# COUNTY OF HENRICO, VIRGINIA BOARD OF SUPERVISORS SPECIAL MEETING February 12, 2019

The Henrico County Board of Supervisors convened a special meeting on Tuesday, February 12, 2019, at 5:00 p.m., in the County Manager's Conference Room, Administration Building, Henrico County Government Center, Parham and Hungary Spring Roads, Henrico, Virginia.

#### Members of the Board Present:

Tyrone E. Nelson, Chairman, Varina District Patricia S. O'Bannon, Tuckahoe District Daniel J. Schmitt, Brookland District Frank J. Thornton, Fairfield District

#### Member of the Board Absent:

Thomas M. Branin, Vice Chairman, Three Chopt District

## **Other Officials Present:**

John A. Vithoulkas, County Manager

Joseph P. Rapisarda, Jr., County Attorney J. T. (Tom) Tokarz, Deputy County Attorney Barry R. Lawrence, CMC, Assistant to the County Manager/Clerk to the Board Tanya B. Harding, CMC, Deputy Clerk/Administrative Assistant Timothy A. Foster, P.E., Deputy County Manager for Community Operations W. Brandon Hinton, Deputy County Manager for Administration Anthony E. McDowell, Deputy County Manager for Public Safety Anthony J. Romanello, Deputy County Manager for Community Services Randall R. Silber, Deputy County Manager for Community Development Benjamen A. Sheppard, Director of Public Relations & Media Services

Mr. Nelson called the meeting to order at 5:09 p.m.

#### **Henrico Mobile Application**

Mr. Vithoulkas noted Mrs. O'Bannon received information about mobile application use by County governments at the 2018 National Association of Counties (NACo) annual conference that was held in San Diego. He recognized Travis Sparrow, Director of Information Technology, who in turn recognized Information Technology Manager Beth Barnett. Ms. Barnett noted three members of her team who worked on the Henrico mobile application were in attendance, Application Developers Fabian Vargas and Todd Matthews and Graphic Designer Ken Dykes. A third member of her team, IT Manager Jon Lumpkin, was unable to attend due to illness. Mr. Vargas was the project lead and developed the Android application, and Mr. Matthews developed the iOS application. Mr. Dykes developed the look and feel of the mobile application. Ms. Barnett narrated a slide presentation on this item. She began by providing background information on this project, pointing out mobile usage of the County's website continues to grow and the County web team's focus for many years has been to make the website responsive and easy to use on handheld devices. She identified the goals of the project, which include support for push notifications, and cited the results, which include developing a mobile application in-house that is native for both iOS and Android and fully customizable for added features in the future. The application will provide a new platform for citizen engagement. Ms. Barnett conducted a live demonstration of the application on her cellular telephone. Ms. Barnett clarified for Mr. Nelson that the application will be sent to Apple for approval, a process that can take up to 30 days. Mr. Sparrow noted staff wanted to show the application to the Board before initiating the review process with Apple. Ms. Barnett continued her demonstration and identified the main categories on the application as services, locations, parks, departments, videos, and contacts. She confirmed for Mr. Nelson that live streaming of Board meetings can be accessed through the application.

Following her demonstration, Ms. Barnett explained for Mr. Schmitt how users will be able obtain the application and opt in for push notifications. There was discussion by Ms. Barnett, Mr. Schmitt, Mrs. O'Bannon, and Mr. Vithoulkas regarding push notification features. In response to questions from Mr. Schmitt and Mrs. O'Bannon, and at Mr. Vithoulkas' request, Acting Fire Chief Alec Oughton spoke to the County's Code Red notification system, which is separate from mobile application push notifications.

Mr. Sheppard advised the Board how the mobile application will be promoted and distributed a flyer and poster that his department developed to help with the County's promotional efforts. Mr. Sheppard also showed a slide highlighting the distinction between digital marketing and traditional marketing and previewed a 15-second video advertisement that will be provided with the application. He responded to questions from Mr. Nelson and Mr. Schmitt pertaining to digital marketing. Ned Smither, Director of Finance, assured Mr. Schmitt that Henrico residents will at some point in the future be able to use the application to make payments to the County. In response to concerns raised by Mrs. O'Bannon relating to firewall protection against cyber-attacks, Ms. Barnett pointed out the mobile application will be completely separate from the County's website and will not compromise its servers. Mr. Vithoulkas and Chief Oughton responded to additional questions from Mrs. O'Bannon regarding Code Red notifications. Mr. Sheppard informed the Board that County employees will receive an email with information on downloading the mobile application and opting in for push notifications.

The Board recessed for dinner at 5:39 p.m. and reconvened at 5:50 p.m.

## **Emerging Transportation Technology**

Mr. Vithoulkas introduced the following persons from the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) who were in attendance for this item: Virginia Lingham, Connected and Automated Vehicle Program Manager (VDOT); Murali Rao, Director of Technology Strategic Planning and Cyber Security; and Robb Alexander, Regional Operations Director. Mrs. O'Bannon noted she is currently Chairman of the Richmond Regional Transportation Planning Organization and recently heard a presentation from Ms. Lingham on the subject of emerging transportation technology along with Public Works Director Steve Yob and Assistant Director Todd Eure. Ms. Lingam reviewed her position and responsibilities with VDOT before narrating the first portion of a slide presentation on this item. Ms. Lingham began her presentation by reviewing what is currently happening with connected and automated vehicles and the five levels of automated driving systems (ADS). She explained the benefits of a connected vehicle environment and identified testing, demonstrations, and pilots of automated vehicles that are currently active in Virginia. Ms. Lingham next reviewed connected and automated vehicle innovation and technology cycles. She elaborated on VDOT's vision for connected and automated vehicles and pointed out the interconnected environment is expected to meet the following objectives: increased safety, improved mobility, reduced infrastructure improvements, and enhanced traveler information. She identified Virginia's unique strengths for an automated environment as follows: a diverse highway system with a good state of repair; an "open-for-business" regulatory environment for innovative transportation solutions; a data-driven commitment to innovation; trusted world-class research and testing capabilities; and a capable knowledgebased work force, including a strong military presence. Ms. Lingham explained the role of the Virginia Connected Corridors Partnership, through which VDOT has partnered with the Virginia Transportation Research Council and Virginia Tech Transportation Institute. She also highlighted Dedicated Short-Range Communications (DSRC) deployments in the Northern Virginia test bed, Northern Virginia challenges, the national Signal Phase and Timing (SPaT) challenge and deployment map, and the Virginia connected corridor's SPaT challenge architecture. Ms. Lingham responded to a question from Mr. Nelson pertaining to the fifth ADS level, full automation, and to questions from Mrs. O'Bannon concerning roadside infrastructure.

Mr. Rao narrated the next portion of the presentation, which focused on cyber security and communications. He addressed what is currently happening with communications infrastructure needs, industry stakeholder feedback, smart technology deployments, communications infrastructure enhancements, the current status of fifth-generation cellular wireless communications (5G), and Virginia legislation related to 5G. Ms. Lingham concluded the presentation by reviewing the following next steps in emerging transportation technology: automated maintenance vehicles, work zone information, first and last mile solutions, workforce development, fleet challenges, industry coordination, data management and security, and leveraging broadband. Ms. Lingham and Mr. Rao responded to a question from Mr. Thornton relating to the anticipated timeframe for the transition from the current ADS third level of partial assistance to the fifth level of full automation. Mr. Rao predicted most driving lanes will be used by automated vehicles by 2040 with non-automated vehicles restricted to a smaller number of dedicated lanes.

## **Regular Meeting Agenda Items**

Mr. Vithoulkas reviewed the agenda for the 7:00 p.m. regular meeting. He advised the Board he had no Manager's Comments and referred to the two presentation items and one appointment resolution. Mr. Vithoulkas noted there were six land use cases on the public hearing agenda. The City of Richmond was the applicant for the first zoning case listed on the agenda and a companion provisional use permit case, both of which were being requested by the applicant for deferral to the March 12 meeting. Mr. Vithoulkas pointed out the fourth case on the public hearing agenda had been withdrawn by the applicant, Par 5 Development Group, LLC. He next referred to the three other public hearing items on the agenda. Mr. Vithoulkas informed the Board that one citizen had signed up in advance to speak during the public comment period to express concerns about the County's animal control ordinance. He referred to the six general agenda items, and Mr. Silber commented briefly on one of those items that would initiate a study of the land use designation in the 2026 Comprehensive Plan for the Bridlewood subdivision in the Three Chopt District.

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There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:46 p.m.

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Chairman, Board of Supervisors Henrico County, Virginia