

Subject: Community Advisory Committee Meeting (CAC) #1 General meeting notes prior to and following breakout sessions	
Client: Hampton Roads Transit	HRT Doc. Control No. DR-009-49947-PLO11
Project: Virginia Beach Transit Extension Study (VBTES)	Project No: 111287.003
Meeting Date: October 28, 2009	Meeting Location: VB Economic Development boardroom
Notes by: Sheila Johnson - The Miles Agency	

Attendees:

CAC Members

Sam Reid, Oceana Gardens Civic League
Kim Little, Chartway Federal Credit union
Ed Guidos, Columbus Station Condo Association
Ellen Sneed & Judy Bralerand, Pinewood Gardens
Cindy Miller, RK Chevrolet
B.G. Campbell, Community Group
Kirk Baldwin, Hoffman Beverage Company
Jim Brunt, Harbor at Lynnhaven Station
Steve Ciganek, Pembroke Station Condos
Barbara Clark, 16th and Artic Community Association
Bob Kerr, Central Business District Association
Carl Swanson, Thalia Civic League

Hampton Roads Transit

Michael Townes, President/CEO
Jayne Whitney, Senior VP for Development
Ray Amoruso, Senior VP for Planning and Public Affairs
Karen Waterman, Transit Development Manager
Marie Arnt, Public Involvement Coordinator

City of Virginia Beach

Councilman Jim Wood
Councilman John Uhrin
Steve Herbert, Deputy City Manager
Mark Schnauffer, Transportation Planning Coordinator
Travis Campbell, Transportation Planner

Consultant Team

David Vozzolo, Oscar Gonzalez, Eric Nelson and HDR staff
Delceno Miles and The Miles Agency staff

Topics Discussed:

See Agenda

Action/Notes:

1. Councilman Jim Wood welcomed all. He opened with a basic introduction highlighting his position as a member of City Council and current responsibilities. CAC members present were asked to briefly identify themselves and the areas of the City they represent. Councilman Wood also clarified how and why members were selected to be part of the CAC. He emphasized that the CAC is not here to make policy, nor is it here to advocate for light rail transit (LRT) or bus rapid transit (BRT). The role of the CAC is to discuss and share information as to how transit may impact residences, businesses and community facilities along the study corridor. Councilman Wood also talked about how the CAC should share how goods, services, and daily activities may be impacted by transit. He informed all that good communication is a vital part of this process asked all CAC members to please mention if they knew of other areas along the project corridor not present that should be represented.
2. Steve Herbert, Deputy City Manager, responsible for Planning and Community Development in the City of Virginia Beach, delivered a brief welcome. He noted the City's Comprehensive Plan is currently being updated, especially in regards to the City's Strategic Growth Areas (SGA). He shared that the future of transit/transportation has been a key topic of discussion at many neighborhood meetings and welcomed all comments/questions.
3. Michael Townes President/CEO of HRT delivered greetings to the City of Virginia Beach Councilmen and staff and CAC members. He noted that Virginia Beach is the most populous city in the Commonwealth, yet it has very limited transit options. He also mentioned that all final transportation alternatives are a local decision and HRT is excited to be part of the process. Mr. Townes introduced David Vozzolo, Vice President of HDR Engineering, and shared a few highlights of his extensive bio.
4. David Vozzolo thanked all, particularly CAC members, for taking the time to be a part of the VBTES process. He recognized Virginia Beach city staff for their support and briefly introduced the HDR team, project history, roles and responsibilities.
5. Mr. Vozzolo shared a brief power point presentation regarding the study, process and general expectations. He noted that information/feedback from the CAC will assist with neighborhood concerns and issues that may have not been previously mentioned. He updated all that this was the first of four CAC meetings. He noted there would also be a series of station area workshops to obtain additional feedback from the general public.
6. Mr. Vozzolo informed all that the VBTES role is to look at transit solutions along the project corridor. It was noted that BRT and LRT are the transit technology options being studied. Features and benefits of BRT were given. He noted that in regards to BRT there would be a paved roadway exclusive for buses. Mr. Townes further defined elements related to BRT. LRT features and benefits

were given as well, with an example of the Tide being highlighted. Mr. Vozzolo shared information from several successful LRT systems, including Charlotte, NC.

7. A CAC member wanted to know which direction the final transit decision was leaning with respect to BRT or LRT. She felt that additional information regarding the possible transit options would assist her participation as a CAC member. Wood clarified that currently neither scenario is a done deal. There is also a No-Build option as well as an Enhanced Bus option that will be examined and used for comparison purposes as part of the study process. Mr. Vozzolo clarified the meaning of the No-Build Alternative and the Enhanced Bus alternative.
8. An overview of the schedule was briefly highlighted to showcase ongoing activity. Delceno Miles of The Miles Agency was recognized along with Marie Arnt of HRT. All were given general information regarding the corridor prior to moving into the breakout sessions. Breakout sessions were designed to solicit input from CAC members with respect to access, parking, deliveries, environmental issues and community facilities. The three segments include: Newtown to Town Center; Town Center to Lynnhaven; Lynnhaven to Oceanfront.
9. Once breakout sessions were completed, each team was asked to give a 1 to 2 minute update regarding their discussion/team meeting. A CAC member was designated as the spokesperson for their respective group to report out what was discussed in their session (View CAC Meeting #1 Breakout Groups Notes for additional information.)
10. In closing, Councilman John Uhrin gave final remarks and thanked all for participating.