

Virginia Statewide Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee Spring DRAFT Meeting Notes

The meeting was held in the 24th Floor Conference Room at 600 E. Main St Richmond, Virginia on April 22nd, 2015 from 10:30 am to 3:00 pm.

1. Welcome and Introductions

- John Bolecek welcomed the group.
- Attendees in person and on the phone introduced themselves.

2. District Updates

- A Northern Virginia District update was given by Cindy Engelhart.
- A Richmond District update was given by Ron Svejksky.
- A Hampton Roads District update was given by Carl Jackson.
- PDFs of all three presentations are attached to this distribution and will appear on the VDOT Biking and Walking website after the minutes are finalized.

The committee broke for lunch at noon and resumed at 12:30pm.

3. Updates on Committee's Top technical concerns:

Various 12:30 pm to 1:00 pm

- Creating and improving long distance routes
 - i. An East Coast Greenway meeting was held on March 19th which established the East Coast greenway organizational structure for the Commonwealth.
 - ii. Champe Burnley and John Bolecek met with Jim Northrop, the superintendent of Shenandoah National Park, regarding U.S. Bike Route 11 on March 13th.
 - iii. Shenandoah National Park is interested in exploring the implications of a U.S. Bike Route designation on Skyline Drive.
- Maintenance Payments / funding loss from road diets
 - i. HB1402 passed this General Assembly session.
 - ii. It allows all cities in Virginia to convert moving lanes to transit only lanes without losing urban maintenance payments.
 - iii. It allows the City of Richmond to convert up to 20 moving lane miles to bicycle lanes without losing any urban maintenance payments.
 - iv. It requires the Secretary of Transportation to report on an appropriate maintenance formula for bicycle lanes by Dec 1st of 2015.

- v. Link to the text: <http://leg1.state.va.us/cgi-bin/legp504.exe?151+ful+CHAP0722+hil>
- Sweeping Bike Lanes / snow clearing
 - i. The same plowed snow accumulation issues that occurred last winter also occurred this winter
 - ii. Fionnuala Quinn provided a brief slideshow of examples in Fairfax County near her residence.
 - 1. Her presentation is attached.
 - iii. VDOT maintenance requests can be submitted here: <http://www.viriniadot.org/travel/citizen.asp>
- Urban Standards / Urban Retrofits / DRPT Multimodal Design Guidelines and NACTO
 - i. This section was skipped due to time constraints and will be addressed at the next meeting.
 - ii. FHWA will release a “Separated Bike Lane Planning and Design Guide” soon.

4. Compliance Review of 2004 CTB Policy

David Crotts 1:00 pm to 1:30 pm

- Bradley Gales and David Crotts from VDOT’s Assurance and Compliance Division gave an update on the review underway.
- The lead auditor for this effort is David Crotts. His e-mail is David.Crotts@vdot.virginia.gov and his phone number is 804-786-2945
- The committee communicated that while it is important to look at whether VDOT technically complied with the CTB Policy, it is also important to look at the spirit of the policy and the true intent of the language.
- Another point of consensus was that if the policy was outdated in any way it may be good to take a look at it and update it.
- John Bolecek said he would hold a small meeting to examine this issue.
 - i. Please contact him if you have not already if you would like to participate

5. DMV Highway Safety Update

Lori Rice 1:30 pm to 1:45 pm

- Lori Rice updated the group on the activities of the VDOT Highway Safety Office.
- DMV has funded the Street Smart Campaign and a new edition of the Sharing the Road in Virginia safety guide.
 - Request copies from Debbie Spiliotopoulos (DSpilio@novaregion.org) or John Bolecek (John.Bolecek@vdot.virginia.gov)
- DMV is also working with Richmond 2015 on a Youth Education Program.

- The presentation is attached.

6. Update on SEHSR Greenway Study

Michael Todd 1:45pm to 2:15pm

- Michael Todd provided an update on the Southeast High-speed Rail Greenway Study.
- The Map Books for the environmental work have been completed, and the line work represents the worst case scenario as is done with all environmental documents.
- There was interest from the advocacy groups in having a similar greenway study from Richmond to DC as a part of that High-speed Rail Environmental document.
- The FHWA Rails with Trails Lessons Learned Report is available here:
http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/recreational_trails/publications/rwt/page00.cfm
- The presentation is attached.

7. New Bike/Ped Workzone Guidance

Mark Cole 2:15 pm to 2:30 pm

- Mark Cole and Paul Kelley gave an update on the new Bike/Ped Workzone Guidance they have been working on.
- The document will be available for public review shortly.
- John Bolecek agreed to send the document to the Committee when it is ready for review.

8. Legislative update

Bud Vye 2:30 pm to 2:45pm

- Bud Vye gave an update of the legislation concerning bicycling that passed this session and the plans for Virginia Bicycling Federation (VBF) for the next session.
- The bills that allowed for passing cyclists on a double yellow line and the following too closely bill passed along with HB1402.
- Bud stated that next year VBF would work on the dooring bill, which failed in 2015, and continue to support safe driving bills like stricter texting laws and requiring any cell phone use to be hands free.

9. VDOT Bicycle and Pedestrian Program Update

John Bolecek 2:45 pm to 3:00 pm

- The Committee provided consensus on comments received for the new SYIP Projects.
- No future agenda items were mentioned.