Places 29 Advisory Council Meeting Minutes  
February 27, 2014

In Attendance: Council Members Heather Stokes, George Lane, Elly Tucker, L.F. Wood, Cynthia Neff, Jane Williamson, Kimberly Swanson, Henry Weinschenk, Jane Fogleman, Helene Kaminer, Peter Borches, and Peter Skoro. Also attending: County Supervisors Ken Boyd and Brad Sheffield; Planning Commissioners Mac Lafferty and Bruce Dotson; County Planning Staff members Lee Catlin and David Benish, and guest Chuck Newton.

--Welcome and sign-in.

[Introduction of newly appointed council members Peter Borches, Jane Fogleman, and Helene Kaminer.

--Speakers:

- Lee Catlin: Welcomed new members of the council and passed out copies of the Places29 Plan to the new members, together with copies of the FOIA rules and the council’s rules of procedure. She invited new and current members of the council to meet with county staff to review these documents in detail. She also discussed the role of the council in connection with the implementation of the Places29 Plan. She noted that there would be a joint meeting with the other local advisory councils on March 24 at the County Administration Building. She also noted the recent FHWA letter to VDOT about the Western Bypass and a meeting on the subject to be held in Richmond on March 7 (this meeting has since been postponed).

-David Benish, Chief of Planning: Provided an overview of the transportation components of the Places29 Plan and discussed how it related to the large County Master Plan. He discussed in detail the four primary transportation implementation sections at Chapter 8 of the Places29 Plan, including Hillsdale Drive Extended, Widening of North Rt. 29 to six lanes, Berkmar Drive Extension, and Enhanced Transit Services. He also discussed in some detail the “Small Area Plans”, including a proposed interchange at Rio Road, etc.
Mr. Banish explained generally the timing and funding of the various transportation projects set out in the Places29 Plan. These factors suggest a long-term deliberative process that will require on-going assessments and changes in the implementation of the transportation component of the Places29 Plan over the coming 5, 10 and 20-year periods.

**Budget Message:** Lee Catlin distributed copies of the County Executive’s “Budget Message” for FY 2015. It was noted that the proposed budget has a small allocation of funds for the transportation improvement projects listed in the Places29 Plan.

**FHWA Letter Regarding Western Bypass:** The Council received a copy of the letter and thereupon entered into a broad discussion. The discussion included historical information about the Western Bypass including the planning and assessment process. Several speakers voiced their views about this process and the current status of the project.

- The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:30 p.m. The council will participate in the joint meeting with the other area councils on March 24. The council will next meet on April 24, 2014, at 5:00 p.m., Room 235, County Office Building.