Agenda item # 6

RESOLUTION
OF THE
COMMONWEALTH TRANSPORTATION BOARD

March 18, 2015

MOTION

Made By: Mr. Malbon, Seconded By: Mr. Williams
Action: Motion Carried, Unanimously

Title: Location Approval for the Interstate 64/High Rise Bridge Corridor Study

WHEREAS, the Interstate 64/High Rise Bridge Corridor Study was documented in an Environmental Assessment (EA) in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended, (NEPA) and approved by the Federal Highway Administration on October 6, 2014; and

WHEREAS, the alternatives retained for detailed analysis in the EA include a no build alternative and the following Candidate Build Alternatives:

- **Alternative 1**: Adding two general purpose lanes to the facility in each direction, including the construction of a new bridge and eventual replacement of the existing bridge.

- **Alternative 2**: Adding two lanes to the facility in each direction, including the construction of a new bridge and eventual replacement of existing bridge. Existing and proposed capacity could accommodate multimodal options and/or contain toll/passenger management provisions.

WHEREAS, under Alternative 2, the EA management options include analysis of a High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) option (one lane in each direction dedicated to HOV), a High Occupancy Toll (HOT) option (all new capacity managed as HOT lanes), and an all tolled option (all capacity tolled); and

WHEREAS, both Candidate Build Alternatives consider a single bridge alignment, with one new bridge built south of the existing structure and a second bridge built on existing alignment; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Coast Guard and the Federal Highway Administration are in agreement that the EA includes analysis of the appropriate range of bridge heights and that the final height will be determined through the U.S. Coast Guard permitting process and need not be identified as part of the location or NEPA decision; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the statutes of the Commonwealth of Virginia and policies of the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB), a Location Public Hearing was held on November 6, 2014 at the Tidewater Community College Portsmouth Campus for the purpose of considering the proposed transportation improvement concepts; and

WHEREAS, proper notice was given in advance, and all those present were given a full opportunity to express their opinions and recommendations regarding the proposed improvements as presented, and their statements being duly recorded; and

WHEREAS, on November 20, 2014, the Hampton Roads Transportation Planning Organization (HRTPO) Board was briefed on the study; and

WHEREAS, on February 19, 2015, the Hampton Roads Transportation Accountability Commission (HRTAC) Board was briefed on the study; and

WHEREAS, the economic, social, and environmental effects of the proposed project have been examined and given proper consideration, and this evidence, along with all other, has been carefully reviewed; and

WHEREAS, FHWA will not issue a NEPA decision until funds for the project are identified in the HRTPO Long-Range Transportation Plan and the Transportation Improvement Program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Preferred Alternative for this project be approved as Alternative 2, addition of two additional lanes of capacity in each direction including the construction of a new bridge and eventual replacement of existing bridge, with a decision as to the management option to be made at a later date.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that CTB shall be briefed on and have the opportunity to determine the future management option(s) once additional studies and financial analyses have been concluded.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that CTB encourages HRTPO and HRTAC to work with VDOT to identify funding for inclusion in the HRTPO planning documents and to determine the appropriate management option for the corridor.

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