

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: DRPT Transit/TDM Stakeholders

FROM: Chip Badger, Deputy Director of DRPT

DATE: July 28 2008

SUBJECT: DRPT Quarterly Transit/TDM Stakeholder Meeting

Please find below a summary of the July 2008 DRPT Transit/TDM Stakeholder Meeting for your reference.

On July 9, 2008, DRPT held a Quarterly Transit/TDM Stakeholder Meeting to update stakeholders on general agency activities as well as transit/TDM-specific initiatives.

Chip Badger, Deputy Director, provided a general update on DRPT's activities for the quarter, including the following items:

- General Assembly Special Session - DRPT will report back on any bills impacting transit/TDM passed during the special session of the General Assembly during the next quarterly call.
- Six-Year Improvement Plan - The Commonwealth Transportation Board approved the Six-Year Improvement Plan for fiscal years 2009-2014 which includes \$1.8 billion for transit. A copy of the final plan is available on DRPT's Web site.
- Connection Newsletter - DRPT continues to publish its agency newsletter. Please continue to submit your news items to DRPT for consideration for the newsletter. You may submit items to DRPTPR@drpt.virginia.gov.
- 2008 Business Plan - DRPT is wrapping up work on the fiscal year 2009 Business Plan. Once complete, the plan will be published on DRPT's Web site.
- Annual Report - Work has begun on DRPT's Annual Report. The report is scheduled to be published October 31.
- DRPT Dashboard - DRPT continues to develop the Dashboard reporting tool. The tool, similar to VDOT's Dashboard, will highlight performance measures in several strategic areas. The first dial on the Dashboard will reflect ridership information and will be launched in July. Additional dials will be launched at a later time and DRPT will work with grantees to submit the information needed for those dials.



- Fiscal Year 2009 Contracts – Contracts for FY09 will be issued soon. Grantees will receive specific grants contracts, as well as a new master agreement which will cover multiple years.
- Rail Division Highlights –
 - The draft Statewide Rail Plan is scheduled for publication during the week of July 14. The draft plan provides a vision and strategy to address rail needs in the Commonwealth and discusses the current state of the Commonwealth's rail system, challenges facing the system and proposed projects arranged by corridor to address rail system needs. DRPT is holding five public meetings around the Commonwealth to present the draft plan and gather feedback. The meeting dates and locations are available on DRPT's Web site.

Corey Hill, Chief of Public Transportation, provided a quarterly update on DRPT's transit activities, including the following items:

- Greater Richmond Transit Company (GRTC) Award - GRTC was honored with the Outstanding Public Transportation System Achievement Award by the American Public Transportation Association. The award named GRTC as the top transit operator in North America in the four to 30 million trips category. This is a great achievement and DRPT extends our congratulations to GRTC.
- Human Service Workshops - DRPT finished the final round of human service transportation workshops in June. The workshops have helped transit providers comply with SAFETEA-LU requirements for federal New Freedom and JARC grants. The workshops also helped transit providers identify gaps in service, develop strategies to overcome those gaps and develop locally coordinated human service mobility plan.
- New Freedom and Senior Transportation Program Grants – DRPT recently issued a solicitation for New Freedom and Senior Transportation Grants. The application period closes August 15. Application guidance is available on DRPT's Web site.
- SeniorNavigator Partnership - DRPT is working with SeniorNavigator to populate their Web site with transit information from all operators in the Commonwealth.
- Service Design Guidelines - DRPT has developed a draft Service Design Guidelines document and is reviewing the document to incorporate peer-review comments. The draft document will be issued for public comment in August, and it is scheduled to be complete this summer.
- I-66 Study - DRPT has begun work on the I-66 study to identify potential transit improvements both inside and outside the beltway. The scope of work for the study was provided to the Technical Advisory Committee for review and feedback. Much in the same way as the I-95/I-395 Transit/TDM Study, updates will be provided on the study as it progresses through development.
- Bus Rapid Transit Studies - DRPT is participating in two regional studies regarding Bus Rapid Transit. One study is reviewing Bus Rapid Transit in



Richmond along Broad Street from Willow Lawn to Main Street Station. The other is evaluating the feasibility of regional Bus Rapid Transit in Northern Virginia.

- Transit/TDM Grantee Workshops - DRPT is planning to hold a second set of Transit/TDM Grantee Workshops similar to the workshops held in May. The workshops will take place in September, and DRPT will provide updates on various initiatives and guidance on DRPT's programs. Specific locations will be announced soon. The dates for the September workshops are below.
 - September 3 in Roanoke
 - September 10 in Richmond
 - September 16 in Northern Virginia

Dan Rudge, Chief of Planning, provided a quarterly update on DRPT's planning and TDM activities, including the following items:

- Statewide Transit Plan - DRPT continues work on the Statewide Transit Plan. We are currently working on the scope of work and establishing review teams. Public meetings will be held this fall or winter to review the plan's goals, objectives and initial data collection findings. The plan is scheduled to be complete in spring 2009.
- Statewide Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Plan - The plan's scope of work is under development. Much like the transit and rail plans, the Statewide TDM Plan will outline short, medium and long term goals for TDM activities in the Commonwealth. More information will be provided as DRPT develops a timeline and public involvement process for the Statewide TDM Plan. The plan is scheduled to be complete in spring 2009.
- TDM Long-Range Plans - DRPT is working with TDM agencies to develop long-range plans as part of the work to develop the Statewide TDM Plan. DRPT will provide TDM agencies with technical and funding assistance to complete these plans and will develop grant guidelines and application requirements for funding. TDM Long-Range Plans are scheduled to be complete in early 2009.
- State of the Commute Study - DRPT is reviewing the results of the State of the Commute Study which will provide a snapshot of the current statewide commuting situation and additional perspective on the similarities and differences between mature and evolving commuter markets. The study is scheduled for completion this fall.
- Hampton Roads Comprehensive Operations Analysis - DRPT has begun working with Hampton Roads Transit and the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission on a Comprehensive Operations Analysis and long-term transit plan for the region. The analysis will help identify opportunities for service improvement. The long-term plan will provide a vision and guiding principles for transit in Hampton Roads to 2035.



- Route 29 Study - DRPT and the VDOT Multimodal Office have developed a scope of work for the Route 29 study and have selected three consultant firms as potential partners on the study. Consultant interviews will take place in July and work will begin once a consultant team has been selected. The study is scheduled for completion in fall 2009.
- Northern Virginia Transportation Management Plan (TMP) - DRPT is working on our portion of the Transportation Management Plan for Northern Virginia. The plan will outline traffic mitigation efforts during the construction of major projects in the region, such as HOT Lanes.
- TeleworkIVA - The TeleworkIVA program is experiencing great success. The program provides incentives and technical assistance for businesses looking to expand or begin a telework program for employees. Enrollment in the program more than doubled in FY2007 and we are continuing to see new interest in the program.



MEMORANDUM

TO: DRPT Rail Stakeholders

FROM: Chip Badger, Deputy Director of DRPT

DATE: July 28 2008

SUBJECT: DRPT Quarterly Rail Stakeholder Meeting

Please find below a summary of the July 2008 DRPT Rail Stakeholder Meeting for your reference.

On July 11, 2008, DRPT held a Quarterly Rail Stakeholder Meeting to update rail stakeholders on general agency activities as well as rail-specific initiatives.

Jennifer Pickett, Chief of Staff, provided a general update on DRPT's activities for the quarter, including the following items:

- General Assembly Special Session – No bills were passed regarding funding for transportation during the special session. A bill was passed requiring the Transportation District Commission of Hampton Roads, in cooperation with DRPT, to study a possible expansion of Norfolk's light rail transit system, The Tide, to Virginia Beach. More information will be available soon.
- Six-Year Improvement Plan - The Commonwealth Transportation Board approved the Six-Year Improvement Plan for fiscal years 2009-2014 which includes \$260.6 million for rail. A copy of the final plan is available on DRPT's Web site.
- Business Plan - DRPT is wrapping up work on the fiscal year 2009 Business Plan. Once complete, the plan will be published on DRPT's Web site.
- Annual Report - Work has begun on DRPT's Annual Report, which will highlight accomplishments from the previous year. The report is scheduled to be published October 31.
- DRPT Dashboard - DRPT continues to develop the Dashboard reporting tool. The tool, similar to VDOT's Dashboard, will highlight performance measures in several strategic areas. The first dial on the Dashboard will reflect ridership information and will be launched in July. Additional dials will be launched at a later time and DRPT will work with grantees to submit the information needed for those dials.
- Transit Division Highlights:
 - DRPT continues work on the Statewide Transit Plan. We are currently working on the scope of work and establishing review



teams for the plan. Public meetings will be held this fall or winter to review the plan's goals, objectives and initial data collection findings. The plan is scheduled to be complete in spring 2009.

- DRPT also continues work on the Statewide Transportation Demand Management Plan. The scope of work is under development. Much like the transit and rail plans, the Statewide Transportation Demand Management Plan will outline short, medium and long term goals for TDM activities in the Commonwealth. The plan is scheduled to be complete in spring 2009.
- DRPT has begun work on several studies across the Commonwealth that will review potential transit improvements in key corridors.

Kevin Page, Chief of Rail Transportation, provided a quarterly update on DRPT's rail activities, including the following items:

- Statewide Rail Plan - The draft plan will be published during the week of July 14. The Statewide Rail Plan is an update to the 2004 rail plan and will provide a vision and strategy to address rail needs in the Commonwealth. The draft plan provides an overview of the current state of the rail system in the Commonwealth to include a discussion of challenges facing the system, and outlines potential projects arranged by corridor to address rail system needs. DRPT is holding five public meetings around the Commonwealth to present the draft plan and gather feedback. Information on the meetings is available on DRPT's Web site. The public comment period on the draft Statewide Rail Plan will remain open until August 25.
- Rail Action Plan - DRPT will soon begin work on the Rail Action Plan, which will provide funding strategies and a more detailed implementation plan for the potential projects identified in the draft Statewide Rail Plan. The Rail Action Plan is scheduled to be published in September and a public comment opportunity will follow the publication of the plan.
- State Safety Oversight - DRPT continues work on the development of the Commonwealth's State Safety Oversight (SSO) Program for fixed guideway transit systems such as The Tide light rail system in Hampton Roads. The next step in the development process is a peer-review with the American Public Transportation Association that will evaluate the Commonwealth's SSO Program Standard and compare the program against best practices from other programs across the country. The peer-review is scheduled to take place this summer.
- Richmond Area Rail Improvement Project - DRPT continues to evaluate several methods to improve rail capacity and traffic flow through the Richmond region through the Richmond Area Rail Improvement Project. DRPT is currently identifying the environmental, engineering and other factors to be considered as part of this effort.



- Richmond/Hampton Roads Passenger Rail Project - DRPT is working to update and close out the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for rail improvements between Richmond and Hampton Roads through the Richmond/Hampton Roads Passenger Rail Project. The Draft EIS is scheduled for completion this fall.
- I-81 Freight Rail Study - DRPT continues to work with the Multimodal Planning Office on the I-81 Freight Rail Study and the study is scheduled to be completed this summer.