

**MINUTES OF  
FAUQUIER COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE  
July 29, 2009**

**7:00 P.M.**

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

**Members Present:** Matthew Smith, Chairman, J. David Cubbage, Peter S. Eltringham, Adrienne Garreau, William D. Nace, Sam Poles, R. Holder Trumbo

**Members Absent:** Laurence Mason, Vice-Chairman and Jeffrey Walker

**Staff Present:** Rick Carr, Susan Eddy, and Cynthia Porter-Johnson

**1. *Approval of June 24, 2009 Committee Meeting Minutes***

**ACTION:**

**On motion made by Mr. William Nace and seconded by Sam Poles, it was moved to approve the June 24, 2009 Committee meeting minutes with corrections. The motion carried unanimously.**

**2. *Consider making a recommendation to the Planning Commission on the Route 211 - Route 17 Connector Corridor (Center and Marshall Districts)***

Mr. Peter Eltringham suggested that the committee focus on the recommendation that will be forwarded to the Planning Commission and to limit discussion to Transportation Committee members.

Mr. Nace clarified that the committee is not recommending any type of road, intersection or interchange. However, the committee is considering recommending a space so at any time in the future, if there is a need for the road, the space will be there. Mr. Nace indicated that the committee wants to create a situation where the road is not eliminated because it was never considered. The committee wants to give future generations options.

Ms. Adrienne Garreau reiterated that the committee is not advocating the connection of the road or where the alignment will go.

Mr. Eltringham stated that the subgroup believes there should be a road in the plan. However, the subgroup could not come to an agreement on what the character of the road should be because of a lot of different factors. Mr. Eltringham is not convinced that the numbers provided in the HNTB study will manifest the need for a connection. According to Mr. Eltringham, there needs to be a lot of study done as the data is not clear and the study does not make a compelling case for the connection. He recommends caution to the Planning Commission and the Board of Supervisors when examining what should be done in this area.

Mr. J. David Cabbage explained that there will be a need for an environmental impact study (EIS) and cost estimates. However, the main decision is to determine whether or not you want a road. It is impossible at this time to pick a particular section of the road.

Mr. Nace stated that options were prepared by staff. The Board of Supervisors charged the Transportation Committee with taking on the tough issues. The Committee's job is to project how things will be many years from now. Broadview Avenue is not going to be acceptable. The Committee is being asked to make a recommendation.

Mr. Eltringham stated that he walked the properties and feels strongly that he can only support part of this corridor – Bear Wallow to Waterloo.

Ms. Garreau commented on the recommendations on the Route 211 – Route 17 Corridor stressing her view that the Town of Warrenton should take some responsibility in making improvements to Broadview Avenue prior to any commitments made by the County.

Mr. R. Holder Trumbo and Ms. Garreau recused themselves from voting.

**ACTION:**

**On motion made by Mr. William Nace and seconded by Mr. Peter Eltringham, it was moved to accept the Recommendations on the Route 211 – Route 17 Corridor as modified and forward these to the Planning Commission. The motion carried 4-0. (Nace, Eltringham, Poles, and Smith)**

**3. *Requests to forward to VDOT***

- Consider a reduction in the speed limit to 25 mph on Old Alexandria Turnpike (Route 693) (Scott District) – Jim Benedict

Mr. Jim Benedict, property owner is requesting a reduction in the speed limit on Old Alexandria Turnpike from the one lane bridge to the convenience site. Currently, the speed limit is 40 mph and the request is to have the speed limit reduced to 25 mph.

Ms. Garreau indicated that Old Alexandria Turnpike is located in her district and that she has ridden on this street before. Ms. Garreau cannot conceive someone doing more than 25 mph on that stretch of the road.

Mr. Poles stated that the development of the Snow Hill Subdivision put more traffic on the road.

Mr. Cabbage indicated that it would require a speed study which establishes a crash history over a period of three (3) years. He also explained that the 40 mph speed limit was established in October 1980. This predates several of the businesses in the area and the development of Snow Hill. The 1980 study was based on a 1978 average daily trips of 354. The 2007 count showed 1,200 average daily trips. There has been significant growth with the addition of the businesses and subdivision. Mr. Cabbage would

recommend this road for a speed study. The crash history shows no reportables since 2005 and no injuries in the record since 1998. Mr. Cabbage is focusing on criteria such as the increase in traffic and the change in the environment. It is difficult to justify a reduction in the speed limit when there are no crashes.

Mr. Cabbage cautioned the committee on how to submit roads for speed studies suggesting they not indicate the speed that they want, but focus on the data.

Mr. Benedict spoke about the accidents on Old Alexandria Turnpike.

Mr. Cabbage explained that to meet the criteria of a reportable accident, the accident must be \$1,000 or more worth of damage and injury.

The Committee requested that VDOT study the request.

- Consider a reduction in the speed limit to 25 mph on Carters Run Road (Route 691) (Marshall District) – James Cookson

Mr. Poles visited this location at Carters Run Road. He is not sure if it can be done, but if VDOT does a road study, he would suggest that the study be done from this location back to Route 17. The current speed limit is 45 mph.

Mr. Cabbage provided background information on this area of Carters Run Road. There were two reportable accidents of which none of them involved personal injury in early 2004. The specific police report on these accidents indicated the vehicle was traveling 45 mph and it was an alcohol related incident. The other accident happened because of the snow.

Mr. Cabbage stated to the committee that a study for this area on Carters Run Road (Route 691) is not warranted at this time based on preliminary review of the data.

Mr. Cabbage indicated that speed studies can cost up to \$4,000 per study.

**On motion made by Mr. Sam Poles and seconded by Adrienne Garreau, it was moved to accept VDOT's preliminary study and to send a letter to the property owner indicating that the data does not support a study at this time. The motion carried unanimously.**

- Additional information concerning the request for a three-way stop sign at the junction of Halfway Road (Route 626) and Landmark Road (Route 679) and reducing the speed limit of Halfway Road (Scott District) – Dr. Anthony Wells and Dr. Carol Evans

Mrs. Eddy shared with the committee that Dr. Wells provided additional accident data on Halfway Road and that he disagreed with VDOT's finding.

Mr. Garreau asked for the location of the accidents that are provided in the accident data provided by Dr. Wells.

Mrs. Eddy could not verify the location of the accidents.

Mr. Cabbage indicated that VDOT did a study on this road one (1) year ago in June.

Mr. Trumbo suggested that the committee go back to Karen Smallwood and ask for parameters, clarification and more details so that the committee can accurately respond to Dr. Wells request.

Mr. Nace indicated that he visited the site after this item was first presented to the committee.

Mr. Trumbo stated that this is an enforcement problem. Mr. Trumbo is convinced that this should be an all-way stop.

#### **4. *Citizens' Time***

No one spoke at this time.

#### **5. *Other Items***

- Schoolhouse Road Intersection Improvement (Lee District)

Mr. Cabbage referred back to what was shared previously regarding Schoolhouse Road. Schoolhouse Road is not a likely candidate for the Six-year plan. It would be put at the end of the list since it is not federally eligible for funding. It could possibly be a candidate for revenue share or a locally administered project. Safe routes to school grants should be considered for this road as well.

Mr. Trumbo asked if Dominion Power is willing to move the pole or did they have to be paid to move the pole?

Mr. Cabbage indicated that if Dominion Power was willing to move the pole that it could not be considered as part of the revenue share.

The committee recommended that this item be placed on hold until Mr. Mason can attend a meeting and speak more about it.

- Discussion of Town of Warrenton Representation on the Transportation Committee

Mr. Poles shared that Bobby Thorpe from the Town of Warrenton Transportation Committee asked him about the committee's views on the Route 211 – Route 17

Corridor. Mr. Poles suggested that the committee have a representative from the town recalling that Mr. Per Bang-Jensen was the Center District representative at one time.

Mr. Trumbo stated that he is not supportive of a representative for the Town. However, he feels that the committee should be mindful to invite Town representatives as needed.

Mr. Eltringham indicated that he is still interested in knowing the legal impacts of conservation easements on transportation planning.

Mr. Trumbo suggested that the committee have a conversation with the county attorney and have him attend a meeting.

Mr. Trumbo indicated that Citizens for Fauquier County (CFFC) wants signs at entrances to Leeds Manor Rural Historical District.

Chairman Smith stated that there will be no meeting in August.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on **Wednesday, September 30, 2009.**