

**MINUTES OF
FAUQUIER COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
JUNE 26, 2013**

7:00 P.M.

*2nd Floor Conference Room – Warren Green Building
10 Hotel Street
Warrenton, VA 20186*

Members Present: Peter S. Eltringham, Chairman, Adrienne Garreau, R. Holder Trumbo, Matthew Sheedy, John Green and Mark Nesbit

Members Absent: Ed Moore, Vice Chairman; Tony Tedeschi and Jeffrey Walker

Guests Present: First Sergeant Jeffery Pearson, Virginia State Police

Staff Present: Susan Eddy and Meredith Meixner

1. Approval of May 29, 2013 Committee Meeting Minutes

ACTION: On motion made by Adrienne Garreau and seconded by John Green, it was moved to approve the May 29, 2013 Committee Meeting minutes as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Ongoing Business

• **Kelly Road**

Mrs. Eddy reviewed VDOT's determination to keep the current speed limit as posted.

Ms. Darcy McMahon-Wine described the location of her home and the traffic issues in her neighborhood.

Ms. Garreau asked VDOT if this neighborhood qualifies as a residential district in the Virginia State Code.

Mrs. Eddy explained that in the past, Code of Virginia § 46.2-874 has been used to reduce the speed limit in a residential area.

Code of Virginia § 46.2-874. Maximum speed limit in business and residence districts: The maximum speed shall be 25 miles per hour on highways in business or residence districts, except on interstate or other limited access highways with divided roadways or nonlimited access highways having four or more lanes and all state primary highways. The speed limit on all nonlimited access highways having four or more lanes and all

state primary highways shall remain as indicated by signs posted prior to July 1, 2005, unless changed as provided by law.

Mr. Nesbit agreed to follow up with the traffic engineer to verify whether the state code supersedes the speed study performed by VDOT and have a cut-through study completed.

Mr. Trumbo explained the goals of the New Baltimore Service District Plan in order to give Mr. Nesbit a better understanding of the area.

ACTION: VDOT will verify whether Kelly Road qualifies as a Residence District under Code of Virginia § 46.2-874; whether this supersedes the speed study performed by VDOT; perform a cut-through study; and report back to the committee in 30 days.

3. *New Citizen Requests*

- **Grays Mill Road**

Mrs. Eddy reviewed the request for increased signage and a reduction of the current speed limit of 35 mph to 25 mph on a portion of Grays Mill Road.

Mr. Battaglia explained that the section of Grays Mill Road between Baldwin Street and Newbury Street has twenty two children living there and stressed the need for a reduced speed limit. He noted this is a safety issue and not a speed issue and cited statistics related to speeds and fatalities.

Mr. Trumbo suggested VDOT determine whether this section of Grays Mill Road qualifies as a residential district and meets the criteria for Code of Virginia § 46.2-874 based on the characteristics of the neighborhood.

ACTION: VDOT will verify whether the section of Grays Mill Road between Baldwin Street and Newbury Street meets the criteria for Code of Virginia § 46.2-874 and report back to the committee in 30 days.

4. *Citizens' Time*

Mr. Eltringham inquired on behalf of a citizen regarding the intersection of Routes 215 and 29 if VDOT would consider placing a red light in place of the yellow flashing light in the northbound lane.

Mr. Trumbo replied that a red light had been placed there for approximately six months which did not improve safety and was removed.

5. *Other Items*

Mr. Trumbo asked VDOT if they knew who had placed speed counters around The Plains and Marshall. Mr. Nesbit agreed to look into it and contact Susan with his findings.

Mr. Trumbo discussed the recent bicyclist fatality on Crest Hill Road and the widespread concern for bicycle safety. He noted there are increasing recreational bicyclists using Fauquier County roads and asked VDOT to look into what the county can do to improve safety and awareness. Mr. Trumbo suggested shoulder improvements along Rectortown Road, Atoka Road, Route 50, Route 709 and Route 55 to Marshall which creates a loop where a bicycle lane could be added. Advertising designated bike routes could be a safe alternative for riders and help warn drivers that there could be bicyclists on the road.

Mr. Green mentioned that in Culpeper County there are green bicycle route signs along designated roads, however, cyclists can go long distances and don't want to go on the same route repeatedly.

First Sergeant Pearson commented that cyclists like hard core routes and the challenge of new routes. He stated the groups need to post for all events and the incident on Crest Hill Road happened on an event route that was not posted.

Mr. Eltringham asked if the county could add language to the ordinance and require groups to post for events. First Sergeant Pearson noted that VDOT and the state police should be notified and suggested discussing options with the county attorney.

Mr. Eltringham suggested contacting other localities, such as Montgomery County, for information on how they planned their infrastructure to accommodate cyclists.

Ms. Garreau asked if Mr. Trumbo has talked with the Pedestrian Bike Greenway Advisory Committee (PBGAC). Mr. Trumbo replied yes and he is reaching out to as many groups as possible. He noted the PBGAC also suggested share the road signs.

Mr. Nesbit agreed to look into VDOT programs or best practices already available.

Mr. Trumbo stated he would check with council to research the law for state code that allows a county to require notification for events with a certain amount of riders.

The Committee confirmed they will not hold an August meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on **Wednesday, July 31, 2013.**