

April 16, 2013

At the special meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Prince Edward County, held at the location of the Route 786 ribbon cutting, thereof, on Tuesday, the 16th day of April, 2013; at 12:00 noon, there were present:

Howard M. Campbell

Pattie Cooper-Jones

William G. Fore, Jr.

Don C. Gantt, Jr.

Robert M. Jones

Charles W. McKay

Howard F. Simpson

Jim R. Wilck

Also present: Wade Bartlett, County Administrator; and Sarah Elam Puckett, Assistant County Administrator.

Chairman Fore called the reconvened meeting to order.

In Re: Dedication and Ribbon Cutting – Route 786

Chairman Fore offered remarks for the opening of Route 786:

Good afternoon. I am Buckie Fore, Chairman of the Prince Edward County Board of Supervisors.

On behalf of the Board, it is my pleasure to welcome each of you to the dedication and ribbon cutting for the new Route 786.

Today, we can celebrate its completion, which represents many years of planning and effort by the Virginia Department of Transportation and the members of the Board of Supervisors.

Because of the long history, I will share just a little bit of it with you. As early as the mid- to late-1990s, citizens had become concerned about the evolving traffic issues on Route 628 as it passes through the school grounds, and at its intersection with Route 15.

In 1999, the Board of Supervisors received a letter from the Prince Edward County School Board expressing concern about the safety of the students, teachers and parents using Route 628 because of the high traffic volume in the middle of the school campus. Shortly thereafter, a letter was sent to our State legislators inquiring as to the availability of state transportation funds to fix significant safety hazards.

The County's first meeting with VDOT about an alternate to Route 628 took place in the spring of 2000 when we met with representatives of VDOT's Local Assistance Division about the funding options that might be available to assist the County with the cost of a new road.

In 2003, the opportunity to purchase the Luck Stone property presented itself, and with it came the Board's intent to reserve a portion of the property for future school needs and to use a portion for economic development.

In February of 2004, the Prince Edward County Board of Supervisors unanimously voted to apply for and was subsequently awarded \$481,000 of VDOT Revenue Sharing Funds for the engineering and construction costs for an alternate to Route 628.

In 2005, because of a diminished fund balance, the Board opted to not build the "Alternate to Route 628" and the revenue sharing funds were transferred to the Via Sacra project at Hampden-Sydney.

Conversations about the need for an Alternate to Route 628 continued until finally in August of 2009, the Board voted to apply for \$1 million of VDOT Revenue Sharing funds to relocate Route 628 for the purpose of moving traffic out of the School Complex.

Fast-forward to today. While it has taken fourteen years from the original request from the School Board, I think it is fair to say that this project was no small undertaking for our County. Its completion is a huge accomplishment toward enhancing the safety of the Prince Edward County Public School Complex.

There are many folks who need to be thanked for helping the County achieve the completion of this project:

1. *I will start by thanking all of the representatives of the Virginia Department of Transportation who have worked very hard over the years to help Prince Edward County with this project.*
2. *We want to thank Hurt & Proffitt of Lynchburg, the engineers on the project, and Haymes Brothers of Chatham, the contractor. We thank you both.*
3. *Lastly, I wish to thank the Prince Edward County School Board for their patience and continued support of this project.*

At this time, a motion is in order for the County of Prince Edward to accept the construction of the roadway excluding the vegetative cover and to authorize the Chairman to sign said acceptance letter to Haymes Brothers.

Supervisor McKay made a motion to accept the construction of the roadway excluding the vegetative cover and to authorize the Chairman to sign said acceptance letter to Haymes Brothers; the motion carried:

<p>Aye: William G. Fore, Jr. Don C. Gantt, Jr. Robert M. Jones Charles W. McKay Howard F. Simpson</p>	<p>Nay: Howard M. Campbell Pattie Cooper-Jones Jim R. Wilck</p>
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Chairman Fore asked those in attendance to join him at the ribbon to mark the official opening of State Route 786.

On motion of Supervisor McKay and adopted by the following vote:

<p>Aye: Howard M. Campbell Pattie Cooper-Jones William G. Fore, Jr. Don C. Gantt, Jr. Robert M. Jones Charles W. McKay Howard F. Simpson Jim R. Wilck</p>	<p>Nay: None</p>
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the meeting was recessed at 1:30 p.m. to reconvene at 2:00 p.m. in the Board of Supervisors Room at the Prince Edward Courthouse for a Budget Work Session.