

**MINUTES OF
FAUQUIER COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
February 29, 2012**

7:00 P.M.

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

Members Present: Peter S. Eltringham, Vice-Chairman, R. Holder Trumbo, Ed Moore, John Green and J. David Cabbage

Members Absent: Adrienne Garreau, Jeffrey Walker

Guests Present: Larry Miller, Parks and Recreation and Michelle Edwards, RRRC

Staff Present: Rick Carr, Susan Eddy, and Meredith Meixner

1. Resolution for Bill Nace

2. Resolution for Larry Mason

3. Elections

ACTION:

Elections were postponed until committee vacancies are filled.

4. Approval of October 26, 2011 Committee Meeting Minutes

ACTION:

On motion made by Holder Trumbo and seconded by Ed Moore, it was moved to approve the October 26, 2011 Committee meeting minutes as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

5. Approval of November 30, 2011 Committee Meeting Minutes

ACTION:

On motion made by Ed Moore and seconded by Holder Trumbo, it was moved to approve the November 30, 2011 Committee meeting minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

6. *Update on Safe Routes to Schools Grant – Larry Miller*

Larry Miller described the federally-funded Safe Routes to School Program which encourages children to walk and bicycle to school. It not only has many health benefits for children but will improve safety and reduce traffic, fuel consumption, and air pollution. The five main elements to the SRTS program are Education, Encouragement from parents, Enforcement, Engineering and Evaluating results.

Mr. Miller added that local citizens developed and applied for a grant for Cedar Lee Middle School within the Bealeton Service District, approximately two years ago. This grant would improve trails and sidewalks along Schoolhouse Road and other areas and will continue under Route 17 connecting to the developments on the eastern side of Bealeton. Last month they were awarded the maximum amount of \$500,000 for the grant.

7. *VDOT Studies*

a. *Lower Waterloo – Susan Russell*

Mr. Cabbage updated the committee on actions to be taken on Lower Waterloo Road.

ACTION: VDOT has already removed the 35 mph sign, and will be installing chevrons on the 3 curves and adding delineators as needed to mark the edge of the travel way.

b. *Old Waterloo – Penny Reed*

Mr. Cabbage described the VDOT study along a 3.16 mile stretch beginning at the Town of Warrenton limits. This study showed 2300 vehicles per day, classified the road as a Major Collector, and has a statutory speed limit of 55 mph on the unposted areas. The study documented 14 crashes where two would have been mitigated by lower speeds. VDOT recommends posting the first 6/10's of a mile coming in and leaving the Town of Warrenton limits at 45mph and noted the need for advisory signs such as advanced warning for curves and reduced speed ahead.

Once completed, Mr. Cabbage will provide the finalized report to Mrs. Eddy to be distributed to the Transportation Committee members and citizens along Old Waterloo Road.

ACTION: Postponed until the final VDOT report is provided.

c. *Green Road – Michael Plant*

Mr. Cabbage stated that a speed study was not performed on this road, because it is unpaved, no reportable crashes were discovered (\$1000 or more in damage or personal injury), there were 70 vehicles per day, and VDOT could place advisory signs, such as advance curve warning, and chevrons along the curve.

Citizens inquired about improvements to the blind curve and Mr. Cabbage responded that changes to the width of the curve would be a construction project. Therefore the work could only take place if it was on the six-year plan. He further stated that VDOT could look into improving the drainage in the ditch, staying within the 30' easement. Citizens also asked if site distance could be improved and Mr. Cabbage said VDOT could remove non-deciduous trees within the right-of-way. Anything beyond would be up to the land owner.

ACTION: Transportation Committee requested that VDOT place advisory signs, such as advance curve warning, and chevrons along the curve, and look into improving the drainage in the ditches and removing non-deciduous trees within the right-of-way.

8. *Route 17 in Bealeton – Julie Wickham*

Julie Wickham distributed a detailed handout listing areas of concern and suggestions on safety improvements within the Bealeton Service District. Some suggestions included reductions in speed limit, installing school zones, and installing crosswalks and sidewalks in specific areas in order to connect neighborhoods with Liberty High School, the library and shopping centers.

Mr. Trumbo asked when the last traffic study was performed along Route 17 in Bealeton. Mr. Cabbage replied that it had been a couple years and VDOT would redo a study if conditions have changed and 1-2 years has gone by.

Mr. Green asked VDOT if there are specific rules to be followed for U.S. Highways. Mr. Cabbage responded that Route 17 is classified as a Principal Arterial Highway and certain provisions would need to be made along with concurrence with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). Mrs. Eddy added that there will be a presentation with VDOT next month, outlining the Corridor of Statewide Significance. Mr. Cabbage gave the examples of Routes 17, 29, 211 and 66 as some of the federal highways included in the Corridor of Statewide Significance.

Mr. Cabbage explained that the school system funds and administers the school related signs. Requests need to be directed to the School Board and in turn they could submit a request to VDOT. He suggested possible advisory signs under the current MUTCD guidelines such as the yellow diamond with the white speed limit in the center. He cautioned that a crosswalk over Route 17 would trigger the need for concurrence with the FHWA because it is a 6 lane highway and would include refuges in the median, handicap ramps and sidewalks.

The committee concluded that the following initial steps need to be taken:

- VDOT will evaluate where advanced warning signs can be placed;
- VDOT will determine whether Route 17 is eligible for a speed study;
- Transportation Committee members to hear the Corridor of Statewide Significance presentation by VDOT next month;

- Staff will compare citizen suggestions from handout with what is currently in the Comprehensive Plan draft for the Bealeton Service District;
- Staff will compare citizen suggestions from handout with the draft Route 28 Safety Study;
- Staff will list what citizen suggestions remain.

Transportation Committee members will discuss this request at the April 25, 2012 meeting.

9. *Secondary Six Year Plan Discussion*

Mr. Cabbage stated the allocations for the year 2012 – 2013 stay the same as last year at \$178,000 and for the years 2013 – 2018, they will increase to \$196,000 for annual funding.

Mr. Cabbage gave the status on the following projects:

Tinpot Run Road – fully funded, advertisement date 10/30/12;
 Sumerduck Road – fully funded, advertisement date 4/30/15;
 Heddings Road – fully funded, Rural Rustic road, advertisement date 3/26/13 or sooner;
 Leeds Manor Road – fully funded, advertisement date in 2014;
 Kines Road, Schoolhouse Road and Whiting Road – need funding;

Mr. Cabbage does not recommend adding another project until 2013. Once the scope of work and estimate is done for Whiting Road, then he would recommend adding a project to the list.

10. *Citizens' Time*

Mr. Fuerst asked if a caution sign will be installed prior to the dangerous curve on Rogues Road. Mr. Cabbage agreed to add it from both directions.

11. *Other Items*

Mr. Eltringham reminded the committee members to keep up on the Super NoVa Vision Plan.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on **Wednesday, March 28, 2012.**