

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
TRANSPORTATION AND LAND USE COMMITTEE  
INFORMATION ITEM**

**# 8**

**SUBJECT: EASTERN ROUTE 7 SAFETY PROJECT**

**FORMER ELECTION DISTRICT: Sterling/Sugarland Run/Potomac**

**NEW ELECTION DISTRICT: Algonkian/Sterling**

**STAFF CONTACTS:** Mr. Lewis Rauch, Department of Construction and Waste Management.  
Mr. Jim Rauch, Department of Construction and Waste Management.

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**BACKGROUND:**

The funding for the Eastern Route 7 Safety Project was approved in the Adopted 2006-2008 Capital Improvement Program for spot improvements at Community Plaza/Lakeland Drive, Augusta Drive, Cardinal Glen Circle at Sterling Blvd, Potomac View Drive and Campus Drive along Route 7, Leesburg Pike in Sterling, Virginia. The scope of the work was subsequently changed, as reported at the October 20, 2010 Transportation and Land Use Committee meeting, to include only the intersections of Potomac View Drive, Sterling Blvd, and Augusta Drive. The purpose of this item is to update the Board of Supervisors on the design and construction schedule for the project.

As reported at the October 20, 2010 Transportation and Land Use Committee meeting, some amount of redesign was necessary to incorporate earlier VDOT review comments. A subsequent design package was sent to VDOT for review in January 2011. The design engineer has been working diligently on addressing those VDOT review comments as well as coordinating the resolution of utility conflicts. Design waivers are needed for the interior paved shoulder width and the grading of the median slope. VDOT has received, accepted and begun the review of the waivers. Upon approval of the design waivers, the consultant will proceed with the final design work to include: all drainage/environmental impact studies, utility coordination and remediation, and easement acquisition. The final plans will be submitted to the Department of Building and Development and VDOT for approval. Final VDOT review and permit submission are planned for August 2011 with design completion and bids issued in November 2011, subject to the acquisition of required easements. Construction is planned to begin in the spring/summer 2012 and work will be completed in the spring/summer of 2013.

**ISSUES:** A public information session was held on June 30, 2011 to present the scope and status of the project. Citizens asked whether pedestrian improvements and intersection lighting were included in the scope of the project. Staff advised that neither pedestrian improvements nor lighting were included. Other comments were made concerning landscaping, the visibility from

the turn lane at Potomac View Road onto Route 7, standard traffic signs for better visibility and the need for informational signs in advance of the intersections. Staff and the design consultant are responding to each of these.

The preliminary estimate for the work at an earlier stage of design was \$2,325,000 and within the project budget. As the design is progressing, however, additional pavement has been added and the size of the storm water management features has increased. These items as well as utility relocation costs may increase the cost of the work. All costs are estimates at this time, and actual costs will be known when the design is completed and the work is put out for bids.

Staff and the design consultant will be present at the July 20 Committee meeting to provide an update on the project and respond to questions from committee members.