



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Commonwealth Transportation Board

Shannon Valentine
Chairperson

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Agenda item # 13

RESOLUTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH TRANSPORTATION BOARD

January 15, 2020

MOTION

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

Action: Motion Carried, Unanimously

Title: Location Approval for the Route 643 (Rio Mills Road) - Berkmar Drive Connector

WHEREAS, State Highway Project 9999-002-941, P101, R201, C501 (the “Project”) will realign a portion of existing Route 643 (Rio Mills Road) to connect to the recently constructed Berkmar Drive extension in Albemarle County; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with §33.2-208 of the Code of Virginia and the policies and regulations of the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB), including 24 VAC 30-380-10, Combined Location and Design Public Hearings were held on October 9, 2018 from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm at Monticello High School in Albemarle County and October 10, 2018 from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm at Western Albemarle High School in Albemarle County, Virginia for the purpose of reviewing six planned projects, including the Route 643 (Rio Mills Road) - Berkmar Drive Connector as shown on the attached exhibit; and

WHEREAS, proper notice of the Combined Location and Design Public Hearings was given in advance, and all those present were given a full opportunity to express their opinions and recommendations for or against the proposed Project as presented, and their statements have been duly recorded; and

WHEREAS, the economic, social and environmental effects of the proposed Project have been examined and given proper consideration and this evidence, along with all other relevant evidence has been carefully reviewed; and

WHEREAS, on July 17, 2019 the Albemarle County Board of Supervisors adopted a Resolution of Support for the location of the Route 643 (Rio Mills Road) - Berkmar Drive Connector (See attached exhibit); and

WHEREAS, a Preliminary Environmental Inventory (PEI) was completed in September, 2018 as part of the State Environmental Review Process (SERP). However, the proposed Project is not programmed with any federal funding, and as such the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) does not apply to this Project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the CTB hereby approves the location of Route 643 (Rio Mills Road) on the new alignment from the end of the existing paved surface of Route 643 (Rio Mills Road) to connect to the recently constructed Berkmar Drive extension as presented at the Combined Location and Design Public Hearings and as amended in extensive coordination with Albemarle County as shown on the attached exhibit.

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**RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT
FOR RIO MILLS CONNECTOR TO BERKMAR EXTENDED ALIGNMENT**

WHEREAS, Albemarle County included a connection from Rio Mills Road to the new Berkmar Drive Extended in the Places 29 Master Plan as a priority road improvement; and

WHEREAS, Albemarle County approved the accumulation of Telefee funds in the Secondary Six Year Plan to be designated to the construction of this Connector road; and

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth Transportation Board approved the remainder of funding necessary to complete the connector road to be awarded to Albemarle County through the Smart Scale program based on Albemarle County's 2016 Grant application; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Department of Transportation worked extensively with Albemarle County staff, Albemarle County Schools Division, and the developer of Brookhill on the proposed alignment of the connector road; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Department of Transportation received public comments on the preliminary design and alignment at advertised Public Hearings on October 9, 10, and 11, 2018; and

WHEREAS, the public comments received by the Virginia Department of Transportation supported the proposed alignment of the new connector road.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Albemarle County Board of Supervisors hereby fully endorses and supports the proposed alignment as presented by the Virginia Department of Transportation for the Rio Mills to Berkmar Drive Connector; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors hereby respectfully requests the Commonwealth Transportation Board to approve the proposed alignment for design and construction.

I, Claudette K. Borgerson, do hereby certify that the foregoing writing is a true and correct copy of a Resolution duly adopted by the Board of Supervisors of Albemarle County by a vote of six to zero, as recorded below, at a meeting held on July 17, 2019.


Clerk, Board of County Supervisors

	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>
Mr. Dill	<u>Y</u>	_____
Mr. Gallaway	<u>Y</u>	_____
Ms. Mallek	<u>Y</u>	_____
Ms. McKeel	<u>Y</u>	_____
Ms. Palmer	<u>Y</u>	_____
Mr. Randolph	<u>Y</u>	_____

CTB PUBLIC HEARING SUMMARY

Route 643 (Rio Mills Road) - Berkmar Drive Connector

Albemarle County

State Project: 9999-002-941, P101, R201, C501

UPC: 109397

Federal Project: N/A

Fr: The end of the paved portion of existing Rte. 643 (Rio Mills Road)

To: Route 1403 (Berkmar Drive)

Project Length: 0.25 miles

PROJECT HISTORY – The Route 643 (Rio Mills Road) - Berkmar Drive Connector project has been identified as a priority road improvement by Albemarle County in its Places 29 Master Plan. The Project will serve to improve safety and connectivity and reduce maintenance on the existing gravel road portion of Route 643 (Rio Mills Road). Project funding is State Funds provided by the CTB through the SMART SCALE program.

PROJECT PURPOSE – The purpose of the Project is to provide a new two-lane roadway to realign Route 643 (Rio Mills Road) and connect to the recently constructed Berkmar Drive extension.

TYPICAL SECTION – The proposed typical section will provide 2-11’ travel lanes, 4’ bike lanes in each direction, and a 10’ shared use path on the south side along the majority of the realignment.

PUBLIC HEARING –

Type – Combined Location and Design

Dates – October 9 and October 10, 2018

Time – 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Location – Monticello High School (Oct. 9th) and Western Albemarle High School (Oct. 10th)

ATTENDANCE – There were fifty-nine (59) attendees who signed-in at the two Public Hearing meetings (20 attended on October 9th & 39 attended on October 10th).

COMMENTS RECEIVED – We received 20 comments alone on the Route 643 (Rio Mills Road) Connection, with 16 supporting the project as presented and 4 supporting the project with modifications. There were no comments on the Route 643 (Rio Mills Road) - Berkmar Drive Connector indicating “no support” of this project.

ENVIRONMENTAL DATA – A Preliminary Environmental Inventory (PEI) was completed in September, 2018 as part of the State Environmental Review Process (SERP).

However, the proposed Project is not programmed with any federal funding, and as such the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) does not apply to this Project.

ESTIMATED COST –

Preliminary Engineering	-	\$ 355,000
Right of Way and Utilities	-	\$ 157,500
Construction	-	<u>\$3,286,733</u>
Total Estimated Cost	-	\$3,799,233

ADVERTISEMENT – Design-build contract was awarded on July 17, 2019.

RIGHT OF WAY – No families, businesses or non-profit organizations will be displaced as a result of this project's development.

TRAFFIC DATA – The current average daily traffic on Route 643 (Rio Mills Road) is 480 vehicles per day. It is anticipated that in the design year of 2040 the average daily traffic will be 670 vehicles per day on the new roadway.

STAFF RECOMMENDS – Approval of the location of the Route 643 (Rio Mills Road) - Berkmar Drive Connector on new alignment as presented at the Combined Location and Design Public Hearings and as amended in extensive coordination with Albemarle County.

Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) Decision Brief

Location Approval for the Route 643 (Rio Mills Road) - Berkmar Drive Connector

Issue: The purpose of the project is to provide a new two-lane roadway to realign a portion of the existing Route 643 (Rio Mills Road) and connect to the recently constructed Berkmar Drive extension.

Facts: The Route 643 (Rio Mills Road) - Berkmar Drive Connector project has been identified as a priority road improvement by Albemarle County in its Places 29 Master Plan. The Project will serve to improve safety and connectivity and reduce maintenance on the existing gravel road portion of Route 643 (Rio Mills Road). The proposed location of the Route 643 (Rio Mills Road) - Berkmar Drive Connector is shown on the attached exhibit.

Recommendations: VDOT recommends approval of the location of the Route 643 (Rio Mills Road) - Berkmar Drive Connector as presented at the Combined Location and Design Public Hearings and as amended in extensive coordination with Albemarle County as shown on the attached exhibit.

Action Required by the CTB: The *Code of Virginia* §33.2-208, requires a majority vote of the CTB to locate and establish the routes to be followed by the roads comprising systems of state highways between the points designated in the establishment of such systems.

Result, if Approved: If approved by the CTB, the Project will move forward to the design approval phase.

Options: Approve, Deny, or Defer.

Public Comments/Reactions: Combined Location and Design Public Hearings were held on October 9, 2018 from 5:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. at Monticello High School located in Albemarle County and on October 10, 2018 from 5:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. at Western Albemarle High School in Albemarle County. Citizens that attended were able to view displays for the proposed Project.

There were fifty-nine (59) attendees who signed-in at the two Public Hearing meetings (20 attended on October 9th & 39 attended on October 10th). During the comment period, we received 20 comments on the Route 643 (Rio Mills Road) - Berkmar Drive Connector, with 16 supporting the project as presented and 4 supporting the project with modifications. There were no comments on the Route 643 (Rio Mills Road) - Berkmar Drive Connector indicating “no support” of this Project.

On July 17, 2019 the Albemarle County Board of Supervisors adopted a Resolution of Support for the location of the Route 643 (Rio Mills Road) - Berkmar Drive Connector (See attached exhibit).



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
1401 EAST BROAD STREET
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA 23219 2000

Stephen Brich
Commissioner

January 1, 2020

The Honorable Shannon Valentine
The Honorable Stephen C. Brich, P. E.
The Honorable Jennifer Mitchell
The Honorable Jerry L. Stinson II
The Honorable Mary Hughes Hynes
The Honorable Allison DeTuncq
The Honorable Bert Dodson, Jr.
The Honorable W. Sheppard Miller III
The Honorable Carlos M. Brown
The Honorable Cedric Bernard Rucker
The Honorable Stephen A. Johnsen
The Honorable F. Dixon Whitworth, Jr.
The Honorable E. Scott Kasprowicz
The Honorable Raymond D. Smoot, Jr.
The Honorable Marty Williams
The Honorable John Malbon
The Honorable Greg Yates

Subject: Location Approval for the Route 643 (Rio Mills Road) – Berkmar Drive Connector in Albemarle County

Dear Commonwealth Transportation Board Members:

The Department has initiated the above request for Location Approval for your consideration. The proposed Location Approval on State Highway Project 9999-002-941, P101, R201, C501 has been recommended for approval by the Department's staff.

I have reviewed the staff's recommendations and determined that this request should be considered by the Board.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Barton A. Thrasher".

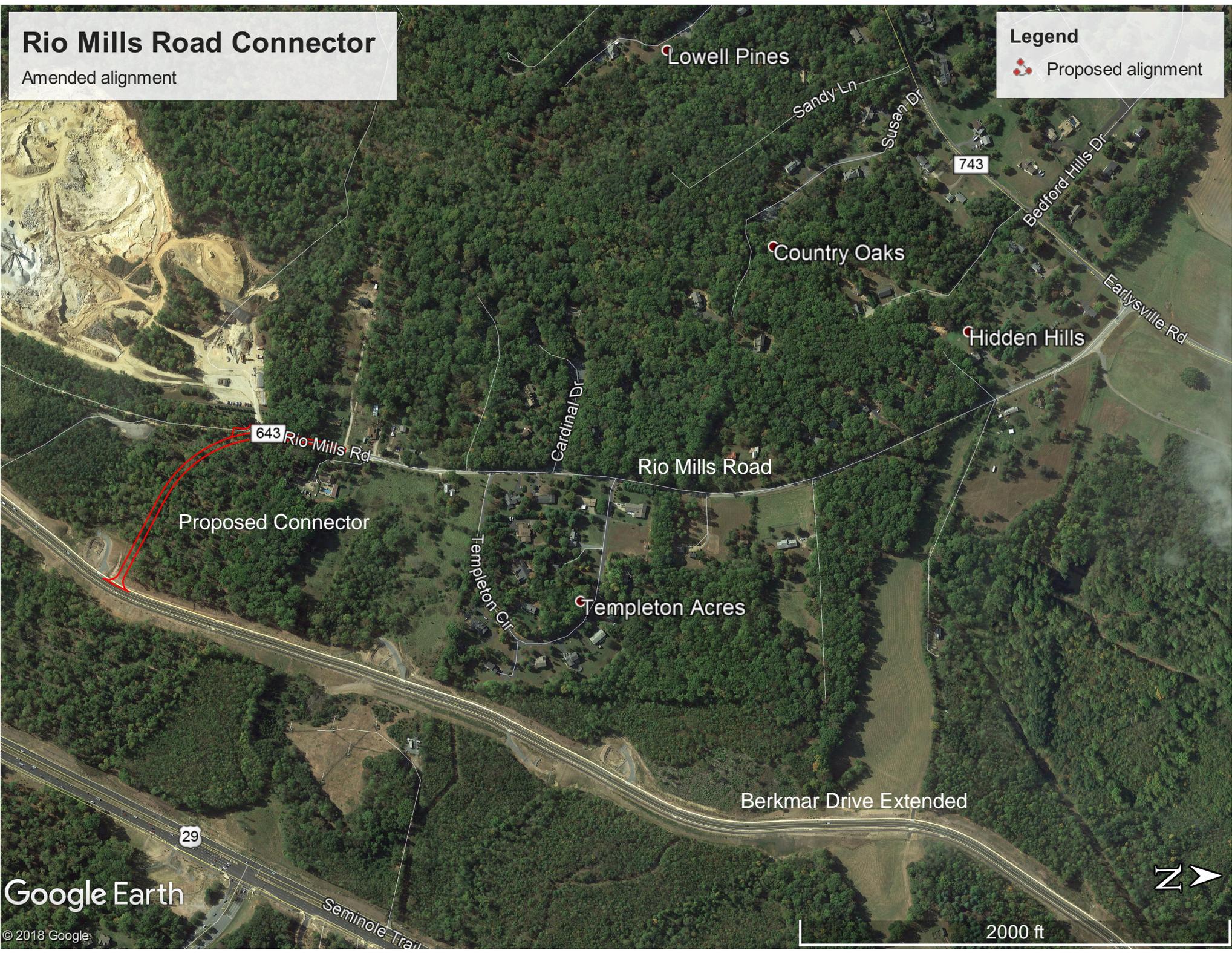
Barton A. Thrasher, P.E.
Chief Engineer

Rio Mills Road Connector

Amended alignment

Legend

 Proposed alignment



Google Earth

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2000 ft