

**Rappahannock Rapidan Regional Commission**  
**Rural Transportation Technical Committee**  
**March 13, 2013**  
**Minutes**

**Attendees:** John Cooley (Town of Orange), Drew Draper (Fauquier County), John Egertson (Culpeper County), Brian Higgins (Piedmont Environmental Council), Patrick Mauney (RRRC), Dan Painter (VDOT Culpeper District), Jeff Walker (RRRC), Gregg Zody (Orange County)

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

J Egertson called the meeting to order at 10:05 am.

The agenda was approved as presented following a motion by G Zody and a second by J Cooley.

The minutes from the January 9<sup>th</sup> meeting were approved ayes all following a motion by G Zody and a second by J Cooley.

There were no comments from the public.

***Route 28 Safety Study***

D Draper presented on Fauquier County's ongoing planning work in the Route 28 corridor. The study is intended to improve safety conditions through a multi-faceted approach and to balance village context with growing traffic demands, including significant commuter traffic.

The study identified hot spots in the Route 28 corridor through analysis of traffic volumes, crash data and field visits. Mr. Draper included the intersection with Route 661/Oak Shade Road as an example where crash data showed multiple accidents during the morning rush hour traffic involving vehicles making left turns from Route 661 onto Route 28 North.

Fauquier County is currently pursuing funding to implement some of the recommendations from the Route 28 Safety Study through the Six-Year Improvement Program, Highway Safety Improvement Program, Safe Routes to School, the County's proffer system and VDOT's Road Maintenance funding. The recommendations in the study have been prioritized and some preliminary engineering funds have been obtained through the county's Six-Year Primary Road planning process.

Committee members had questions about the maintenance and future updates to the plan and comparisons were drawn between Route 28 and other corridors in the region, notably Route 20 in Orange County and Route 229 in Culpeper County.

***Rural Transportation Work Program Updates***

P Mauney discussed the FY 2013 Rural Transportation Work program and the draft FY 2014 Rural Transportation Work program.

There are two projects from the FY 2013 RWP that will be completed in the next few months. The seventh Travel Time data collection will occur in May. Committee members discussed potential corridors and selected Route 29 from the southern entrance to the Town of Culpeper

north to the Prince William County boundary and the Route 17 corridor from Opal/Route 29 to Stafford County for data collection in 2013. P Mauney will report back with that data at a future meeting.

The next installment on the RRRC Living Towns Planning Workshop is scheduled to be held in September in the Town of Orange. J Walker reported that he and Sue Hromyak have held several preliminary meetings with the steering committee and are in the process of developing the agenda. More information will be available in the summer.

The draft FY 2014 Rural Transportation Work program was presented. Highlights of the draft program include:

- **Sidewalk Inventory & Gap Analysis:** *To meet one of the goals in the Statewide Pedestrian Policy Plan, identify gaps in pedestrian infrastructures such as missing sidewalk segments. Provide a shape file with lat/long locations to include whether the gap is located adjacent to the roadway.*
- **Small Urban Area Plan Updates:** *Assist the VDOT District Planner in the update / review of the Small Urban Area Plans in the region. There are three Small Urban Area plans in the Rappahannock-Rapidan region focusing on the towns of Culpeper, Orange and Warrenton. RRRC staff will work in consultation with VDOT Culpeper District staff and town staff to review and update these plans, as necessary.*
- **Regional Corridor Analysis:** *To meet goals in the Virginia Strategic Highway Safety Plan, conduct a corridor study / analysis of a roadway segment and identify potential improvements (including access management) to the corridor for safety and/or congestion. RRRC staff will work with the Rural Transportation Committee and VDOT Culpeper District staff to identify a suitable corridor and develop a scope or work for this analysis.*

The Regional Commission will also plan on holding another Living Towns Workshop in Summer 2014. Committee members were invited to submit additional requests to P Mauney and J Walker as needed throughout the year.

#### ***Announcements & Other Business***

D Painter stated that the Functional Classification updates were ongoing. The limited access segments of Route 29 were likely to be designated as Freeways in the final recommendations. Comments will continue to be reviewed by VDOT staff in April and May.

D Painter also referenced VDOT's Pedestrian Policy Plan that is expected to be rolled out in the summer. There is the potential for a pedestrian study at Bealeton (Routes 17 and 28) as a result of the policy.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:05 a.m.