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Planning District Commission

Sustainable solutions to regional issues

To: TJPD Commissioners
From: Kellem Emanuele, Transportation Program Coordinator
Date: July 5, 2007
Reference: NW Fluvanna/SW Louisa Multi-modal Corridor Study

Purpose: The Northwest (NW) Fluvanna/Southwest (SW) Louisa Multi-modal Corridor Draft Report summarizes the study process, technical analysis, and strategies to achieve the preferred scenario. The future land use and transportation scenario developed through the Study process forms the basis for the Eastern Albemarle Sub-Area Study. The two studies combine to create a corridor study that extends from Fluvanna County west to the eastern edge of the Charlottesville Urbanized area in Albemarle County. The NWF/SWL Study Draft Report is provided to the Commission as an information item.

Background: The Northwest Fluvanna/Southwest Louisa region is experiencing significant growth pressure due in large part to its accessibility to Charlottesville and Richmond. Such development threatens to erode livability and quality of life in these historically rural areas through increasing traffic and related safety issues. To address this, TJPDC, working with Fluvanna and Louisa Counties, successfully pursued a State Transportation Planning Grant from the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT). In December 2005, TJPDC was awarded \$120,000 from VDOT, to which TJPDC, Fluvanna, and Louisa contributed a total of \$28,000 in additional funds.

The NW Fluvanna/SW Louisa Study builds on previous studies, including the regional Eastern Planning Initiative, UnJAM 2025 Transportation Plan, and community plans created for Lake Monticello, Palmyra and Zion Crossroads. Through the study process, TJPDC, Fluvanna and Louisa Counties, Virginia VDOT, and the public worked collaboratively with Renaissance Planning Group (the selected consultant for both the NWF/SWL Study and Eastern Albemarle Studies), to create a preferred development scenario that accomplishes the following:

- ❖ Identifies strategies to enhance key regional transportation corridors by supporting a balance of modes and users;
- ❖ Uses the scenario planning process to identify an integrated transportation and land use plan for incorporation in the Fluvanna County Comprehensive Plan;
- ❖ Identifies transportation issues and opportunities associated with corridor development in Fluvanna and Louisa Counties, and
- ❖ Identifies specific short-term and long-term transportation projects that can be implemented through both the public sector and as part of private development proposals.

Next Steps: On June 20, the project team presented the overall study findings and Draft Report to the Fluvanna Board of Supervisors. The Supervisors were enthusiastically supportive of the Study and Report, and directed the project team to work with the Fluvanna Planning Commission to develop strategies to achieve the preferred development scenario developed through the Study Process.