

TPB R15-2014
April 16, 2014

NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION TRANSPORTATION PLANNING BOARD
777 North Capitol Street, N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20002

**RESOLUTION ON INCLUSION IN AIR QUALITY CONFORMITY ANALYSIS OF
SUBMISSIONS FOR THE 2014 CONSTRAINED LONG RANGE PLAN (CLRP) AND
THE FY 2015-2020 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP)**

WHEREAS, the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB), as the metropolitan planning organization for the Washington Metropolitan area, has the responsibility under the provisions of Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21) for developing and carrying out a continuing, cooperative and comprehensive transportation planning process for the metropolitan Area; and

WHEREAS, the Joint Planning Regulations issued February 14, 2007 by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) require that the long range transportation plan be reviewed and updated at least every four years; and

WHEREAS, the transportation plan, program and projects must be assessed for air quality conformity as required by the conformity regulations originally published by the Environmental Protection Agency in the November 24, 1993 Federal Register and with latest amendments published in the Federal Register on March 14, 2012; and

WHEREAS, on July 17, 2013, the TPB adopted resolution R1-2014 determining that the 2013 CLRP and the FY 2013-2018 TIP conform with the requirements of the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 and resolution R2-2014 approving the 2013 CLRP; and

WHEREAS, the transportation implementing agencies in the region have provided submissions for the 2014 CLRP and the FY 2015-2020 TIP, which are in response to the November 2013 Call for Projects document issued by the TPB, and the Technical Committee has reviewed these submissions at its meetings on March 7, and April 4, 2014; and

WHEREAS, at a public meeting on March 13, 2014 the submissions for the 2014 CLRP were released for a 30-day public comment and interagency consultation period which ended April 12; and

WHEREAS, at the April 16, 2014 meeting, the TPB was briefed on the project submissions for the 2014 CLRP, the public comments received on the submissions, and the recommended responses to the public comments; and

WHEREAS, the 2014 CLRP is scheduled to be released for public comment on September 11, 2014 and approved by the TPB at its October 15 meeting; and

WHEREAS, the submissions have been developed to meet the financial plan requirements in the Metropolitan Planning Rules and show the consistency of the proposed projects with already available and projected sources of transportation revenues; and

WHEREAS, the project submissions released for public comment on March 13 included three alternatives for the Dulles Air Cargo, Passenger, Metro Access Highway (DACPMAH) project, submitted by the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT):

- Alt. 2 – New Dulles Air Cargo, Passenger, Metro Access Highway (North Star Boulevard alignment)
- Alt. 3B – Convert US 50 and VA 606 to Limited Access
- Alt. 3C – Airport Express Lanes on US 50 and New Limited Access VA 606; and

WHEREAS, as documented in the Revised Environmental Assessment (EA) report published in April 2014, VDOT staff recommended DACPMAH Alt. 3C as the preferred build alternative; and

WHEREAS, in the attached letter of April 16, 2014, VDOT indicates that the location public hearing is scheduled for April 22, 2014 and therefore the public hearing and stakeholder comment period has not yet ended; and

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) will not take action on selection of a preferred alternative until the public and stakeholder comment period is complete; and

WHEREAS, VDOT requests that the TPB not consider any of the three alternatives for the DACPMAH project for inclusion in the regional air quality conformity analysis of the proposed 2014 CLRP and FY 2015-2020 TIP at this time; with the understanding that VDOT plans to submit the preferred alternative for inclusion in the CLRP in the future when all required actions are complete;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board approves for inclusion in the air quality conformity analysis of the 2014 CLRP and the FY 2015-2020 TIP, the project submissions which do not include a preferred alternative for the DACPMAH project, as described in the attached memorandum.



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

4975 Alliance Drive
Fairfax, VA 22030

CHARLES A. KILPATRICK, P.E.
COMMISSIONER

April 16, 2014

The Honorable Patrick Wojahn, Chairman
National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board
Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
777 North Capitol Street, N.E., Suite 300
Washington, DC 20002-4201

RE: VDOT's Project Choice For 2014 CLRP Air Quality Conformity Input

Dear Chairman Wojahn:

This is to inform the Transportation Planning Board (TPB) that while the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) has completed the Revised Environmental Assessment (EA) study for the Dulles Air Cargo Passenger Metro Access Highway (DACPMAH) project, the process of obtaining stakeholder comment is ongoing. VDOT's location public hearing is scheduled for April 22, 2014, which will be followed by a recommendation from the Loudoun County Board and final approval of a preferred alternative by the Commonwealth Transportation Board. In order to allow for a complete and impartial consideration of the alternatives examined in the Revised Environmental Assessment, VDOT has decided to postpone advancing any specific build alternative further through the TPB's CLRP update process, including inclusion in the regional air quality conformity analysis.

You will recall that VDOT had listed three candidate build alternatives for the DACPMAH project in the draft air quality conformity input documents that the Board released for public comments on March 13, 2014. VDOT had informed the Board at its March 19, 2014 meeting that VDOT would select one of the three alternatives as the preferred alternative for the project to be included in the 2014 CLRP and its regional air quality conformity analysis. In light of the above, VDOT requests the Board to not include any of the three build alternatives for the DACPMAH project as part of the 2014 CLRP and the FY 2015-2020 TIP Air Quality Conformity input for the regional air quality conformity analysis at its April 16, 2014 meeting.

Upon conclusion of the public hearing and stakeholder jurisdiction concurrence and following the formal approval of a preferred alternative by the CTB, VDOT plans to bring the project back to the TPB for its consideration and action to include it as part of the region's CLRP in the future.

Mr. Patrick Wojahn
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VDOT's representatives will attend the meeting and be available to answer any questions about the amendment. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Helen L. Cuervo, P.E.
District Administrator
Northern Virginia District

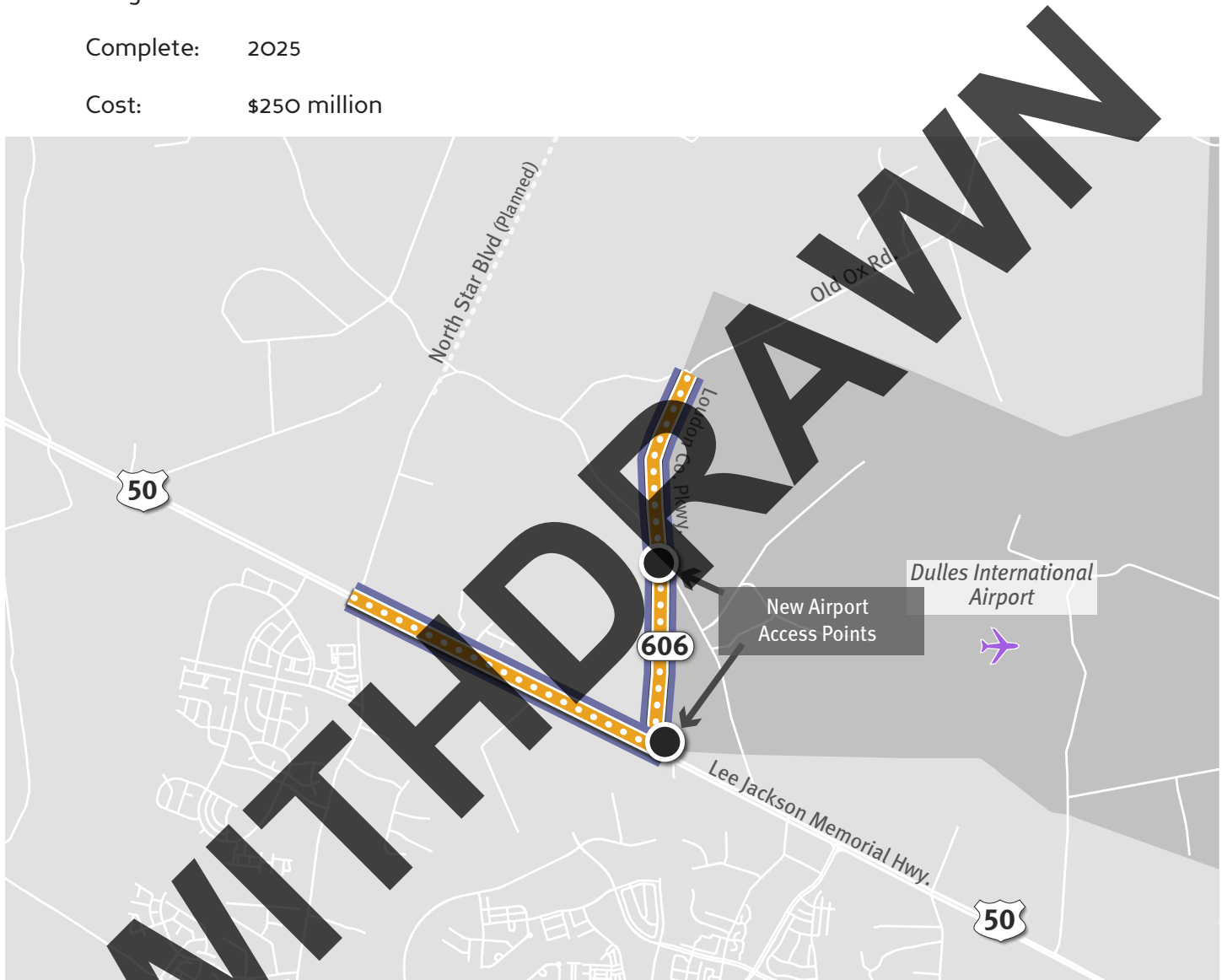
Copy: Ms. Renée N. Hamilton, VDOT-NoVA
Ms. Maria Sinner, VDOT-NoVA
Mr. Tom Fahrney, VDOT-NoVA
Mr. Farid Bigdeli, VDOT-NoVA
Mr. Kanathur Srikanth, VDOT-NoVA



Major Additions and Changes to the 2014 CLRP Update

11. Dulles Air Cargo, Passenger, Metro Access Highway Alternative (Alt 3C) US 50, Lee Jackson Memorial Highway and VA 606, Loudoun County Parkway

Length: 2.34 miles
Complete: 2025
Cost: \$250 million



Construct two Airport Express Lanes in the median of US 50 between Northstar Boulevard/Bi-County Parkway and VA 606, Loudoun County Parkway, at New Dulles Airport Access. Upgrade US 50 within the same limits to a limited access facility and widen from 4 to 8 lanes. Upgrade VA 606, Loudoun County Parkway, between US 50 and VA 607 to a limited access facility and widen from 4 to 6 lanes.

See CLRP Project Description Form in Attachment A for more information.

2014 CLRP AND FY2015-2020 TIP AIR QUALITY CONFORMITY INPUTS (Highway and HOV)

Agency	Project ID	Agency Code	Improv.	Facility	From	To	Facility		Lanes		Under Const. or ROW acquired?	Compl. Date or Status
							from	to	from	to		
<i>VDOT</i>			<i>Widen</i>	<i>Loudoun County Parkway Widening</i>	<i>US 50</i>	<i>VA 606 at new Arcola Blvd.</i>			<i>4</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>2030</i>
<i>VDOT</i>			<i>Construct</i>	<i>Northstar Boulevard (Missing Link #79)</i>	<i>Shreveport Drive</i>	<i>U.S. 50</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>2022</i>

NOTE: These two Loudoun County projects were included in the 2014 Constrained Long Range Plan (CLRP) air quality conformity input table to assure that segments of Northstar Boulevard and Loudoun County Parkway (VA 606) would be included in the CLRP, even if these segments were not part of VDOT's selected alternative for the Dulles Access project. With the current removal all Dulles Access project alternatives, these Loudoun County projects will remain in the conformity input table.