



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Commonwealth Transportation Board

W. Sheppard Miller, III
Chairperson

1401 East Broad Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

(804) 482-5818
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Agenda item # 7

RESOLUTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH TRANSPORTATION BOARD

June 21, 2022

MOTION

Made By: Dr. Smoot **Seconded By:** Mr. Johnsen
Action: Motion carried, unanimously

Title: Bridge Naming: “Sgt. J. Michael Phillippi Memorial Bridge”

WHEREAS, the Henry County Board of Supervisors requested, by resolution passed February 22, 2022, that the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) name the bridge on U.S. Route 220, Virginia Avenue, over State Route 57, Fairy Stone Park Highway, Henry County, as the “Sgt. J. Michael Phillippi Memorial Bridge”, to honor the life, service to his community and ultimate sacrifice of Virginia State Police Sgt. J. Michael Phillippi; and

WHEREAS, § 33.2-213 provides that any naming for a state official, which includes a law enforcement officer employed by the Department of State Police or a state highway transportation worker, shall require a letter or resolution from the head of the state agency by which the state official was employed requesting such naming; and

WHEREAS, in accord with § 33.2-213, Colonel Gary T. Settle, Superintendent of the Department of State Police, has provided a letter, dated May 5, 2022, expressing his and the Department’s support of this naming to commemorate the life of Sgt. J. Michael Phillippi; and

WHEREAS, § 33.2-213 provides that the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) shall place and maintain appropriate signs indicating the names of highways, bridges, interchanges, and other transportation facilities named by the CTB; and

WHEREAS, § 33.2-213 provides that for any state highway, bridge, interchange or other transportation facility named after a state official killed during the performance of his official

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duties, the costs of producing, placing and maintaining those signs shall be paid from Commonwealth Transportation Funds.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, pursuant to § 33.2-213 of the *Code of Virginia*, the CTB hereby names the bridge on U.S. Route 220, Virginia Avenue, over State Route 57, Fairy Stone Park Highway, Henry County, as the "Sgt. J. Michael Phillippi Memorial Bridge".

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that VDOT is directed to produce, place, and maintain the signs calling attention to this naming using Commonwealth Transportation Funds to cover the costs thereof as required by law.

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CTB Decision Brief

Bridge Naming: “Sgt. J. Michael Phillippi Memorial Bridge”

Issue: Commemorative naming of the bridge on U.S. Route 220, Virginia Avenue, over State Route 57, Fairy Stone Park Highway, Henry County as the “Sgt. J. Michael Phillippi Memorial Bridge”.

Facts:

Henry County enacted a resolution on February 22, 2022 to honor the life, contributions to his community and ultimate sacrifice of Virginia State Police Sgt. J. Michael Phillippi who was killed in the line of duty on January 11, 2014 while honorably fulfilling his duties.

Pursuant to §33.2-213 of the Code of Virginia, no name shall be given to any state highway, bridge, interchange, or other transportation facility by the Board unless and until the Board receives (i) for a naming after a state official, a letter or resolution from the head of the state agency by which the state official was employed requesting such naming or (ii) for a naming other than after a state official, a resolution from the governing body of the locality within which a portion of the facility to be named is located requesting such naming. Further, pursuant to this section, for a highway, bridge, interchange, or other transportation facility named after a state official killed during the performance of his official duties, the costs of producing, placing, and maintaining these signs shall be paid from Commonwealth Transportation Funds. For purposes of this section, "state official" includes law-enforcement officers employed by the Department of State Police and state highway transportation workers.

In accord with §33.2-213, Colonel Gary T. Settle, Superintendent of the Department of State Police, on May 5, 2022 submitted a letter in support of Henry County’s request and also requesting the CTB to approve the commemorative naming for Sgt. Phillippi.

Recommendations: The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) recommends this request be approved.

Action Required by CTB: The *Code of Virginia* requires a majority of the CTB members to approve a resolution naming a highway or bridge, as appropriate. A resolution will be provided for the Board’s consideration.

Result if Approved: The bridge on U.S. Route 220, Virginia Avenue, over State Route 57, Fairy Stone Park Highway, Henry County will be known as the “Sgt. J. Michael Phillippi Memorial Bridge”. By resolution, Henry County agreed to pay the costs of producing, placing, and maintaining the signs calling attention to this naming. However, in accordance with §33.2-213, for any state highway, bridge, interchange or other transportation facility named after a state official killed during the performance of his official duties, the costs of producing, placing and maintaining those signs shall be paid from Commonwealth Transportation Funds. Therefore, notwithstanding Henry County’s resolution, VDOT will utilize Commonwealth Transportation Funds to pay for the costs of producing, placing, and maintaining the signs calling attention to this naming.

Options: Approve, Deny, or Defer.

Public Comments/Reactions: VDOT is not aware of any opposition to this proposal.



Resolution of the
**HENRY COUNTY BOARD OF
SUPERVISORS**

**Bridge Naming on “Route 220” over “Route 57” in
“Henry County” as the
“Sgt. J. Michael Phillippi Memorial Bridge.”**

WHEREAS, Virginia State Police Sgt. J. Michael Phillippi was killed in the line of duty on January 11, 2014, while honorably fulfilling his duties; and

WHEREAS, Henry County appreciates the extraordinary efforts and sacrifices made by law enforcement officers who routinely put themselves in harms way for the betterment of their community; and

WHEREAS, Section 33.2-213 of the Code of Virginia authorizes the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) to give suitable names to state highways, bridges, interchanges, and other transportation facilities and change the names of any highways, bridges, interchanges, or other transportation facilities forming a part of the systems of state highways; and

WHEREAS, Section 33.2-213 provides that the Virginia Department of Transportation shall place and maintain appropriate signs indicating the names of highways, bridges, interchanges, and other transportation facilities named by the CTB and requires that the costs of producing, placing, and maintaining such signs shall be paid by the localities in which they are located.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Henry County, in accordance with the requirements of Section 33.2-213 of the Code of Virginia, does hereby request that the Commonwealth Transportation Board name the bridge on “Route 220” over “Route 57” in “Henry County” as the “Sgt. J. Michael Phillippi Memorial Bridge” and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Henry County agrees to pay the costs of producing, placing, and maintaining the signs calling attention to this naming.

Jim Adams, Chairman
Henry County Board of Supervisors



COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

Colonel Gary T. Settle
Superintendent

(804) 674-2000

DEPARTMENT OF STATE POLICE

P.O. Box 27472, Richmond, VA 23261-7472

Lt. Colonel Tracy S. Russillo
Deputy Superintendent

May 5, 2022

W. Sheppard Miller, III, Chairman
Commonwealth Transportation Board
1401 East Broad Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

Chairman Miller,

In accordance with §33.2-213, of the *Code of Virginia*, I write to the Commonwealth Transportation Board in support of the Henry County Board of Supervisors' request that the bridge on U.S. Route 220, Virginia Avenue, over State Route 57, Fairy Stone Park Highway, be named in honor of Virginia State Police Sergeant J. Michael Phillippi.

At approximately 2:20 a.m., January 11, 2014, the Henry County Sheriff's Office received a 911 call about a vehicle crash in the county on Route 57, near Pennrail Road. When rescue crews arrived on scene, they found Sergeant J. Michael Phillippi unresponsive in his unmarked Chevrolet Impala. The patrol car had been eastbound on Route 57 when it ran off the right side of the road and struck a highway sign. The car then crossed back over Route 57, ran off the left side and struck an embankment. The car suffered minimal damage. Sergeant Phillippi was transported to Martinsville Memorial Hospital, where he died a short time later. It was later determined he suffered a medical condition.

Sergeant Phillippi, age 65, was working the overnight supervisory shift for the Salem Division at the time of his death. He spent the majority of his 42 years with the Department assigned to the Virginia State Police Area 42 Office, which encompasses the City of Martinsville and the counties of Henry and Patrick. A native of Gate City, Virginia, he joined the state police May 1, 1971, and was promoted to sergeant in February 1990.

I appreciate the Henry County Board of Supervisors seeking to recognize Sergeant Phillippi's years of dedicated service to the citizens of Virginia in such a memorable manner.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gary T. Settle".

Superintendent

GTS/RCM

Code of Virginia

Title 33.2. Highways and Other Surface Transportation Systems

Subtitle I. General Provisions and Transportation Entities

Chapter 2. Transportation Entities

Article 2. Commonwealth Transportation Board; Powers and Duties

§ 33.2-213. Naming highways, bridges, interchanges, and other transportation facilities

The Board shall have the power and duty to give suitable names to state highways, bridges, interchanges, and other transportation facilities and change the names of any highways, bridges, interchanges, or other transportation facilities forming a part of the systems of state highways. The names of private entities, as defined in § 33.2-1800, located within the Commonwealth shall not be used for such purposes unless such private entity pays the Department an annual naming rights fee as determined by the Board. The Department shall place and maintain appropriate signs indicating the names of highways, bridges, interchanges, and other transportation facilities named by the Board or by the General Assembly. The costs of producing, placing, and maintaining these signs shall be paid by the localities in which they are located or by the private entity whose name is attached to the highway, bridge, interchange, or other transportation facility. However, for a highway, bridge, interchange, or other transportation facility named after a state official killed during the performance of his official duties, the costs of producing, placing, and maintaining these signs shall be paid from Commonwealth Transportation Funds. For purposes of this section, "state official" includes law-enforcement officers employed by the Department of State Police and state highway transportation workers. No name shall be given to any state highway, bridge, interchange, or other transportation facility by the Board unless and until the Board receives (i) for a naming after a state official, a letter or resolution from the head of the state agency by which the state official was employed requesting such naming or (ii) for a naming other than after a state official, a resolution from the governing body of the locality within which a portion of the facility to be named is located requesting such naming, except in such cases where a private entity has requested the naming. No highway, bridge, interchange, or other transportation facility previously named by the Board or the General Assembly shall be eligible for renaming by a private entity, unless such naming incorporates the previous name. The Board shall develop and approve guidelines governing the naming of highways, bridges, interchanges, and other transportation facilities by private entities and the applicable fees for such naming rights. Such fees shall be deposited in the Highway Maintenance and Operating Fund established pursuant to § 33.2-1530.

No name shall be eligible for the naming rights under this section if it in any way reasonably connotes anything that (i) is profane, obscene, or vulgar; (ii) is sexually explicit or graphic; (iii) is excretory related; (iv) is descriptive of intimate body parts or genitals; (v) is descriptive of illegal activities or substances; (vi) condones or encourages violence; or (vii) is socially, racially, or ethnically offensive or disparaging.

Code 1950, § 33-12; 1956, c. 92; 1964, c. 265; 1970, c. 322, § 33.1-12; 1974, c. 462; 1977, c. 150; 1978, c. 650; 1986, Sp. Sess., c. 13; 1988, cc. 844, 903; 1989, c. 727; 1992, c. 167; 1995, c. 94; 2001, c. 349; 2003, cc. 281, 533, 560; 2004, c. 110; 2005, cc. 839, 919; 2006, cc. 197, 417, 833, 924; 2006, Sp. Sess. I, c. 8; 2007, c. 337; 2008, Sp. Sess. II, c. 5; 2009, cc. 670, 690; 2011, cc. 104, 164; 2012, cc. 729, 733; 2013, cc. 388, 569, 585, 646, 741; 2014, c. 805; 2019, c. 802.



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Jim Adams, Chairman
Henry County Board of Supervisors



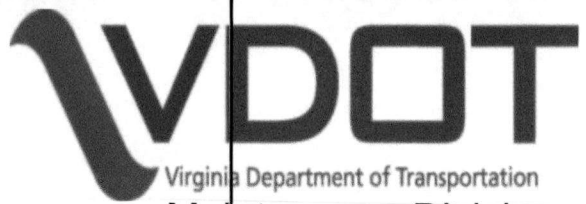
Henry County

Proposed Bridge Naming
"Sgt. J. Michael Phillippi Memorial Bridge"

Henry County

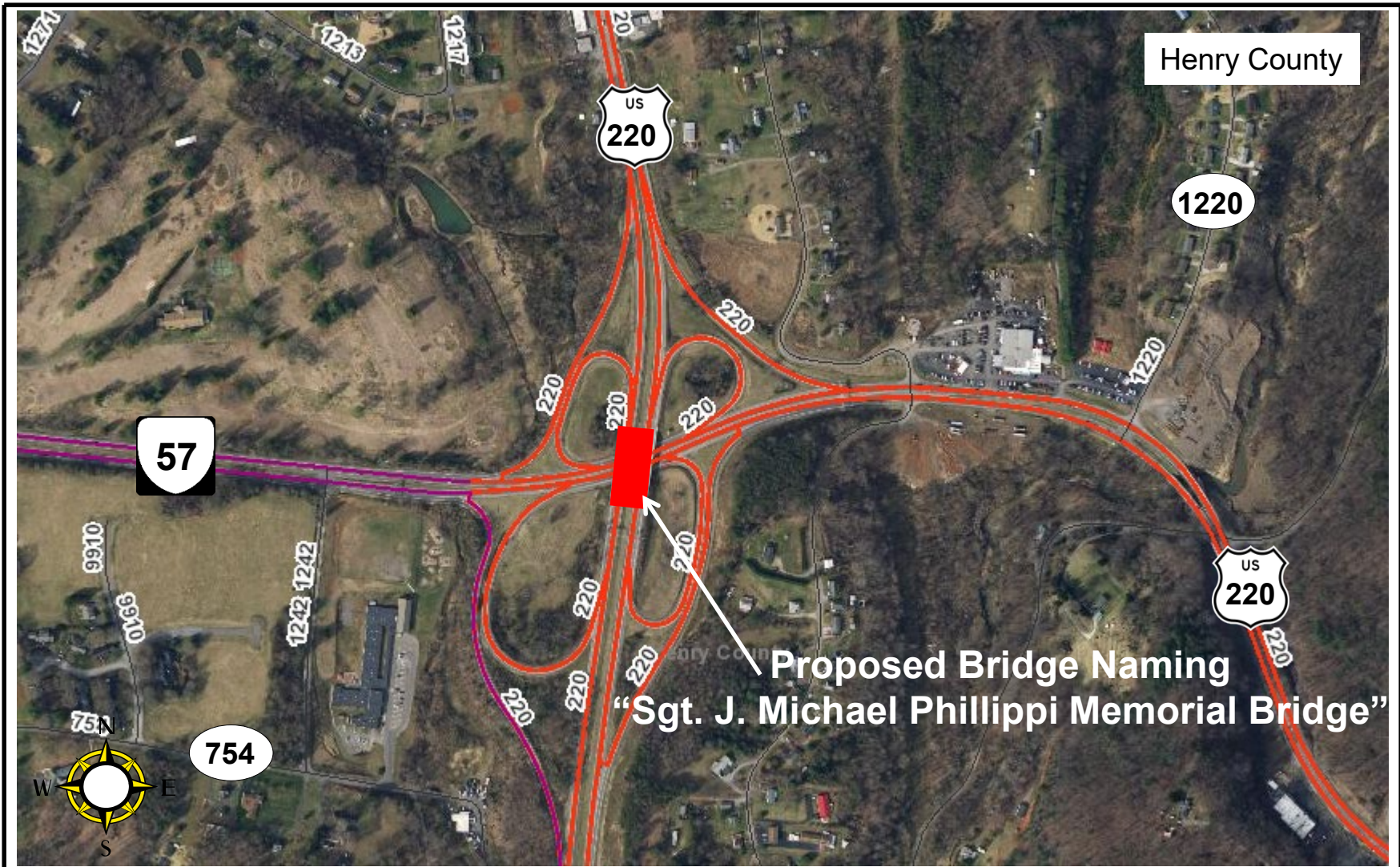
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Maintenance Division

CTB MEETING: April 20, 2022



Proposed Bridge Naming
"Sgt. J. Michael Phillippi Memorial Bridge"