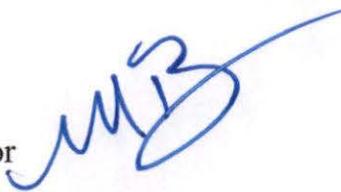


COUNTY OF YORK

MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 9, 2024

TO: York County Board of Supervisors

FROM: Mark L. Bellamy, Jr., County Administrator 

SUBJECT: SMART SCALE Transportation Funding Recommendations

Several years ago, VDOT implemented a new statewide prioritization process to guide the allocation of transportation funds through the VDOT Six-Year Improvement Program (SYIP). This process – known as SMART SCALE – is a data-driven process in which applications for transportation funding are submitted by localities, transit agencies, Metropolitan Planning Organizations, and Planning District Commissions. Projects are ranked against one another on the basis of numerical scores derived from quantifiable measures of effectiveness and efficiency related to congestion mitigation, safety, accessibility, environmental quality, economic development, and land use.

In previous application cycles, the County has successfully applied for SMART SCALE funding for the following projects:

- widening Route 17 from four to six lanes between Wolf Trap Road and Denbigh Boulevard/Goodwin Neck Road,
- widening Victory Boulevard (Route 171) from five to six lanes between Route 17 and Hampton Highway (Route 134), and
- construction of a segment of “Trail 757” (formerly known as the “Birthplace of America Trail”), consisting of a 10'-wide multi-use path starting at the Route 17/Darby Road intersection, continuing along Hampton Highway, crossing Victory Boulevard, and terminating at Tabb Lakes Drive.

The biennial application process is conducted in even-numbered years and is currently underway. In order to be eligible for SMART SCALE funding, projects must meet certain specified criteria. Most importantly, they must be included in, or consistent with, the region's adopted Long-Range Transportation Plan, and they must also meet at least one of the needs specifically identified in VTrans – Virginia's statewide multi-modal transportation plan. Taking these screening criteria into account, staff has developed four proposed SMART SCALE projects for the Board's consideration:

- **Barlow Road Shoulder Widening.** This safety project would add eight-foot (8') shoulders to both sides of Barlow Road (Route 604) between Carter's Neck Road (Route 744) and Auburn Lane (Route 1626). In the past five years there have been

sixteen crashes – six of which resulted in injuries – along this 0.86-mile road segment. (Estimated cost: \$12.5 million).

- **Merrimac Trail Crosswalks at Second Street & Penniman Road.** This pedestrian safety project would provide a crossing from the southwestern corner of the Second Street (Route 162) and Merrimac Trail (Route 143) intersection to connect two sidewalks. The second crossing is at the adjacent intersection of Merrimac Trail and Penniman Road (Route 641) to also connect two existing sidewalks. Last year there was a fatal pedestrian-involved crash near the intersection of Second Street and Merrimac Trail, highlighting the need for safe pedestrian crossing facilities in the corridor. (Estimated cost: \$1.7 million).
- **Project Pipeline HR-23-10; Route 17 & Victory Boulevard Improvements.** This proposed project includes the improvements to the intersection of Route 17 (George Washington Memorial Highway) and Route 171 (Victory Boulevard), based on the Project Pipeline study recommendations. Proposed improvements include the construction of a new northbound, southbound, and eastbound through lane; construction of a new eastbound left-turn lane; and modifications to the existing signal to accommodate altered laneage. This intersection area has a high number of rear-end crashes related to congestion and a high number of angle crashes. This project will improve capacity and provide safety improvements for Route 17 and Victory Boulevard. (Estimated cost: \$13.7 million).
- **Project Pipeline HR-23-09; Route 17 Improvements at Cook Road.** This project consists of intersection improvements at two intersections along Route 17 (George Washington Memorial Highway). Improvements proposed in the Project Pipeline study focus on enhanced pedestrian and transit access, capacity preservation, and safety improvements. This project includes converting the intersection of Route 17 and Cook Road (Route 704)/York Warwick Drive (Route 1203) into a Partial Median U-Turn intersection with pedestrian crosswalks and curb ramps, downstream median opening improvements, and a new traffic signal for U-turns. This project also includes improvements at the intersection of Route 17 and Fort Eustis Boulevard (Route 105), including widening the eastbound approach of Fort Eustis Boulevard to convert a shared lane for left turns and through movements into two separate lanes, extending the eastbound right turn lane to 200 feet of full-width storage and a 200-ft long taper, closing a commercial entrance, constructing a concrete median on the westbound approach of Fort Eustis Boulevard, and installing pedestrian crosswalks, curb ramps, and sidewalk to a planned future bus stop. Over 600 crashes were reported within the subject corridor between 2015 and 2022, with one-third of the crashes resulting in injury. This project will improve safety and relieve congestion along Route 17. (Estimated cost: \$30.6 million).

All four projects have been pre-screened by VDOT – a process by which potential projects are reviewed by VDOT staff for eligibility and project readiness and screened to determine if they meet a VTrans need. Submitting a pre-application for screening does not commit the locality to submitting an application for the project; however, there is no opportunity to submit additional projects that have not gone through the pre-screening process.

The SMART SCALE policies require resolutions of support from the local governing body, and I will be asking the Board to approve such a resolution for the four proposed applications at its **June 18** meeting. In the meantime, please let me know if there are questions or concerns about any of the proposed applications.

Aubut/3495

Attachments:

- Conceptual Project Diagrams



Barlow Road SMART Scale Support

Auburn Lane to Carters Neck Road

Project Location



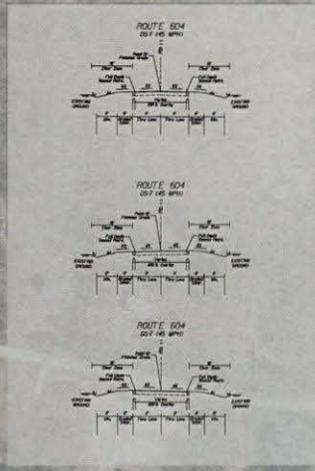
York County, VA

North Arrow & Scale



Legend

- Proposed Road
- Proposed Shoulder
- Property Line
- Proposed Right of Way Line
- Proposed Permanent Drainage Easement
- Proposed Temp. Construction Easement
- C Proposed Limits of Construction - Cut
- F Proposed Limits of Construction - Fill



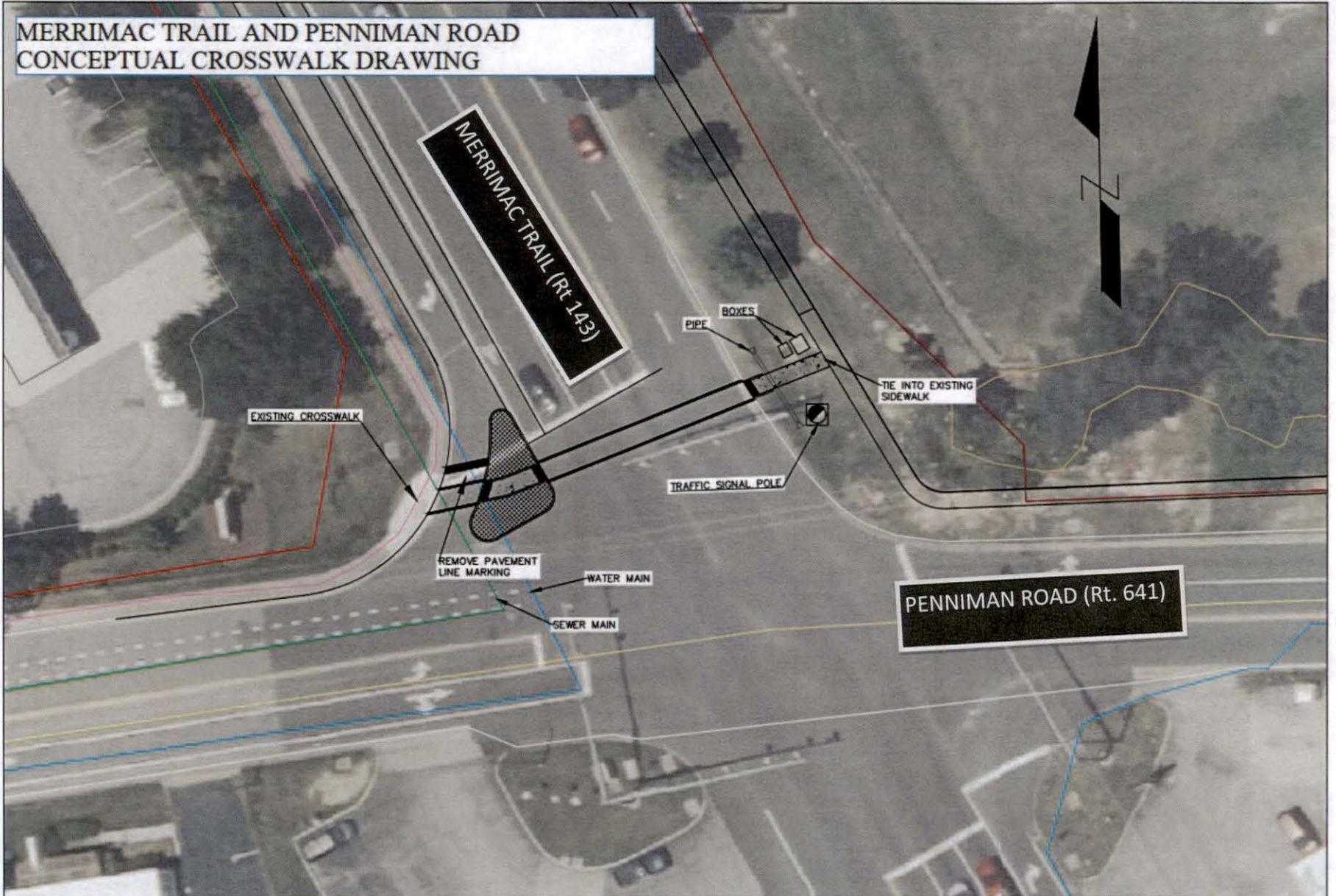
Barlow Road SMART Scale Support
York County, Virginia

Project Number: 2014-0001
Project Name: Barlow Road

These plans and drawings are intended to be used for informational purposes only. They are not to be used for construction or other purposes without the approval of the engineer. The engineer is not responsible for any errors or omissions in these plans and drawings.

Virginia Department of Transportation, 2014

MERRIMAC TRAIL AND PENNIMAN ROAD
CONCEPTUAL CROSSWALK DRAWING



EXISTING CROSSWALK

MERRIMAC TRAIL (Rt. 143)

BOXES
PIPE

TIE INTO EXISTING
SIDEWALK

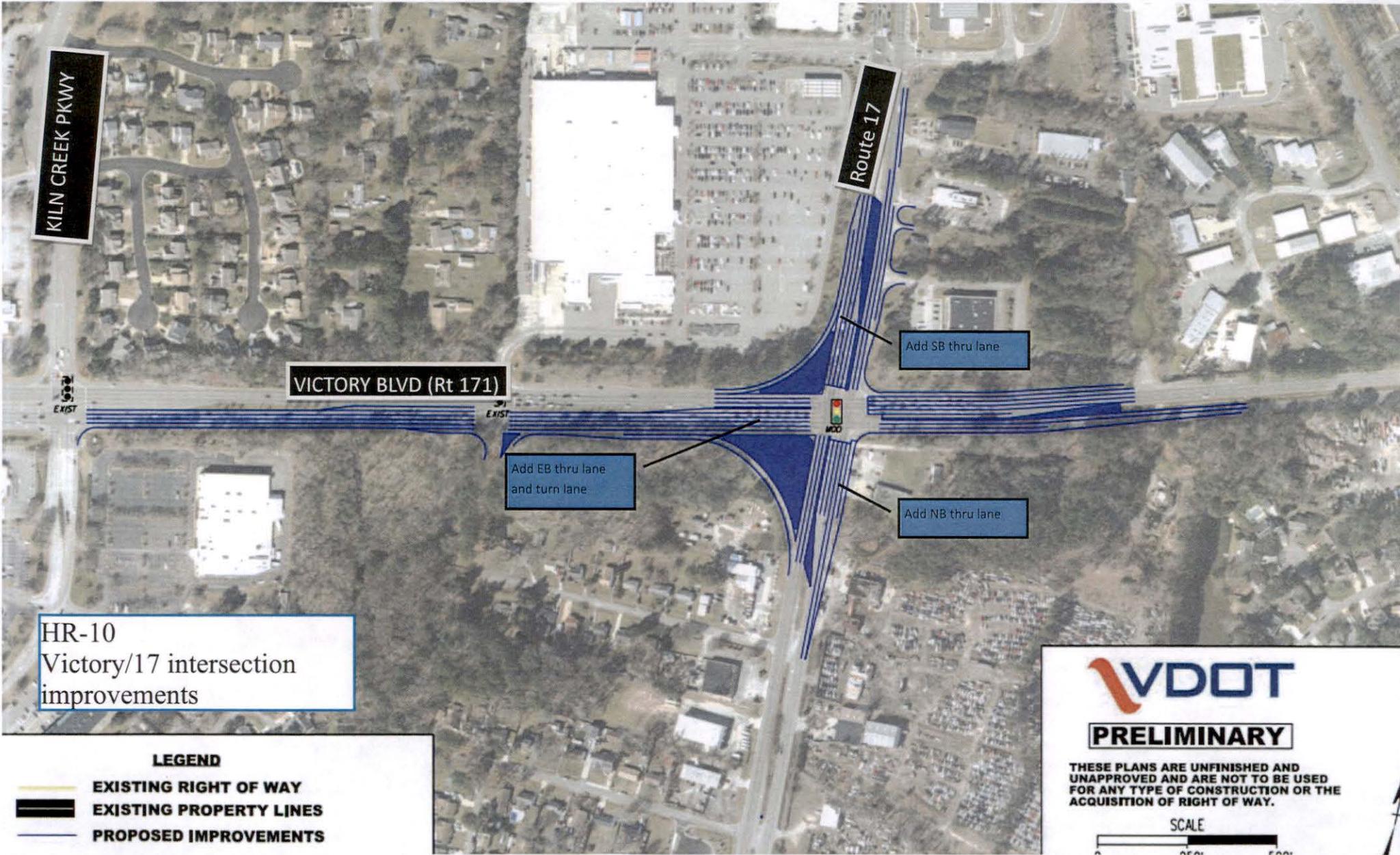
TRAFFIC SIGNAL POLE

REMOVE PAVEMENT
LINE MARKING

WATER MAIN

SEWER MAIN

PENNIMAN ROAD (Rt. 641)



HR-10
 Victory/17 intersection
 improvements

LEGEND

-  EXISTING RIGHT OF WAY
-  EXISTING PROPERTY LINES
-  PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS



PRELIMINARY

THESE PLANS ARE UNFINISHED AND UNAPPROVED AND ARE NOT TO BE USED FOR ANY TYPE OF CONSTRUCTION OR THE ACQUISITION OF RIGHT OF WAY.





Rt 17

COOK RD (Rt 704)

YORK-WARWICK DR (Rt 1203)

Median u-turn signalized

No left turn/thru, crosswalks, sidewalks

Median U-turn

HR-09 Page 1
Cook/17 intersection improvements

