



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Commonwealth Transportation Board

Sean T. Connaughton
Chairman

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Item Number# New Business

RESOLUTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH TRANSPORTATION BOARD

January 20, 2010

MOTION

**MADE BY: Mr. Sterling SECONDED BY: Mrs. Carter
ACTION: Motion Carried, Unanimously**

TITLE: Rest Areas:

WHEREAS, as a result of reduction in transportation funding for Fiscal Year 2010 the Commonwealth Transportation Commissioner proposed a comprehensive plan to address the reduction and such plan became known as the VDOT Blueprint; and

WHEREAS, one leg of the VDOT Blueprint addressed reductions in services and programs; and

WHEREAS, the Blueprint incorporated and implemented the suspension, reduction, and elimination of statewide services related to interstate maintenance, roadside services, safety service patrols, ferry services, and rest areas and welcome centers; and

WHEREAS, the reduction in funding for rest areas and welcome centers resulted in the closure of 19 rest areas and welcome centers throughout the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, the closure of the rest areas and welcome centers has been met with significant objection from the traveling public and, based on this strong opposition, Governor McDonnell has made a commitment to reopen the closed rest areas and welcome centers; and

WHEREAS, based on the VDOT Blueprint, the Commonwealth Transportation Board concurred in the closure of the 19 rest areas and welcome centers; and

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WHEREAS, at its meeting on June 18, 2009, the Commonwealth Transportation Board adopted a Resolution which approved the recommendations of the Commissioner as contained in the VDOT Blueprint, including the closure of 19 rest areas and welcome centers; and

WHEREAS, at the June meeting, prior to the vote on the Resolution which included the Commissioner's VDOT Blueprint recommendations, there was an amendment to the resolution proffered which would have granted the Commissioner the authority to reduce certain asset investments in order to provide funding to restore funds to maintenance and operations of rest areas; however, such amendment failed to gain support of a majority of the Board; and

WHEREAS, based on the recommendation of VDOT staff which has been presented at this meeting and in consideration of Governor McDonnell's commitment to reopen the closed rest areas and welcome centers the Board believes its decision of June 18, 2009 should be amended, and that the 2010 Fiscal Year budget should be likewise amended, to provide for the reopening of the closed rest areas and welcome centers in accordance with the recommendation made by VDOT staff.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Commonwealth Transportation Board that its resolution of June 18, 2009, be amended to provide for the reopening of the 19 closed rest areas and welcome centers in accordance with the plan as presented by VDOT staff at this meeting.

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