

A MPO Public Hearing was held in the Danville Municipal Building, Second Floor Conference Room, Patton Street, Danville, VA at 5:30 – 6:30 p.m., December 10, 2007, for an Amendment to the Long-Range Transportation Plan and Amendments to FY 2006-2008 Transportation Improvement Plan.

Minutes

for the

December 10, 2007, Meeting

of the

Danville Metropolitan Planning Organization

Danville Municipal Building, Second Floor Conference Room, Patton Street, Danville
at 6:35 p.m.

Attendees:

Robert Scearce, Pittsylvania County, Acting Chairman
Jeff Kessler, VDOT-Lynchburg District Planning Engineer
Kent Shelton, Danville City Engineer
Greg Sides, Pittsylvania County Planning Director
Coy Harville, Pittsylvania County
Randy Hamilton, VDOT, Chatham Residency Office
Marc Adelman, Danville Transit System
Ken Gillie, Danville Planning Director
Robert W. Dowd, Danville MPO Administrator
Joan Hullett, Danville MPO Staff

1. **Call to Order**

Mr. Scearce, Acting MPO Chairman, called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

2. **Approval of Minutes of Previous MPO Meeting & Hearing, August 27, 2007**

Mr. Scearce presented the minutes of the August 27, 2007, meeting, offering an opportunity to submit changes; hearing none, he called for a motion on the minutes as presented. Mr. Harville made a motion, seconded by Mr. Sides, to approve the minutes. Upon vote, the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the August 27, 2007, MPO meeting of the Policy Board.

3. **Additional Items for the Agenda (as necessary)**

Mr. Dowd noted that the following items needed to be added to the agenda:

- Resolution 2007-25—Authorization to the MPO Administrator to be Signatory to a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Parties including the Danville City Manager for the Public Transit Agency and the Virginia Department of Transportation
- Resolution 2007-26—Authorization to the MPO Administrator, in concert with District Planning Engineer and Project Management Team/Technical Committee, to Finalize Adjustments to Year 2030, CLRP Project Lists with Input from VDOT and Federal Highway Administration as Appropriate
- Resolution 2007-27—Authorization to the MPO Administrator and the Project Management Team to Proceed with Update to the Year 2030 Constrained Long-Range Transportation Plan including Procurement of and Execution of a Contract with a Selected Consultant Firm to Assist in the Work Activities

Mr. Harville made a motion, seconded by Mr. Sides, to approve the agenda as presented with the addition of the items listed above. Upon vote, the motion carried unanimously.

4. Review of Public Hearing Comments on the Amendments to the Long-Range Transportation Plan and Amendments to the Transportation Improvement Program
[Review any comments, suggested changes received during the Thirty Day Review Period, prior to the Public Hearing. Discussion to include any additional Policy Board, Local, MPO, VDOT, VDRPT, or FHWA changes offered on the TIP amendments before action taken.]

Mr. Dowd advised that the Virginia Department of Transportation had requested that the MPO amend its current FY 2008-2008 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) in order to make the document up to date by the inclusion of two projects which were identified as UPC81238 and UPC86673. He also noted that VDOT had asked for the MPO's consideration of amendment to the Long-Range Transportation Plan, Year 2030, to revise the project list table so that it would be compliant with the SAFETEA-LU act by adjusting the projects' cost to the year of expenditure format rather than the 2004 dollar format. He also noted that he had been requested by the City of Danville to amend the Constrained Long-Range Plan in order to include a new road connector on the Plan map so that the City would meet requirements in order to obtain revenue-sharing funds from the Commonwealth to assist the City in constructing the proposed road connector. The Commonwealth requires that a project of this nature be included in local comprehensive plans or, in an MPO area's case, the constrained Long-Range Transportation Plan. It was noted that the City had two alternatives for the road connector that they would present; one approach was to connect Piedmont Drive directly to Riverside Drive and the other alternative was to connect Piedmont Drive with Riverview Drive. The City requested the addition of the information on the direct Piedmont Drive to Riverside Drive option during the review period.

A public hearing had been held at 5:30 p.m. prior to the evening's MPO Policy Board meeting to cover the actions noted above that the MPO was being asked to take subsequent to the public hearing. Mr. Dowd noted that, as part of the Public Involvement Process, the staff had placed copies of the review package in various public accessible locations; press releases had been sent out; advertisements had been placed three times in local newspapers; direct mailings including display sheets had been sent out to community-based organizations, churches, the Citizen Advisory Committee, environmental and transportation-related agencies, and the MPO Project Management Team membership. He noted that, at the time, there had been no additional changes to the materials from any of the contacted persons or agencies except for the noted amendments. It was noted that no comments had been offered at the earlier public hearing.

5. Resolutions Related to Long-Range Transportation Plan:

- a) Public Involvement Process in Development of Amendments to the Long-Range Transportation Plan, Resolution 2007-19
- b) Certification that Public Participation, Public Notification Procedures, and Private Enterprise Participation Policy Were Followed In Development of the Amendments to the Long-Range Transportation Plan, Resolution 2007-20
- c) Public Involvement Employment in Development of the Amendments to the Transportation Improvement Program, FY 2006-2008, Resolution 2007-21
- d) Certification that Public Participation, Public Notification Procedures, and Private Enterprise Participation Policy Were Followed in Development of the Amendments to the Transportation Improvement Program, FY 2006-2008, Resolution 2007-22

Mr. Dowd noted that these resolutions indicated that public involvement processes had been used in the review of the amendments to the Long-Range Transportation Plan and certified that procedures were followed as practical.

Mr. Harville made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shelton, to adopt Resolutions 2007-19, 2007-20, 2007-21, and 2007-22, as presented. Upon vote, the motion carried unanimously.

6. Consideration of Resolution 2007-23, Adoption of the Amendments to the Long-Range Transportation Plan

Mr. Dowd informed the Board members that he had been informed by Mr. Kessler of VDOT that an amendment needed to be made to the Constrained Long-Range Transportation Plan for the Danville MPO. The amendment involved adjusting the table of projects that was included in the original 2004 adopted Long-Range Transportation Plan. The SAFETEA-LU act and subsequent regulations require that MPO's present the cost figures for the projects in the plan to reflect the Year-of-Expenditure (YOE). This meant that Mr. Dowd and Mr. Kessler had to revise the 2004 costs for each individual project to reflect the expected costs at the point at which the projects might actually be constructed; the amendment package reflected these changes that Mr. Dowd and Mr. Kessler had developed and would be subject to a motion by the Policy Board. Mr. Kessler noted that a followup change would be needed that would change the heading on the column showing the final cost estimates to read "Allocation FY 2008-FY 2030." This is the amount that reflects the expected dollars needed to complete the work on the projects given the base amount of total funding that would be available over the period 2008 – 2030. Since some projects were of high cost, it meant that only a portion of the work on some projects could be undertaken during the 2008-2030 planning period such as planning and engineering funding being accomplished on a major project such as a parkway instead of including monies for actual construction in the allocation period.

Mr. Dowd noted that a second amendment to the Long-Range Transportation Plan involved a request from the City of Danville to add to the plan map a connecting route that involved two possible approaches at this point in time. One approach connects Piedmont Drive with Riverview Drive; the other approach involves connecting Piedmont Drive directly to Riverside Drive. The goal of the City is to provide a safe approach to motorists who are proceeding southbound on Piedmont Drive and wish to turn eastbound on Riverside Drive. Either alternative would accomplish this. Mr. Shelton asked that the motion to consider adopting Resolution 2007-23 provide that the resolution be modified so the fifth line under the fifth "whereas" statement be changed to read "...to the CLRP's maps for the Piedmont Drive to Riverview Drive **or Riverside Drive** connecting route so that the the City of..." Mr. Dowd noted that the City needed to have the amendment to the Long-Range Plan made so that it would meet the requirement of having the connecting route appear in an adopted comprehensive plan or the MPO's Constrained Long-Range Transportation Plan in order to apply for revenue sharing funds for construction from the Commonwealth.

Mr. Shelton made a motion, seconded by Mr. Harville, to adopt Resolution 2007-23, with the modification noted above concerning the Piedmont Drive connector route as well as the modification for the Year-of-Expenditure compliant projects table. Upon vote, the motion carried unanimously.

7. Consideration of Resolution 2007-24 Adoption of the Amendments to the Transportation Improvement Program, FY 2006-2008, Resolution 2007-24

Mr. Dowd noted that VDOT had several projects for which funds were available but that were not included in the current Transportation Improvement Program that would benefit the Danville MPO area. These project amendments were described as: Project UPC 81238, adding funding for improving Route 750 and Route 863 intersection and approaches and Project UPC 86673, adding funding for HSIP Districtwide High Risk Rural Roads Program in the Lynchburg Construction District.

Mr. Harville made a motion, seconded by Mr. Kessler, to adopt Resolution 2007-24, as presented, adopting the described Amendments (Project UPC 81238, adding funding for improving Route 750 and Route 863 intersection and approaches and Project UPC 86673, adding funding for HSIP Districtwide High Risk Rural Roads Program in the Lynchburg

Construction District) to the FY 2006-2008 Transportation Improvement Program, to include observance of planning requirements and compliance with the national transportation act of 2005, SAFETEA-LU and its regulations. Upon vote, the motion carried unanimously.

8. Authorization to the MPO Administrator to be Signatory to a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Parties including the Danville City Manager for the Public Transit Agency and the Virginia Department of Transportation, Resolution 2007-25

Mr. Harville made a motion, seconded by Mr. Gillie, to adopt Resolution 2007-25, as presented, to authorize the Danville (Pittsylvania) MPO Administrative Agent/WPPDC to execute a required Memorandum of Understanding along with other parties including the City of Danville's City Manager (or his assigns) representing the City and the Public Transportation Provider—Danville Transit System under the City's Authority, and the Virginia Department of Transportation and/or additional parties which the Commonwealth of Virginia's Department of Transportation deems necessary and appropriate. Upon vote, the motion carried unanimously.

9. Authorization to the MPO Administrator, in Concert with District Planning Engineer and Project Management Team/Technical Committee, to Finalize Adjustments to Year 2030, CLRP Project Lists with Input from VDOT and Federal Highway Administration as Appropriate—Resolution 2007-26

Mr. Shelton made a motion, seconded by Mr. Daniels, to approve Resolution 2007-26, as presented, authorizing the MPO Administrator, in concert with the District Planning Engineer, Project Management Team/Technical Committee, to finalize adjustments to the Year 2030, CLRP Project Lists with input from other VDOT and Federal Highway Administration staff as appropriate. Upon vote, the motion carried unanimously.

10. Authorization to the MPO Administrator and the Project Management Team to Proceed with Update to the Year 2030 Constrained Long-Range Transportation Plan including Procurement of and Execution of a Contract with a Selected Consultant Firm to Assist in the Work Activities—Resolution 2007-27

Mr. Harville made a motion, seconded by Mr. Gillie, to adopt Resolution 2007-27 authorizing the MPO Administrator, working with the MPO's Project Management Team/Technical Committee, to proceed with a procurement process to select a consultant firm and then for the MPO Administrator to execute an agreement with the final selected firm in order for the MPO to avail itself of assistance in updating the Year 2030 Long-Range Transportation Plan, in observance and compliance with the national transportation act of 2005, SAFETEA-LU. Upon vote, the motion carried unanimously.

11. Access Management Project Led by HSMM and T3 Design

Mr. Dowd noted that the firm of Hayes Seay Mattern and Mattern had made substantial progress toward making a final draft report on the two corridors for access management studies in the City of Danville (U.S. Route 58 West and also Memorial Drive/West Main Street). He noted that the firm, in concert with the MPO, would be presenting the materials again to the public probably in the month of January and then subsequently to the City.

12. Update on U.S. Route 29 North Access Management Project Efforts

Mr. Dowd reported there were two projects for access management being developed for studies on U.S. Route 29 north of the City of Danville and in Pittsylvania County. The first project that is being developed is a study of Route 29 from the intersection of Route 726 north to the

intersection with Route 718; this project will be developed with assistance from the firm of Vanasse Hangen Burstlin Incorporated. The second project results from the successful submission of a request for on-call consultant funds from VDOT to undertake access management studies for the Route 29 corridor from the intersection of Route 718 north to the Chatham South interchange and including the Tightsqueeze commercial area. This project will be assisted by Kimley Horne Incorporated.

13. Update on Transportation Meetings, Programs, and Area Projects

Mr. Dowd noted that he had distributed a letter that was given to the Commonwealth Transportation Board at its October public meeting in Lynchburg in order to solicit public input on projects for the Six-Year Improvement Program that the CTB and VDOT were developing. He noted that this is an important step in our next update of the MPO's Transportation Improvement Program for the period FY 2009-2012.

Mr. Kessler noted that VDOT looked at all the comments received from the series of public meetings and that there had been an emphasis on safety in the Lynchburg District. He noted that it will be the task of the Central VDOT Office personnel to evaluate the projects and the amount of funds that will be available to see which ones can fit into the upcoming Six-Year Program. He noted that it required that the TIP and the Six-Year Improvement Program be compatible; at the current time, VDOT is examining means to streamline the final STIP (Statewide Transportation Improvement Program) for the entire Commonwealth. One of the means being examined is to group projects together so that the amendment or adjustment processes will not have to be invoked so frequently in the future in order to make changes in the STIP and the underlying TIPs across the Commonwealth.

14. Other Business

Mr. Harville noted that the County Planning Commission and others had been concerned for the truck traffic through the Town of Chatham and there was interest in finding some solutions such as a bypass that would pull the traffic away from the downtown corridor. Mr. Dowd noted that he was aware of this concern from a number of years ago and that he thought there had been some attempts to find some logical routes for a bypass but that, due to the lack of funds, nothing had proceeded on this issue. Mr. Dowd also noted that this is a project that needed to be included in the transportation section of the County's comprehensive plan update as well as being addressed in the Regional Rural Long-Range Transportation Plan that the PDC is currently working on in conjunction with VDOT.

15. Adjournment

There being no further business, Mr. Gillie made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shelton, to adjourn the meeting at 7:23 p.m.

Robert W. Dowd, AICP
Danville MPO Administrator

MINUTES

December 10, 2007 PUBLIC HEARING

of the
Danville Metropolitan Planning Organization

held in the
Second Floor Conference Room
Danville Municipal Building, Patton Street, Danville, VA
from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Hearing Subject: ***Amendment to the Long-Range Transportation Plan and
Amendments to Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)***

1. **Opening of Hearing**

Mr. Dowd opened the Public Hearing at 5:30 p.m. in the Second Floor Conference Room, of the Danville Municipal Building, Danville.

2. **Briefing on the Subject of the Hearing**

Mr. Dowd advised that, from time to time, the MPO was required to consider amendments to key planning documents. Currently, a number of amendments needed to be made. First, the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) needed to be amended to add a project (Project UPC81238) on Route 750 (Mount Cross Road) where it intersects Route 863. The obligated funds provided for the project would be available in the added funding years FY 2009-2010. The project will address safety, traffic operations, traffic system management in its scope of work. The principal funding source will be the HES program. It will address improvement in vertical alignment and should aid the sight distance for motorists.

The second TIP amendment involved adding funding for a HSIP Districtwide High Risk Rural Roads Program in the Lynchburg Construction District (Project UPC86673) to provide aid to the system to address safety, traffic operations, and transportation system management at various locations that need new projects. If agreed to by the MPO's and VDOT, the plan for STIP and TIP amendments would be to add dollars to Planning Engineering in FY 2008 including obligation of \$220,203 in federal FY 2008 funds from the HSIP program for which Virginia is eligible. The program addresses high risk rural road segment that may lie in MPO study areas. The MPO would need to adopt an amendment to the MPO's TIP to make the funds locally available.

Another amendment was to be considered for the MPO's Constrained Long-Range Transportation Plan (CLRP). In this case, the MPO was being required to amend the multi-project list to adjust the project costs, originally set in 2004, to their escalated costs for the Year of Expenditure (YOE) which is an adjustment being required by the Federal Highway Administration and the last national transportation act, SAFETEA-LU. It was noted that it was possible that, with inflation and adjustments to the list for Year-of-Expenditure, certain projects may need to be dropped off if the accrued total costs of all

projects exceeds the cumulative amount anticipated to be available to the area by year 2030. Though not expected to be the case, if the total funds happened to be underutilized, then projects from the Vision Plan that originally could not be funded could be brought over to the Constrained Plan's project list.

A second CLRP amendment came at the request of the city which would add a new connecting route from Piedmont Drive over to Riverview Drive. This provides a safer means for motorists south/west bound on Piedmont Drive to proceed east onto Route 58/Riverside Drive which is limited currently. The City plans to apply for revenue-sharing funds to construct the connector desired; the project must be entered into either a comprehensive plan or the MPO's Long-Range Transportation Plan.

Mr. Dowd noted that, as part of the Public Involvement Process, the staff had placed copies of the review package in various public accessible locations; press releases had been sent out; advertisements had been placed three times in local newspapers; direct mailings had been sent out to community-based organizations, churches, the Citizen Advisory Committee, environmental and transportation-related agencies, and the MPO Project Management Team membership. He noted that, at the time, there had been no additional changes to the materials from any of the contacted persons or agencies; however, the City of Danville had presented drawings of an alternative to the Piedmont Drive connector. Their new alternative provided for a route connection between Piedmont Drive and Riverside Drive in addition to the Piedmont Drive to Riverview Drive option, both of which would need to be included in the Long-Range Plan amendment. He then opened the Public Hearing for comment from the citizens.

Mr. Dowd opened the meeting for public comment at the conclusion of his remarks on the purpose of the hearing and the issues to be considered at the subsequent MPO meeting.

3. Comments Received to Date of the Hearing During Public Participation Process Period

Mr. Dowd indicated that he did not receive any verbal or written comments from the general public or other parties regarding the items under consideration for the public hearing from the beginning of the thirty-day review period up to the convening of the present public hearing. The hearing was advertised in the newspaper of general circulation 30 days, 14 days, and 7 days before the hearing.

Mr. Dowd then commenced to review the various advertisements, contacts/postings with churches, community-based organizations, organizations and agencies, committees, and private sector providers, plus press releases and general efforts to implement the public participation and public notification process.

4. Public Participants/Comments

Bob Dowd, Danville MPO Administrator
Joan Hullett, MPO Staff
Jeffery B. Kessler, VDOT, Lynchburg District Office
Randy Hamilton, VDOT, Chatham Residency Office

Mr. Dowd noted that there were no members of the public attending the hearing to make comments on the TIP amendments or any other matters. Mr. Dowd noted that the City of Danville had presented drawings of an alternative to the Piedmont Drive connector. Their new alternative provided for a route connection between Piedmont Drive and Riverside Drive in addition to the Piedmont Drive to Riverview Drive option, both of which would need to be included in the Long-Range Plan amendment.

5. Hearing Closure

The public hearing was closed at 6:30 p.m.

Robert W. Dowd, AICP
Danville MPO Administrator