



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Commonwealth Transportation Board

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Agenda Item # 15

RESOLUTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH TRANSPORTATION BOARD

June 15, 2011

MOTION

Made By: Mr. Koelemay Seconded By: Mr. Keen

Action: Motion Carried, Unanimously

**Title: Route 29 Corridor Study - A Resolution on the Recommendations of the CTB
Subcommittee**

WHEREAS, on December 17, 2009, the Commonwealth Transportation Board (Board) adopted a resolution accepting the Route 29 Corridor Study Report and directing additional work be performed to supplement the study report; and

WHEREAS, the Board's December 17, 2009 resolution in directing this additional work expressed concern that several recommendations of the consultant team were removed prior to presentation to the Board, some of which recommendations were apparently initially opposed or favored by the localities affected, and which removal the Board viewed as premature; and

WHEREAS, the Board's December 17, 2009 resolution directed the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) and the Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) to work closely with a subcommittee of this Board to accomplish that additional work; and

WHEREAS, on February 8, 2010, the Chairman of the Board appointed a Route 29 Corridor Subcommittee to perform and oversee the work pursuant to the directives of the December 17, 2009 resolution; and

WHEREAS, the Board Subcommittee worked diligently on the Board's directives and completed its work on the Board's directives for additional study on the Route 29 Corridor including:

- A prioritized list of intersections to be replaced by grade separated intersections or interchanges;
- A plan to improve mobility and accessibility north of Charlottesville, evaluating various alternatives and not limited to prior proposals;
- A plan to improve mobility and accessibility in the Gainesville, Haymarket and Buckland region, evaluating various alternatives and not limited to prior proposals; and
- A plan to minimize the number of traffic control signals in the Corridor; and

WHEREAS, the Board Subcommittee Chairman has periodically reported on its work, and has now completed its work on all of the Board's directives for additional study on the Route 29 Corridor; and

WHEREAS, the Board Subcommittee has compiled a prioritized list of the intersections to be replaced with grade separated intersections or interchanges; and

WHEREAS, the Board Subcommittee has determined that the initial step in developing a mobility and accessibility plan north of Charlottesville and in the Gainesville, Haymarket and Buckland region must begin with cross-jurisdictional discussions between local elected leaders; and

WHEREAS, the Board Subcommittee has developed a proposal for holding facilitated cross-jurisdictional discussions with local leaders in the Charlottesville area and a separate forum for the leaders from the Lynchburg/Danville areas; and

WHEREAS, the Board Subcommittee's proposal envisions the facilitated cross-jurisdictional discussions with local leaders of the Charlottesville and Lynchburg/Danville areas to be followed by a joint meeting with local leaders from these areas of the Route 29 Corridor; and

WHEREAS, the Board Subcommittee has developed a proposal for cross-jurisdictional discussions of transportation issues in the Gainesville, Haymarket and Buckland region, beginning with informal cross-jurisdictional talks; and

WHEREAS, the Board Subcommittee has outlined a proposal for developing Corridor Master Plans that will identify ways to control the number of new access points and minimize the number of traffic signals on Route 29, and the other Corridors of Statewide Significance; and

WHEREAS, future funding may not be available for widening and improving the Corridors of Statewide Significance or for bypassing areas where local traffic generated by strip commercial developments have congested these long distance travel corridors; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Corridor Master Plans are critical to preserving the capacity and safety and controlling congestion in the Corridors of Statewide Significance; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Corridor Master Plans will help ensure the ability of the Corridors of Statewide Significance to continue to function into the future, as facilities for long distance travel, movement of goods and economic development; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Corridor Master Plan process must include a pilot study that is developed cooperatively with the localities, Planning District Commissions and the MPOs and provide opportunities for public involvement; and

WHEREAS, the Board Subcommittee has submitted the following documents on all of the Board's directives for review by the full Board:

- A list of Prioritized Intersections Based on Safety and Congestion to be replaced by grade separated intersections or interchanges.
- A Proposal for Cross-Jurisdictional Discussions on Improving mobility and accessibility north of Charlottesville.
- A Proposal for Cross-Jurisdictional Discussions on Improving mobility and accessibility in the Gainesville, Haymarket and Buckland region.
- A proposal for developing Corridor Master Plans to help minimize the number of traffic control signals in the corridor.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Commonwealth Transportation Board hereby accepts these documents as meeting the Board's directives for further studies of Route 29 and the Corridors of Statewide Significance as identified in the VTrans2035 Plan; and including the new corridor of statewide significance as identified in the May 2011 CTB Meeting.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board requests the Secretary of Transportation to use the influence of his office to encourage cross-jurisdictional discussions between local elected leaders in the Charlottesville, Lynchburg and Danville areas to seek solutions to the mobility and accessibility needs of the Route 29 Corridor north of Charlottesville; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board requests the Secretary of Transportation to use the influence of his office to encourage cross-jurisdictional discussions between local elected leaders to seek solutions to the mobility and accessibility needs of the Route 29 Corridor in the Gainesville, Haymarket and Buckland region; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board directs VDOT and DRPT to recommend to the Board a selected corridor segment in which to develop a pilot Corridor Master Plan so that the concept developed by the Route 29 Subcommittee may be refined; and after such recommendation is received by the Board, the Chairman shall appoint a new subcommittee of the Board (consisting of either the members of the Route 29 Subcommittee or other appropriate members, depending upon the location of the corridor segment) to oversee development of a pilot Corridor Master Plan , work closely with the appropriate localities, Planning District Commissions, Metropolitan Planning Organizations and providing opportunities for public involvement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Corridor Master Plan Subcommittee will report the Corridor Master Plan pilot study to the full Board, along with recommendations for refining the process and a timetable for developing Corridor Master Plans on all Corridors of Statewide Significance; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board directs VDOT and DRPT to pursue opportunities to educate localities, Planning District Commissions, MPOs and the public on the importance of Corridors of Statewide Significance and planning efforts which will be undertaken with localities to ensure their ongoing functionality; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the cost for carrying out these activities shall be paid for from funds provided by the Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment of the Secretary of Transportation.

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