



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Commonwealth Transportation Board

W. Sheppard Miller, III
Chairperson

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Agenda item # 11

RESOLUTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH TRANSPORTATION BOARD

May 17, 2022

MOTION

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

Title: Bridge Naming: “Willis Herman Ferguson Memorial Bridge”

WHEREAS, in accordance with § 33.2-213 of the *Code of Virginia*, the Henry County Board of Supervisors has requested, by resolution passed February 22, 2022, that the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB), to honor the life, service to his community and ultimate sacrifice of Willis Herman Ferguson, name the bridge on U.S. Route 220 Business, North Virginia Avenue, over Reed Creek, Henry County, as the “Willis Herman Ferguson Memorial Bridge”; and

WHEREAS, Henry County, by resolution passed February 22, 2022 has agreed to pay the cost of producing, placing and maintaining the signs calling attention to this naming; 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 requires that the costs of producing, placing, and maintaining such signs shall be paid by the localities in which they are located or by the private entity whose name is attached to the transportation facility so named.

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 Business, North Virginia Avenue, over Reed Creek, Henry County, as the “Willis Herman Ferguson Memorial Bridge”.

Resolution of the Board

Bridge Naming: "Willis Herman Ferguson Memorial Bridge"

May 17, 2022

Page 2 of 2

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that VDOT is directed to produce, place, and maintain the signs calling attention to this naming, and secure payment from Henry County for these costs as required by law.

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CTB Decision Brief

Bridge Naming: “Willis Herman Ferguson Memorial Bridge”

Issue: Commemorative naming of the bridge on U.S. Route 220 Business, North Virginia Avenue, over Reed Creek, Henry County as the “Willis Herman Ferguson Memorial Bridge”.

Facts: Henry County enacted a resolution on February 22, 2022 to honor the life, contributions to his community and ultimate sacrifice of Willis Herman Ferguson who, while serving as a deputy sheriff with the Henry County Sheriff’s Office, was killed in the line of duty on March 18, 1975 while honorably fulfilling his duties of assisting a stranded motorist.

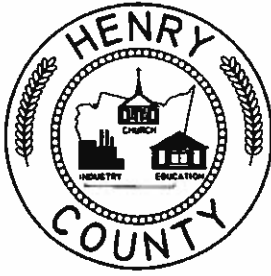
Recommendations: The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) recommends this request be approved.

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 Business, North Virginia Avenue, over Reed Creek, Henry County will be known as the “Willis Herman Ferguson Memorial Bridge”. In accordance with law and by resolution, Henry County agrees to pay 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 Business "North Virginia Avenue," over "Reed Creek" in "Henry County" as the "Willis Herman Ferguson Memorial Bridge."

WHEREAS, Willis Herman Ferguson was killed in the line of duty on March 18, 1975, while honorably fulfilling his duties of assisting a stranded motorist; 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

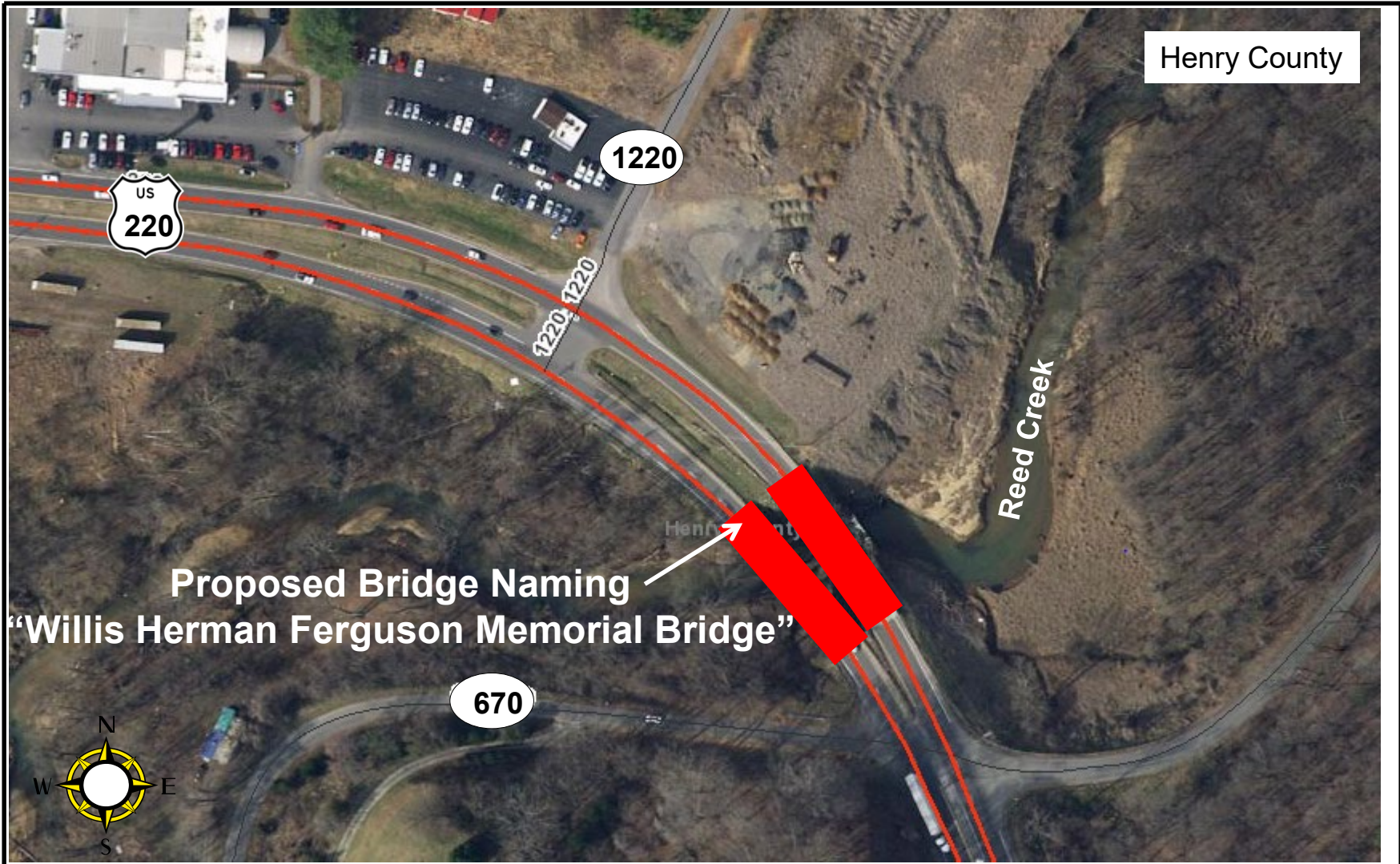
WHEREAS, Section 33.2-213 provides that the Virginia Department of Transportation shall place and maintain appropriate signs indicating the names of highways, bridges, interchanges, and other transportation facilities named by the CTB and requires that the costs of producing, placing, and maintaining 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 Business "North Virginia Avenue", over "Reed Creek" in "Henry County" as the "Willis Herman Ferguson 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

Henry County



Proposed Bridge Naming
"Willis Herman Ferguson Memorial Bridge"



Henry County

Proposed Bridge Naming:

"Willis Herman Ferguson Memorial Bridge"