

POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

May 15, 2014

3:00 p.m.

County Government Center, Building A

1.) Roll Call

Present

Mr. Tim O'Connor

Mr. Rich Krapf

Ms. Robin Bledsoe

Mr. John Wright

Staff Present

Mr. Paul Holt

Mr. Jason Purse

Ms. Tammy Rosario

Ms. Ellen Cook

Ms. Savannah Pietrowski

Mr. Tim O'Connor called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

2.) Minutes

a. April 14, 2014

Ms. Robin Bledsoe moved to approve the minutes.

In a unanimous voice vote, the minutes were approved as submitted (4-0).

3.) New Business

A. Discussion for the May 27, 2014 Joint Work Session with the Board of Supervisors

Ms. Tammy Rosario, Principal Planner, addressed the Policy Committee giving a summary of the memorandum included in the Agenda Packet.

Mr. Holt noted that the framework of the Planning Commission work session with the Board of Supervisors (BOS) would consist of three topics, to include the Comprehensive Plan, report-outs on the status of the Longhill Road Corridor Study and the status of the Mooretown Road Corridor Study. He stated that Ms. Rosario and Dr. Susan Willis would discuss the Comprehensive Plan Survey and next steps and then launch into the transportation projects.

Ms. Rosario stated that the main topics would be the citizens' survey results with Dr. Willis providing a PowerPoint Presentation; the 2035 Comprehensive Plan process, to include highlighting the work of the CPT, upcoming public input opportunities and next steps; then the Longhill Road and Mooretown Road Corridor Studies.

Mr. Holt stated that the Planning Commission agenda may be the only item scheduled for the work session meeting.

Mr. Wright inquired if anything was coming back from the BOS regarding the budget.

Mr. Holt stated that the adopted budget and adopted CIP does not have anything in it except for placeholder amount for schools. He stated that since a schools administration building was not included in the adopted budget, that the CIP would not be coming back to the Policy Committee.

Mr. Krapf inquired if the Mooretown Road Corridor Study segment would be short due to it just having a first public meeting.

Mr. Jason Purse noted that he would provide an update on what the process would be and provide feedback on the public comments received from the meeting.

Ms. Bledsoe inquired if staff would discuss the final product for the Longhill Road Corridor Study.

Ms. Ellen Cook noted that the presentations for the upcoming adoptions by the Planning Commission and BOS may be more detailed.

Ms. Bledsoe commented on the outstanding job that was performed facilitating the Longhill Road Corridor Study.

Mr. Wright stated that he had a lot of questions pertaining to execution and the next steps in the process.

Mr. Krapf inquired if the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisor agenda packets would contain additional information.

Ms. Rosario replied that the packets would contain more information than what was provided in the Policy Committee Agenda.

Ms. Bledsoe inquired if the process would be the same as last time.

Mr. Krapf stated that they did not have any decision points for the BOS.

Mr. O'Connor stated that the Comp Plan update consists of three primary components which are Economic Development, Transportation and Land Use. With respect to the GSA's, he inquired if they were interested in contributing, expanding or leave the wording in broad and general terms.

Mr. Krapf stated that feedback from the public meetings that are scheduled for June would limit them due to the information being provided to the BOS and would be a key component for those types of discussions.

Ms. Rosario noted that September would probably be the next joint work session to provide an update to the BOS.

Mr. Krapf stated that the Community Participation Team (CPT) Summary should be far enough along to present to the BOS at that time.

Mr. Wright inquired as to the amount of Land Use applications received.

Ms. Cook replied that there were nine.

Mr. Holt stated that nine were proposed by formal application and some housekeeping items that staff would propose.

Mr. Wright inquired as to when the proposals would be presented to the CPT.

Ms. Rosario noted that the CPT work would conclude in July or August, then it would move on to the Planning Commission. She stated that the Planning Commission working group would begin reviewing the applications in late November.

Mr. Purse stated that the applications would be provided at the public meetings.

Mr. Wright inquired as to when the information would be provided to the general public.

Ms. Rosario stated that the information would be available in June with the Community Workshops and the adjacent property owner letters would be mailed soon.

Mr. Holt stated that anyone attending the community workshops would have the opportunity to provide public input.

Mr. O'Connor inquired if the land use applications were considered individually or collectively.

Mr. Holt stated that they would be reviewed individually.

Ms. Rosario stated that the collective expression is the Land Use Map as a discreet item in the Comprehensive Plan.

Several Policy Committee members inquired about the secondary road plan.

Mr. Holt stated that the transportation plan would be incorporated into the transportation plan chapter and updates. He stated that the six year secondary program is a small sub-component of the larger 2040 long range transportation plan.

Mr. Holt stated that staff would be working with the HRTPO to have all the projects be included in the long range plan with hopes to have additional funding to move projects along.

Ms. Rosario noted that Rossie Carroll updated the BOS on the current status of various projects.

Mr. Holt stated that one of the current projects was the widening of Croaker Road.

Ms. Rosario noted that the Interstate 64 project is scheduled to begin sooner rather than later.

Mr. Holt stated that the long range financial outlook for transportation in Virginia has continued to be challenging. He stated that the six year secondary funding provided to James City County had been cut in half.

Mr. Holt stated that the major dilemma in Virginia was the requirement that VDOT has to fund, at a constant level, maintenance needs prior to constructing additional projects.

Mr. Holt stated that there is not enough money at the state level to fund maintenance and that VDOT would have to pull funding from the construction budget to fund maintenance. He stated that process have been in effect for approximately five to seven years. He stated that the process was called cross-over.

Mr. Holt further stated that the cross-over process has caused many issues such as the federal government not providing any funding due to new roads not being constructed.

Ms. Bledsoe stated that the process did not make any sense.

Mr. Holt stated that VDOT projected the cross-over process would end in 2017 and the funding for new roadway construction would be available in Virginia. He stated that due to the revised downward estimates, the cross-over process is projected to continue through 2020.

Mr. Holt stated that VDOT has to rely on the construction budget for roadway maintenance since the state has not created new ways to fund roadway construction.

Ms. Bledsoe stated that was unfortunate since the bill would assist with marketing larger businesses.

Mr. Wright stated that the Wal-Mart Distribution Center located in Grove area has to contend with Route 60 being a two lane road.

Ms. Bledsoe inquired if the adopted CIP considered Stormwater needs.

Mr. Wright stated they received money this year and approximately seven to eight million would be for future years which would be in a holding pattern for the next 12 months.

Mr. Holt stated that he would provide follow up information via email.

Ms. Bledsoe inquired if it was in the budget.

Mr. Holt stated that it was in the budget and not sure how it was included.

Mr. Wright stated that he had watched the presentations.

Mr. Holt stated that it was not in the CIP budget, however, included in the operations budget.

Ms. Bledsoe stated that they have to start somewhere.

Mr. Wright inquired if the public facilities plan would be presented to the BOS.

Mr. Holt stated that there were a lot of interests.

Mr. Wright stated that the citizens would be interested in discussing the topic.

Ms. Bledsoe inquired if the topic was discussed previously.

Mr. Holt stated that it would be discussed throughout the comp plan process.

Mr. O'Connor stated that the definition of the strategy, actions and goals would need to be refined due to the current definition being so vague.

Mr. Holt agreed because it was such a global statement.

Mr. O'Connor stated that the citizens have a different expectation of the meaning.

Mr. Krapf stated that it was a two sided coin due to the specificity affecting the long range on designated land. He stated that the adjacent property owners could be impacted to future construction of public facilities and that the County may not meet future projections.

Mr. O'Connor stated the land value would increase to any projected public facility and should it be determined in later years that the facility would be better supported elsewhere then the value of the projected area would decrease, therefore, impacting the adjacent property owners.

Mr. O'Connor inquired if it would be more feasible to have one municipal building or remain at current locations and replace buildings. He stated that the broader questions need to be addressed and realize that funding

Ms. Bledsoe inquired if other communities had their own facilities map.

Ms. Rosario stated that Chesterfield County was the only locality that had their own public facilities master plan and they spent significant resources, man hours and may have used a consultant.

Ms. Bledsoe stated that she was not aware that Chesterfield County would have prepared a public facilities master plan.

Mr. Holt stated that the phrase in the strategy, actions and goals needs to be clarified.

Ms. Rosario stated that the current action is not an overarching public facilities master plan. She stated that it is more standardization of what the departments and divisions do and increase conditions on those individual plans.

Ms. Rosario inquired if the Committee had any questions regarding the Corridor Studies.

Mr. Purse stated that they held the first public meeting regarding the Mooretown Corridor Study which was to inform the citizens of the corridor area and what the county would like to accomplish.

Mr. Purse further stated that citizens are concerned and interested in learning more about the corridor study. He stated that they would be addressing alternative alignments in the September tentative meeting.

Mr. O'Connor inquired as to the feedback or consensus of the last meeting.

Mr. Purse stated that the majority of the participants were from residential neighborhoods which were concerned of the impacts it would have on their neighborhoods. He stated that they met with the stakeholders.

Mr. Purse further stated that in the more focused meeting they were informed of the reasons why Mooretown Road was placed on the map via the safety-transportation issues coming off of Interstate 64 during emergencies events, benefits of an economic opportunity area for job creation and alleviation of traffic congestion.

Mr. Holt stated that the consultants were interested in what was on the ground and what the residents were aware of.

Mr. Purse stated that included sensitive environmental and/or historic areas.

Ms. Rosario stated that would document existing conditions.

Mr. Wright stated that he overheard conversations that they were concerned about the impacts it would have on their land.

Mr. Purse stated that they would consider the impacts during the road alignment discussions. He stated that there should be ways to mitigate impacts to the neighborhoods.

Mr. Purse further stated that it was not their intent to move that far north to Rochambeau.

Mr. O'Connor inquired if there were any questions regarding the Longhill Road Corridor Study.

Ms. Cook stated that the citizens were concerned about Season's Trace and the connection to Lafayette High School.

Ms. Bledsoe stated that was a complex dynamic. She stated that she understood why the connection was proposed.

Ms. Cook stated that it would be a great opportunity at the work session to walk them through the exact reasons why they the connection was proposed. She stated if the question were to arise they would be prepared to comment on the subject.

Ms. Bledsoe stated that the rerouting was a great idea.

Ms. Rosario stated that they will have the consultant available to join them in the more in-depth discussion.

Mr. Wright inquired if the consultant had any costs for the improvements in the Longhill Road Corridor Study.

Ms. Cook stated that they have not seen the one related to the study, however, they produced an overall cost for the whole corridor. She stated that they were not broken down. She stated that they were going to break it down in segments.

Mr. Holt stated that they would like them to spend more time refining cost estimates.

Mr. Krapf inquired if the number included property acquisition and cost restrictive construction analysis cost.

Mr. Holt stated that everything was included.

Mr. Holt articulated that Longhill Road was an existing corridor, therefore, faced with multiple challenges such as exiting utility conflicts, temporary construction easements, rerouting and ancillary costs. He stated that Longhill was a very busy corridor and the prices would reflect those issues.

Ms. Rosario stated that the six year secondary road plan provides some funds for Phase I of the widening whereas the Longhill Road Corridor Study looks at a longer stretch and would take much longer due to the need to acquire higher levels of funding. She stated they were trying to make as many of those projects available for federal funding.

Ms. Rosario stated that they were in the process of prioritizing those projects at the TPO level.

Mr. Holt stated that the new HRTF funding would be dedicated to the larger projects due to the limited amount of federal funding. He stated that the hope would be that the federal funding would be utilized for projects lower on the list such as Longhill, Mooretown and Skiffe's Creek connectors.

Ms. Bledsoe stated that the consultants for the Longhill Road Corridor Study were proactive in addressing citizens that the project would take a while to complete.

Mr. O'Connor inquired if the funding for the Longhill Road Corridor Study would be taken from the HRTPO or from the local funding.

Ms. Rosario stated that the Longhill Road Corridor Study was funded by federal money. She stated that the widening project had accumulated some funds, however, they were in the process of applying for federal funding for the area from Route 199 to Olde Towne Road.

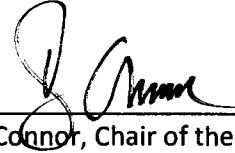
Ms. Rosario stated that Olde Towne to Centerville would have to be added into the cost which would need to be supported by federal and state funding.

Mr. Holt stated that the funds in the local budget could go towards smaller projects since the larger projects including Mooretown and Croaker Road would be funded at the TPO level.

5.) Adjournment

Mr. O'Connor made a motion to adjourn.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:40 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tim O'Connor", written over a horizontal line.

Tim O'Connor, Chair of the Policy Committee