



# APPENDIX E

## Public Meeting Notes

## Central Virginia Long Range Transportation Plan 2040 Update

### Public Meeting Comments

In addition to numerous meetings with the MPO Board, the MPO Transportation Technical Committee, and local economic development groups, three rounds of public meetings were held in order to elicit ideas, concerns, and comments from members of the general public. During these meetings, attendees were encouraged to write down ideas or concerns on large note-sheets that were distributed around the room. The comments that were recorded on these boards are provided below:

#### Round 1

The first round of public meetings included four separate meeting events- one in each separate member locality that participates in the Central Virginia MPO. These meetings focused on information and activities that could be used to identify transportation concerns and opportunities in the region.

#### **City of Lynchburg - September 16<sup>th</sup>**

##### **Concerns**

- Timberlake Rd (Between Old Graves Mill Rd and the Lynchburg Expressway)- Fast growing area with worsening traffic. Sync lights!
- Forest Rd/Rt 221 (Between Cottontown Rd and the Lynchburg Expressway)- Fast growing area with worsening traffic. Sync lights!
- Need transit connection from Madison Heights to City. When weighting ridership, consider the number of commuters. Also, improve transit accessibility to areas outside of cities, edges of counties. Many people don't know about Bedford Ride.
- (General) Need more turn lanes
- GLTC- Web page needs work (routes/content not current or consistent)
- Pedestrian Safety at roundabouts a concern
- New designs for intersections should include audible signals

##### **Assets/Opportunities**

- Downtown Lynchburg- Great opportunities for mass transit increase with growing lofts and businesses.
- GLTC- Great service for the City

## Campbell County- September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2014

### Concerns

- Transportation in rural areas for people that lack access or ability to use a vehicle. Transit not feasible because of low density. How can you offer a cost effective service?
- The Lynchburg Regional Airport needs expanded service in order to reach its full potential.
- Major congestion challenges on Wards Rd, which are expected to grow worse as development continues.
- Need for paratransit service in surrounding counties
- Why does a section of the 460 Bypass show up as a high crash location?

### Assets/Opportunities

- The Lynchburg Regional Airport is a strong asset for the region.
- (Wards Rd) The City of Lynchburg has done a good job of expanding pedestrian access between Liberty University and Simon's Crossing Shopping Center. If these facilities were extended into Campbell County, it could increase business in the shopping center located there (Wards Crossing West).

## Bedford County- September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2014

- Need more sidewalks in Forest. No sidewalks available anywhere near schools, shopping centers, and library.

## Amherst County- September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2014

### Concerns

- Rt 29 Business/Elon Rd- Site of many accidents
- Surprised to see that Leesville Rd is on the high crash list.
- Airport Rd approaching Greenview Dr. is very backed up .
- 460 at Airport Interchange- Why is this a high crash location?
- Timberlake Rd- Traffic and safety concerns between Greenview Dr. and Old Graves Mill Rd.
- Sweetbriar College at US 29- needs more interchange lighting
- Fencing should be added on entire length of Rt 29 bypass in Amherst County to restrict deer access
- Need a connection from 221 to Perrymont in the City of Lynchburg
- Add access to Isaac Walton Rd in Amherst County

## Assets/Opportunities

- Add a hanging/suspension pedestrian bridge under the Carter Glass bridge connecting Amherst and Lynchburg Trail Systems

## Round 2

The second round of public meetings included one meeting that was held in the City of Lynchburg. This meeting reviewed the project evaluation tool that had been developed for the plan and the initial project ranking results. Comments regarding general transportation concerns and opportunities were also welcomed.

### City of Lynchburg- March 26, 2015

- The Accessibility goal is appreciated and should remain a priority for the region. Continue to consider all modes of transportation, as well as populations with special needs, in order to create a community with a high quality of life for all people.
- Project List Amherst #6 on priority list is not Lynchburg Expressway, but US 29 Bypass
- City's Project #7 (Priority Score) should have a readiness of medium or high. Environmental and ROW all set, and surveyed.
- City is addressing Timberlake/Wards Ferry intersection. This is a major backup but is not reflected here.
- A little ways before Timberlake at Laxton and Greenview should be a project. Really, all the way to Waterlick.
- School related congestion on Rt 811 (Thomas Jefferson Rd) is very heavy at peak times. Nearly impossible to turn left from Thomas Jefferson Elementary in AM and PM.
- Bedford County buses would greatly benefit from small bridge reconstruction. Impassible bridges for buses cause many miles of extra travel and is an expense schools could redirect to instructional purposes.