

DRAFT

**Transportation Toll Facility Advisory Committee
Quarterly Meeting
July 14, 2016**

- 1. Call to Order:** Ms. Vonda Chappell called the meeting to order at 11:40 AM.
- 2. Roll Call:**

Committee Members in Attendance

Vonda Chappell
George Midgette
Lenard Myers
Larry Hazelwood
Shelden Jenkins

Ex-officio Members in Attendance

Eric Martin

Committee Members not in Attendance

Matthew Echaniz

Non-Committee Members in Attendance

Belinda Malone	Mary Ann Saunders
Gary Walton	Leigh Ann Kling
Kevin Crum	Veronica Latonio
Rhonda Sommer	Andrew Fox
Dave Cuneo (via phone)	

- 3. Meeting Discussion:**

Ms. Vonda Chappell asked for and received a motion to approve the April 14, 2016 Transportation Toll Facilities Advisory Committee (TTFAC) minutes. The motion was seconded and the minutes were approved.

Consideration of the Dominion Boulevard toll rate schedule modification:

The original toll schedule assumed an axle-based toll system and was adopted prior to the actual system design. The final system is based on newer technology which will provide enhanced functionality, reliability and accuracy. This is a classification based system which assesses tolls based on the size of a vehicle. Traffic and revenue analysis found the proposed change from axle based to classification based is revenue neutral (the change will not cost consumers more, nor will it increase nor decrease toll revenue). *A committee member asked if there has been a study regarding the diversion rate for Dominion Boulevard. Mr. Martin answered that the cost to go around will be the same or more in terms of time and money. A committee member asked if there was a plan for the Deep Creek Bridge replacement and Ms. Saunders answered that there is a plan in motion. Mr. Myers asked for a motion to adopt the toll rate schedule modification and*

received the motion from Mr. Jenkins. The motion was seconded by Ms. Chappell and all members were in favor with no one opposed. A report with a recommendation must be prepared for City Council from TTFAC for the toll rate schedule modification.

Consideration for the motorcycle toll rate adjustment:

Mr. Walton explained that the motorcycle toll rate schedule for the Chesapeake Expressway called for motorcycles to be tolled at one-third the cost of two axle vehicles. When the peak season rates increased to \$8.00, the motorcycle toll rate became \$2.67. This has resulted in an increase in the time necessary to process motorcycle transactions, creating delays for patrons; increased need for coins in the toll booths which requires additional time necessary to process and verify monies for collectors; increased time to count and verify monies received, and additional time for bank deposit preparation. City Council has considered this an emergency matter, and passed the new motorcycle rate for \$2.00 effective July 12, 2016. In addition, a new toll rate schedule for motorcycles has been adopted to ensure even dollar amounts in the future.

Ms. Rhonda Sommer provided financial updates on the Chesapeake Transportation System:

- Traffic and revenue through June showed traffic up 4.5% and revenue up 7.8%.
- Operating expenses increased 8.1% which includes Dominion Boulevard as well as increases in payroll and benefits, EZPass fees, postage (increased mailings for violations), maintenance repairs and mowing.

Ms. Rhonda Sommer provided financial updates for Dominion Boulevard:

- The expenditures are at 86% of the project.
- The construction percentage of completion is 89%.

Mr. Martin gave an update for Dominion Boulevard:

- With the completion of equipment testing, back office business rules, and the adoption of the toll schedule, it is anticipated that all construction will be completed and the road should open between September and December of 2016.
- The Mullen Road project will be a separate city project from the Dominion Boulevard project.

Mr. Walton provided information regarding the Expressway:

- FY16 traffic was up 4.5%.
- Revenue was up 7.8%.
- Cash transactions were down 4.0% while full fare EZPass transactions were up 11.6%. Discount Program transactions were up 5.3%.
- Toll violation rates are consistently 1.4%-1.5% and participation in the 10 day recycle VToll process allows for 35-40% of those violations to be collected directly from EZPass accounts without going through the violations process.
- FY16 R&R inspections are complete.
- 2015 R&R inspection construction plans have been delivered and are being reviewed.

- Peak season weekend toll rate increase took effect in May which resulted in an expected small decrease in traffic but an increase in revenue due to the toll increase of \$2 on peak weekends.

Mr. Crum provided an update for the South Norfolk Jordan Bridge (SNJB):

- EZPass rate is steady at 73%.
 - June has had the highest average daily traffic per month.
 - Midtown and Downtown tunnel weekend closures have contributed to an increase in traffic at the SNJB.
 - Summer promotional sweepstakes involves giving away a free car with EZPass usage. Each EZPass toll transaction at the SNJB counts as one chance entered to win the car.
4. New members were welcomed to the committee. Plans were arranged to offer more information including a tour of the Expressway and eventually Dominion Boulevard. The meeting concluded at 12:45 PM. The next meeting will be held in the City Manager's Conference Room on October 6, 2016 at 11:30 am.