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Department of Rail and Public Transportation

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**Route 1 Multimodal Transportation Alternatives Analysis Team
Launches Public Outreach Program**

*Community Participation along Northern Virginia Corridor
A Key Component of Study; First Public Meeting on October 9*

RICHMOND—The Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) has launched the first steps in a multifaceted effort to inform the public about a new study and gather input from the community living and working along the U.S. Route 1 (“Route 1”) corridor in Northern Virginia. The outreach efforts are part of a comprehensive multimodal transportation alternatives analysis that will examine a range of transit, roadway, and supporting pedestrian and bicycle options along the Route 1 roadway segment extending roughly from the I-95/I-495 Capital Beltway interchange in Fairfax County to Route 123 in Woodbridge in Prince William County.

DRPT representatives and the consulting team conducting the analysis hope to draw extensively from the ideas, suggestions, and concerns of community members along the corridor, including land owners, residents, and businesses. The team, which has already initiated meetings to introduce the project to elected officials and public agency representatives, plans to coordinate with a number of community groups and will host a series of public meetings. The first public meeting will be held on October 9 from 6-8 p.m. in room 221 at the [South County Government Center](#), located at 8350 Richmond Highway in Alexandria.

“Northern Virginia is one of the fastest growing regions in the country in terms of population, economy and unfortunately, traffic congestion,” said Transportation Secretary Sean T. Connaughton. “As part of the McDonnell administration’s commitment to provide real solutions to transportation issues, we are pleased to be able to begin this study on how to improve the quality of life for all those who live and travel along Route 1.”

In addition, DRPT has launched a new website at www.Route1MultimodalAA.com, a Facebook page at www.facebook.com/Route1MultimodalAA, and a Twitter account: @Rt1MultimodalAA. “The success of the Route 1 Multimodal Transportation Alternatives Analysis will rely on the input of many stakeholders along the corridor, including elected leaders, public agency staff, and private citizens” says Thelma Drake, director of DRPT. “Route 1 is a historic roadway that serves as a Main Street for many people who live, work, and travel along the corridor. This analysis will focus on steps to alleviate congestion, enhance the vitality of the roadway, and improve the daily lives of residents, commuters, and those who work in and visit the area.”

While public engagement will be critical during the initial “Corridor Vision” phase, the team anticipates continuing outreach efforts throughout the life of the project, which will also address alternatives development and evaluation, funding, and an implementation plan. Stakeholder meetings, public meetings, and other events will continue through the next several months.

The analysis will define key transportation issues along the 14-mile stretch and explore a range of transportation solutions, including bus rapid transit (BRT), light rail transit (LRT), extended Metrorail service, roadway widening, and restructured pedestrian/bicycle pathways and facilities. Through stakeholder participation and technical analysis, the study effort will produce a recommended program of transportation alternatives. Land use, economic impact, and funding sources will be addressed as part of the transportation alternatives analysis.

DRPT anticipates that the study will be completed in the summer of 2014.

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