

**MINUTES OF
MEETING OF THE COMMONWEALTH TRANSPORTATION BOARD
SUBCOMMITTEE ON ROUTE 29**

Central Office – Traffic Engineering Division Conference Room
1401 East Broad Street
Richmond, Virginia

February 17, 2010 – 9:30a.m.

The meeting of the Route 29 Subcommittee of Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) was held in the Traffic Engineering Division Conference Room in VDOT's Central Office on February 17, 2010.

Attendees: CTB Members: John J. Davies III, Peter B. Schwartz, Douglas Koelemay and Sharon Pandak, VDOT staff: Jim Utterback, Reta Busher, Marsha Fiol, Charlie Rasnick, Amy Inman, (DRPT), Joe Springer - Parsons Transportation Group (PTG) and interested citizens: Petrina Jones, Hardy Josephson, and Rob Lanham

1. Introductions and Welcome

Since this is the initial meeting of this Subcommittee, Marsha Fiol welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked all attendees to introduce themselves. She asked the CTB members to elect one of the members to Chair the committee. Mr. Koelemay by unanimous consent, agreed to serve as Chairman.

2. Overview /Initial Steps/ Process for Corridor Studies (see the attached presentation)

Charlie Rasnick gave a brief background of the Route 29 Corridor Study.

Joe Springer – (PTG) - VDOT's Consultant team leader, outlined the study process for Route 29 and presented an outline for typical corridor studies as published on USDOT/ other transportation professional websites.

3. Detailed Study – From December 2009 CTB Resolution

Joe Springer (PTG) presented the additional tasks from the CTB Resolution as follows:

- a. Prioritized list of intersections to be upgraded to grade separations
- b. Improve mobility/accessibility – Charlottesville Area
- c. Improve mobility/accessibility – Buckland /Gainesville/Haymarket
- d. Minimize traffic signals

Chairman Koelemay opened these issues to discussion by the members:

Agenda Item # 2

During the considerable discussion that followed there were several critical points that need to be addressed, including:

- The Route 29 study report needs to be published so there is a document that shows what was accepted by the CTB in their December 2009 resolution.
- July 2010 for completion of this phase of the study is not necessarily a “fixed date” but we must move quickly to complete the work so there is a timely “end point” to the study.
- There must be a model process for planning strategic corridors.
- Any corridor plan must have local “buy-in” and consensus across jurisdictional lines as well as state elected representatives. There needs to be included in the process a forum for getting elected local and state representatives together to discuss and work to resolve corridor transportation issues. Professional facilitators could be engaged to lead these discussions.
- Implementation of the corridor plan is critical for the plan to have lasting benefits. Inclusion of the corridor plan in the locality’s comprehensive plans will help ensure the recommendations are followed as new development occurs. Also, it will help protect the access. VDOT must work proactively with localities on this effort.
- Recognizing the April 1, 2010 date in the CTB Resolution, the staff was directed to provide a draft 3-4 page working paper on the corridor study process including a procedure for the plan implementation (working with localities on inclusion in their comprehensive plans.)
- Staff was also directed to present a final “strike-through” of the draft report for the Committee’s review.

4. The meeting was adjourned at 11:30a.m. (February 17, 2010)

5. Next Meeting – March 3, 2010 at 10:00a.m. in Culpeper, Virginia (the location to be determined.)