COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Commonwealth Transportation Board

Pierce R. Homer
Chairman

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Agenda item # 1

RESOLUTION
OF THE
COMMONWEALTH TRANSPORTATION BOARD

December 18, 2008

MOTION

Made By: Mr. Sterling Seconded By: Mr. Koelemay
Action: Motion Carried, Unanimously

Title: Action on Functional Classification Study Mandated by Chapter 896 of the Acts of Assembly of 2007

WHEREAS, Chapter 896 of the Acts of Assembly of 2007 requires the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), with the advice and consent of the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB), to provide to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before January 1, 2009 a plan to reassign the highways, bridges, and other facilities comprising the state primary, secondary, and urban highways systems so that their assignment to such systems is based, as greatly as is practicable, on the components' functional classification; and

WHEREAS, this plan is to include an analysis of the costs, benefits, and other implications of any reassignment; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Transportation Research Council (VTRC) has completed the study as required and presented it for the CTB's consideration; and

WHEREAS, the VTRC determined that the current Virginia system of road classification (primary, secondary, and urban) dating from 1918 presented compatibility problems with the functional classification system used by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), primarily because FHWA's designations are made to road segments, and Virginia's classification systems are based on roads, not segments; and

WHEREAS, the VTRC plan is based on similarities between the Federal criteria and the most logical apparent function of Primary, Secondary and Urban Systems, where Principal Arterials are similar in function to the Primary System, and Collectors and Locals are similar in function to the Secondary and Urban System; and

WHEREAS, the plan developed by the VTRC resulted in a decline in primary mileage of 2,600 miles, with a corresponding increase in secondary mileage of 2,490 miles, and an increase in urban mileage of 110 miles; and

WHEREAS, the study determined that a functional classification system would change the Primary Construction Allocation formula; specifically, Primary System VMT and Lane Miles.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Commonwealth Transportation Board approves the attached functional classification report entitled "*A Plan for Reassigning Roads to Virginia's Administrative Classification System Using the Federal Functional Classification System: A Response to Chapter 896 of the 2007 Acts of the General Assembly"* for submittal to the Governor and the General Assembly, but does not recommend that the reclassification set out in the report be implemented because the study found that:

- the presented plan does not result in a logical, seamless road network.

- there is no way to comply with the Chapter 896 road reassignment mandate and retain a seamless network of significant roads; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that VDOT is directed to determine if another classification method can be implemented with the least amount of disruption to the functionality, financing, and integrity of the overall road network.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that VDOT is directed to present its findings to the Commonwealth Transportation Board for consideration at its April 2009 meeting.

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