



## COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
1401 EAST BROAD STREET  
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA 23219-2000

Gregory A. Whirley  
Commissioner

July 26, 2012

### MEMORANDUM

### REQUEST FOR DESIGN PUBLIC HEARING APPROVAL

**From: Mohammad Mirshahi, P.E.**  
**Deputy Chief Engineer**

**To: Malcolm T. Kerley, P.E.**  
**Chief Engineer**

Project #: 6007-053-133, P101, R201, C501  
Federal Project #: STP-5401(518)  
UPC: 58599  
County: Loudoun County

In accordance with the statutes of the Commonwealth of Virginia and policies of the Commonwealth Transportation Board, a **Design Public Hearing** was held for the above mentioned project on May 9, 2012, between 6:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. at the Loudoun County High School (415 Dry Mill Rd SW, Leesburg, VA) located in Loudoun County.

The purpose of this project is to alleviate traffic congestion caused by heavy trucks along westbound Route 7 and improve traffic operations and safety at various locations within the project limits.

Citizens were provided the following information in the form of a project brochure:

- The NEPA environmental document (Categorical Exclusion)
- The existing typical section is a four-lane divided roadway consisting of a minimal shoulder section (varies from approximately 0 to 8 feet) and an existing grass median of approximately 50 feet in width.
- The proposed typical section will provide three 12' lanes on westbound Route 7 and standard shoulder widths. The typical section also includes an outside shoulder width of 13 feet in fill/10 feet in cut, and an inside shoulder width of 8 feet.
- The current average daily traffic is 60,500 vehicles per day and this is anticipated to increase to 84,750 vehicles per day by the design year of 2036.
- The construction of the project will not displace any families, businesses or non-profit organizations (see brochure for project specific information).

Mr. Malcolm T. Kerley, P.E.  
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- The project cost is estimated at \$4,028,420 for preliminary engineering, \$3,493,945 for right-of-way and utilities and \$31,960,606 for construction. The total estimated cost is \$39,482,971.
- It is anticipated that this project will be accelerated via Design/Build delivery. The tentative schedule for advertisement of the Request for Proposals (RFP) is April 2013. However, FHWA approval of the RFP is anticipated in August 2012, which will allow for FY12 obligation of the 80% federal and 20% state funds.

42 citizens attended the hearing. There were 17 written and zero oral comments received for the record. Four supported the project as proposed and presented, nine supported the project as proposed and presented with modifications and two opposed the project as a whole.

The following is a summary of the topics which were received as a result of the public hearing. A detailed explanation of each item is found in the May 30, 2012, recommendation approval letter (attached) from the District Preliminary Engineering Manager, William C. Cuttler, P.E., to the Assistant State Location and Design Engineer, B.A. Thrasher, P.E.

1. Issue – Noise
2. Issue – Additional noise sampling
3. Issue – Noise study
4. Issue – View of Beacon Hill
5. Issue – Roxbury Hall Rd deceleration lane
6. Issue – Roxbury Hall Rd acceleration lane
7. Issue – Roxbury Hall Rd access for school buses
8. Issue – Impacts to access during construction
9. Issue – Neighborhood/business impacts in Beacon Hill subdivision
10. Issue – Project purpose
11. Issue – Reduce congestion with project additions
12. Issue – W&OD Trail underpass safety

Mr. Malcolm T. Kerley, P.E.  
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- 13. Issue – Suggested bicycle/pedestrian additions
- 14. Issue – Suggested modifications on Leeland Orchard Rd
- 15. Issue – Support for project’s improvements to W&OD trail

The District Preliminary Engineering Manager, William C. Cuttler, P.E., by letter dated May 30, 2012, recommended approval of the major design features as proposed and presented at the Public Hearing held May 9, 2012 with no modifications.

The Board of Supervisors of Loudoun County, Virginia (on June 19, 2012) endorsed the design as shown at the May 9, 2012 Public Hearing.

The Assistant State Location and Design Engineer, B. A. Thrasher, P.E. reviewed the submitted documents and requested design changes/modifications on July 11, 2012. The Project Manager (Mark A. Gibney, P.E.) provided validation of these design modifications on July 26, 2012.

I concur with staffs’ recommendation, that the major design features for the above project be approved, with no modifications as shown at the May 9, 2012 Public Hearing.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mohammad Mirshahi, P.E.  
State Location and Design Engineer

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved By:

Original signature on file

*for*   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Malcolm T. Kerley, P.E.  
Chief Engineer

Date: 7/26/12

Attachments