


**Community of Practice:
RRRC Rural Transportation Technical Committee
Approach and Progress on Phase I**

Jeffrey Walker, AICP
VDOT Rural Transportation Planning Program Workshop
Charlottesville, VA
March 21, 2007

Rappahannock-Rapidan Regional Commission 1




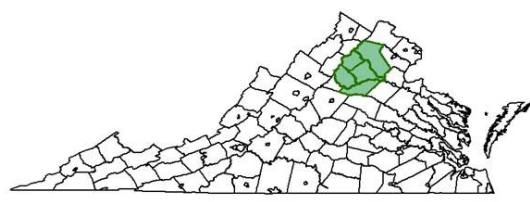
Overview

- Regional Profile
- Committee Formation
- Public Participation & Evolving Role
- Phase I Scope of Work
- RRRC Approach
- Progress to Date
- Q&A
- Contact Info

Rappahannock-Rapidan Regional Commission 2

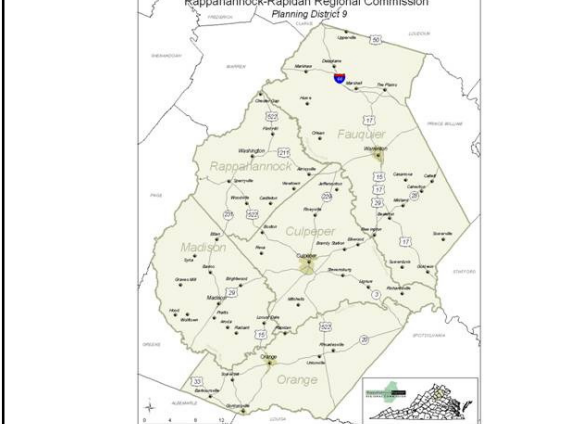
Regional Profile






Rappahannock-Rapidan Regional Commission 3

Rappahannock-Rapidan Regional Commission
Planning District 9



Rappahannock-Rapidan Regional Commission 4

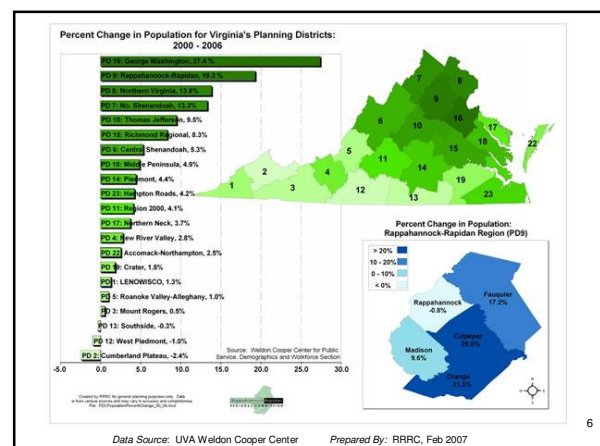
**Land Area and
2006 Estimated Population**



	Culpeper	Fauquier	Madison	Orange	Rapp	R-R Region
Square Miles	381	650	322	342	267	1,962
Population Estimates- July 1, '06	44,183	64,612	13,720	31,387	6,931	160,833
% Change '00-'06	29.0%	17.2%	9.6%	21.3%	-0.8%	19.3%

Sources: National Assn Counties; UVA Weldon Cooper Center rel. 1/22/2007

Rappahannock-Rapidan Regional Commission 5



9

RTC Members

Counties & Towns

- John Egerton, Planning Director, Culpeper County
- Fritz Alderman, Assistant Engineer, Town of Culpeper
- Rick Carr, Planning Director, Fauquier County
- Elizabeth Cook, Chief of Planning, Fauquier County
- Chris Motherhead, Planning Director, Town of Warrenton
- James Arrington, Board of Supervisors, Madison County
- Debbie Kendall, Planning Director, Orange County
- Mike Collins, Town Planner, Town of Orange
- John McCarthy, County Administrator, Rappahannock County

Agencies

- John Giometti, Planning & Land Dev. Mgr., VDOT Culp District
- Marshall Barron, District Planner, VDOT Culpeper District
- Larry Fanton, Residency Program Mgr, VDOT Culp. Residency
- Darryl Shifflett, Residency Program Mgr, VDOT Warr. Residency
- John Shelburne, Transportation Planner, VDOT TMPD
- Elroy Bentic, Program Compliance Mgr, DRPT
- Terry Snead/Sue Hromyak, RRRC Commuter Services
- Michael Barnes, Transit Manager, Virginia Regional Transit
- Ray Parks, Dir. Nutrition & Transportation, RRCSB
- Cathy Zielinski, Proj. Mgr. Regional Workforce Affordable Housing Cmte, RRRC
- Jeffrey Walker, Executive Director, RRRC

Officers

- Chris Motherhead, Chair
- John Egerton, Vice Chair

RRRC Staff Support

- Chris Conti, Reg. Planner
- Patrick Mauney, GIS

Rappahannock-Rapidan Regional Commission

13

Committee Formation

- Review of Guidelines Manual
- Preliminary Planning Meeting with VDOT Culpeper District
- Staff Updates, VDOT Presentation at Regional Commission Meetings
- Advance Briefings of Town Mgrs/County Administrators and Planning Directors
- Staff Presentations at Area Town Council and Board of Supervisor Meetings upon Request
- Formal Invitation of Prospective Members
- Scheduling/Hosting of Kick-Off Meeting, Distribution of Data CD
- Election of Officers, Establishment of Meeting Calendar, Adoption of Scope of Work
- Identification of Issues

Rappahannock-Rapidan Regional Commission

14

Public Participation

REGIONAL LONG-RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN

The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) has begun a new initiative—regional long-range transportation plans for rural areas. The importance of this planning initiative is evident due to the fact that almost 70% of Virginia's state maintained roads are located in rural areas, a disproportionate amount of traffic fatalities occur on rural roads, many disadvantaged groups live in rural areas and have fewer transportation options, and a considerable amount of freight moves through rural areas impacting highway facilities without providing economic development. These trends, coupled with the growth in rural and suburban areas, highlight the need for a more formalized regional transportation planning process for the non-metropolitan areas of the commonwealth.

The rural regional long-range transportation plans will serve as a proactive step toward addressing land use and transportation issues in potential growth areas, assist localities in identifying transportation priorities for the programming process, ensure coordination of State Highway Plan recommendations with locally identified recommendations, and facilitate linking of local, regional, and statewide transportation planning efforts.

This collaborative planning initiative is to be undertaken in conjunction with Virginia's Planning District Commissions (PDCs), local governments and the public. An important step in this process is the formation of a Rural Technical Committee (RTC) for each PDC throughout the state. The RTC shall be comprised of a technical representative from each member jurisdiction within a PDC, in addition to VDOT representatives, and other agency and area transportation stakeholders. The RTC is designed to be the policy board that will guide the drafting and formulation of the rural regional long-range transportation plan. The RTC that has been formed locally for Planning District 9 is the Rappahannock-Rapidan Regional Commission Rural Technical Committee.

In addition, the RTC is also intended to serve as a forum where citizens may come and receive technical information and share their ideas with respect to the region's evolving transportation needs.

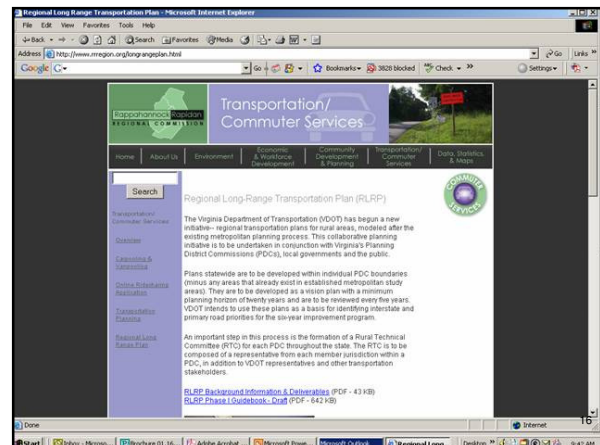
STEPS IN THE PLANNING PROCESS

- Phase I - (near underway) Goals and Data Collection
- Phase II - Analysis and Problem Identification
- Phase III - Public Outreach and Recommendation Development
- Phase IV - Public Endorsement and Regional Adoption

RRRC
Rural Transportation Technical Committee
Meets the first Wednesday of every Month at 2:00 p.m.

Rappahannock-Rapidan Regional Commission

15



Evolving and Expanding Role

- Data assimilation/objective assessment of area needs
- Detailed input and participation on Regional Long Range Plan development and related ongoing initiatives
- Feedback/vetting of proposed annual work program projects, regional transportation grant requests
- Increasing reliance on RTC as a regional technical advisory body
- Conduit for exchange of information both to and from local transportation committees
- Preliminary MPO organizational and planning capacity
- Other

Rappahannock-Rapidan Regional Commission

17

Phase I Scope of Work



Rappahannock-Rapidan Regional Commission

18

RRRC Approach

- Dual coverage each meeting of both transportation priorities (as identified by jurisdictions, working around R-R Region), and consensus-based issue areas
- Ongoing, concurrent development and release of draft RLRP sections, e.g., public involvement plan, goals, mapping, etc.
- Frequent email, telephone communications with committee including prompt distribution of minutes, advance circulation of materials for next meeting, in an effort to maintain momentum and keep dialogue going
- Networking, relationship-building among committee members and capacity-building overall

Rappahannock-Rapidan Regional Commission

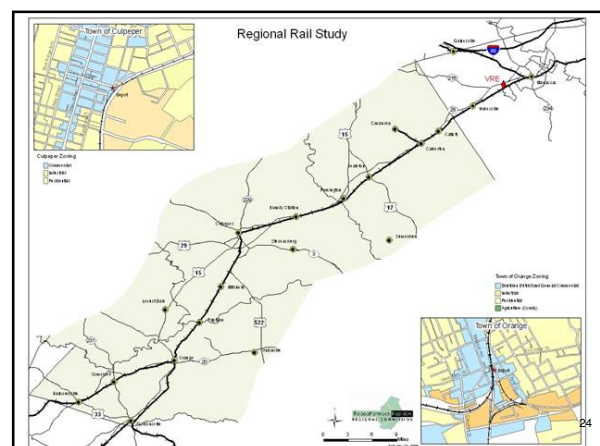
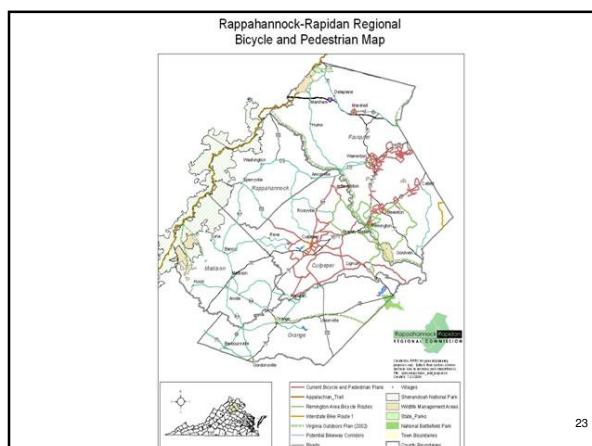
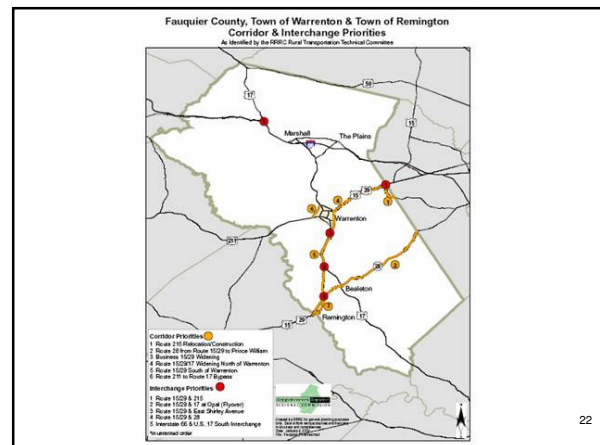
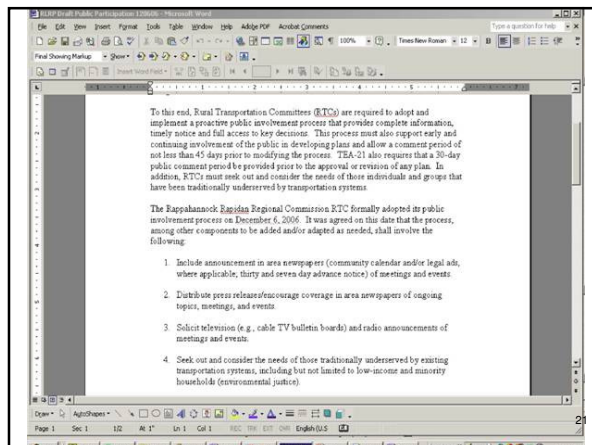
19

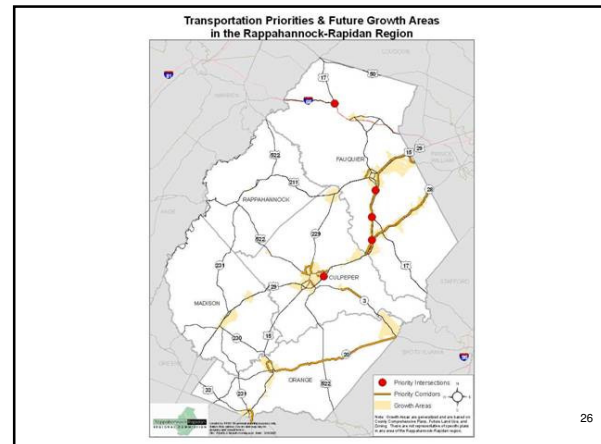
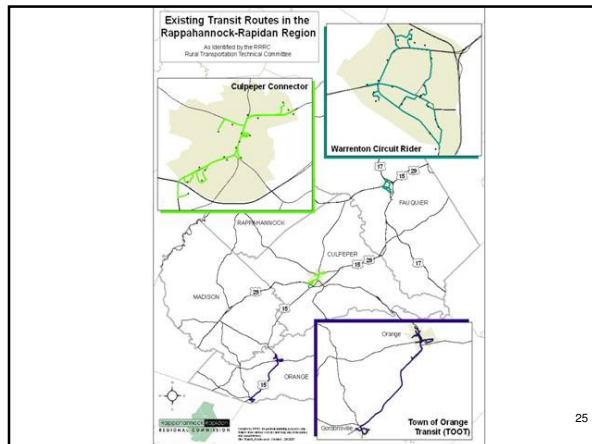
Progress to Date

- Public Participation Plan
 - Issues, Goals, Objectives and Measures
 - Mapping
 - Transportation Priorities of 8/11 Jurisdictions
 - Bike/Ped, Rail, Transit (including human services and local/regional mobility)
 - Vetting of annual workplan and proposed multimodal projects
- * * *
- Pending discussion of area Transportation Demand Mgmt (TDM) efforts, airports and freight; remaining jurisdictional priorities
 - Regional consensus and transition to Phase II

Rappahannock-Rapidan Regional Commission

20





RRRC Rural Transportation Technical Committee Webpage



<http://www.rrregion.org/longrangeplan>

Rappahannock-Rapidan Regional Commission

27

Questions & Answers



Rappahannock-Rapidan Regional Commission

28

Contact Info



Jeffrey Walker, AICP
Executive Director
Rappahannock-Rapidan Regional Commission (PD9)
420 Southridge Parkway, S.106
Culpeper, VA 22701
(540) 829-7450 phone (540) 829-7452 fax
jwalker@rrregion.org

Rappahannock-Rapidan Regional Commission

29