



## COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

### *Commonwealth Transportation Board*

Aubrey L. Layne, Jr.  
Chairman

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*Agenda item # 15*

### RESOLUTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH TRANSPORTATION BOARD

December 7, 2016

#### MOTION

**Made By: Mr. Whitworth, Seconded By: Mr. Brown**  
**Action: Motion Carried, Unanimously**

#### **Title: Virginia Byway Designation – Routes 658, 624 and 639 – Warren County**

**WHEREAS**, under the authority of §33.2-405 of the *Code of Virginia* (1950), as amended, the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) is authorized to designate Virginia Byways in cooperation with the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) after providing notice and the opportunity for a hearing; and

**WHEREAS**, at the request of the Warren County Boards of Supervisors, the staffs of DCR and the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) have reviewed and determined that the following routes substantially meet the criteria as Virginia Byways; and

- Route 658 – from the Route 639 intersection north to the Clarke County Line
- Route 624 – from the Route 661 intersection north to the Clarke County Line
- Route 639 – from the Route 340/522 intersection east to Route 658

**WHEREAS**, the DCR Director, on July 25, 2016, recommended to VDOT that the routes herein described be designated as Virginia Byways; and

**WHEREAS**, the procedures required by §33.2-405 have been followed and given that no request for a hearing on the matter was received, the views of the local governing body have been considered; and

Resolution of the Board  
Routes 658, 624 and 639 - Warren County - Virginia Byway Designation  
December 7, 2016  
Page Two

**WHEREAS**, once designated as a Virginia Byway, it is the sense of the CTB that such designation should not limit roadway improvements or maintenance by VDOT, or prevent the CTB from exercising its general power and duties to locate, construct, improve and maintain all highways in the Commonwealth.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that Routes 658, 624 and 639 in Warren County as herein described be designated as Virginia Byways.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that VDOT is directed to make every effort to ensure that the scenic integrity of Virginia's Byways is maintained in order to preserve and protect the unique natural resources, and promote and protect Virginia's vital tourism industry and the thousands of jobs associated therewith.

####

## CTB DECISION BRIEF

### Virginia Byway Designation Routes 658, 624 and 639 Warren County

**Issue:** §33.2-405 of the *Code of Virginia* (1950), as amended, authorizes the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB), in cooperation with the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) to designate Virginia Byways. Although the two agencies may take the initiative with respect to designation of a highway as a Virginia Byway, the usual procedure is to begin review actions after having received an expression of interest from the governing body of a locality.

**Facts:** The Warren County Board of Supervisors, at its June 21, 2016 meeting, voted to request Route 658 from the Route 639 intersection north to the Clarke County Line; Route 624 from the Route 661 intersection north to the Clarke County Line; Route 639 from the Route 340/522 intersection east to Route 658 designated as Virginia Byways. The staffs of DCR and the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) have determined that these road segments substantially meet the criteria as Virginia Byways: they have two nationally recognized historic sites, mountain vistas, limited development and absence of detracting properties, billboards and trash; and connections to previously designated Virginia Byways, which provide the basis for an attractive driving experience. If approved, this designation will add 6.42 miles to the Virginia Byway system, bringing the total inventory to approximately 3,500 miles.

The Director of DCR, by correspondence dated July 25, 2016, recommended to VDOT that the routes herein described be designated as Virginia Byways. Notice and an opportunity for a hearing were provided by VDOT in accordance with §33.2-405 of the *Code of Virginia*, but neither a request for a hearing nor any comments from the public regarding the proposed designation were received.

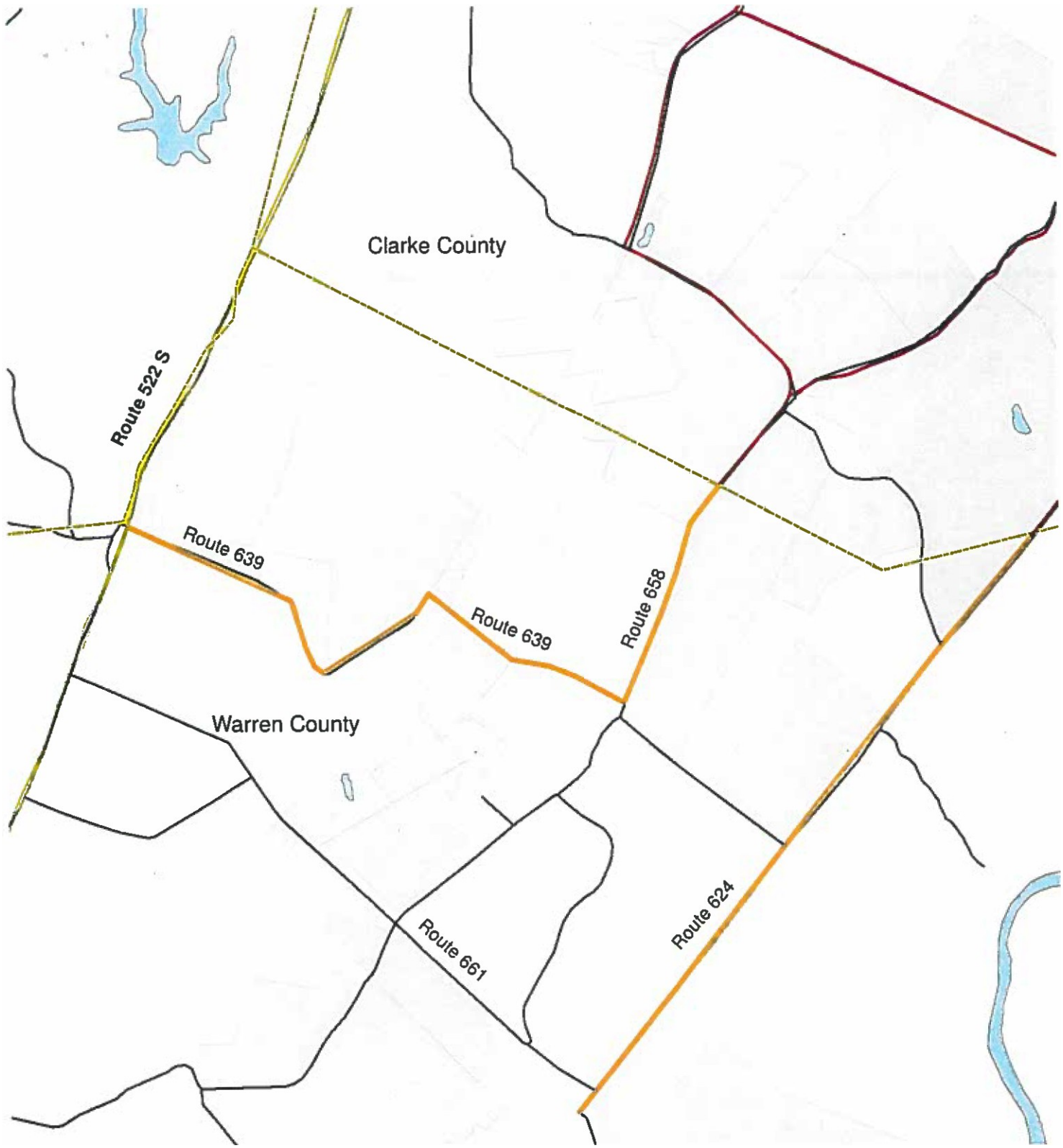
**Recommendations:** VDOT recommends that the CTB approve the designation of these sections of Routes 658, 624 and 639 Warren County as Virginia Byways.

**Action Required by the CTB:** The *Code of Virginia* requires a majority vote of the CTB before the byway designation can be implemented. A resolution is provided for a formal vote.

**Result, if Approved:** Virginia Byway signs will be installed by VDOT, at each terminus and along Routes 658, 624 and 639, as appropriate.

**Options:** Approve, deny, or defer.

**Public Comments/Reactions:** None.



## Warren County Proposed Byways

### Legend

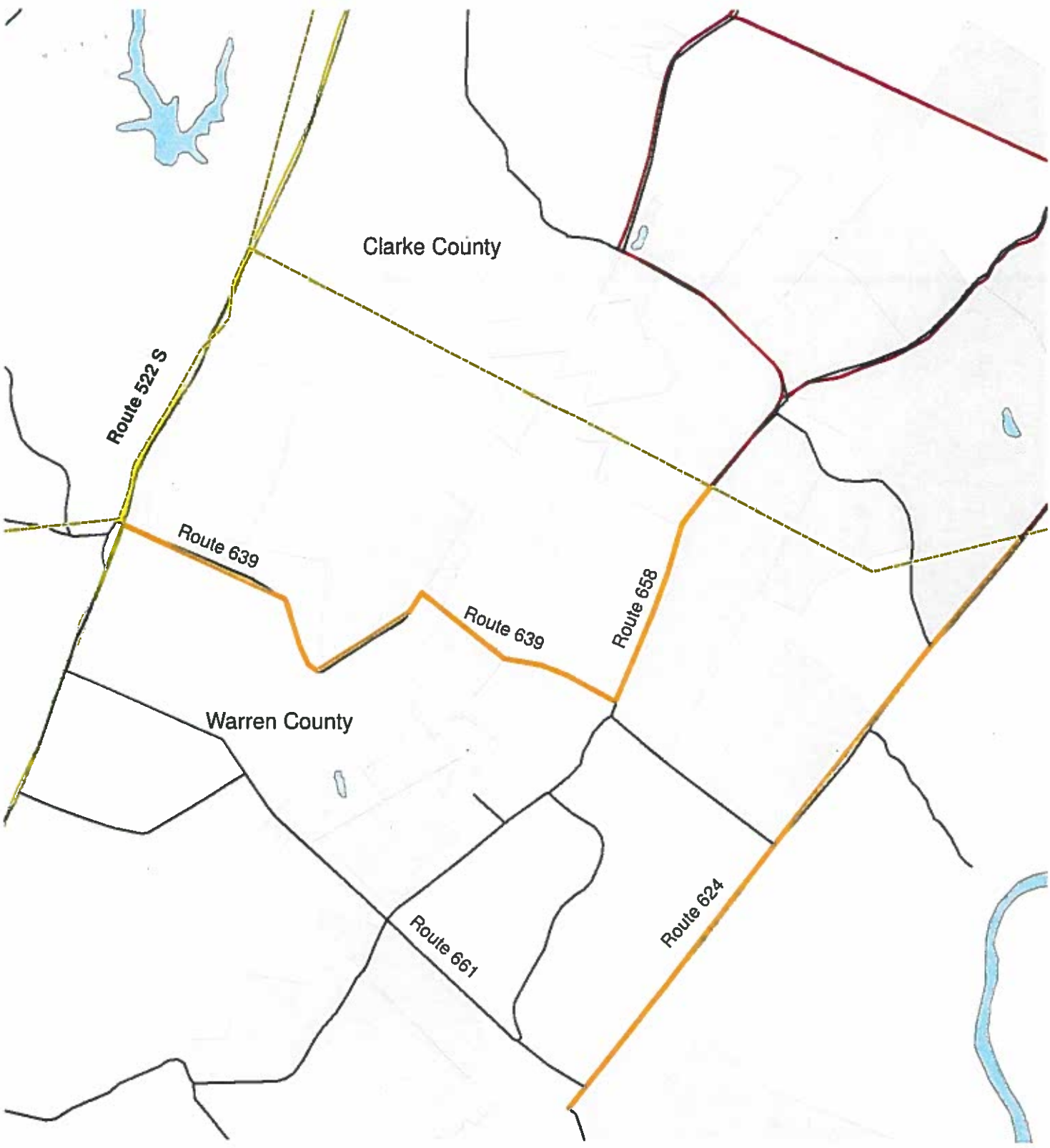
— Proposed Byways

- - - Scenic Byways

- - - Roads

— Jurisdictions

■ Conservation Easement



## Warren County Proposed Byways

**Legend**

- Proposed Byways
- Scenic Byways
- Roads
- Jurisdictions
- Conservation Easement