

**MINUTES OF
FAUQUIER COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**

March 28, 2007

7:00 P.M.

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

Members Present: Matthew Smith, Chairman, J. David Cubbage, Larry Kovalik, Harry Atherton, Erich Meding, and Jeffrey Walker

Members Absent: Laurence Mason, Vice-Chairman, Ray Graham (Alternate), Sam Poles, and William Nace

Guests Present: Martha Toomey, Jeff McCord, and Paul & Kimberly Robinson

Staff Present: Liz Cook and Stacey Pell

Mr. Smith introduced Mr. Larry Kovalik to the Transportation Committee. Mr. Kovalik is the Center District Planning Commissioner. He will be joining the Committee as the Planning Commission representative replacing Holder Trumbo.

- 1. Receive an Update on the Request for Safety Improvements for Crest Hill Road (Route 647) – Ward Ponn (Item #2)*

Mr. Cubbage stated a speed study had been completed. The results showed that the speed limit that is posted is appropriate at this time. VDOT will increase the size of the speed limit sign to 36 inches by 48 inches. The study showed 80% of the drivers were exceeding the current speed limit. Lowering the speed limit would not slow down drivers; this is an enforcement issue.

Ms. Toomey stated there are at least nine school bus stops along that stretch of road and no ‘School Bus Stop’ signs.

ACTION:

Mrs. Cook will contact Mr. Ponn with the speed limit study results.

- 2. Receive an Update on the Speed Limit Reduction in the Village of Turnbull – Phoebe Tufts Plank (Item #3)*

Mr. Cubbage asked the Committee to request a sign to designate the Village of Turnbull.

ACTION:

Mr. Atherton, as Chairman of the Board of Supervisors, will write a letter requesting a Village Sign for Turnbull.

3. *Receive an Update on the Roundabout Study at Broad Run Church Road (Route 600) and Riley Road (Route 676) (Item #4)*

Mr. Cabbage stated this is a fluid situation and there are currently two potential concepts. One concept would place the roundabout over the existing intersection. The other concept would offset the roundabout towards the school. Mr. Cabbage would like to consider a third concept that would offset the roundabout away from the school. He may be able to show a rough sketch at next month's meeting. Some potential issues may include utility movement and right-of-way acquisition. Mr. Cabbage stated that it needs to be determined how this will fit with the development and if funding will come from Revenue Sharing, Six-Year Plan, grants, or proffers. He also noted that this is within the Buckland Battlefield area.

Mrs. Cook stated there are two rezonings currently in the works and another parcel for a potential rezoning at this intersection. She advised that two of the four points of this intersection have potential proffer possibility.

Mr. Cabbage cautioned that there is a 10,000 vehicle per day limit on this roundabout. If traffic counts increase, there will be a need to go to Richmond for roundabout approval.

Mr. Kovalik added that drivers look for the path of least resistance.

Mr. Atherton noted that when the Vint Hill Parkway opens, Route 600 will not be used as a cut through as frequently.

ACTION: Mr. Cabbage will update the Committee at the next meeting.

4. *Consider a Request for a 'Watch for Autistic Child' Sign near the Intersection of John Barton Payne Road (Route 732) and Conde Road (Route 737) – Martha Toomey (Item #5)*

Mrs. Toomey stated the speed limit changes at least two times on John Barton Payne Road from Wilson Road to the Elysian Hills Subdivision. Ms. Toomey stated she stood at 6464 John Barton Payne Road for six hours and watched 100 cars go by. It appeared that 80% were exceeding the 40 m.p.h. speed limit. Ms. Toomey would like traffic calming in this area, especially due to an autistic child who resides on this road. The house is very close to the road. A high fence has been built around this property but may not be able to deter the child for much longer.

Mr. Atherton inquired to the process.

Mr. Cabbage stated the only similar signs in Virginia are the ones placed in front of institutional facilities.

Mr. Atherton stated he would talk to Peter Schwartz regarding this issue.

Mrs. Toomey stated she is willing to go to the state level for 'Watch for Autistic Child' signs as there are 'Watch for Blind Child' and 'Watch for Deaf Child' signs. Mrs. Toomey also stated the child goes to school and rides a bus. The bus driver sometimes has trouble making this stop.

Mr. Cabbage stated 'School Bus Stop Ahead' sign requests need to come from the School Board.

ACTION:

Mrs. Toomey will contact the Fauquier County School Board regarding placement of a 'School Bus Stop Ahead' sign.

Mr. Atherton will contact Peter Schwartz to see what can be done at the state level.

5. *Approval of January 31, 2007 Committee Meeting Minutes (Item #1)*

ACTION:

On motion made by Mr. Atherton and seconded by Mr. Kovalik, it was moved to approve the February 28, 2007 Committee meeting minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

6. *Consider a Request for a 'Watch For Children' Sign along McHenry Court – Paul and Kimberly Robinson*

Mr. Robinson stated there are actually two issues. The first being McHenry Court is no longer a court but a through street over one mile in length. It connects the original part of the subdivision with the newer section. Drivers turn off Tinpot Run Lane and there is nothing to slow them down along that stretch of road. Drivers are driving 35-40 m.p.h.

Mrs. Robinson noted the older part of the subdivision does not have sidewalks but the newer section does.

Mr. Kovalik inquired how long this has been an issue and if it is the same drivers consistently on this road.

Mr. Robinson stated the road was changed from a court in October 2006. The same drivers travel this road. Mr. Robinson also stated he wished this road remained as a cul-de-sac. He also stated the Sheriff's Office has been contacted regarding the speeding drivers.

Mr. Cabbage stated the developer can place speed limit sign throughout the whole subdivision, per the Construction Plans.

Mrs. Cook stated this may already be required in the roads plans by the developer, which will have to be done before the road is turned over to the County. Mrs. Cook also noted, for future reference, that the County is looking to add sidewalks to all new subdivisions in Service Districts, regardless of the size of lots in the subdivision.

ACTION:

Mr. Cabbage will contact the developer of the subdivision to post 25 m.p.h. speed limit signs.

7. *Citizens' Time*

No citizens spoke at this time.

8. *Consider Changing the Format of the Committee's Meeting Minutes*

Mr. Meding thanked Mrs. Cook for her work on this Committee. He stated he liked the detail given to the minutes as it makes it easier to go back and review past projects. He stated some projects may need more detail than others, but there is a need to be able to track everything. He would like to be able to easily go back and see the decisions made by the Committee and what led to such decisions.

Mrs. Cook stated the Transportation Committee Meeting minutes are available online, but are not able to be searched like the Board of Supervisor Meeting minutes.

Mr. Atherton stated action items for each request are useful and necessary.

Mr. Meding stated the minutes need to provide for the accountability of the Committee.

9. Other Items

Mr. Walker gave an update on the multimodal grant proposals. Both applications from the County have advanced to the next round. April 13th is the next deadline. The first submission was just the letter of intent; the next submission will require a detailed scope of the project. The Route 29 Corridor between Madison and Gainesville is one application in which Fauquier County is involved. This will target capacity and safety issues as well as crossovers. The other application is the Fauquier-Warrenton Bike and Pedestrian Path.

Mr. Cabbage stated the invoice from the consultant who did the study for the Buckland Bypass will be paid, and then that project will be closed.

Mr. Atherton stated Route 29 will remain in its existing corridor.

Mr. Atherton announced Liz Cook is moving back to Texas. He stated the County will never be the same again without her.

Mr. Smith thanked Mrs. Cook for her work with the County, especially for the Transportation Committee.

Mrs. Cook stated she is going to miss the people here, and that she has enjoyed working here.

Mr. Kovalik stated he was happy to be a part of this Committee.

Mr. Smith welcomed Mr. Kovalik.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.
The next meeting will be held April 25, 2007.