

**Rappahannock Rapidan Regional Commission**  
**Rural Transportation Technical Committee**  
**February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2009**  
**Minutes**

***Attendees:*** Fritz Alderman (Town of Culpeper Planning), Matthew Bolick (VDOT – Culpeper Residency), Joshua Bateman (Town of Orange Planning), Deirdre Clark (RRRC), John Cooley (Culpeper County Planning), John Egertson – *Chair* (Culpeper County Planning), Sue Hromyak (RRRC), Patrick Mauney (RRRC), Chris Mothersead (Town of Warrenton Planning), Ray Parks (RRCSB-AAA), Paul Russell (VDOT – Warrenton Residency), John Shelburne (VDOT TMPD), Jeff Walker (RRRC)

***Guests & Speakers:*** Joe Springer (Parsons)

***Welcome and Introductions, Agenda, Minutes, Matters from the Public***

J Egertson called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

The agenda was approved as presented.

C Mothersead moved, with a second from J Cooley, to approve minutes from the January 7<sup>th</sup> meeting. The minutes were approved as is, ayes all.

J Egertson welcomed new committee member Joshua Bateman from the Town of Orange and committee members introduced themselves.

***Update on Town of Orange Form-Based Code Initiative***

J Bateman discussed the Town of Orange’s ongoing revision to its zoning ordinance, as well as efforts to implement a form-based code in the town’s “Activity Zone,” located along routes 15 and 20 and in the downtown area. Renaissance Planning Group is the consultant on this project and has been gathering data from other localities with similar code in an effort to help draft regulations for the town.

The updated code will include plans for downtown and a regulated plan for Main Street and the side streets in town. Building form in the activity zone will be regulated, but not completely covered by the code. The town is looking at implementing a performance-based zoning ordinance for the rural commercial section of Route 15 south of town. The project is expected to last six months or so.

J Cooley asked if the website (<http://www.townoforangeva.org/index.asp?NID=194>) will continually be updated, as it has been a helpful resource. J Bateman said that he did not think the raw information received from the consultant would be posted, but he would be happy to share that information with committee members, as requested.

***Regional Long Range Plan Update***

Joe Springer, with Parsons, updated the committee on his organization’s work on the compilation of the Regional Long Range Transportation Plans from all of the rural PDCs in the commonwealth. The main goal is to provide a level of consistency amongst all of the reports, but

to still allow each region some flexibility in how the data is presented. The timeline for the project remains intact, with technical field work wrapping up in early March and draft reports out to the PDCs in April.

F Alderman asked about bridge deficiencies and how they are incorporated into the plan. J Springer stated that the physical condition is the main identifier for a bridge to be included, rather than volume.

J Walker asked about the availability of the draft document for the April committee meeting (scheduled for April 1<sup>st</sup>). J Springer responded that that may be a bit early for the draft reports, but that Parsons would like to come back in March to go over the technical analysis portions of the reports with the committee.

### ***Route 29 Corridor Study Update***

Mr. Springer gave an overview of the progress of the ongoing Route 29 Corridor Study. This study will compile all data from previous corridor studies and includes a large amount of public outreach. The first phase of the study, consisting of listening tour studio meetings will be wrapping up in February and has provided the entire project team with valuable input from all sections of the corridor.

A main goal for the PD9 area and sections of Route 29 north of Charlottesville is to create a data inventory to match the databases for those sections of the corridor around Lynchburg and Danville. The project team will be looking at making recommendations related to roadway design and location, land use and safety improvements. To date, there have been some intriguing findings related to driveway density, crash density and signalization standards which will be included as part of the final study documents.

Upcoming phases of the study will include Regional Leadership planning forums with local elected officials in March and a Corridor-wide Leadership forum slated for May or June.

Information on the study is available at <http://www.virginia-dot.org/route29>

### ***VAPDC Winter Conference Transportation Committee Report***

J Walker provided an update on proceedings from the VAPDC Winter Conference with specific information from the VDOT and Transportation Committee presentations. Highlights included updates from VDOT on the state of the Commonwealth's Bridge system and the ongoing VTrans 2035 project.

He also mentioned that the Athey/Vogel HJR 178/SJR 70 Development and Land Use Tools study committee is covering a wide swath of information and expects the preliminary DLUT study report to be back to the full committee soon.

### ***Announcements and Other Business***

J Walker reminded committee members of the upcoming PD9-area listening tour meetings for the Route 29 Corridor Study, which can be accessed on the Commission's website at <http://www.rregion.org/calendar>

### ***Next Meeting and Adjournment***

The next meeting of the Rappahannock-Rapidan Rural Transportation Committee will be Wednesday, March 4<sup>th</sup> at 10am.

Upon a motion by J Cooley and a second from C Mothersead, the meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m.