

**TRI-CITIES AREA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
TECHNICAL COMMITTEE - AGENDA**

January 4, 2008

10: 00 a.m.

Southside Regional Medical Center

3335 South Crater Road

Petersburg, Virginia 23803

- I. CALL TO ORDER
- II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – October 5, 2007
- III. CITIZEN INFORMATION PERIOD
- IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
 - a. Review and Discussion of the 2031 Transportation Plan Update – CPDC and VDOT staff will briefly comment on the status of this project. This is an information item.
 - b. Status Report on Fort Lee Expansion Transportation Projects – VDOT and CPDC staffs will briefly comment on this information item.
- V. NEW BUSINESS
 - a. Review of Proposed Amendment to the FY 2006 – 2008 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for a Capital Replacement Project During FY 2008 for Crater Area Agency on Aging – The Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation has requested the current TIP be amended to include a Section 5310 funded project for the total amount of \$124,000. A recommendation on this item is requested.
 - b. Presentation of Information by VHB, Inc. on Results of Special Run of the Richmond Traffic Model Regarding Fort Lee Expansion – The project consultant will provide information on the findings of this analysis. The intent of this analysis has been to use a larger study area window and focus on future traffic for the corridors leading to the Fort Lee gates using the 2031 socio-economic data adopted on October 11, 2007. The current adopted 2026 Transportation Plan used 2026 socio-economic data adopted on August 20, 2003 and did not include consideration for Fort Lee expansion. Technical Committee members will have opportunity to ask questions and offer comments. This is an information item.
- VI. OTHER BUSINESS
- VII. ADJOURNMENT

Minutes of the Tri-Cities Area Metropolitan Planning Organization Transportation Technical Committee meeting held at 3335 South Crater Road in the Southside Regional Medical Center on October 5, 2007 at 10 a.m.

Members Present: Barbara Smith, Chesterfield; March Altman, Hopewell; Christiana Greene, Dinwiddie (alternate); Ron Svejksky, VDOT (alternate); Mike Briddell, City of Petersburg; Leon Hughes, Prince George, George Schanzenbacher, City of Colonial Heights; Ron Reekes, Petersburg Area Transit.
Joe Vinsh, CPDC.

Members Absent: Mike Briddell, City of Petersburg;

Others Present: Dama Rice, City of Petersburg; Lamont Benjamin, VDOT

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES - September 7, 2007

Upon a motion by Ms. Smith, seconded by Mr. Reekes and carried, the minutes of the September 7, 2007 meeting were approved.

CITIZEN INFORMATION PERIOD

No comment

REPORT of Preliminary 2031 Socio-Economic Forecast

Mr. Vinsh distributed and reviewed summary information on three 2031 socio-economic forecasts for the MPO study area. The forecasts included the CPDC's staff 2031 forecast with an employment growth adjustment factor developed by RKG, Inc.; a CPDC PDC staff 2031 forecast without Fort Lee expansion and a 2031 forecast prepared by RKG, Inc.

Mr. Vinsh indicated the forecast prepared by RKG, Inc. will be used by VDOT for a special run of the 2026 traffic model. The output from this effort will be used for the Crater Growth Management Plan. The 2031 forecast prepared by Crater PDC staff will be used along with similar input from the Richmond PDC staff at a later time for the 2031 Transportation Plan update.

After a period of discussion, Ms. Smith made a motion, seconded by Mr. Reekes and carried, to forward a recommendation to the Policy Committee that the Technical Committee recommends endorsement of the forecasts presented.

REVIEW AND DISCUSSION OF THE 2031 TRANSPORTATION PLAN UPDATE

Mr. Vinsh stated the 2031 financial forecast from VDOT has not been received. CPDC staff will be focusing on updating the socio-economic tables and narrative for the 2031 document.

Mr. Vinsh indicated input had been received from Dinwiddie to include the north/south new facility project extending from Chesterfield and connecting in Dinwiddie County near the vicinity of I-85.

REVIEW OF PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE FY 2006 - 2008 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) FOR THE ROUTE 1 CMAQ PROJECT IN COLONIAL HEIGHTS (UPC 77600)

Mr. Vinsh and Mr. Svejkovsky indicated a need to allocate 100% federal funds instead of 80% of the total project cost for the Route 1 signalization project and the Petersburg downtown signal project. CMAQ transit projects and "signal only" projects are funded at a 100% federal level.

Upon a motion by Ms. Smith, seconded by Mr. Hughes and carried, a motion was adopted to recommend additional federal allocations be made to the 2 referenced projects from unallocated FY 2008 funds in the amounts of \$65,000 for UPC 77537 and 66,400 for UPC 77600.

REVIEW OF PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE FY 2006 - 2008 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) TO SHIFT PREVIOUS CMAQ ALLOCATIONS FROM THE COLONIAL CROSSINGS PROJECT (UPC 59118) TO THE HUMMEL ROSS CMAQ PROJECT (UPC 12955)

Mr. Benjamin indicated City of Hopewell has agreed to fund the Colonial Crossings project with local funds and has requested previous funds allocated to this project be shifted to the Hummel Ross Road CMAQ project.

Mr. Altman noted that the current cost estimate may not be the final cost of the Hummel Ross CMAQ project.

Upon a motion by Mr. Altman, seconded by Ms. Smith and carried a motion was adopted to recommend to the MPO - Policy Committee that CMAQ funds previously allocated to the Colonial Crossings CMAQ project be shifted to the Hummel Ross Road CMAQ project.

REVIEW OF INFORMATION ON A PROPOSED ADDENDUM to the FY 2006 - 2008 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Mr. Svejkovsky indicated, as explained during the previous meeting, in order to be compliant with SAFETEA-LU the TIP must be a 4-year document. Mr. Svejkovsky distributed a list projects recommended by VDOT to be included in the addendum for a 4th year of the FY 2006 - 2008 Transportation Improvement Program. The projects included 7 secondary, 2 urban and 1 primary.

After a brief period of discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Hughes, seconded by Ms. Smith and carried that approval of the addendum be recommended to the Policy Committee for approval, subject to a review of the route numbers listed for projects in Prince George County.

REVIEW OF INFORMATION ON PROPOSED TRAIL PROJECTS FOR ENHANCEMENT FUNDING IN COLONIAL HEIGHTS AND IN PETERSBURG

Mr. Vinsh stated the City of Colonial Heights is seeking MPO support for \$600,000 in enhancement funding for the western section of the Appomattox River Greenway Trail and the City of Petersburg is seeking \$500,000 for the Appomattox River Heritage Trail project.

Upon a motion by Ms. Smith, seconded by Mr. Schanzenbacher and carried, a motion to recommend MPO - Policy Committee support for the proposed enhancement grants was approved.

DISCUSSION OF SEVERAL TRANSIT ITEMS REFERED BY THE MPO -
POLICY COMMITTEE

Mr. Reekes provided some financial information for several PAT routes that extend outside of the City of Petersburg, including the Crossings in Hopewell, Southpark in Colonial Heights, Fort Lee in Prince George, Central State Hospital in Dinwiddie and Ettrick in Chesterfield. Mr. Reekes indicated because of a scheduled loss of demonstration funds for these routes and because of a need for PAT to fulfill its local financial share of the downtown Richmond to downtown Petersburg express route, local funds from outside of Petersburg will be needed for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2008 in order to continue current service levels.

Mr. Reekes also indicated Mayor Mickens brought this item to the attention of the Policy Committee during a previous meeting and the Technical Committee has been charged with making short and long term recommendations on this transit funding item.

Mr. Reekes asked, beyond the GRTC Route, what do the area local governments want to do? Mr. Reekes suggested a subcommittee could be established to work out an approach to local cost sharing.

Mr. Altman stated several Council members in Hopewell had recently express interest in learning more about transit funding needs and opportunities.

Mr. Schanzenbacher indicated the City of Colonial Heights may want to be a part of this discussion, including potential changes in the route structure.

Mr. Reekes stated the potential exists to move the current transit system to regional management.

Mr. Bender stated DR&PT may be of assistance with devising an approach to cost sharing. Mr. Bender suggest either PAT or the MPO send a letter to DR&PT requesting on-call contractor assistance for short-term needs, such as working out a cost share approach. This may be able to be accomplished within available resources. For longer term

needs, such as updating the transit development program, a similar request needs to be made of DR&PT before February 2008 in order to receive consideration for funding after July 1, 2008.

Mr. Hughes asked for information on ridership by jurisdiction for the routes outside of Petersburg.

Mr. Reekes indicated this information is not currently available and would be expensive to collect. He suggested a sample survey could be made. Mr. Reekes indicated GRTC has completed a survey fairly recently of the downtown to downtown route. This survey would be made available to area local governments.

Mr. Reekes offered to send a letter to DR&PT requesting short-term assistance with developing a cost-share approach with local governments regarding transit funding for routes located outside of Petersburg.

Mr. Vinsh stated he would report this discussion item to the Policy Committee.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:35 A.M.