

Pocahontas Trail Steering Committee Meeting #1

Attendees:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Tammy Rosario (JCC)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jeff Kuttesch (RK&K)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lauren White (JCC)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Melissa Manalo (RK&K)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Paul Holt (JCC)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Owen Peery (RK&K)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Alex Baruch (JCC)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Leo Rutledge (RK&K)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Emmanuel Darko (VDOT)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ken Shannon (VDOT)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Kirkland Goddard Sr	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Glenn Carter
<input type="checkbox"/>	Alan Doucet	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Gloria Hill
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	James Curtis	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tracy Williams
<input type="checkbox"/>	Eric Williams	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pat McCormick
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Thomas McCormick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rob Till
<input type="checkbox"/>	George Drummond	<input type="checkbox"/>	Danny Schmidt

Date: November 2, 2017
Reference: Route 60 (Pocahontas Trail)
Meeting Summary

RK&K Team presented a PowerPoint outlining the study corridor, scope and schedule. It also outlined the finding in the corridor and the committee asked questions based on the finding. Points noted, comments and questions included:

- Scope of the project is to re-assess the corridor, identify feasible, context sensitive multi-modal transportation improvements to enhance the community's needs and enhance the quality of life of those living and passing through the study area.
- Study to include concepts and cost estimates to implement desired options.
- It was noted a public workshop was planned for the week of November 13, 2017 and, based on input from JCC, the date of November 16th from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. was selected. Meeting will be at the Abram Frink Jr. Community Center.
- The primary role of the Steering Committee is to provide advice to the County and VDOT and provide input and make suggestions regarding issues and needs along the corridor.
- Pocahontas Trail is functionally classified as a Principal Arterial by VDOT and is part of the National Highway System, which is an elevated level of roadway. The posted speed



is variable with 45 miles per hour speed limits at the western section coming from I-64, and reducing to 40 miles per hour further east along the corridor.

- The daily traffic volume is about 10,000 vehicles per day with 6% buses and trucks and 3% large trucks. The 6% of buses and trucks is typical of this type of roadway, but that the 3% of large (5+ axle) trucks was an uncommonly large percentage for the area.
- Traffic operations were discussed. Several items were noted: **1.** Thursday and Friday traffic is the heaviest, and PM traffic is heavier than AM. **2.** Tractor trailers try to traverse local neighborhood roads but end up getting stuck due to small radius turns. **3.** Heavy traffic is experienced at merge off near the ramps from I-64 where the roadway reduces from 4-lanes to 2-lanes.
- Roadway condition is an issue that was brought up for the area between the Fire Department and Ron Springs Drive where there is some roadway patchwork which is settling and has significant edge drop-offs.
- Safety and crash data was covered. Crash data from police reports showed most crashes are fixed object, rear end and angle. Overall safety and corridor concerns expressed were:
 1. Lack of safe walking path.
 2. Sidewalk recesses back from roadway behind dense trees and vegetation and is shielded from view
 3. Lack of street lighting
 4. Insufficient storm water drainage on certain streets causing conditions conducive to hydroplaning.
 5. Drivers are passing over the double-yellow line to pass other drivers on the single lane section of the roadway.
 6. Lack of crosswalks to serve the Colonial Manor Senior Community.
 7. Desire for additional bus stops and bus shelters.
 8. Pot holes in the roadway by Whispering Pines Mobile Home Park east of the study area.
 9. Traffic volume surpassing the existing roadway due to additional growth in the community as well as the widening of I-64 and GIS applications sending drivers to Route 60 as opposed to Route 143.
- The Grove Christian Outreach Center provided summarized results of their community survey noting the concerns and transportation needs identified by their respondents. See attached.
- Property loss to implement improvements was also noted to be a concern in the community.



- Other future plans, such as the Skiffes Creek Connector, were discussed and how this could impact truck traffic on Pocahontas Trail. In addition, Segment 2 of the I-64 Widening project is expected to be completed in January 2019 which is expected to reduce traffic along Route 60.
- The proposed Birthplace of America Trail, of the Hamptons Road Transportation Planning Organization (HRPTO), aims to provide shared-use paths connecting with the Virginia Capital Trail. Several options are under consideration, which include an alignment along Pocahontas Trail.
- The proposed logo for the project was received well from the Steering Committee members.

Next Meetings:

- November 16, 2017 – 2 PM: Public Workshop
- Small Group Meetings – as needed
- Steering Committee Meeting #2 – December 2017 (date TBD)

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GROVE CHRISTIAN OUTREACH CENTER COMMUNITY SURVEY

TRANSPORTATION NEEDS

This survey was conducted over a 1 week period with clients of Grove Christian Outreach Center. There were 30 respondents. The numbers in parenthesis represents the number of residents who indicated that item as a desired improvement to their community.

- More street lights (12)
- Additional sidewalks (11)
- Complete the sidewalk @ Grove Heights Road (2)
- Wider sidewalks for electric scooters (1)
- Crosswalks with Flashers particularly @ certain bus stops (Country Village) (2)
- New bus stop going east across from Heritage Mobile Home Park & Pocahontas Square (1)
- More bus stops (2)
- Bike paths (9)
- Bus Pull Offs (6)
- Bus stop shelters (7) (@ Ball Metal & Happy Shelter - 1)
- Street lights @ school bus stops (1)
- Traffic light @ 7-11/Country Village/Dollar General area (2)
- Repaint traffic lines & replace reflectors (1)
- Solar sidewalk lights (1)
- Expanded Sunday bus service (1)
- Designated center turn lane extending from Skiffes Creek to the firehouse to alleviate backups and impatient drivers illegally passing (1)
- Move ahead with construction of the Rt. 143 & Pocahontas Trail connector to alleviate 18-wheeler traffic through Grove and for the safety of Grove residents (1)