



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Commonwealth Transportation Board

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Agenda item #4

RESOLUTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH TRANSPORTATION BOARD

May 15, 2019

MOTION

Made By: Mr. Whitworth, Seconded By: Ms. Hynes

Action: Motion Carried, Unanimously

Title: Establishment of the I-81 Committee Pursuant to Chapters 837 and 846 of the 2019 Session of the General Assembly

WHEREAS, pursuant to Chapter 743 of the 2018 *Virginia Acts of Assembly*, the General Assembly directed the Commonwealth Transportation Board (Board), to study financing options for improvements to Interstate 81 (I-81) with assistance from the Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment (OIPI), the Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT), and the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) and to develop and adopt an I-81 Corridor Improvement Plan (I-81 Plan); and

WHEREAS, OIPI, with assistance from VDOT and DRPT, developed the I-81 Corridor Improvement Plan which identified targeted improvements to the entire I-81 corridor and evaluated financing solutions, and on December 5, 2018, the Board approved the I-81 Corridor Improvement Plan Executive Summary, authorizing the Secretary of Transportation to make such modifications to the Plan as deemed appropriate and not in conflict with the Executive Summary and to finalize and present the Plan to the General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Chapters 837 and 846 of the 2019 *Virginia Acts of Assembly*, the General Assembly has established the I-81 Corridor Improvement Fund and has directed the Board to adopt an I-81 Corridor Improvement Program (I-81 Program), which is to be updated by July 1 of each year and its status reported to the General Assembly by December 15 of each year; and

Resolution of the Board

Establishment of the I-81 Committee Pursuant to Chapters 837 and 846 of the 2019 Session of the General Assembly

May 15, 2019

Page 2 of 3

WHEREAS, pursuant to Chapters 837 and 846, the General Assembly has directed the Board to regularly update the I-81 Plan; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Chapters 837 and 846, the General Assembly has also directed the Board to establish an I-81 Committee to provide advice and recommendations to the Board regarding: (i) the development of the I-81 Program and (ii) updates to the I-81 Plan; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Chapters 837 and 846, the I-81 Committee shall consult with interested stakeholders and shall hold at least four regional meetings each year with meetings rotating among locations in Planning Districts 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Chapters 837 and 846, the I-81 Committee shall be composed of 15 voting members and two ex officio members as follows::

1. The Chairs of planning district commissions for Planning Districts 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7, or in the discretion of a chairman, his designee, who shall be a current elected official serving on such commission;
2. Four members of the House of Delegates, each of whom resides in Planning District 3, 4, 5, 6, or 7, to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates, with none of the four members living in the same planning district;
3. Three members of the Senate, each of whom resides in Planning District 3, 4, 5, 6, or 7, to be appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules, with none of the three members shall live in the same planning district;
4. The three members of the Board representing the Bristol, Salem, and Staunton highway construction districts;
5. The Commissioner of Highways and the Director of the Department of Rail and Public Transportation who shall serve ex officio with nonvoting privileges; and

WHEREAS, the Senate Committee on Rules has appointed Senators Obenshain, Edwards, and Carrico to serve on the I-81 Committee, while members of the House of Delegates have not yet been appointed; and

WHEREAS, the Committee shall elect a chairman and vice-chairman from among its membership.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board hereby establishes the I-81 Committee whose membership and duties shall be as set forth in Chapters 837 and 846.

Resolution of the Board

Establishment of the I-81 Committee Pursuant to Chapters 837 and 846 of the 2019 Session of the General Assembly

May 15, 2019

Page 3 of 3

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board hereby authorizes the Secretary of Transportation to contact Planning District Commissions 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7 and the Speaker of the House of Delegates to request that the I-81 Committee members for the Planning Districts and the House of Delegates be designated/appointed and to coordinate with all members of the Committee to convene a meeting of the Committee as soon as practicable.

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CTB Decision Brief

Establishment of the I-81 Committee Pursuant to Chapters 837 and 846 of the 2019 Session of the General Assembly

Issue: Pursuant to Chapters 837 and 846 of the 2019 *Virginia Acts of Assembly* which establish the Interstate 81 Corridor Improvement Fund (I-81 Fund), the General Assembly has directed the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) to, among other things, establish the Interstate 81 Corridor Improvement Program (I-81 Program) and an I-81 Committee. The CTB is requested to take the action necessary to establish the I-81 Committee.

Facts: On December 5, 2018, pursuant to Chapter 743 of the 2018 Acts of Assembly, the CTB approved the I-81 Corridor Improvement Plan Executive Summary, authorizing the Secretary of Transportation to make modifications to the I-81 Corridor Improvement Plan as deemed appropriate and to finalize and present the Plan to the General Assembly on or before the first day of the 2019 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

Subsequently, in the 2019 Session, the Virginia General Assembly enacted Chapters 837 and 846, which establish the I-81 Corridor Improvement Fund and require the CTB to adopt an I-81 Corridor Improvement Program (I-81 Program), which is to be updated by July 1 of each year and its status reported to the General Assembly by December 15 of each year. In addition, Chapters 837 and 846 require the CTB to establish an I-81 Committee, the purpose of which is to provide advice and recommendations to the CTB regarding: (i) the development of the I-81 Program and (ii) updates to the I-81 Plan.

In the performance of its various duties, the I-81 Committee is required to consult with interested stakeholders and to conduct at least four regional meetings yearly, rotating the meetings among locations in Planning Districts 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7. The 17 member Committee is comprised of the following 15 voting and 2 nonvoting, ex officio members:

1. The Chairs of planning district commissions for Planning Districts 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7, or in the discretion of a chairman, his designee, who shall be a current elected official serving on such commission;
2. Four members of the House of Delegates, each of whom resides in Planning District 3, 4, 5, 6, or 7, to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates. None of the four members shall live in the same planning district;
3. Three members of the Senate, each of whom resides in Planning District 3, 4, 5, 6, or 7, to be appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules. None of the three members shall live in the same planning district;
4. The three members of the CTB representing the Bristol, Salem, and Staunton highway construction districts; and
5. The Commissioner of Highways and the Director of the Department of Rail and Public Transportation who serve as ex officio members with nonvoting privileges.

Decision Brief

Establishment of the I-81 Committee Pursuant to Chapters 837 and 846 of the 2019 Session of the General Assembly

May 15, 2019

Page 2 of 2

The Senate Rules Committee has appointed Senators Obenshain, Edwards, and Carrico to serve on the Committee, however, no action has yet been taken by the Speaker of the House to appoint the four House of Delegate members to the Committee.

Pursuant to Chapters 837 and 846, the Committee shall elect a chairman and vice-chairman from among its membership and a majority of the members shall constitute a quorum. Members shall serve terms coincident with their terms in office or position and vacancies shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment. The Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment, the Virginia Department of Transportation and the Department of Rail and Public Transportation are to provide support to the Committee as appropriate.

Recommendations: It is recommended that the CTB take action to establish the I-81 Committee as required by Chapters 837 and 846.

Action Required by CTB: The CTB will be presented with a resolution for a formal vote to establish the I-81 Committee whose membership and duties shall be as set forth in Chapters 837 and 846. The resolution will also authorize the Secretary of Transportation to contact Planning District Commissions 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7 and the Speaker of the House of Delegates to request that the I-81 Committee members for the Planning Districts and the House of Delegates be designated/appointed and to coordinate with all members of the Committee to convene a meeting of the Committee as soon as practicable.

Result, if Approved: If approved, formal action will have been taken by the CTB to establish the I-81 Committee. Further, the Secretary of Transportation will be authorized to contact Planning District Commissions 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7 and the Speaker of the House to identify the remaining Committee members and to coordinate with all members of the Committee to convene a meeting as soon as practicable.

Options: Approve, Deny, or Defer.

Public Comments/Reactions: None