

ROUTE 7 WIDENING PROJECT
RESTON AVENUE TO JARRETT VALLEY DRIVE **WORKING GROUP**

MEETING SUMMARY
Route 7 Widening Project
Working Group Meeting #6

ATTENDEES:

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SUBJECT: Route 7 Widening Project – Working Group Meeting #6

MEETING DATE: December 5, 2012

MEETING LOCATION: VDOT NoVA District Office, Potomac Conference Room

REFERENCE: Route 7 Widening Project
Project Number 0007-029-128 UPC 52328
Fairfax County, Virginia

A working group meeting was conducted on December 5, 2012 to discuss the next section of Route 7 widening from Reston Avenue to the Dulles Toll Road, specifically the following items:

Update on Route 7 PE-101 Project from Rolling Holly Drive to Reston Avenue (Mark Gibney)

- The project is being Advertised for Construction on December 11, 2012
- It is anticipated to Award the contract in April 2013 with a start of construction in early summer 2013 and end of construction estimated in December of 2015
- A brief description of the maintenance of traffic and sequence of construction was provided explaining how the project was going to be phased during construction
- Mark to follow up with the County on when the “Pardon Our Dust” meeting will be scheduled
- The Department is currently filing a certificate on the HOA parcel for the SWM Pond #1

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- Utility work is currently on-going with Verizon and AT&T pulling cables into their new facilities along with tree trimming work for the new Dominion Power poles. Dominion Power's 1st phase of relocations is going to start next month
- There has been a special provision added to the Route 7 project to coordinate with the Beach Mill Road bridge project. This special provision will not allow any work at the Georgetown Pike intersection until the bridge project is done.
- Total Funding for the Route 7 PE-101 project is \$36.7 million
 - \$ 5.8 Preliminary Engineering
 - \$ 3.6 Right of Way and Utilities
 - \$27.3 Construction

Update on Route 7 Bridge Project over the Dulles Toll Road (Arif Rahman)

- The current design is not at a stage to be presented yet, the designers are waiting on the field survey which is anticipated to be ready at the end of December
- The intent is to bring a preliminary layout of the design layout at the next Working Group Meeting in February. [UPDATE: The survey that was anticipated to be ready at the end of the December took longer than expected. The preliminary layout has not been completed so there is nothing new to present to the Working Group at the February meeting. The summer PIM is still on schedule.]
- The designer will be evaluating three options for Route 7 bridge over the Dulles Toll Road
- Currently the project is not fully funded; only funded for Preliminary Engineering
- There is debate on how to fund the project, either fund through maintenance or construction funds
- The current approach is to take the project with the design team to a Public Hearing; from that point forward there is a possibility that the project will advance through the Design Build procurement
 - Public Hearing is anticipated in first part of summer of 2013
 - Arif is going to follow up with an email with the timeline of progress for the schedule

Discussion on the November 28th 2012 Public Information Meeting

- Intent is to compile the comments once we are past the date for submitting comments (December 8th 2012) and to discuss at the next Working Group Meeting in February
- Approximately 100 people signed in for the PIM
- Received 25 comments to date (18 at meeting)
- The comment period is open until December 8th 2012, however if comments are received after December 8th the comments will be evaluated/taken into consideration they just will not be part of the formal PIM documentation
- Eric questioned if the GFCRA resolution was included in the comments as it was delivered at the PIM
- There was a comment from the Working Group that citizens felt like there was not enough information displayed at the PIM to give adequate feedback on whether or not they support the Route 7 Widening project
 - The Working Group had discussed this new strategy/approach to reach out to the public to get feedback on the public's concerns with items to be incorporated into the widening project prior to initiating the design.
 - VDOT will evaluate if a brief presentation would be appropriate to inform the public on this new approach

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- There was a question at the PIM from a citizen regarding the building set back requirements- it depends on zoning and building type
- Question was presented that it was not clear on what transit modes are identified in the Transit Network Study and if there was a timeline on setting more detail?
- There was a request to send out a link to New Transit Service website for Dulles Rail
- A request was made to provide information on the safety study done on Braddock Road and Route 236. Lee Ann is going to provide.
- VDOT will provide an update on the status of the funding being restored to the Route 7 Widening Project in the 6 year plan.
- Mike Guarino noted that the County is addressing transit demands in their transit operations plan update.

Traffic Engineering Discussion (Randy Boice)

- Randy Boice provided an overview of Traffic Engineering fundamentals
- Traffic projections are based on the Council of Government (COG) Model that takes all of the localities comprehensive plans and ultimate land use into account for growth projections
- Actual traffic counts are taken in the field at roadway intersections within the project limits; including all movements through the intersection.
- Traffic is then projected based on the COG Model growth rate to establish the “opening day” and “design year” traffic volumes. Opening day is the day in which construction is completed (assumed to be 2021), and design year is established as 22 years beyond the Advertisement Date of the contract for construction (assumed to be 2040).
- Alternative intersection configurations were reviewed.
- Operational modeling and analyses is used to determine turn lane lengths, documents overall operational improvements, and assists in identifying the proper alternative intersection configurations that may apply.
- The design of the roadway, traffic signals, signing, lighting and pavement marking commences after the analysis is complete and accepted by VDOT.
- Transit Vehicle Priority preemption for express bus was discussed
 - It was requested that someone with knowledge of the bus preemption systems talk to the Working Group about the impacts of the bus preemption on the general traffic flow along the corridor (disruption to the operations).
 - Mr. Boice noted that the transit preemption operates much like the emergency preemption systems already in place in the area, except with lower priority preemption. He also noted that such systems are typically used in dense urban areas as the transit agencies are more sensitive to managing headways in those areas.
 - It was noted that METRO has been looking into such a system for the downtown (DC) area.
- Further discussion ensued regarding transit and the possible opportunities for transit along the corridor based on the SuperNOVA study
 - It was stated that the SuperNOVA study was a high level document completed by the Commonwealth DRPT. The localities and their transit agencies are not bound by such a document, but do use it as a guide to their transit planning,
 - There were questions regarding the coordination of the studies between Loudoun, Fairfax and Metro. Specific questions about this coordination could not be addressed without the transit representatives in the meeting. More information is to be obtained prior to the next meeting.

NEXT WORKING GROUP MEETING - February 6th 2013.

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Items to discuss include Right of Way, Utilities, and the comments received from the PIM

These notes represent the general context and content of items and issues discussed during the referenced meeting. Please forward any and all concerns or comments you may have to Rodney Hayzlett via telephone at (804) 267-1269 or via email at rhayzlett@jmt.com. If comments are not received within ten (10) business days of this draft, we will assume that these notes reflect the intent and content of the meeting and will be the final meeting notes for your file.

Distribution: Attendees