

Central Virginia Metropolitan Planning Organization

Region 2000 Local Government Council

Conference Room

January 15, 2009

4:30 p.m.

Agenda

1. Call to Order.....John Sharp, Chairman
2. Approval of the October 23, 2008 Meeting Minutes.....John Sharp, Chairman
3. Report on the Development of the Central Virginia Long Range Transportation Plan Year 2035 Update.....Bob White, Deputy Director
4. Continued Discussion: Public Hearing and Comment Practices of the Central Virginia Metropolitan Planning Organization.....Bob White, Deputy Director
5. Matters from the Committee.....All
6. Adjournment- Next meeting is April 16, 2009.....John Sharp, Chairman
7. Informational Items

Central Virginia Metropolitan Planning Organization

Executive Director's Report

January 15, 2009

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Approval of the October 23, 2008 Meeting Minutes**

See attachment 2.

The minutes of the October 23, 2008 Central Virginia Metropolitan Planning Organization (CVMPO) meeting are attached for review and approval.

Recommendation: The staff recommends the CVMPO approve the attached minutes of the October 23, 2008 meeting.

3. **Report on the Development of the Central Virginia Long Range Transportation Plan Year 2035 Update**

Staff is beginning to work on the update to the Central Virginia Long Range Transportation Plan (Plan). This Plan was last updated in December 2006, and is required by federal legislation to be updated every five years. The next required update is December 2010.

The purpose of the Plan is to identify all federally funded or regionally significant transportation projects to be initiated within the CVMPO area over a twenty-five year period. Additionally, the Plan identifies key goals or guiding principles to support the transportation planning process for the foreseeable future.

Staff will be working with the member planning staffs, Greater Lynchburg Transit Company, VDOT, and the Department of Rails and Public Transportation, among others, over the next two years to update the Plan. Mr. White will give a briefing regarding the effort.

Recommendation: Receive the report.

4. **Continued Discussion: Public Hearing and Comment Practices of the Central Virginia Metropolitan Planning Organization**

At the June CVMPO meeting, Unwana Ballenger Dabney, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Community Representative, suggested the CVMPO consider conducting public hearings immediately before or as part of the CVMPO meeting. Additionally, Ms. Dabney suggested a public comment period be included as part of the CVMPO agenda for each meeting.

The CVMPO's current practice is to hold any required public hearings typically on the day before scheduled CVMPO meeting dates. The meeting normally is held in the Local Government Council offices. This practice allows for a central location for the public hearing and ensures the meeting site is on a bus route.

As a matter of practice CVMPO meetings are held in conjunction with the quarterly Local Government Council, often at the Council offices, but the meeting locations do rotate twice a year to other locations, often not on bus routes or in the CVMPO planning area.

At this time, no public comment period is provided as part of the agenda.

The staff desires the CVMPO discuss this matter. Specifically, are the members comfortable with our current practices, or would you like to modify the practice to include a public comment period. Additionally, would you like the staff to schedule required public hearings immediately before or as part of the CVMPO meeting?

Depending on the pleasure of the members we may need to change the meeting relationship with the Local Government Council.

October CVMPO Meeting

At the October 23 meeting of the CVMPO this matter was initially discussed. Mr. White was directed to compile a list of typical public hearings the CVMPO conducts in the course of a year. Mr. White was also asked to suggest two options for addressing this matter.

Typical Public Meetings

The CVMPO typically is required to update the Central Virginia Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) once a year. This is accomplished in conjunction with a public hearing.

Various TIP amendments are also addressed during the course of the year. These items require a public hearing. The number of amendments vary from year to year and is not programmed in advance.

Additionally, during the course of the five year update to the Central Virginia Long Range Transportation Plan (Plan) a public hearing is required for its final adoption.

Over the last two years we have had an unusual amount of activity with TIP updates and Plan amendments. This was due to efforts on the part of FHWA and VDOT to bring the state transportation program in line with federal requirements as well as to update and align planning, programming, and business systems. We have been assured by VDOT that this activity will help alleviate the need for the numerous amendments in the future. Over the last six months the amendment activity has slowed considerably.

Public hearing activity over the last eighteen months is as follows;

August 2007	TIP Amendment
October 2007	TIP Amendment
December 2007	Plan Amendment
January 2008	Plan Amendment
April 2008	TIP Amendment
June 2008	TIP Adoption (2009-2012 document)
October 2008	TIP Amendment

Options

The following two options are suggested for consideration by the CVMPO. These are not the only options, but they serve to help focus the discussion.

Option 1:

Provide for a public comment period at each CVMPO meeting. Additionally, provide for all public hearings to be part of the CVMPO meeting.

This will require, at times, scheduling CVMPO meetings separate from the Local Government Council meeting.

Option 2:

Continue current practice with no public comment period as part of the CVMPO agenda and having public hearings at Council offices prior to the CVMPO meeting, typically the day before.

When substantive public comment is anticipated, typically because of some significant controversy, the public hearing will be scheduled to take place immediately before the CVMPO meeting. This may require scheduling a CVMPO meeting at some date and time separate from the Local Government Council meeting.

Recommendation: Consider and provide direction to staff on CVMPO public hearing and comment practices.

5. Matters from the Committee

6. Adjournment- Next meeting is April 16, 2009

7. Informational Items

See attachment 7.

The attached list identifies Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) amendments and adjustments recently accomplished relative to the Central Virginia TIP FY 2009-2012. The amendments have been approved by the CVMPO. The adjustments have been approved by the staff in accordance with the MPO TIP ADJUSTMENT AGREEMENT, dated July 21, 2005. These projects do not require CVMPO approval since they are not new projects, but rather are projects that have adjustments made primarily to their funding stream or schedule.

CENTRAL VIRGINIA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

City of Lynchburg's Information Technology Center

3550 Young Place

October 23, 2008

4:30 p.m.

Draft Minutes

MEMBERS PRESENT

Rob Cary.....VDOT Lynchburg District
 Eddie Gunter, Jr.....Campbell County
 Kathleen Guzi.....Bedford County
 Jack Hobbs.....Amherst Town
 William Mays.....Amherst County
 Kim Payne.....Lynchburg City
 Harold Swisher.....Amherst Town
 Rodney Taylor.....Amherst County

MEMBERS ABSENT

Joan Foster.....Lynchburg City
 David Laurrell.....Campbell County
 John Sharp.....Bedford County

OTHERS PRESENT

Marjorie Gilley.....Local Government Council
 Bob White.....Local Government Council
 Darryl Feasel.....DRPT
 Tom Wilson.....City of Lynchburg
 Keith Pollard.....DRPT
 Mike Carroll.....GLTC

1. Call to Order

Chairman Harold Swisher welcomed all present and called the meeting to order at 4:36 p.m.

2. Approval of the June 12, 2008 Meeting Minutes

Upon a motion by Jack Hobbs, seconded by Eddie Gunter, Jr., the minutes of the June 12, 2008 meeting were approved unanimously by those present.

3. Consideration of Amending the Central Virginia Transportation Improvement Program FY 2009-2012

Bob White asked for the recommendation to adopt a resolution amending the CVTIP FY 2009-2012 to include the addition of the Greenview Drive (UPC# 87145).

Upon a motion by Kim Payne, seconded by Kathleen Guzi, the consideration to amend the Central Virginia Transportation Improvement Program to include the Greenview Drive Project was approved unanimously as presented.

4. Consideration of Resolutions of Support for Two Amherst County Enhancement Grant Applications

Bob White asked the CVMPO to recommend resolutions for the Amherst County enhancement Grant supporting both the Relocation and Adaptive Reuse of the Historic Train Station and the Riveredge Park.

Mr. Rodney Taylor, Amherst County Administrator, stated that both projects were good projects and he appreciated the support.

Upon a motion by Rodney Taylor, seconded by Eddie Gunter, the recommendation for the Amherst County Enhancement Grant supporting both the Relocation and Adaptive Reuse of the Historic Train Station and the Riveredge Park were approved unanimously as presented.

5. Discussion: Public Hearing and Comment Practices of the Central Virginia Metropolitan Planning Organization

Bob White reminded the group that at the last CVMPO meeting Unwana Dabney suggested that the CVMPO conduct the public hearing concurrently with the CVMPO meetings. Mr. White asked for thoughts. Kim Payne stated that Unwana had a point, but said he had experienced meetings with several hundred people in attendance, what would be done then? A comment was made that if the topic is controversial we would change the meeting location. Jack Hobbs asked approximately how many a year, what was the response, and how controversial were the meetings. Mr. White said that most were long range planning and TIP amendments, non controversial and generally did not have much public comment. Bob stated that no decision was needed today and we could discuss at the next meeting.

Mr. Payne asked for a list of the typical public meetings stating that would be helpful; he also requested two options he developed for consideration.

6. Election of Chair and Vice Chair

The CVMPO needs to elect a new Chair and Vice Chair for the 2008-2009 fiscal year. The localities have been serving alphabetically, and the next Chair would be John Sharp of Bedford County. The Vice Chair would be Eddie Gunter, Jr. of Campbell County.

Kathleen Guzi made a motion that the next CVMPO chair be Mr. John Sharp of Bedford County and the next Vice-Chair be Mr. Eddie Gunter, Jr. of Campbell County. Mr. Jack Hobbs seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously by members present.

7. Matters from the Committee

Since new Chair John Sharp was out of town, new Vice Chair Eddie Gunter took over the meeting.

Mr. Rob Cary discussed the revenue outlook for the Commonwealth Transportation Board, along with the transportation revenues and budget for the Commonwealth of Virginia. He stated that the agency would be smaller and provide services differently within the next two years.

Bob White stated that we may have less transportation planning funds for the next year, approximately 10% less. This is being taken into consideration as next year's budget is prepared.

On behalf of the CVMPO Mr. Eddie Gunter thanked Mr. Harold Swisher for his service as the past Chair.

8. Adjournment-Next meeting is January 15, 2009

Vice Chairman Gunter adjourned the meeting at 5:08 p.m.

TIP Adjustment/Amendment Requests

CVTIP FY 2009-2012

Date	Type of Change	UPC #	Description	Date Responded	Resolution #
9/15/2008	Amendment	87145	Greenview Drive Project. Major Widening	9/20/2008	08-038