Commonwealth Transportation Board

April 16, 2014

Amy Inman
Planning & Mobility Programs Administrator
Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation

Lauren Mollerup, P.E., CCM
Transportation & Land Use Director
VDOT Northern Virginia District Office

Barton A. Thrasher, P.E.
State Location and Design Engineer
VDOT
INTRODUCTION

- Multimodal Transportation System
  - Governor’s Multimodal Strategic Plan
  - VTRANS 2035 Update
  - Code of Virginia 33.1-69.001

- Tysons Redevelopment
  - Multimodal Transportation System based on “Complete Streets” approach to transportation planning
  - Rethink the design of transportation infrastructure
  - Tysons Development

- DRPT Multimodal System Design Guidelines
Why These Guidelines?

- Provide a resource to improve planning & coordination:
  - Regional Scale
  - Community Scale
  - Street Scale
- Enhance economic value/competitiveness of places
- Promote Safety
- Offer more travel choices
- Resource for locals to implement plan recommendations
Linkage to State Plans/Policies

Governor’s Strategic Multimodal Plan

“Improve accessibility to modes and activity centers”

Vtrans 2035 Update

“Increase travel choices to improve quality of life for Virginians”

Governor’s Housing Policy Initiative

“Address the integral linkage of housing, employment and transportation”
STATEWIDE CONTEXT

- These Guidelines were developed using real places from a Virginia Context
INDUSTRY STANDARDS

- Extensive research and use of (Virginia and National) industry standards

VDOT  
AASHTO  
ITE & CNU
**Benefits of Urban Design Standards**

- Provides transportation design standards that can be used within the urban activity centers and revitalization areas.
- Based on context-sensitive design that accommodates a multimodal urban environment.
- Provides a common framework to the development community on the urban design elements that can be provided to accommodate multiple modes of transportation within the multimodal districts.
- Reduces the number of required design waivers, such as intersection spacing.
IMPLEMENTATION

MULTIMODAL DESIGN STANDARDS FOR MIXED USE URBAN CENTERS
IMPLEMENTING THE GUIDELINES

- DRPT Multimodal System Design Guidelines allow a common language and set of best practices.
- Guidelines allow VDOT and DRPT to have more unified approach to Multimodal Planning.
- VDOT owns/maintains majority of roads in Virginia.
- Recent legislation allowed localities to work with VDOT and DRPT to adopt new urban roadway standards.
- 160 localities in Virginia – challenge if each locality develops its own urban standards.
IMPLEMENTING THE GUIDELINES

- The Guidelines were incorporated into Appendix B(2) of the VDOT Road Design Manual in January 2014
- Fairfax County is currently piloting these Guidelines
- Initial Fairfax County submission (for Springfield Multimodal District/Center) reviewed and comments provided to County staff
- Additional submissions for other Districts/Centers throughout the County (including the Dulles Corridor) anticipated throughout 2014
TYSONS PLANNING BACKGROUND AND VISION

- Task Force and Community Workshops (2005-2008)
- Comprehensive Plan Adopted (June 2010)
- Urban Streets
  - Narrower Pedestrian Crossings
  - Dedicated Bike Lanes
  - Enhanced Transit Service (Bus & Rail)
- Urban Streetscapes
  - Wide Sidewalks
  - Landscape Amenity Panel
  - Activity Space Relating to Buildings
TYSONS MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT (MOA) AND TRANSPORTATION DESIGN STANDARDS (SEPTEMBER 2011)

- Developed to Accommodate the Urban Vision Included in the County’s Comprehensive Plan
- VDOT Existing Geometric Design Standards Enhanced to Accommodate Some Urban Features Associated with the Adopted Plan
- MOA and Design Standards Documents Address:
  - Acceptable Designs
  - Maintenance Responsibilities
  - Permitting Process
- Tysons Design Standards
Web Links

- DRPT Multimodal System Design Guidelines:
  - DRPT Multimodal System Design Guidelines:
  - Executive Summary
  - 3 short Web Movies
  - Guide for Preparing a Multimodal System Plan

- VDOT Road Design Manual Appendix B(2):

- Tysons Design Standards:
Thank You!
Questions?