



## Document #2: Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

July 14, 2021

**Zoom Meeting:** July 14, 2021 – 8:00 am – 9:00 am

**Attended:** Theodore L. Chandler, Bob Holsworth, Sarah Jane Kirkland, Peggy Layne, John W. Martin, John F. Reinhart, James Spore, and Laura Robidoux

**Absent:** Cliff Fleet, Jr., Wilson Flohr, Moses Foster, Thomas R. Frantz

### **Agenda Items:**

1. Approve June 16th and June 30th EC Minutes (See attached – Documents #2 and #3)
2. Nomination Committee: Update on Current BOD Recruitment Status
3. Development Committee Update
4. RVA757 Connects' Letter of Support for the BoAT/Capital Trail Extension Project  
(see related email from Bob Crum)
5. Making I-64 Innovation Corridor – Becoming a Global Internet Hub White Paper (See attached)
6. Old Business/New Business

### **Approve June 16th and June 30th EC Minutes**

The Executive Committee (EC) unanimously approved the June 16<sup>th</sup> and June 30<sup>th</sup> EC meeting minutes.

### **Nomination Committee: Update on Current BOD Recruitment Status**

The Executive Committee provided general updates on recruitment efforts. There was a discussion on appropriate placement in the Board or MIC depending on organizational involvement and ability to participate in external endorsements. Some recruits may be a better fit for the MIC, rather than the Board.

### **Next Steps:**

- EC members will continue recruitment efforts on assigned targets and report back with updates.



### **Development Committee Update**

A general discussion was held on fundraising progress.

EC members were encouraged to reach out to Directors with whom they have personal relationships. Please contact Mitch Haddon or Jim Kibler to help where possible.

The Department of Agriculture paperwork is being completed. It was suggested to gain tax-exempt status for in-person events.

The EC requested a location for all fundraising documents to be housed for their private access.

#### **Next Steps:**

- Laura Robidoux will share an updated list of funders and their respective contributions to date.
- West Cary Group will set up a Development Folder (password protected) on the website – PPT overview / thank you letter / fundraising strategy plan / and recap of contributions to date.

### **RVA757 Connects' Letter of Support for the BoAT/Capital Trail Extension Project**

John Martin shared that an RVA757 Connects' letter of support was emailed with RAISE grant materials for the BoAT/Virginia Capital Trail extension project.

#### **Next Step:**

- We will share the RAISE grant support letter with the full Board and MIC.

### **Biden Infrastructure Bill Update**

James Spore shared his insights about possible outcomes for the Biden Infrastructure Bill allocation. A general discussion was held about the next steps for the Hampton Roads region. One issue is Hampton Roads not receiving "credit" for the recent \$5.2 billion in transportation infrastructure investment.

#### **Next Step:**

- James Spore will keep everyone apprised of developments.

### **White Paper on Making I-64 Innovation Corridor a Top 15 Global Internet Hub**

The white paper on Making the I-64 Innovation Corridor a **Top 15 Global Internet Hub** was provided as part of this EC meeting. EC members were not asked to read this but to have it in hand as the paper was explained.

John Martin explained that this topic could be, in fact, transformational for the megaregion (both RVA and the 757) and is perhaps THE very best case for why we need to work together.



John further explained that this is a first draft of a research paper that was put together by SIR. The immediate next step that's underway is to share this paper with the experts SIR interviewed to inform the paper's direction and initial conclusions. This includes obtaining feedback from Virginia Beach and Henrico County economic development representatives.

Once finalized, this whitepaper will be featured as part of RVA757 Connects-CIVIC's October 1st webinar and the Chambers' October 27th Convergence 2021 event. This paper could also serve as the basis of a GO Virginia grant request coming out of the I-64 Innovation Corridor Talent Pipeline Study.

Early suggestions from EC members included sharing the "approved" paper, when it is ready for public dissemination, with:

- VEDP
- The Virginia Chamber of Commerce (Blueprint Virginia 2030)
- The gubernatorial candidates
- RVA757 Connects' Full Board and MIC

#### Next Steps:

- Discuss the whitepaper's potential and next steps at future EC meetings (everyone was asked to read the paper by July 28)
- Finalize the paper based on experts' feedback
- Share the paper widely
- Incorporate the paper into the RVA757 Connects-CIVIC's October 1st webinar and the Chambers' October 27th Convergence 2021 event

#### Old Business/New Business

N/A

Let the record show that the meeting ended 10 minutes early.