

## MINUTES

Tuesday, November 22, 2016  
(approved January 24, 2017)

1:30 p.m.

VDOT Residency Conference Room  
23096 Courthouse Avenue, Accomac

A meeting of the A-NPDC Transportation Technical Advisory Committee was held at 1:30 p.m. on Tuesday, September 27, 2016 in the VDOT/Accomack Residency conference room in Accomac, Virginia.

### MEMBERS PRESENT:

Granville Hogg, A-NPDC\*  
Tim Holloway, CBBT\*  
Chris Isdell, VDOT\*  
William H. Kerbin, Jr, Town of Onancock  
Ron Marney, Town of Chincoteague\*  
Larry LeMond, A-NTDC\*  
John Maher, STAR Transit  
Rich Morrison, Accomack County\*  
Alex Parry, Bay Coast Railroad

### MEMBERS ABSENT:

Joe Bulin, ESCSB  
Vanessa Cousineau, ESAAA/CAA  
Robert Duer, Town of Exmore  
Abra Jacobs, ES CIL  
Barbara Haxter, Accomack Airport\*  
Dinah Oliver, VDOT  
Jerry Pauley, VDOT Alt.  
Ivan Rucker, FHWA  
Lisa Sedjat, ESCSB  
Peter Stith, Northampton County\*  
Eric Stringfield, VDOT\*  
Kristen Tremblay, Alternate, Accomack County

\*voting members

### OTHERS:

Barbara Schwenk, A-NPDC, staff

#### 1. Call to Order

Chairman LeMond called the meeting to order at 1:31 p.m.

#### 2. Approval of Minutes

The September 27, 2016 minutes were approved as presented by motion of Hogg and seconded by Marney. Chairman LeMond abstained from voting because he was not

present at the September meeting. Meetings minutes were approved unanimously by remaining members.

A question was asked about how the TTAC interfaces with the counties and what its role is in transportation planning. Mr. Isdell replied that the TTAC's job is to support the counties in their transportation planning by preparing Transportation Elements for their Comprehensive Plans, providing information as requested, and conducting studies that may be needed for specific projects.

Mr. Hogg brought up the Highway Safety Improvement Project study of the Stone Road (Route 184) and Route 13 intersection and access issues to the Food Lion south of this intersection. He relayed experience of northbound back-ups in summer into the passing lane from the Corner Mart (Route 642) south of the intersection, north to the traffic signal. The deceleration/turning lane is too short for the volume of traffic that turns into Cape Charles and for the northbound traffic on Saturday mornings (changeout from the beaches).

Mr. Hogg requested traffic counts from CBBT for the month of August so that he can get an idea of the volume of traffic involved at the Stone Road intersection.

### 3. Staff Update

#### SmartScale

Staff reported on what was learned at the VDOT Fall Meeting at the Hampton Roads TPO on November 10. Mr. Isdell elaborated on the process for selecting SmartScale projects to present to the CTB in January. An independent committee reviews all the SmartScale applications to determine if they meet the criteria and scores them. The projects that pass the evaluation go onto the CTB for review. Last year the CTB accepted all the recommendations. SmartScale projects are then added to the Six-Year Improvement Plan and are fully funded through construction, such as Route 642 (Old Cape Charles Road), and Route 609, Church Road/Pennsylvania Avenue between Accomac and Onley.

There followed a discussion about how a rural area like ours competes against urban areas that comprise the remainder of the Hampton Roads District. Rural areas are classified differently. Instead of traffic mitigation, which is the major scoring point for urban areas, our projects are scored against safety, environmental impacts, and economic development. In addition, rural area projects are usually much smaller in scale -- \$1 million to \$2 million dollars, and deliver "more bang for the buck" for VDOT and are easier to find funding for, and so are competitive that way. We are also more fortunate than many other rural areas because we have Route 13, a Corridor of Statewide Significance, which provides opportunities for funding that many rural areas don't have.

Projects have not yet been evaluated, but they will be by January when they are passed onto the CTB, which will then decide who are the winners.

#### Draft Work Plan

Ms. Schwenk asked that the Committee review and comment on a draft work plan arranged by TTAC meetings in 2017. The purpose of the work plan is to align TTAC priorities with VDOT's planning schedule and to keep members informed of upcoming

deadlines and funding opportunities. This plan is in addition to the work plan contract between VDOT and the A-NPDC which lists specific projects and deliverables.

FLAP Grant

Discussion then went onto the FLAP grant – the feasibility study for Phase III of the bike/hike trail that will eventually connect Capeville road and Cape Charles. The big question is where to cross Route 13 and what route will be used for the trail into Cape Charles. The A-NPDC, TNC, and the ESNWR will discuss this in a meeting on November 29. Also, Curt Smith and Ms. Schwenk have discussed this with Mr. Isdell, and it was decided that the trail will follow the old RR ROW from the Cape Center to Kiptopeke Elementary School. North of the school, several options will be developed for the feasibility study so that choices can be made later. Mr. Hogg mentioned that there is an old Delmarva Power & Light easement that runs between Bayside Road south to Route 642 near the Corner Mart. He didn't know if it transferred to A&N Electric Cooperative. Ms. Schwenk will research it as an option for the trail.

The discussion returned to the proposed work plan, and members agreed to use the suggested plan starting with its January 2017 meeting.

2016 RURAL TRANSPORTATION COOPERATION PROCESSES

At least every five years State Departments of Transportation are federally required to formally review and solicit comments on the effectiveness of the statewide rural transportation cooperation process and any proposed changes for improving the process.

VDOT has sent out its update and asked for comments by December 7. The A-NPDC delegated review and comment to the TTAC which agreed to read the update (included in meeting packet) and comment to Ms. Schwenk by December 1. Ms. Schwenk will compile the comments and send them back out to TTAC members for review before submitting them to VDOT on December 7.

- 4. Public Participation – none.
- 5. Adjournment – at 2:07 p.m. a motion to adjourn was made by Morrison, seconded by Hogg, and approved unanimously.

Next meeting: January 24, 2017, 1:30 p.m.

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Larry LeMond Chairman	Date
Barbara Schwenk Secretary	Date