

**MINUTES OF
FAUQUIER COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
October 26, 2011**

6:30 P.M.

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

Members Present: Laurence Mason, Chairman, Peter S. Eltringham, Vice-Chairman, William D. Nace, Adrienne Garreau, R. Holder Trumbo, Ed Moore and J. David Cabbage

Members Absent: Jeffrey Walker

Guests Present: Ray Pickering, Agricultural Development and Jenny Biche, RRRC

Staff Present: Rick Carr, Kimberley Fogle, Susan Eddy, Meredith Meixner and Harvey Clark

1. *Approval of September 28, 2011 Committee Meeting Minutes*

ACTION:

On motion made by Bill Nace and seconded by Pete Eltringham, it was moved to approve the September 28, 2011 Committee meeting minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

2. *Update on Farm Equipment Road Safety – Ray Pickering and Ben Cooper*

Mr. Pickering discussed the programs recently developed by the Agricultural Development Department along with the Virginia Farm Bureau. Agriculture Zone caution banners are now placed on the county signs during planting and harvesting times and eighteen orange tractor caution signs are available for farmers to borrow at times when they will have farm equipment on the roads.

3. *Green Road – Michael Plant*

Mr. Plant shared descriptions and photos of the blind curves, deep pot holes, and lack of drainage on this narrow unpaved road. He added that there is now more traffic due to the new Liberty Hill Pet Resort and that people dump tires and deer carcasses in certain areas. He would like it to be maintained in a way that would improve safety, site distance, widen it for two cars to pass, add appropriate signage and correct drainage issues.

Mr. Cabbage suggested that it could be a candidate for VDOT's Rural Rustic designation and be considered for the county's Secondary Six Year Plan. VDOT could then address the alignment, raising the road, and continual maintenance. He agreed to count traffic, driveways served, pull crash data and evaluate for signage.

Mr. Trumbo suggested Mr. Plant contact the county litter control program to address the dumping issue.

ACTION: On motion made by Pete Eltringham and seconded by Bill Nace, it was moved to table this item until the January meeting, allowing 90 days for VDOT to do a traffic count, collect crash data, count driveways served and evaluate for signage. The motion carried unanimously.

4. *Lower Waterloo Road – Susan Russell*

Mrs. Russell shared her concerns regarding this one lane gravel road and believes the 35 mph speed limit sign recently posted is too fast for the conditions of the road. She added that the poor site distance and sharp curve with a ditch and hill on the side makes it dangerous for the residents, high school traffic and buses that use the road.

Mr. Cabbage explained that a resident had requested a speed limit sign be posted and in Virginia the statutory speed limit for unposted, gravel roads is 35 mph. He agreed to remove the current speed limit sign and review for appropriate advisory signs.

ACTION: On motion made by Pete Eltringham and seconded by Bill Nace, it was moved to request VDOT remove the 35 mph statutory speed limit sign, evaluate for the appropriate advisory signs and bring back to the January meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

5. *Old Waterloo Road – Penny Reed*

Mrs. Reed and many residents along Old Waterloo Road came to speak about their experiences and concerns for the large amount of accidents (many fatal), excessive speeding, lack of signage and dangerous passing areas along this curvy, two lane road. They are requesting a reduction in the 55 mph speed limit to 45 mph, and would like increased signage and enforcement from the sheriff's office.

Mr. Trumbo suggested that VDOT perform a traffic study.

Mr. Cabbage brought what crash data was available and stated for the three year average, there were 5-6 crashes per year excluding deer and run-off the road type crashes. He agreed to perform a traffic study with a 24 hour count, mid-week for traffic, speed and classification of vehicle.

ACTION: On motion made by Holder Trumbo and seconded by Bill Nace, it was moved to request VDOT perform a traffic study and bring results to the Transportation Committee in 90 – 120 days. The motion carried unanimously.

6. ***Remington Bridge (No. 1907) – Remington Community Partnership***

Mary Root described the design and shared photos of this historical bridge that echoes the design of its neighboring railroad bridge. She explained that VDHR is evaluating the bridge for its eligibility for individual inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places.

Mr. Cabbage stated that this bridge was proposed for replacement due to deficiencies that are geometric in nature. He feels it is a good time for the Transportation Committee to get involved because the project is in its beginning stages.

Mr. Trumbo suggested that Fauquier County, Town of Remington and Culpeper County provide formal comments to VDOT. Mr. Cabbage further suggested including architectural preferences.

Mr. Trumbo then suggested having the Architectural Review Board (ARB) review and make a recommendation to the Transportation Committee, and then in turn make a recommendation to the BOS.

ACTION: On motion made by Adrienne Garreau and seconded by Holder Trumbo, it was moved to have the Architectural Review Board make a recommendation to the Transportation Committee, request input from Culpeper County and the Town of Remington, and provide a letter to VDOT that Fauquier County is evaluating the possibility of preservation instead of replacement. The motion carried unanimously.

7. ***Vint Hill Road (Route 215) – David Blake – Study Results from VDOT***

Mr. Cabbage stated that based on the study, VDOT will retain the 55 mph statutory speed limit from Route 29 to the Prince William County line.

Mr. Cabbage noted that Route 215 in Prince William County has a speed limit of 45 mph. Prince William comes under the VDOT Northern Virginia District and so the Culpeper District has no authority there. Mr. Cabbage did investigate and found that the VDOT Northern Virginia District has not done a speed study on Route 215 in Prince William County since the closure of the Vint Hill base, and no new conditions mandated a new study there. In Fauquier County, changes have occurred since the closing of the base and more recent speed studies have been conducted here.

Citizens agreed they would prefer the speed limit be reduced to 45 mph. Mr. Broaddus with the Vint Hill EDA added that the Vint Hill Board passed a resolution last week in support of a reduction to 45 mph.

Mr. Trumbo believes that 50 mph would at least help to lower the speed, similar to the traffic calming corridor on Route 50 from Paris to Aldie.

Mr. Cabbage agreed to review for advisory sign locations and bring his suggestions back to the Transportation Committee. He added that as the service district and corridor changes, we

can revisit speed studies and conditions in a few years. He listed several examples of changes in characteristics, such as access points, turn lanes, intersection configurations, crash frequency, nature of the crashes, site distance, commercial entrances, etc. would have to be considered to have the speed reduced in the future.

ACTION: VDOT will review for advisory sign locations and bring suggestions to the next Transportation Committee meeting.

8. *Rogues Road (Route 602) – Frank Fuerst (and Others) – Study Results from VDOT*

Mr. Cabbage stated that the long range recommendations should be included in the Secondary Six Year Plan in order to address shoulder improvements and vertical improvements, such as lowering the center line.

Mr. Moore questioned whether implementing and constructing a trail system across Rogues Road from Edington Drive to the high school would reduce the speed limit. Mr. Cabbage stated that it would require obtaining a VDOT permit. Mrs. Garreau added that the Pedestrian, Bicycle and Greenway Advisory Committee could evaluate the trail as part of the Safe Routes to School program.

Mr. Eltringham requested staff draft a scope of Rogues Road from Route 215 to Route 605 for its consideration in the six year plan.

Mrs. Garreau requested VDOT to review for appropriate advisory signs, such as blind curves and upcoming intersections.

ACTION: VDOT will review for advisory sign locations and bring suggestions to the next Transportation Committee meeting.

9. *Route 29 Corridor Update*

Mrs. Fogle stated that staff is preparing 3 alternatives between Routes 215 and 600, showing changes to the intersections and how they affect each other. She would like to bring these to the November/December meeting to get feedback from the committee and in turn put through the evaluation process including the New Baltimore Service District Committee.

ACTION: Kimberley Fogle will provide Route 29 Corridor alternatives between Routes 215 and 600 at the next Transportation Committee meeting.

10. *Citizens' Time*

No citizens spoke at this time.

11. Other Items

Mr. Eltringham inquired on the status of the intersection of Lord Fairfax Drive and Business 29. Mr. Cabbage stated that the timing has recently been adjusted to free up traffic and a design consultant has been hired to come up with concepts to improve the intersection.

Ms. Garreau stated that the new light at Routes 600 and 29 is functioning well and has made it easier to get in and out of Route 600. Ms. Garreau also inquired if Mr. Cabbage is aware of a plan to pave Greenville Road. Mr. Cabbage responded that it would need to be placed on the six year plan.

Mr. Trumbo inquired about the status of the pothole on Route 602. Mr. Cabbage responded that the work order has been placed.

Mr. Moore stated that due to the large interest of citizens, he would like the committee to stay focused on reducing the speed limit to 45 mph on Vint Hill Road.

Mr. Cabbage stated that the Opal Interchange project is now underway and the cameras along Route 29 are now viewable on trafficland.com. There are currently 6 and there is a plan to add another 8 over the next two years.

Mrs. Eddy gave the committee options to set the date for the November/December combined meeting and it was decided to have it on November 30th.

Mrs. Eddy will bring the Route 17, Bealeton Study to the next meeting.

Mrs. Eddy reminded the committee members that VDOT is having a regional public meeting in Culpeper on November 3rd.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:33 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on **Wednesday, November 30, 2011.**