

Board Transportation Committee Meeting Minutes October 4, 2016

Members in Attendance:

Supervisor John Foust, Chair
Chairman Sharon Bulova
Supervisor John Cook
Supervisor Penny Gross
Supervisor Pat Herrity
Supervisor Catherine Hudgins
Supervisor Jeff McKay
Supervisor Kathy Smith
Supervisor Linda Smyth
Supervisor Dan Storck

Members Absent: None.

County Executive: Edward L. Long Jr. and Robert A. Stalzer (Deputy).

TAC Member in Attendance: Jeff Parnes, Chair.

Supervisor Foust called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

1. Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of the July 19, 2016, meeting were accepted with no changes.

2. Dulles Metrorail Silver Line Phase II Status and Funding

Mark Canale (FCDOT) and Joe LaHait (DMB) briefed the Board on the status of Phase II of the Dulles Rail Project. Mr. Canale said that Old Meadow Road realignment work is scheduled for completion by the end of 2018. The Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority (MWAA) is still working on the items on the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT's) punch list from Phase I. The final budget for Phase I is \$2.982 billion.

Mr. Canale reported that Phase II is about 39 percent complete. The design is almost complete, and construction is 31 percent complete. Construction and/or utility work is underway at all stations in Fairfax County. Work on aerial guideways, caisson foundations, columns, pier caps and trackway spans are nearing completion. The rail yard at Dulles Airport has 100 percent design plans submitted. The Phase II budget is estimated at \$2.778 billion.

The total project estimate for the Herndon Station Garage is \$56.7 million. It is expected to be ready for occupancy by April 2019. The total project estimate for the Innovation Center Station Garage is \$57 million. It is expected to be ready for occupancy by April/May 2019. Mr. Canale presented photos of various activities for many stations and garages of the Silver Line Project.

Commissioner Parnes, TAC, inquired about the Request for Information (RFP) that Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) announced for the WMATA-controlled garages. Todd Wigglesworth, FCDOT, explained that WMATA was exploring the options and gauging interests or offers regarding the privatization of the maintenance piece. He said it would not change the ownership of the WMATA garages. The WMATA Board will have a vote on any changes regarding privatization. Fairfax County owns the garages on the Silver Line, and they are not part of the solicitation.

3. Fairfax County Taxicab Regulation: a Proposed Update of Chapter 84.1

Susan Hafeli, Department of Cable and Consumer Services, briefed the Board on recommended revisions to Chapter 84.1, regarding taxicab regulations. There are five taxicab companies with 654 taxicab certificates, including 43 wheelchair-accessible certificates, and 678 licensed taxicab drivers in Fairfax County. The taxicab industry is facing increased competition from Transportation Network Companies (TNC) like Uber and Lyft. There is no local oversight of TNCs. The recommended revisions include structural/organizational, operational revisions, regulatory framework, deletion of obsolete or outdated provisions and formatting and editorial revisions.

The Board inquired how a customer could book a wheelchair accessible vehicle with Uber. Ms. Hafeli replied that the customer has to go through many steps to complete that task. Mr. Biesiadny stated that Uber is not required to provide wheelchair accessible vehicles. The Board stated that there is a need to work with the TNC industry to have the wheelchair accessible vehicles available to the public and was concerned that drivers should be trained to work with the disability community. Noelle Dominguez, FCDOT, stated that the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) regulates the TNCs. She understands that not many complaints regarding the lack of accessibility have been filed. The reason could be that people do not know that they should file their complaints to the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV). Supervisor Hudgins stated that unlike MetroAccess, Uber is not required to accommodate accessibility and only some areas have higher demand for accessibility.

On the issue of taxicab drivers requesting the flexibility to charge a lower rate than the maximum rates, Supervisor McKay requested staff to monitor that the drivers will charge the correct rate. He cautioned against the unequal rates for different parts of the County and availability of taxicabs throughout the County.

4. Reston Transportation Funding Plan

Tom Biesiadny, Ray Johnson, Janet Nguyen and Ken Kanownik (FCDOT), briefed the Board on the Reston Transportation Funding Plan. The Board approved the Reston Phase I Comprehensive Plan Amendment on February 11, 2014, and directed staff to develop an inclusive process to prepare a funding plan for the recommended transportation improvements that includes both public and private investment. The funding plan elements include a time period of 40 years with public and private contributions, allocation of costs between public and private sectors, project priorities, and project cash flows. Staff has been working with the Reston Network Analysis Advisory Group that includes landowners, residents, community representatives, and members of the business

community to review potential strategies for funding Reston transportation improvements and provide feedback to staff on potential funding plan scenarios. The Advisory Group has reviewed the project list that was included in the Reston Phase I Comprehensive Plan Amendment that are expected to be necessary to support the plan. The project list includes roadway and intersection projects and a grid network. The total cost estimate is \$2.27 billion. The public share is estimated to be 53 percent, and the private share is estimated to be 47 percent. Private funding options include a road fund, a tax district, a service district, and other strategies. Staff provided 11 funding scenarios to meet a \$350 million private share balance. The Advisory Group expressed their interest in three specific funding scenarios, without the tax district option, and requested further analysis to show the financial effect of each of those scenarios on a residential or commercial property. The anticipated public revenues available for the plan, funding from federal, state, local and regional sources totaling \$1.2 billion. Staff will continue to refine the funding plan and hold a community meeting soon. The Board is expected to vote on a funding plan for Reston transportation improvements by late 2016 or early 2017.

Supervisor Hudgins stated that the process is not easy, due to the issues of the service district and the private sector piece. She stated that the discussion must continue, but there is a need to move forward with the development applications. Chairman Bulova stated that the service district includes a residential property. She inquired about the percent of residential units within the Transit Station Areas (TSA). Mr. Biesiadny replied that 31.6 percent of the total cost of the transportation improvements is being paid by redevelopment proposals. The developers will also pay for a portion of the road improvements as well. He discussed in detail the three specific scenarios recommended on slide 20 of the FCDOT presentation.

Supervisor Herrity inquired about the public fund expenditure projections for the next ten years. Mr. Biesiadny replied that the \$1.2 billion over 40 years represents about 10 percent of the total expected transportation expenditure countywide. The Tysons \$1.7 billion plan represents about 15 percent. The two plans will account for approximately 25 percent in 40 years which leaves about 75 percent for the rest of the County. Supervisor Herrity cautioned against spending too much money for one part of the County. Supervisor Cook stated that the model in Tysons works well, and it should be replicated. Commissioner Parnes stated that there is a need to construct an East-West connection between Moneys Corner at Lawyers Road and McLearn Road to alleviate traffic problems.

Supervisor Foust directed staff to come back at the December 13th meeting to provide an update to the Board.

5. Parking Ordinance Revisions

Neil Freschman (FCDOT), Bob Otto (FCPD) and Hayden Coddling (OCA) briefed that Board on the update of the Parking Ordinance Revisions. FCDOT staff has been working with the Office of the County Attorney and the Fairfax County Police Department to develop proposed ordinance revisions. The revisions propose to clarify ordinance language to allow better enforcement, address existing parking problems, such as “unattended vehicles” and habitation in vehicles, and update the parking meter or “pay-for-parking” section to reflect current and future technology. The team presented issues regarding commercial vehicles parking across the street from residential

areas, updates of the current ordinance to allow other “pay-for-parking” methods, businesses storing fleets of vehicles on public streets, clarification of what “unattended” vehicles means, addressing people living in vehicles on public streets, vehicle repair and maintenance within public right-of-way, and next steps.

Supervisor Gross stated that some meters are hard to read in the middle of the day. Supervisor Smith raised a concern about the impact to businesses regarding the proposed provisions on commercial vehicles. Supervisors Cook and Smyth questioned the issue of businesses storing their fleet of vehicles on public streets and that a vehicle must move every 10 days and at least 100 feet. Staff will reexam the issue. The Board also expressed their concerns about the provision addressing with people living in vehicles on public streets. Lastly, Chairman Bulova and Supervisor Herrity stated that home owners need to be allowed to work on their vehicles in the public right-of-way even though it is prohibited from businesses to do so. Supervisor Foust directed staff to provide an update to the Board at the December 13th meeting.

6. Trail Maintenance and Lighting – Proposed Pilot Projects

Due to the time constraint, this presentation was postponed to the next meeting.

The meeting ended at 3:10 pm. The next BTC meeting is scheduled for December 13, 2016, at 10:00 am.