



**Route 29 Project Delivery Advisory Panel
February 16, 2017
Summary Meeting Minutes**

NOTE: The meeting video is posted at route29solutions.org.

Meeting 61 of the Route 29 Project Delivery Advisory Panel (PDAP) was held at the Charlottesville-Albemarle MPO office, 407 East Water Street in Charlottesville, Virginia on February 16, 2017. Meeting information included:

- Meeting Agenda
- Presentation addressing agenda items

All material distributed at the meeting is available at route29solutions.org

1. In attendance: Chip Boyles, Morgan Butler, Mark Graham, Kristin Szakos, Brad Sheffield, Henry Weinschenk. Facilitator: Philip Shucet.

Absent: Pete Borches, Chris Engel, Karen Weiner.

VDOT and City of Charlottesville Technical Team members were also in attendance.

2. Interaction and Feedback:

Fifteen e-mails and phone calls were received and no new comments were made on the Provide Input section of route29solutions.org. Two e-mails and calls were made to the project hotline and to Lane Corman. A summary of comments is included in the meeting presentation which is posted on the project website route29solutions.org. In response:

- Cameras and field monitoring of Rio GSI weaving concluded there are no abnormal issues therefore no sign or pavement marking changes are anticipated.
- The county is exploring a Rio Mills connector to Berkmar.
- Letters will go out to businesses in August that participated in the TODS program indicating the fee waiver period will be ending and they will have to pay an annual fee if they choose to remain in the program.
- Sewer line work at Greenbrier and Hillsdale will continue for six weeks. Traffic will be stopped periodically in both directions for work vehicles and materials. Average stoppage expected is 2-3 minutes; longest anticipated is 10 minutes.

- VDOT is looking at repaving Berkmar from Rio Road to Hilton Heights this summer and possibly adding bike lanes. Bike lanes may not fit in the entire corridor, but planning is not finished yet.
3. Report on PDAP Feedback. Details are included in the meeting presentation which is posted on the project website route29solutions.org. Additional information:
- Philip Shucet will ask Jennifer Mitchell, DRPT director, to visit PDAP's March 16 to discuss the additional Charlottesville train set. (Because of scheduling, this item will roll over to the April 20, 2017 meeting.)

4. Panel Feedback/Open Discussion.

- Chip Boyles said he welcomes feedback on the streaming format being used today at the PDC/MPO.
- Mark Graham inquired about communications between the Route 29 panel and the new Hydraulic panel. The matter will be discussed in Item 11.
- Henry Weinschenk asked that lighting be added under the bridge at the Amtrak station, noting that passengers must walk under the bridge to exit the platform.

5. Construction Milestones: Chart is included in presentation posted on route29solutions.org.

- Hillsdale bridge substructure is complete.
- Expecting a re-baselined schedule from the Hillsdale contractor, due in part to the incentive that's been added.

6.. Route 29 Solutions Project Updates: Dave Covington reviewed project updates. Updates with photographs are included in the presentation posted on route29solutions.org.

Bullets below reflect additional information and discussion other than that included in the presentation.

- In response to Henry Weinschenk, staining of the sound walls at Route 29/250 interchange begins in March, however is temperature sensitive.
- Route 29 Widening
 - Work includes asphalt paving, curb installation, water main replacement.
 - Closures this week on north and south Hollymead. Then closures will be suspended until the intersection is reconstructed.
 - Final phase of water main relocation has started.
 - In response to Kristin Szakos, the multi-use path will be the last element to open.
 - Potential single lane closures on Route 29 over the next two weeks.

- Berkmar Extended
 - Asphalt plant closed so no paving for 2 weeks.
 - A betterment has been added to build a new water main for future use.
 - In response to Henry Weinschenk, curb and gutter are on one side and just curb on the other to allow for future widening.
 - Sams Club will get a new entrance on Berkmar at the end of the project; new traffic pattern at Hilton Heights.
 - Potential nighttime closures at Hilton Heights.

- Hillsdale Extension provided by Jeanette Janiczek/City of Charlottesville:
 - Sewer betterment is being constructed east heading west.
 - Interruptions to traffic at Greenbrier Drive with flagging operation ongoing. Worst traffic impact was on the first day of flagging.
 - Opening Homewood Suites section to Line Drive next week.
 - Closure of Line Drive will start a week from Monday and will last 2 to 4 weeks. City will visit the six affected businesses. Detour signage and map has been altered.
 - Roundabout construction starts in April and will last a month.
 - If the roundabout is completed in one month versus the scheduled two months and the entire project is complete on schedule the contractor will receive a \$150,000 incentive payment. If the contractor finishes the entire project a month early, there's another \$200,000 incentive payment.

7. Construction Budget Update. Chart is included in the presentation posted on route29solutions.org.

8. Accident Report Update (Post-Rio GSI opening period) from Joel DeNunzio. Presentation posted on project website route29solutions.org

- Injury data was added.
- Kristiin Szakos noted that not only are there fewer crashes, but fewer injuries as well.
- Morgan Butler wondered if an indirect effect of fixing Rio is causing more crashes at Woodbrook.
- Joel DeNunzio said tweaks were made to Woodbrook signal in January and VDOT is waiting to see results. Philip Shucet said the intersection is functioning well overall.

9. Communications Campaign Attitudes and Perceptions/Campaign Wrap-up present by Lou Hatter. Details posted in presentation on project website route29solutions.org

- Post-campaign surveys are done regularly by VDOT. Those surveyed weren't asked to distinguish between VDOT campaign and the business/county campaign.

- Key takeaway: message got out and people took action.
- Route 29 Solutions garnered VDOT's highest score at 61. Next highest, 59, was I-95 bridges restoration in Richmond.
- Route 29 Solutions a benchmark for VDOT public awareness campaigns.
- Morgan Butler credited in part Lou Hatter's interaction with the community. Lou Hatter also commended PDAP members' involvement.
- Philip Shucet said the full report will be posted on the website with the minutes.

10. Adaptive Signal Phase 2 Recommendation: A different technology approach is being considered for Phase 2, which will save money and return some revenue sharing funds to the localities. Additional conversations with the localities must take place before making a recommendation at the March PDAP meeting.

- The controller technology under consideration is actively managed by people versus being automated, a system that is producing better results.

11. Hydraulic Area Planning Advisory Panel: Membership is listed in the presentation posted on the project website route29solutions.org.

- Two meetings scheduled per month with first meeting March 9.
- Mark Graham asked whether information will be shared between the two panels as a regular agenda item.
- Philip Shucet said PDAP meetings will be set on the third Thursday through June. As the design-build projects will be complete by the end of June, consideration needs to be given as to whether the panel should continue meeting until Hillsdale wraps up in October.
- Kristin Szakos suggested continued public oversight for Hillsdale.
- Brad Sheffield suggested incorporating Hillsdale into the Hydraulic panel as Hillsdale will effect land use and transportation at Hydraulic.
- Philip Shucet said the Hydraulic panel first phase of work will be focused on land use versus construction.
- Second quarter PDAP meetings will be April 20, May 18, and June 15. Additional consideration will be given to meeting with the CTB which meets in Charlottesville on April 18 and 19.

New Business and Wrap Up

- Philip Shucet thanked Chip Boyles for providing the meeting space for the February meeting.

The next panel meeting is March 16, 2017, at 2 p.m. at the Virginia Transportation Research Council.

The meeting was open to the public, streamed live, and is available on video at route29solutions.org