy for public involvement in the transportation planning process. The results of the evaluation of each of the 10

strategies/measures were reviewed. The overall conclusion of the evaluation was that the MPO was providing reasonable opportunities for public involvement but adequate public involvement was not being achieved.

REVIEW AND ENDORSEMENT OF THE 2031 TRANSPORTATION PLAN

Mr. Vinsh provided comments on selected aspects of the 2031 Transportation Plan update, including the socio-economic forecast, the constrained plan project list, the Route 460 PPTA project, status of transit planning and the resource agency consultation process.

Mr. Vinsh added SAFETEA-LU requirements had been addressed and the Technical Committee endorsed the document for public review during its May meeting.

Ms. Smith asked if any public comments were received on the draft documents.

Mr. Vinsh stated no comments were received.

Upon a motion by Ms. Moody, seconded by Mr. Emerson and carried, a motion to endorse the 2031 Transportation Plan was adopted.

REVIEW OF PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) FORMAT

Mr. Vinsh indicated this item was briefly discussed during the April Policy Committee meeting and had been reviewed by the Technical Committee during its May meeting. Proposed changes to the current TIP format been initiated by VDOT in order to streamline the TIP process to eliminate the need for amendment requests for projects already programmed and to make more efficient use of available federal funds. The streamlining would be accomplished by grouping projects into 4 categories: 1) Bridge Rehabilitation/Replacement/Reconstruction; 2) Rail; 3) Safety/ITS/Operational Improvements; and, 4) Transportation Enhancement/Byway/Non-Traditional.

Mr. Vinsh explained VDOT has also indicated processing TIP amendments with MPOs in the State can take several months to accomplish and project implementation is being be delayed.

Mr. Vinsh distributed a handout illustrating a specific example of how a project (UPC 72469) appears in the FY 06 – FY08 (existing) TIP with how the same project appears as a grouped project in the FY 09 – FY 12 (new) TIP. Project information on funding source(s), previous obligation(s), schedule, and cost by project phase is not included with the new TIP format.

Mr. Vinsh stated the Technical Committee had some reservations about the proposed new format and recommended projects involving CMAQ, RSTP, Secondary and Safety need to be monitored

more closely by local governments and should not be grouped in the TIP.

Mr. Wood stated it was difficult enough to try to figure out what is going on and he would prefer to have more project information rather than less project information.

Mr. Wood further stated he could see a point in being better able to facilitate use of federal funds but he preferred the old format.

Ms. Jaeckle asked if the project allocation information would still be provided by VDOT.

Mr. Vinsh indicated project allocation information would be available in the annual Six-Year Improvement Program, a separate document. The Richmond District portion of this statewide document is 132 pages in length.

Mr. Hawthorn stated VDOT would be willing to ungroup selected projects and provide specific project data. The proposed streamlining would be across the State and would afford more flexibility moving funds and it would avoid the need for TIP amendments.

Mr. Hawthorn stated VDOT would prefer to group as many projects as possible but understood the need for project information on specific projects.

Ms. Smith asked if CMAQ, RSTP, Secondary and Safety projects were going to be ungrouped.

Mr. Riblett stated VDOT would be in contact with MPO staff soon to clarify projects that need to be ungrouped and this information would be available at the August meeting for consideration as an action item with the endorsement of the FY09 – FY12 TIP.

Mr. Riblett further stated a similar process is going on at the Richmond MPO regarding the new TIP format.

Ms. Mickens indicated this was an action item and the Technical Committee recommendation that certain projects should not be grouped appears reasonable and that VDOT would be in contact with the MPO staff to identify projects that should be ungrouped.

Upon a motion by Mr. Wood, seconded by Ms. Moody and carried, a motion was adopted to indicate CMAQ, RSTP, Secondary and Safety projects would be ungrouped and VDOT would be working with MPO staff to further clarify these projects prior to the August meeting.

REVIEW AND ENDORSEMENT OF THE CONFORMITY ANALYSIS OF THE 2031 TRANSPORTATION PLAN AND THE FY09 - FY12 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Mr. Ponticello distributed summary information regarding the air quality conformity analysis of

projects contained in the 2031 Transportation Plan and projects contained in the FY09 – FY12 Transportation Improvement Program.

Mr. Ponticello indicated the analysis demonstrated applicable conformity tests were met.

Upon a motion by Mr. Wood, seconded Mr. Emerson and carried, a motion to approve the conformity analysis of the 2031 Transportation Plan and the FY09 – FY12 Transportation Improvement Program was adopted.

REVIEW OF 2008 MPO SELF-CERTIFICATION STATEMENT

Mr. Vinsh made referenced to the agenda packet file containing statement required by SAFETEA-LU indicating 10 provisions requiring annual certification by the MPO that the transportation planning process in the Tri-Cities Area is in compliance. The provisions include compliance with the Clean Air Act, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; prohibition of discrimination on basis of race, color, creed, national origin, sex, or age in employment or business opportunity; provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990; and, prohibition of discrimination based on gender.

Upon a motion by Mr. Wood, seconded by Ms. Moody and carried, a motion to endorse the 2008 Self-Certification Statement was adopted.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Mr. Vinsh stated Policy Committee By-Laws indicate the election of a Chair and Vice-Chair are to held during the June meeting each year. Nominations are to be made from the floor and current officers can be reelected.

There was a consensus among committee members that the current officers be reelected.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:40 p.m.

Minutes of the August 14, 2008 Tri-Cities Area Metropolitan Planning Organization – Policy Committee meeting held at 4:30 p.m. in the Petersburg Union Train Station located at 103 River Street in Petersburg.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Annie Mickens, Petersburg; Ken Emerson, Hopewell; Dorothy Jaeckle, Chesterfield; Doretha Moody, Dinwiddie; Tom Hawthorn, VDOT (alternate); Denny Morris, Crater PDC.

MEMBERS ABSENT: John Wood, Colonial Heights; Henry Parker, Prince George; PAT (vacant)

OTHERS PRESENT: Tammy Davis FHWA; Dama Rice, Petersburg; FHWA; Mark Riblett; Ron Svejkovsky, Dan Grinnell, VDOT; Barbara Smith, Chesterfield; Al Cruz, Fort Lee; Joe Vinsh, Crater PDC.

Chair Mickens called the meeting to order at approximately 4:30 p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – June 12, 2008

Upon a motion by Ms. Smith, seconded by Ms. Moody and carried, the minutes of the June 12, 2008 meeting were approved.

CITIZEN INFORMATION PERIOD

No comments

REVIEW OF SELECTED FORT LEE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

Mr. Vinsh made reference to the agenda attachment dated 07-11-08 profiling the Fort Lee improvement projects and reviewed the status of the Hickory Hill and Oaklawn/Temple Split intersection project along with several related projects in the Route 36 corridor.

Mr. Vinsh also commented the State has been able to provide new funds totaling \$2,326,000 in State Bond Proceed towards the Oaklawn/Temple Split intersection project and the Prince George portion of the additional thru lane on Route 36. These additional funds have restored about 58% of the primary funds that was shown in the Six-Year Improvement Program for Rt. 36 & Rt. 144 BRAC improvements prior to June 2008.

Mr. Vinsh added VDOT is continuing to seek additional funding for Fort Lee improvement projects, project cost estimates and work scopes are being refined. The Hickory Hill and Oaklawn/Temple intersection project will address the most urgent transportation improvement needs. Available funding includes approximately \$600,000 in contingency funds for each of these projects.

REVIEW OF SUPPLEMENTAL FINANCIAL INFORMATION FOR REVISED DRAFT FY09 – FY12 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP)

Mr. Vinsh distributed hard copies of the revised draft TIP with project information ungrouped for CMAQ, RSTP, Secondary and safety projects, as discussed during the June meeting.

Mr. Vinsh also commented VDOT has provided supplemental information on specific funding categories under provision of SAFETEA-LU along with some additional information on fiscal

constraint for the new format. However, no additional information has been provided showing previous project allocations and/or obligations as shown in the old TIP format.

Ms. Smith asked if specific project questions should be forwarded to VDOT.

Mr. Riblett indicated this would be fine.

After a brief period of further discussion, Mr. Emerson made a motion, seconded by Ms. Moody and carried, that the revised draft FY09 – FY12 TIP be approved.

REVIEW OF A REPORT ON I-95/I-85/ROUTE 460 INTERCHANGE STUDY

Mr. Vinsh reported that the Technical Committee received a report from Sam Hayes from VDOT – Richmond District on a study that was completed in 2000 on the deficiencies of this major Tri-Cities transportation facility.

Mr. Vinsh explained the intent of this report was to provide focus on this potential project even though funding for improvements are not currently available. However, the project is listed in the 2031 Transportation Plan.

Mr. Vinsh indicated the deficiencies discussed by Mr. Hayes included the northbound I-95 mainline to I-85 southbound movement. When the toll booths were in place all I-95 northbound vehicles slowed down before using the loop to access I-85. Without the toll booths, some vehicles are moving too fast when entering the loop and overturn. Other deficiencies included the Crater Road acceleration and deceleration ramps, the lack of adequate shoulder width on bridges and needed improvements on the collector/distributor roads.

Mr. Vinsh further indicated Mr. Hayes suggested the Technical Committee pursue funding to update the study to consider changes in the hospital location, Fort Lee expansion and the cost increases associated with phased improvement needs. It was also suggested the MPO consider developing criteria and ranking relative interstate project needs, similar to the process used for CMAQ and RSTP, in the Tri-Cities. VDOT representatives cited advantages to having one voice in a region with locally prioritized interstate needs.

Mr. Vinsh stated the Technical Committee desires to continue discussions regarding this item even though no funds are currently identified for improvement projects at this location. After a period of discussion, it was the consensus that committee members would confer on this item with their Technical Committee counterparts.

REVIEW OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE FY 2008 UNIFIED TRANSPORTATION WORK PROGRAM

Mr. Vinsh indicated the CPDC staff is requesting to transfer \$5,000 from Task #2.0 to Task #2.2 of the work program ending June 30, 2008. The total PL budget work be the same.

Upon a motion by Mr. Morris, seconded by Mr. Emerson and carried, the motion was approved.

REVIEW OF INFORMATION ON THE 2008 STATE RAIL PLAN UPDATE

Mr. Vinsh distributed a summary of the State passenger and freight rail initiatives cited in the document of potential benefit to the Tri-Cities and indicated comments were due by August 25, 2008.

SUMMARY OF 2008 STATEWIDE RAIL PLAN FREIGHT AND PASSENGER SERVICE INITIATIVES

The Virginia Department of Rail & Public Transportation released the draft 2008 rail plan update for comment last month. Written comments are due August 25, 2008. CPDC staff has summarized freight and passenger initiatives cited that are of potential benefit for the Tri-Cities. Each rail initiatives includes estimated benefits for removing vehicles from highways in terms of reducing congestion, savings in fuel consumption and reducing emissions.

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- 8 freight rail initiatives with 3 projects of potential benefit for the Tri-Cities;
 - o Total Cost \$1.8b
 - CSX National Gateway Corridor (page 52)
 - o Total Cost ?
 - o State Cost = \$48m
 - Project Purpose: improve efficiency of freight rail shipping between Mid-Atlantic ports in Baltimore, MD, Virginia, & Wilmington, NC and markets in Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Ohio & other Midwestern states;
 - Improvements include expansion of existing intermodal facilities & construction of new intermodal facilities to manage freight movement within this corridor; (I-95)
 - It is unknown to the public if CSX, the federal government and the State plan to develop an intermodal facility in this corridor within Tri-Cities Area (the Richmond MPO with Tri-Cities MPO participation are beginning an intermodal study update for Central Virginia and this question will be addressed);
 - Schedule for CSX National Gateway Corridor: planning & analysis 2008, operational 2013.

 - Norfolk Southern Heartland Corridor Route 460 (page 56)
 - o Total Cost = \$66.01m
 - Project purpose: improve freight rail capacity along the line that parallels Rt. 460 in VA & improve freight shipping times to markets in the Midwest;
 - Phase I improvements include development of intermodal facilities in Roanoke, VA; Prichard,

WV; & Rickenbacher, Ohio;

- Phase II improvements includes potential development of intermodal facility in Prince George along with other track improvements in the CSX rail corridor; (unclear on development schedule for the Roanoke and Prince George intermodal facilities and the timing of the Lamore relocation project)
 - Schedule for Phase I – planning & analysis 2006; operations 2009
 - Schedule for Phase II – TBA
 - (The Richmond/Tri-Cities 2008 Intermodal Study will seek information on what is envisioned as the potential role for the proposed Norfolk Southern Intermodal Facility in Prince George)
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- Norfolk Southern Coal Corridor Route 460 (page 58)
 - o Total Cost \$12.1m
 - Project purpose: add track capacity for increased demand for coal shipment;
 - Trans Dominion Express, a potential passenger service between Richmond and Southwest Virginia, is mentioned in conjunction with the Norfolk Southern Coal Corridor Route 460 initiative.

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- 5 rail passenger initiatives with 2 projects of potential benefit for Tri-Cities
 - Total cost \$1.7b
 - Urban Crescent Express (page 78)
 - o Project Cost: \$757m
 - Project purpose: phased improvements to enhance existing passenger service up to 70 mph, including station improvements and a new station in Newport News (I-95, I-64, I-295 & Rt. 460 corridors)
 - Southern point of Urban Crescent is Newport News on the CSX line and not Virginia Beach on the NS line;
 - Schedule: Phase I completed by 2015; Phase II completed by 2020;
 - Southeast High Speed Rail (page 78)
 - Total cost \$1.2b (partial cost estimate)
 - Project purpose: high speed (above 90 mph) service Washington to Raleigh, Tier I DEIS completed in 2002 designating corridor; Tier II EIS in progress for 168 mile segment Main Street Station and downtown Raleigh;
 - Schedule: planning & analysis 2011; Operations TBA
 - Includes reference to on-going Richmond to Hampton Roads Higher Speed Study but no specifics provided.

Mr. Vinsh indicated under the freight projects, attention would need to be focused on the prospects for CSX railroad pursuing an intermodal facility in the Tri-Cities and in clarifying the status of the proposed Prince George Intermodal Facility and the timing of landside improvements on Lamore Drive.

Mr. Vinsh indicated the potential development of Collier Yard as an intermodal facility is an item that may be addressed in an upcoming intermodal study for the Richmond Area. This study is

being sponsored by the Richmond PDC/MPO with participation by the Tri-Cities MPO.

Mr. Vinsh indicated under the passenger rail projects service via the Ettrick station is likely to continue in its present form. Environmental work on the Raleigh to Washington high speed study is continuing.

After a brief period of discussion it was the consensus of the committee that the CPDC staff would prepare written comments based on the summary report, especially on the status of the proposed Norfolk Southern Intermodal Facility and the timing of the Lamore Drive improvements.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:40 p.m.

Minutes of the November 13, 2008 Tri-Cities Area Metropolitan Planning Organization – Policy Committee meeting held at 4:30 p.m. in the Petersburg Union Train Station located at 103 River Street in Petersburg.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mike Briddell, (alternate) Petersburg; Dorothy Jaeckle, Chesterfield; Tom Hawthorn, VDOT; George Schzenbacher, (alternate) Colonial Heights; Joyce Goode, PAT; Denny Morris, Crater PDC.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Henry Parker, Prince George; Brenda Pelham, Hopewell; Doretha Moody, Dinwiddie;

OTHERS PRESENT: Mark Riblett; Ron Svejkovsky VDOT; Barbara Smith, Chesterfield; Joe Vinsh, Crater PDC.

Supervisor Jaeckle agreed to Chair the meeting. The meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – August 13, 2008

Upon a motion by Mr. Morris, seconded by Mr. Riblett and carried, the minutes of the August 13, 2008 meeting were approved.

CITIZEN INFORMATION PERIOD

No comments

REPORT ON PETERSBURG AREA TRANSIT (PAT) COST SHARE STUDY

Mr. Vinsh stated the project consultant presented an interim report to the Technical Committee on November 7th. The report identifies route miles by jurisdiction for the Ettrick, Southpark Mall, Dinwiddie and Prince George/Fort Lee routes. These routes were further analyzed to determine 2007 route deficits by jurisdiction after federal assistance, State assistance and fares collected

were subtracted.

Ms. Jaeckel stated a Chesterfield staff review of the draft document indicated a need for an origin/destination study to determine PAT ridership by jurisdiction of residence.

Mr. Vinsh commented the scope of work for the project did not include provision for an origin/destination study.

Mr. Vinsh added the Technical Committee members had been requested to review the report details and forward any comments by November 14th to the CPDC staff. The Technical Committee is scheduled to consider a recommendation on the study findings during its December 5th meeting.

STATUS REPORT ON TRANSIT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (TDP) UPDATE

Mr. Vinsh stated a FY 09 Section 5304 grant in the amount of \$70,000 has been approved for this project. However, the original project scope of work prepared in January 2008 assumed a VDR&PT on-call consultant would be available for this project. The original scope of work did not take into account State TDP requirements which became effective July 2008. Also, the CPDC staff was made aware several weeks ago that VDR&PT consultant services were not being planned by the State to be made available for this project. The Technical Committee is reviewing this item in order to determine options available on how to accomplish this project.

After a period of discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Briddell, seconded by Mr. Morris and carried that the CPDC staff forward a letter to the Richmond District representative of the Commonwealth Transportation Board requesting assistance with this item.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) UPDATE BETWEEN THE STATE AND THE MPO FOR COMPLIANCE WITH SAFETEA-LU

Mr. Vinsh indicated the State has forwarded the CPDC a revised MOU including one of the three changes suggested by the MPO. Clarification was made in the revised MOU under Article 2 to indicate that State elected officials serving on the MPO Policy Board would be at the discretion of the MPO Policy Board. The MPO suggestion that monthly reports on TIP changes for CMAQ, RSTP, Secondary and Safety funded projects be provided was not agreed by the State. The MPO suggestion that the Petersburg City Manager be the signatory for Petersburg Area Transit was also not agreed by the State.

Mr. Riblett stated that while VDOT intends to provide the MPO with monthly reports on TIP changes, this process is still in the development stage and not ready to be incorporated into a formal agreement.

Ms. Smith asked if the content of MOU for Tri-Cities was the same as Richmond.

Mr. Riblett indicated that it was basically the same.

Upon a motion by Mr. Morris, seconded by Mr. Schzenbacher and carried, a motion to endorse the proposed revised MOU was adopted.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO FY 09 – FY 12 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) TO ADD PE PHASE FOR UPC 90374 AND UPC 90370

Mr. Svejksky stated VDOT is requesting amendments to the current TIP to authorize preliminary engineering for UPC52434 and right of way acquisition during FY 09 and to amend the current TIP to include UPC 90370 for preliminary engineering in the amount of \$315,652 for FY 09.

Upon a motion by Mr. Schzenbacher, seconded by Mr. Morris and carried, a motion to approve the TIP amendments requested by VDOT was approved.

DISCUSSION OF PRIORITIES FOR PROGRAMMED, INTERSTATE, PRIMARY, URBAN AND SECONDARY PROJECTS

Mr. Vinsh stated VDOT has recently advised that because of projected revenue shortfalls the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) will be meeting in the near future to consider reductions in the current Six-Year Program in the 30% range for Interstate and Primary programs. VDOT has advised it would be better for the MPO to make recommendations which projects should not be cut rather than not make any recommendations during this budget reduction process.

Mr. Morris asked for more specific information about the timing for the project funding reductions.

Mr. Hawthorn stated VDOT is expected to produce a draft revised Six-Year Program (FY09 - FY14) for review by the CTB and for public comment in December. The CTB will conduct a series of public hearings around the State during December and January on the draft document. The CTB will take action of the revised Six-Year Program in January. VDOT staff is working on the draft revised program.

Mr. Vinsh asked if comments forwarded following the MPO – Policy Committee meeting in December would be early enough to be considered.

Mr. Hawthorn indicated it would be better to have the MPO regional priorities before the December 11th meeting because the draft revised program will likely be developed by this date.

Mr. Hawthorn further indicated the CTB has traditionally viewed establishing project priorities in this type budget reduction situation as to first pay off deficits from existing projects, then continue funding projects already under construction and then fund projects ready to go to construction, and then, if there are any funds remaining, look at projects ready to go to right of way and then

projects ready to go to preliminary engineering. The concept is to preserve investments already made in existing projects.

Mr. Briddell asked if the amount of the reduction has been identified.

Mr. Hawthorn indicated the specific amount has not been identified yet but 30% would be the worst case.

Mr. Vinsh asked if RSTP funds programmed for the Hickory Hill Road project are subject to the pending budget reductions?

Mr. Hawthorn stated federally funded projects are generally facing the same reductions as State funded projects but generally do not come into consideration until FY 10. The reduction for FY 09 will largely be in the State funded projects.

Mr. Hawthorn further stated he did not have an answer at this time regarding RSTP funded projects as these projects involve both State and federal funds. He mentioned the possibility of a future stimulus package that may be created to replace the lost revenues.

Mr. Hawthorn also stated he did not have information on how reductions for the secondary and urban programs would be handled.

After a period of further discussion, it was decided the CPDC staff would work with the MPO – Technical Committee to develop a list of priority interstate and primary projects for CTB consideration that the MPO would not like to see any budget reductions.

After a period of further discussion, it was the consensus that the CPDC staff would work with MPO – Technical Committee members and a list of regional priority projects would be forwarded to VDOT.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:15 p.m.