



**Route 29 Project Delivery Advisory Panel
May 14, 2015
Summary Meeting Minutes**

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

Meeting 21 of the Route 29 Project Delivery Advisory Panel (PDAP) was held at the Virginia Center for Transportation Innovation and Research in Charlottesville, Virginia on May 14, 2015. Meeting information included:

- Meeting Agenda
- Presentation addressing agenda items

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

1. In attendance: Pete Borches, Chip Boyles, Morgan Butler, Satyendra Huja, Brad Sheffield, Chris Engel, Karen Weiner, Henry Weinschenk. Facilitator: Philip Shucet.

Not in attendance: Mark Graham.

VDOT Technical Team members were also in attendance.

2. Public Feedback:

One new comment was submitted via email through route29solutions.org and no new posts were submitted on the Provide Input section of route29solutions.org.

- Request to provide temporary TODS signs for all business affected by construction. Response: VDOT is considering a temporary waiver of TODS criteria and fees during construction. Philip noted that no decision has been made by VDOT yet on how TODS or a temporary signing program might work during construction. Part of the discussion ongoing is whether or not the criteria for participation would or would not be waived.
- Pete Borches suggested VDOT should define “during construction” with respect to the temporary signing program because construction has already started and that we are in the period of construction now. Philip agreed that the deliberations between VDOT and the County need to conclude soon so that the panel and public are aware of what type of signing is going to be allowed during construction.

- Morgan Butler inquired about sign limits and spacing since there are about 200 businesses at Rio. Philip Shucet said there are practical limits.
- Karen Weiner asked about the process to apply for TODS signing. Philip Shucet said the process is outlined on the TODS website at: <http://www.virginiadot.org/programs/sign-default.asp>
- Philip mentioned that discussion regarding temporary signing should take into account all Rt. 29 Solutions projects.

3. Report on PDAP Feedback: Feedback and responses are included in the PDAP presentation posted on the project website, route29solutions.org.

Philip Shucet said VDOT has determined that the current maintenance of traffic plan is the preferred method of managing traffic. There have been three rear-end incidents at the Rt. 250/29 ramp project, all soon after the new traffic pattern commenced. VDOT will continue to monitor.

VDOT began moving in with the co-located project office week of May 11.

Philip reviewed incentive payments received by the McIntire Interchange contractor.

The design-build schedule for the three design-build projects has been updated and is available on route29solutions.org.

4. Open Discussion:

- Pete Borches suggested daily project photos that can be incorporated into a time lapse video of the Rio GSI construction. Dave Covington responded that the project team is already exploring time lapse photos and hopes to have a plan by the next PDAP meeting. Philip asked Dave to come back with a plan of action at the May 28 PDAP meeting.

5. Design-Build Submission Schedule: Dave Covington said while the schedule shows a June 24 date for 60 percent plan submittal, the contractor has indicated it will be ready in late May.

6. Route 29 Solutions Project Updates:

Dave Covington reviewed project updates.

All project updates are included in the presentation posted on route29solutions.org.

Bullets below reflect additional information and discussion at the meeting that supplement information provided in the meeting presentation.

- Adaptive Signals - Phase 1 will be in place during construction so Traffic Operations Center can monitor traffic in real time and make real-time signal adjustments if necessary.
- Rio GSI - Dirt will be moved next week for utility duct bank.
 - Henry Weinschenk said the GSI construction presents an opportunity to put in appropriate decorative lighting and create an urban feel to the intersection. Dave Covington said aesthetic qualities are part of the project. Dave said there will be pedestrian lighting on the bridge.
 - Henry believes anything that can make the local lanes more attractive is important.
 - Philip Shucet said he agrees with Henry and that the local lanes should be inviting and have a local city street look and feel, and encourages VDOT to appropriate explore and discuss this opportunity.
 - Karen Weiner asked whether private property owners should work with the county concerning private lighting replacement. Dave Covington said he understands that the county is considering expediting reviews.

7. Berkmar Preliminary Plan Review: Dave Covington reviewed. There are no major changes from the technical proposal plans that affect design. There are a few alterations to the south bridge abutment type from wing style to more traditional u-back, which will minimize footprint. Pier type changed from a traditional hammerhead pier type to a multicolumn, which minimizes impact on the river. There are minor adjustments in vertical grade to better balance earthwork. There are some minor changes to crossing small streams to reduce crossing lengths.

- Morgan Butler asked about changes regarding tangent crossings. Dave Covington responded that on southern end of the project, the bridge alignment over the river will no longer be on a curve, which shortens the length of the bridge. Less square footage reduces maintenance, results in no increase in environmental impact and reduces the number of piers, which reduces impact on flood plains.
- Morgan Butler asked about roundabouts. Dave Covington said a roundabout will be built at Hilton Heights. There's already a roundabout at Town Center Drive. Dave also noted that bridge crosses over Rio Mills.
- Dave Covington confirmed to Morgan Butler that the architectural treatments on the bridge will be similar to John Warner Parkway with treatments on both the inside and outside (interior and exterior) of the bridge.

Dave Covington indicated the contractor will host a local job fair sometime this summer. The DBE requirement is 13%, or \$15.2 million. Lane-Corman's goal is to use as much

local labor as possible, potentially valued at \$25 million. A job fair date may be set by next week. A couple hundred workers are needed during the Rio closure.

Pete Borches asked the definition of DBE. Philip Shucet provided a brief explanation of disadvantaged business enterprise (DBE) and of minority and women owned (SWaM) businesses but will added he will bring more information back to the panel.

8. Rt. 29 / Rio Road Placenames Draft Action Plan: SIR's proposed approach is detailed in the meeting presentation posted on route29solutions.org. Philip Shucet said VDOT will absorb the cost of the placenames focus groups. The information from the focus groups will feed into the county's small area study. Recommendations need to be submitted to VDOT by the end of the year. Stakeholder meetings generally take 90 minutes and include small stipends such as gift cards.

9. New Business and Wrap Up

- Henry Weinschenk asked if his proposed signing plan is still in play. Philip Shucet said yes, and that there are no bad ideas and no ideas have been discarded. There are 2 discussions: for overhead signs and for shoulder mounted signs. The focus group will focus on post-construction signs.
- Pete Borches said landscape contractors are seeking more compensation from business owners because it will take longer to mow/maintain around project staking and fencing. He asked if VDOT can take over easement mowing. Joel DeNunzio said all entrance corridors are maintained on contract with the county. Dave Covington said will look into the requirements for maintenance within construction zones or easements and will report back before the next meeting.
- Dave Covington said the Rio utility relocations are not only being performed by the contractor, but also by the utility owners. Century Link is performing its own relocations this week on Dominion Drive. Dominion Virginia Power will be perform its relocations. Utility owners must follow lane closure restrictions.

The next panel meeting is May 28, 2015.

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