



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Commonwealth Transportation Board

Aubrey L. Layne, Jr.
Chairman

1401 East Broad Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

(804) 786-2701
Fax: (804) 786-2940

Agenda item # 12

RESOLUTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH TRANSPORTATION BOARD

July 28, 2016

MOTION

Made By: Ms. DeTuncq, Seconded By: Mr. Rosen

Action: Motion Carried, Unanimously

Title: Virginia Byway Designation – Route 601 – Fauquier 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 Fauquier County Board of Supervisors, the staffs of DCR and the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) have reviewed and determined that the following route substantially meets the criteria as a Virginia Byway; and

- Route 601, Hopewell Road – from Route 626 in the Town of The Plains to the Prince William County line.

WHEREAS, the DCR Director, on December 8, 2015, recommended to VDOT that the route herein described be designated as a Virginia Byway; 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 citizens and local governing body have been considered; and

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

Resolution of the Board
Route 601 Virginia Byway Designation
May 18, 2016
Page Two

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 Route 601 in Fauquier County as herein described be designated as a Virginia Byway.

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.

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CTB DECISION BRIEF

Virginia Byway Designation – Route 601 – Fauquier 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 the designation of a highway as a Virginia Byway, typically, the governing body of a locality, by resolution, requests or indicates support of the designation of a road as a Virginia Byway and the agencies then review the request. Two localities, Fauquier County and the Town of The Plains Town Council, have indicated their support for designation of Route 601 as a Virginia Byway. CTB approval of this designation is sought.

Facts: The Town of The Plains Town Council, at its August 19, 2013 meeting, adopted a resolution supporting the designation of Route 601 within the Town as a Virginia Byway. Fauquier County Board of Supervisors, at its October 10, 2013 meeting, adopted a resolution supporting the designation of Route 601, Hopewell Road, as a Virginia Byway.

A review team comprised of staff from DCR and VDOT evaluated Route 601 from Route 626 in the Town of The Plains to the Prince William County line, and determined the route, as depicted on the attached Location Map, Proposed Virginia Byway Route 601, meets the adopted criteria for designation as a Virginia Byway. The road's scenic qualities and proximity to historical and recreational sites (The Plains Historic District and Bull Run Mountains State Natural Area Preserve) provide justification for consideration of this designation. If approved, this designation will add 4.20 miles to the Virginia Byway system. Approximately 3,500 miles of roads are currently designated as Virginia Byways.

The Director of DCR, in December 8, 2015 correspondence to the Commissioner of Highways recommends designation of Route 601, from Route 626 in the Town of The Plains to the Prince William County line, as a Virginia Byway.

Notice and an opportunity for a hearing were provided by VDOT in accordance with §33.2-405 and 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 Route 601, from Route 626 in the Town of The Plains to the Prince William County line, as a Virginia Byway.

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: Route 601, from its intersection with Route 626 in the Town of The Plains eastward to the Prince William County line will be designated as a Virginia Byway. Virginia Byway signs will be installed by VDOT, at each terminus of Route 601 in Fauquier County.

CTB Decision Brief
Virginia Byway Designation - Route 601
May 18, 2016
Page Two

Options: Approve, deny, or defer.

Public Comments/Reactions: No comments from the public were received.

LOCATION MAP
PROPOSED VIRGINIA BYWAY
ROUTE 601
FAUQUIER COUNTY
FROM: ROUTE 626 AT THE PLAINS
TO: PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY LINE

