

YORK COUNTY TRANSPORTATION SAFETY COMMISSION

MINUTES
September 9, 2019
12:00 Noon
Andrea's Italian Restaurant
Yorktown, Virginia

<u>Name</u>	<u>Affiliation</u>	<u>Present</u>
Thomas M. Slaughter, Chairman	Citizen – District 5	X
Eddie M. Abisaab	Citizen – District 2	
William Andersen	Citizen – District 1	X
Ronald O. Fowler	Citizen – District 2	X
Martha A. Haley	Citizen – District 4	
Michael F. Smith	Citizen – District 1	
James Carroll	York County School Division	
Timothy C. Cross, Staff Liaison/Secretary	York County Planning Division	X
Deputy Jeff Kerr	York County Sheriff's Office	
W. Chad Green	York County Board of Supervisors	X
Stephen P. Kopczynski	York County Dept. of Fire and Life Safety	X
James T. Lash	York County School Division	X
Angela Biney	Virginia Dept. of Transportation (VDOT)	X
Jason Flood	National Park Service	X
Dwight A. Jenkins	Virginia Highway Safety Office	
Kenneth Shannon	Virginia Dept. of Transportation (VDOT)	X

MEETING CONVENED

Chairman Slaughter called the meeting to order at 12:10 PM. The June 10, 2019 minutes were approved unanimously.

OPENING REMARKS

Chairman Slaughter reported that Spindler Krause has stepped down from the Commission after many years of service. He added that he is still looking for someone to chair the Motor Vehicle Safety Committee and that volunteers are needed to serve on the Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Committee.

OLD BUSINESS

Chairman Slaughter stated that the ad hoc Sidewalks and Crosswalks Committee, consisting of himself, Mr. Abisaab, Mr. Andersen, and Ms. Haley, has submitted a series of recommendations for potential near-term projects that could be paid for with Capital Improvements Program (CIP) funds and that the committee's next effort will be to identify possible longer term sidewalk and bikeway projects for consideration as part of the County's Comprehensive Plan update. He added that the committee would like to coordinate with the School Division, and he noted that the school campuses include athletic facilities, so the need for bicycle and pedestrian accessibility is not simply to serve school students.

NEW BUSINESS

York County Sidewalk Projects

Mr. Cross reported that this year the County will be pursuing funding through the VDOT Revenue Sharing program and the federal Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside for the following six sidewalk projects:

- **Route 17.** This project would construct a concrete sidewalk between the existing shared use path along the east side of Route 17 in the area of the Villas at Yorktown development and the Yorktown Library, where it would connect with a new sidewalk that is being constructed as part of the library expansion project. As a separate project previously approved under the Revenue Sharing program and now under design, the County is building a sidewalk from the library to Ft. Eustis Boulevard, tying in to the existing sidewalks along the Ft. Eustis Boulevard extension from Route 17 east to Old York-Hampton Highway. The addition of the proposed project would result in a continuous walkway linking numerous residential, commercial, and public uses, including Nelson's Grant, the Villas at Yorktown, Yorktown Crescent, York High School, the Yorktown Library, Patriots Square Shopping Center, and Wendy's restaurant.
- **Villa Way Sidewalk.** This project would construct a concrete sidewalk on the east side of Villa Way between Yorktown Road and the cul-de-sac at the end of Villa Way. Tying into to existing sidewalks on Yorktown Road and across from Coachman Drive, this sidewalk would provide pedestrian access for Kings Villa and McDonald Bluffs residents to Tabb Middle School and Mt. Vernon Elementary School.
- **West Queens Drive Sidewalk.** This project would construct a concrete sidewalk on the north side of West Queens Drive between Queens Lake Middle School and Royal Grant Drive. Tying into existing sidewalk facilities on the school property, which extend to Schooner Boulevard, this project would provide safe pedestrian access between the 48-home Royal Grant subdivision and both Queens Lake Middle School and the 265-home Creekside Landing subdivision located on the opposite side of the school.
- **Yorktown Road Sidewalk.** This project would tie into the proffered pedestrian improvements on Yorktown Road to be constructed by the developer of the Smith Farms development. The proposed sidewalk would extend from the planned crosswalk at Bethel Baptist Church south to the Tabb High School entrance.
- **Lakeside Drive Sidewalk.** This project would construct a concrete sidewalk on the north side of Lakeside Drive between Carraway Terrace and North School Lane and on the south side between School Lane and Bailey Road, with a crosswalk at North School Lane/School Lane. This would connect three subdivisions with one another and with Grafton Bethel Elementary School.
- **Siege Lane Sidewalk.** This project would construct a concrete sidewalk on the south side of Siege Lane between York-Warwick Drive and Runaway Lane, providing a pedestrian connection to Yorktown Elementary School for both the Edgehill and Falcon Crest subdivisions.

Mr. Cross explained that both funding programs involve matching grants, with the County providing 50% of the funding under the Revenue Sharing program and a minimum of 20% under the much more competitive TA Set-Aside. He added that the County plans to submit two of the sidewalk projects – Route 17 and West Queens Drive – under both programs.

Vision Zero

Mr. Cross stated that the guest speaker who was scheduled to give a presentation to the Commission about "Vision Zero" was unable to attend because of illness. Chairman Slaughter stated that he hopes the presentation can be rescheduled for the December meeting.

REPORTS

Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)

Ms. Biney reported for VDOT stating that the state and regional Pedestrian and Bicycle Advisory Committees will meet on the Eastern Shore on October 25. Mr. Fowler reiterated his concern, expressed at

a previous meeting, about eastbound vehicle queues on Victory Boulevard in the afternoon rush hour backing up through and blocking the Kiln Creek Parkway intersection. Discussion ensued regarding the need to widen Victory Boulevard and the various improvement projects that are planned. Chair Slaughter suggested that VDOT consider lowering the speed limit from 55 to 45 MPH at the approaches to the Victory Boulevard/Hampton Highway intersection because of the crash history at that location. Mr. Lash expressed concern about cars parking on the shoulder of southbound Route 17 at the entrance to Cliff's Automotive. Mr. Shannon responded that it is an enforcement issue over which VDOT has no jurisdiction. Deputy Kerr added that there is a missing U-Turn sign on southbound Route 17 at the Colonial Parkway intersection.

Virginia Highway Safety Office (VAHSO)

Chairman Slaughter stated that Mr. Jenkins was not able to attend the meeting but had provided a written report. Reading from the report, Chairman Slaughter stated that the Virginia Highway Safety Office is currently planning the 2020 Highway Safety Summit for April 27, 28, and 29 at a venue to be announced once the RFP is completed and a contract is secured. In addition, he reported that FY 2020 grants have been awarded, including two grants awarded to the York County Sheriff's Office to support traffic safety initiatives.

Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Committee.

There was no report.

Legislative Policy and Publicity Committee

There was no report

Motor Vehicle Safety Committee

Chairman Slaughter summarized VDOT's response to several of the Commission's recent safety recommendations. He reported that in response to the Commission's request to review signage and pavement markings on southbound Route 17 between Rich Road and Victory Boulevard, VDOT will be making a series of improvements to make the right-turn lane continuous along this entire segment. Chairman Slaughter also stated that VDOT recommends that a southbound right-turn taper and a northbound left-turn lane be constructed on Cook Road at the entrance to York High School but that funding for these improvements is yet to be identified. He added that VDOT will be refreshing the existing crosswalk markings on Long Green Boulevard between the Tabb Library and the YMCA.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 1:07 p.m.

Timothy C. Cross
Staff Liaison/Secretary