



**Route 29 Project Delivery Advisory Panel  
August 28, 2014  
Meeting Minutes**

The fourth meeting of the Route 29 Project Delivery Advisory Panel (PDAP) was held at the Virginia Center for Transportation Innovation and Research in Charlottesville, Virginia on August 28, 2014. Meeting information included:

- Meeting Agenda
- Presentation addressing agenda items

All material distributed at the meeting is available at [route29solutions.org](http://route29solutions.org)

In attendance: Pete Borches, Chip Boyles, Morgan Butler, Eddie Giles, Mark Graham, Satyendra Huja, Chuck Lebo, John Nunley, Brad Sheffield, Karen Weiner, Henry Weinschenk. Facilitator: Philip Shucet.

Not in attendance: Jim Tolbert.

VDOT Technical Team support members were also in attendance.

The PDAP reviewed summaries of issues included in 37 individual comments submitted on the project website. The comment summaries are included in the meeting presentation. The issues included in the comments mostly address project selection, sequencing and the construction schedule.

Responses to the issues were discussed during the meeting and are recoded on the video posted on [route29solutions.org](http://route29solutions.org). Actions required to address specific issues raised in certain comments include, but may not be limited to:

- studying the possibility of adding a multi-use path on the Rt. 29 widening project
- studying the possibility of adding a dedicated right turn lane at North Hollymead Dr. during design of the Rt. 29 widening project

The RFQ and RFP timeline was reviewed and is included in the meeting presentation as Agenda item 3.

A log of PDAP recommendations and responses to those recommendations was discussed and is included in the meeting presentation as Agenda item 4.

The Berkmar Location Public Hearing will be held on September 18 at the Doubletree Charlottesville Hotel. Design Public Hearings for the three design-build projects will be held on October 14 at Albemarle High School.

The panel was reminded to provide input on architectural and landscape details by September 11. Mark Graham will also provide the Architectural Review Board guidelines to Philip, and Philip will share them with the VDOT Technical Team.

Beginning Friday, August 29 and continuing each Friday following a PDAP meeting, Philip and Joel DeNunzio will appear as guests on WINA's morning news radio program.

The MPO, Albemarle County, the City and VDOT continue to develop a comprehensive communications plan.

Dave Covington reviewed conceptual drawings for the three design-build projects:

Berkmar Extended:

- Three alignments are under study
- The alignments impact one residential property
- Two lanes will be built on four lanes of right-of-way
- Sidewalk on the west side
- Shared use lane on the east side
- Bike lane on both sides
- Two lane bridge cost: \$10-15 million

Route 29 Widening:

- Six lanes entire length
- Widen to the inside northbound
- Widen to the outside southbound
- Maintain four lanes of traffic at all times
- Remove humps/fix site distance issues
- Sidewalks east and west side
- Possibly replace sidewalks with one multi-use path on east side
- RFP to include landscaping
- Project does more than add capacity; also improves safety

Rio Road Intersection Grade Separation:

- Evaluated 14 alternatives; all failed operationally except the underpass grade separation
- Tight urban diamond
- 2,000 foot long retaining wall
- Possibly re-stripe existing Berkmar between 29 and Rio
- Bridge is sized to accommodate two left turn lanes
- Separate U-turn lanes added because they improve traffic flow
- Minimal work on Rio; mostly in the median

- No total takes; contractor may want to rent parking spaces for equipment for construction
- Crosswalks planned for three legs of the intersection; studying the possibility of adding a fourth into the design
- 22–24 foot clearance at the underpass
- Two through lanes and two left turn lanes in each direction
- Underpass includes shoulders for emergency pull-off
- Design does not include overhead sign structures
- Dominion Power utility poles are outside of the VDOT right of way; otherwise most other utilities are going underground

Some discussion on how four lanes of traffic can be maintained on 29 at the Rio intersection. VDOT Technical Team to report back with additional information at the September 11 PDAP meeting.

By the August 28, 4 p.m. deadline, five firms submitted statements of qualifications for the design–build project encompassing Route 29 widening, Berkmar extended, Rio Road grade separation. They are:

- Shirley Contracting Co. with Dewberry Inc.
- Lane Construction Corp.–Corman Construction Inc. with RK&K
- Skanska–Branch A Joint Venture with JMT
- Wagman Companies Inc. with Parsons Transportation Group
- Conti Enterprise Inc. with Louis Berger Group

The next panel meeting is Sept. 11.

The meeting was open to the public, streamed live, and is available on video at [route29solutions.org](http://route29solutions.org).