

**Rappahannock Rapidan Regional Commission**  
**Transportation Technical Committee**  
**May 2, 2007**  
**Minutes**

***Attendees:*** Michael Barnes (VRTA), Marshall Barron (VDOT – Culpeper District), Chris Conti (RRRC), John Cooley (Culpeper County Planning), John Egertson – *Vice-Chairperson* (Culpeper County Planning), Larry Fanton (VDOT-Culpeper Residency), John Giometti (VDOT – Culpeper District), Chris Mothersead - *Chairperson* (Town of Warrenton Planning), Ray Parks (Rappahannock-Rapidan Community Services Board), John Shelburne (VDOT Transportation Mobility & Planning Division –Richmond), Jeff Walker (RRRC), Tanya Woodward (Culpeper Regional Airport)

***Welcome and Introductions, Agenda, Minutes, Matters from the Public***

Mr. Mothersead brought the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m. and welcomed the Rural Technical Committee (RTC) to a different meeting venue, the VDOT Culpeper District Auditorium. He also reminded attendees of the VDOT Culpeper District Bicycle and Pedestrian Policy Outreach Forum scheduled to immediately follow the RTC meeting at 4:00pm.

The RTC approved the agenda for the May 2, 2007 meeting with one change. The presentation by the Warrenton-Fauquier Airport was deferred until the next regularly scheduled meeting of the RTC on June 13, 2007. In its stead, the Culpeper Regional Airport's priorities, multi-modal linkages and regional opportunities are to be presented by Culpeper Airport Assistant Manager, Tanya Woodward, and Planning Director, John Egertson.

Mr. Cooley made a motion, seconded by Mr. Fanton to approve the minutes from the April 11, 2007 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

No members of the public were present.

***Presentation Regarding Culpeper Regional Airport, Identified Priorities, Multi-Modal Linkages and Regional Opportunities***

Ms. Woodward, Assistant Manager of the Culpeper Regional Airport, presented on behalf of Culpeper County. Ms. Woodward's discussion included the history of the airport, ongoing mitigation of historic resources located on-site, recent improvements (runway, hangars, parallel taxi-ways), the county master plan for the airport, the increasing popularity/demand on the airport particularly after September 11, 2001, future construction goals (new terminal, hangars), the light-jet market, increased interest for on-demand travel, after-hour service and new security arrangements, links to local business and industry, safety issues with wildlife, multi-modal connections and potential future impacts on the airport by the proposed Willow Run development adjoining the airport.

***Review of the Preliminary Draft Environmental Justice, Activity Centers and Major Employer/Freight Generator Mapping***

RRRC staff presented the final series of Phase I - Regional Long Range Transportation draft maps to the RTC. These maps were created based on data provided by VDOT and the Virginia Employment Commission, and cross referenced with data available to RRRC staff from the local

jurisdictions. Maps presented included the (1) location of regional public service facilities: recreational areas, schools and colleges (2) identification of concentrations of households below poverty level, disabled populations and numbers of persons 65 or older by census block, and (3) major employers/freight and trip generators.

Ray Parks, Director of Nutrition & Transportation Services for the Rappahannock Rapidan Community Services Board (RRCBSB), noted the location of nursing homes and assisted living facilities in conjunction with the Number of Persons 65 or Older by Census Block Map and indicated he could provide the location of senior centers and adult day care programs to be overlaid on this map as well. For the disabled population map, he similarly offered to provide the location of RRCBSB's clinical, rehabilitation, and day support services.

The RTC felt the threshold used by VDOT in identifying major employers, freight and trip generators through the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) was too broad and contributes to the false identification as major employers/trip generators of many small businesses, farms, etc., located in remote, rural parts of the planning district. Staff agreed to revisit the issue and provide feedback as to how a modified approach might result in a more accurate map than the referenced VDOT data and methodology.

#### ***Status Report from Regional Priority Mapping Subcommittee***

Mr. Conti, on behalf of the subcommittee, briefed the RTC on discussions held to date culminating in the recommendation of a two phase land use/transportation mapping exercise. The first phase would identify constraints to growth and future road improvements such as preserved lands, environmental constraints, parks, historic sites, etc. The second phase would involve the use of "descriptors" for transportation corridors and land use. The descriptors, particularly for the transportation corridors, are to avoid using conventional terminology. For example, instead of identifying a road by a functional classification (arterial, collector, etc.), roads would be identified by adjoining land use or perhaps desired degree of access. Multi-modal nodes could also be identified. The subcommittee and staff would provide base maps and draft terminology for the project, but the exercise is to be participatory, with the RTC finalizing the terminology for the "descriptors" and subsequently applying them to map segments of the PD9 region over a period of several meetings. It was felt the project would fully compliment and even anticipate future tasks and deliverables as delineated by VDOT for the development of the Regional Long Range Plan.

#### ***Presentation of Preliminary PD9 Park and Ride/Commuter Lot Study Findings***

Next, Mr. Conti presented the Rappahannock Rapidan Commuter Lot Survey to the RTC. This survey includes the twelve commuter lots monitored on a quarterly basis by Rappahannock Rapidan Regional Commission-Commuter Services (RRRC-CS) staff. Nine of these lots have been formally designated by VDOT as commuter lots, while the three informal lots are located within VDOT right of way or a church parking lot with the owner's permission. The survey included an inventory table, locator map and pictures. It also overlaid the location of existing commuter lots on maps depicting numbers of people registered for the CS program by zip code. Since the preponderance of the park and ride lots are in the Warrenton area, the high percentage of commuters registered with the RRRC-CS program in the Culpeper and Lake of the Woods areas would have to travel longer distances to park at a monitored lot if they were driving north and would have none in the PD9 region if they were driving south. This need was recognized by individuals who participated in a recent RRRC-CS electronic survey, as the Culpeper and Lake of

the Woods areas were identified by commuters as two of the top three locations in need of a new park and ride lot.

Mr. Barron suggested the local rezoning process as a possible means of developing new park and ride lots where needed, to the extent that proffered parcels could be adapted and were suitable for that use.

#### ***Announcements and Other Business***

Mr. Walker referenced the upcoming University of Virginia Center for Transportation Studies Local Technical Assistance Program Workshops on May 31 (Bike/Pedestrian Accommodation), June 13 and 14 (Access Management) and June 15 (Roundabouts), and 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Virginia Aviation Conference on August 22 to 24.

Mr. Mothersead mentioned an on-going research project by the Virginia Transportation Research Council (VTRC) to identify and examine challenges relating to constructing missing sidewalks along existing roads in Virginia and to provide VDOT with recommendations to improve related VDOT practices. As part of the data gathering process for this initiative, VTRC has requested local jurisdictions to complete a "Missing Sidewalk Segment Questionnaire". Mr. Mothersead reminded the committee of the deadline for completing and submitting the questionnaire to VTRC of May 15.

#### ***Next Meeting and Adjournment***

The next meeting will be held at 2 p.m. on June 13, 2007 at the Rappahannock Rapidan Regional Commission offices. The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m.