



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 17, 2014

Department of Rail and Public Transportation

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New Public Meetings Announced for Route 1 Multimodal Transportation Alternatives Analysis

Public Forums to be Held October 8 at Belmont Elementary School; October 9 at South County Government Center

RICHMOND—The Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) has announced the dates of the third round of public meetings regarding the Route 1 Multimodal Alternatives Analysis project. The meetings will be held on Wednesday, October 8, from 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. (presentation at 7 p.m.) at Belmont Elementary School in Prince William County and Thursday, October 9, from 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. (presentation at 6:30 p.m.) at the South County Government Center in Fairfax County.

The meetings will present the study findings and recommendations for the pedestrian, bicycle, and automobile elements of the project. The presentations will also include results of the transit alternatives evaluation process. Factors for the evaluation were based on the study's goals and objectives including: improving local and regional mobility, improving safety, increasing access, enhancing the economic viability and vitality of the corridor, supporting community health, and minimizing impacts on community resources. Transit options under consideration include high-quality bus rapid transit (BRT), a Yellow Line Metrorail extension, and light rail transit (LRT). The meetings will also address potential phasing and implementation strategies.

"We have been pleased with the level of participation from the public during past meetings regarding the Route 1 Multimodal Alternative Analysis project," stated Jennifer Mitchell, Director of the Department of Rail and Public Transportation. "It is an important project that will provide congestion relief and economic benefits to those who live and work along Richmond Highway."

The public is encouraged to attend to learn more about the study and continue to provide input regarding the ongoing multimodal transportation alternatives analysis, scheduled to be complete this winter. The study is examining a range of transit, roadway, and supporting pedestrian and

bicycle options along a 15-mile section of Richmond Highway (U.S. Route 1). The study area extends roughly from the Huntington Metro station near the I-95/I-495 Capital Beltway interchange in Fairfax County to the VRE Station in Woodbridge in Prince William County.

Community members, commuters, and anyone with an interest in the future of Richmond Highway are welcome to provide input on critical transportation needs and the future vision for this heavily traveled corridor. More information can be obtained by attending a public meeting, as well as by visiting the project website at www.Route1MultimodalAA.com, the project Facebook page at www.facebook.com/Route1MultimodalAA, and Twitter at @Rt1MultimodalAA.

DRPT is directing the study in coordination with Fairfax County, Prince William County, the Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment, and the Virginia Department of Transportation.

Directions to the meetings: Belmont Elementary School is located at 751 Norwood Lane in Woodbridge (22191). The South County Government Center is located at 8350 Richmond Highway in Alexandria (22309). Public transit is available for both meetings. OmniLink's Route One bus serves the Woodbridge VRE station, and off-route trips will provide direct service to Belmont Elementary School. The Fairfax Connector Route 171 and the REX serve the South County Government Center.

About the Department of Rail and Public Transportation:

The Department of Rail and Public Transportation's mission is to improve the mobility of people and goods while expanding transportation choices in the Commonwealth through rail, public transportation, and commuter services.

DRPT is committed to ensuring that no person is excluded from participation in or denied the benefits of its services on the basis of race, color or national origin, as protected by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. For additional information on DRPT's nondiscrimination policies and procedures or to file a complaint, please contact the Title VI Compliance Officer, Linda Balderson, (804) 786-4440, 600 E. Main Street, Suite 2102, Richmond, VA 23219.

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