

**NEW RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL RPO
TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Meeting Minutes

September 18, 2007 1:30 p.m.

New River Valley Competitiveness Center
Fairlawn

Attendees:

Barry Holms, Town of Christiansburg; Dan Brugh, BCM-MPO; David Clarke, VDOT; Keri Vass, Town of Pulaski; Gary Heinline, Pulaski ARCA Transit; Joe Powers, Montgomery County; Roy Saville, RU; Abigail Convery, NRVPC; Kevin Byrd, NRVPC; Michael Walters, NRVPC.

APPROVAL OF JULY MEETING MINUTES

The July meeting minutes were approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments were expressed.

COMMITTEE MEMBER CONCERNS

No committee member concerns were expressed.

PRESENTATION

Kevin Byrd, with the New River Valley Planning District, presented the Public Mobility Project that addresses gaps in rural transportation to employment centers. The project consists of five separate components: 1. A *Demand Assessment* that includes employer surveys (identify needs of company and employee commutes) and a park and ride evaluation (who are the users, where are they going?); 2. A *Demand Illustration* which involves the mapping of employee origination points and formal and informal park and ride lots; 3. *Potential Service Providers* involves contracting with existing service provider to evaluate findings and provide transit recommendations; 4. A *Monthly Stakeholder Meetings* which consists of reviewing project tasks and providing insight towards data collection; 5. A *Project Report* that issues recommendations on the transit system, service providers, etc., and includes maps illustrating routes.

OLD BUSINESS/STAFF REPORTS

Rural long Range Transportation Plan Update and Summary

Phase 2 of the plan will begin at the end of this year or the beginning of the next. More information will be available regarding this phase during the November TAC meeting, once the video conference call with VDOT is completed.

Regional BWWW Subcommittee Updates

The policy draft is currently under review. The subcommittee is working with locality staff in an effort to have the policies adopted by the jurisdictions. Alternative trail routes through the Town of Dublin are currently being reviewed, and several easements are being worked on to gain access to high priority properties. Abi explained that the state of Virginia is working to try and create a process where localities can cross railroad tracks and access right of ways for alternative transportation routes. Essentially, the New River Trail extension is a pilot project for this process.

NEW BUSINESS

Norfolk Southern Crescent Corridor

Abi presented a new I-81 Crescent Corridor proposed by Norfolk Southern. The corridor would essentially run from New Orleans to North Jersey, much of which would parallel Interstate 81. Additional material regarding further information about this project was distributed to those in attendance.

The Six-Year Improvement Plan

The plan is reviewed and updated; hearings regarding the plan will take place on October 24th, 2007. The Route 114 Bridge has been funded and can be removed from the plan's spotlight project. Four-laning the Route 114 Bridge was selected as the new spotlight project for the plan. Upon further review of the plan, recommendations were made by those in attendance when deemed necessary.

OTHER BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Transportation Planning Workshop is being held on October 23, 2007.

The next Transportation TAC meeting will be held on December 11th at 1:00 pm. Please note that elections for this committee will be taking place at the next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at approximately 2:30 pm.