

AGENDA ITEM #16: US 460 CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT UPDATE
Caleb Parks, VDOT

The purpose of the project is to construct a facility consistent with the functional classification of the corridor that sufficiently addresses safety, mobility, and evacuation needs and sufficiently accommodates freight traffic along the corridor. In February 2015, the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) approved a Preferred Alternative that consists of:

- Constructing a new four-lane divided highway between the Route 460/Route 58 interchange in Suffolk to approximately two miles west of Windsor
- Reconstructing and upgrading the existing Route 460 to a four-lane divided highway from approximately two miles west of Windsor to approximately one mile west of Zuni, including a new bridge across the Blackwater River to eliminate long standing flood problems

Since the CTB approval of the Preferred Alternative, refinements have been applied to avoid and minimize environmental impacts to the greatest extent practicable and a proposed project has been carried forward in a Joint Permit Application (JPA) submitted to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), and the Virginia Marine Resources Commission (VMRC). The JPA was submitted by VDOT in November 2015. USACE is currently holding a public comment period that began on November 30, 2015 and ends on January 5, 2016.

Once necessary permits have been received from USACE, DEQ, and VMRC, and a Record of Decision has been received from FHWA, the project will need to be evaluated and scored under HB2 before the CTB can decide whether to advance the project for further design and eventual construction.

Mr. Caleb Parks, VDOT NEPA Project Manager, will brief the TTAC on this item.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

For discussion and informational purposes.