

MINUTES

MEETING OF THE ROUTE 28 HIGHWAY TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT COMMISSION

March 18, 2016

A meeting of the Route 28 Highway Transportation Improvement District (Route 28 Tax District) Commission was held on Friday, March 18, 2016 at the Route 28 Public-Private Transportation Act (PPTA) Offices, 45240 Business Court, Suite 100, Dulles VA 20166.

Members Present: Matthew F. Letourneau, Chairman; John W. Foust, Vice-Chairman; Kathy Smith; Ron Meyer; Koran Saines; Phyllis Randall; Catherine Hudgins and John Lawson (on behalf of VDOT).

Members Absent: Sharon Bulova

Others Present: Ted Lewis, Chairman, Route 28 Highway Transportation Improvement District Advisory Board.

1. **Call to Order:** Chairman Letourneau called the meeting to order at 8:05 am.
2. **Approval of the Minutes:** On a motion of from Mr. Meyer, seconded by Mr. Foust, the minutes of the March 19, 2015 meeting were approved. The vote on the motion was 6-0-1-2 (Voting Yes – Mr. Letourneau, Mr. Foust, Mr. Meyer, Ms. Hudgins, Mr. Lawson and Mr. Saines. Absent –Ms. Bulova. Abstaining from the vote – Ms. Smith and Ms. Randall)
3. **Presentation of the FY 2015 Audit:** Joe LaHait, Fairfax County reported the Fiscal Year 2015 Audit, dated June 30, 2015 was completed by KPMG. He reported a clean audit with no issues. He reported that next year there would be a new firm performing the audit – Cherry Bekeart.
4. **Update on January 1, 2016 Assessment Information from Loudoun and Fairfax Counties:** Joe LaHait, provided information on the assessment value of the Route 28 Tax District in the two counties. As of January 1, 2016, the value is \$11.5 billion, reflecting an increase of about 3.63 percent over prior year.
5. **Presentation of the Financial Report:** Mr. LaHait provided a presentation on the Debt Profile Update. The Presentation included information on the history of the assessed value as well as the 2017 assessed value estimate; the revenue history; the outstanding debt service structure, historical debt service coverage, forecasted debt service coverage, the project completion fund balance, the outstanding principal, and staff recommendations for moving forward.

Based on the information provided, staff recommended:

- Retaining the tax rate at \$.18 for FY 2016;
 - Pursue the Series 2016 refunding for potential Net Present Value savings
6. **Update on the Route 28 PPTA Project and Future Phases of Route 28 Project:** Susan Shaw, VDOT staff, provided an overview of active and recently completed construction projects along

Route 28. She also provided a brief financial update on spot improvements and widening projects. There are two remaining projects within the original Route 28 scope that are left to be designed and constructed. They include widening northbound Rt. 28 from McLearen Road to the Dulles Toll Road (Fairfax) and northbound Route 28 from the Dulles Toll Road to Sterling Boulevard (Loudoun). She mentioned that the Route 28 Commission had submitted a Transportation Partnership Opportunity Fund (TPOF) application in December, 2015 for the design of these projects in the amount of \$4,260,000.

Ms. Shaw went on to mention that there are several projects underway in the vicinity not included in the original Route 28 Tax District scope of work. These include: construction of Gloucester Parkway between Route 28 and Loudoun County Parkway; Pacific Boulevard between Severn Way and Russell Branch Parkway and the completion of the Route 28/Innovation Avenue Interchange and realignment of Innovation Avenue.

Mr. Letourneau asked about the status of the TPOF application.

John Lawson, Chief Financial Officer of VDOT, reported that the 2015 General Assembly revised the guidelines of TPOF during that session and removed the eligibility of PPTAs to receive the funds. It is VDOT staff's opinion that this may make the application ineligible. The new law ties the guidelines to job creation and economic development similar to the Governor's Opportunity Fund.

Based on that report, Mr. Letourneau asked staff about options to fund the last two segments of Route 28. Ms. Laycock suggested using \$4,260,000 from the Project Completion Fund for the design and to consider applying in FY 2018 to the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA) for the amount needed for construction – approximately \$37 million. The Commission could submit an application with support from each of the respective Counties for their project.

In response to a question from Mr. Meyer, Mr. LaHait said he would feel comfortable allocating the \$4.260 million from the Project Completion Fund for the design.

Mr. Letourneau moved, seconded by Mr. Meyer to authorize the use of \$4,260,000 for the design of the two remaining eight lane widening segments and to withdraw the TPOF application.

Voting on the motion was 8-0-1, Ms. Bulova absent.

Mr. Letourneau moved, seconded by Mr. Meyer, to have the Commission pursue FY 2018 NVTA funding for the construction cost of the two remaining Route 28 widening projects in Loudoun and Fairfax and for this to be pursued with the respective Boards of Supervisors from Loudoun and Fairfax Counties.

Voting on the motion was 8-0-1, Ms. Bulova absent.

Mr. Letourneau thanked VDOT for the work they did to improve the Route 28/Route 50 interchange merge. It has provided some relief. Steve Kuntz, Dewberry, indicated that when the eight lane widening is completed in that area, there should be additional relief to the congestion.

Ms. Shaw also mentioned that the I-66 project includes improvements to the Route 28/I-66 interchange. There is an attempt to get the signals removed early in the project to include the signal at Braddock Road and Walney Road.

7. **Resolution to Authorize Refunding of Route 28 Series 2007 and Series 2008 Bonds:** Mr. Letourneau moved, seconded by Mr. Saines to approve the resolution presented regarding the issuance of Fairfax County Economic Development Authority transportation contract revenue refunding bonds (Route 28 project) Series 2016, conferring authority to execute and deliver such documents and agreements relating to such bonds, as may be necessary or required, and delegating to any of the Chairman, the Vice Chairman, the Treasurer and the Secretary to determine and approve certain details of such bonds and related documents and agreements.

Voting on the motion was 8-0-1, Ms. Bulova absent.

8. **Report from the Route 28 Tax District Landowners Advisory Board and Adoption of the FY 2017 Tax Resolution, FY 2017 District Advisory Board Budget Request, Approval of the FY 15 Audit and Payment for Audit Expenses, Adoption of the FY 17 District Commission Budget including Authorization for FY 16 Audit Fees (Action):**

Mr. Ted Lewis, Chairman of the Route 28 Tax District Landowners Advisory Board, reported they met on March 4, 2016 and 11 of 12 members attended. The Advisory Board is recommending the \$0.18 tax rate be held constant for FY 2017; they recommended the refunding be pursued; they requested the \$20,000 budget for FY 2017 and they elected him as Chairman and Bill Keech, Jr. as Vice Chairman for the next year. He also reported that the Advisory Board would be holding an additional meeting during the year with staffs to discuss the refunding and other financial issues to include the NVTA funding application for the remaining segments of widening Route 28.

Mr. Foust moved the adoption of the resolution. Ms. Randall seconded the motion. The motion passed 8-0-1, Ms. Bulova absent.

9. **Election of Officers (Action):** Ms. Smith nominated Mr. Foust for Chairman. The motion was seconded by Mr. Letourneau and was approved 8-0-1, Ms. Bulova absent.

Mr. Letourneau nominated Mr. Meyer for Vice-Chairman. The motion was seconded by Mr. Foust and was approved 8-0-1, Ms. Bulova absent.

10. Other Business:

- A. Bi-County Parkway – Recent action by the Prince William County Board of Supervisors:** Mr. Letourneau reported that recently the Prince William County Board of Supervisors voted to remove the Bi-County Parkway from its Comprehensive Plan. He heard there was discussion of widening of Route 28 to handle the additional traffic and he finds this concerning. He suggested the Route 28 Commission think about engaging in a discussion with Prince William to discuss what is happening on the Route 28 corridor and making certain there is no expectation on the part of Prince William County for the Route 28 Tax District to fund anything further.

Following discussion, there was consensus that additional discussion on this should occur between the respective Boards and their staffs and request that the staff do some outreach and report back to the members of the Commission with their findings.

- B. Trash on Route 28:** Mr. Letourneau reported that there is a good deal of trash on Route 28 between the Dulles Toll Road and Route 50. He requested VDOT staff to report this to the appropriate Maintenance staff and get the area cleaned up.
- C. Resolution of Appreciate to Terrie Laycock, Loudoun County Staff to the Route 28 Tax District Commission:** Mr. Letourneau moved, seconded by Mr. Foust, approval of a resolution of appreciation to Terrie Laycock for her work in staffing the Route 28 Tax District Commission for 29 years. The vote on the motion was 8-0-1, Ms. Bulova absent.

- 11. Adjournment:** There being no further business to come before the Route 28 Tax District Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 8:59 a.m.