

October 24, 1969

Present: F. Elliott Burch
J. Wilmer Bowles
George R. Aud

Meeting convened at 2:45 p.m.

SRC Meeting

Messrs. A. W. Tate, District Engineer, SRC; Delegates John H. Briscoe and Henry J. Fowler; B. Harris Sterling, County Auditor; Frank Thorp, David H. Fisher, SRC; J. Frank Raley, Jr., Dr. John Mills, Tri-County Council; Capt. L. G. Graning, Commanding Officer, NAS; Leonard L. Kohl, Martin P. Callan, J. A. O'Shea, John Hauch, NAS.

Mr. Burch stated the purpose of this meeting was to discuss the dualization of Routes 5 and 235. He stated the Route 5 extension is of great concern to the County Commissioners. It is the Commissioners understanding that the first section of Route 5, that runs from Leonardtown to the State Roads Commission Garage, will be a four lane closed section with curb and gutters. Route 5 north from Maypole Road to Loveville is to be single lane north and southbound. Mr. Burch asked what could be done about the latter section as there is a considerable amount of traffic coming off of Route 234. Mr. Fisher stated present plans call for two lanes with shoulders on each side. Mr. Burch stated it was the Commissioners understanding that the four lanes would be extended from Maypole Road to the intersection of Route 234, a distance of 3,500 feet. Mr. Tate obtained a traffic survey count of traffic coming off of Route 234 on to Route 5. It was found that 40% of the traffic is coming off of Route 234.

Mr. Fisher stated that \$734,000 was the bid on the second portion of the project, and \$638,000 was money in the program which included 16% overhead. Mr. Burch stated back in 1967, \$5,742,000 was available for roads in St. Mary's County, which was for a six year program. Mr. J. Frank Raley asked where does the money go when allocated, if it is not spent. Mr. Burch asked about getting a tabulation of money spent over this six year program. Mr. Fisher stated this money was set up in projects listed for St. Mary's County over the six year program. He said it is taking more years to do the job that was listed. Mr. Fisher stated he would provide the Commissioners with a tabulation of money spent over the six year period. Mr. Fisher outlined some of the sources of money such as highway revenue taxes, degree of bonding and revenues from highway trust funds. Also, legislation was passed and money came through a rate of assessment. Mr. Fisher said the \$5,000,000 was anticipated revenue, not what was on hand.

Mr. Burch stated that a road should not be built that is not adequate to handle the traffic. It was the Commissioners general feeling that there was not a need for curb and gutter from Maypole Road to Route 234. Mr. Fisher stated, according to the plans, there is space for four lanes without shoulders. He pointed out that the right-of-ways vary in different places.

Captain Graning and his delegation from the Naval Air Station joined the meeting at this point. Mr. Burch informed Mr. Fisher of the difficulties being encountered with getting on and off the base and the problem of getting on Route 235 from NAS,

Town Creek and Seven Gables. He stated that the navy would like to get a parallel section tying Town Creek and Seven Gables in with NAS. Mr. Burch requested at this point that Captain Graning elaborate on the traffic problems and the future expansion of facilities on the base.

Captain Graning stated, because of the number of people who travel on and off the base, there exists a very serious traffic problem on Route 235, that extends several miles up the road. During rush hours, the road is congested up past Clark's Landing Road and as far as Hollywood, itself. They have quite a number of people who live in Esperanza, Seven Gables, and Town Creek areas who would like to have the existing county road, Millstone Landing, improved. If something is done to improve this road, it would help alleviate some of the problems in Lexington Park. Captain Graning said they also have a traffic problem on the base. There is one main road through which most of the traffic funnels and that is through the main gate. He discussed briefly a Master Plan drawn up for the base and outlined proposed changes that would help alleviate some of the traffic problems on the base, and which also provided for entrances. Mr. Fisher stated possibly there are defense access funds available to help with the roads concerning NAS as these funds were obtained for improvement of roads around the Naval Academy in Annapolis. Captain Graning said if Route 235 could be dualized up to St. Andrews Road, it would be an immediate relief. Mr. Fisher felt that there was a real problem with traffic on this road, and stated he would try to give some specific work dates. He said they would probably run into some right-of-way problems, but no clearing would have to be done.

Mr. Burch asked if the Millstone Landing Road was improved by the county, could it come under a State Aid Program. Mr. Fisher stated he would be sympathetic to getting the road improved and having State Aid applied. Captain Graning stated with the new command coming in, he expects the civilian employees on the base to increase from 500 to 1,000.

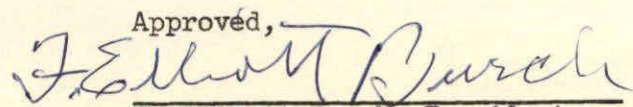
Mr. Bowles asked what could be done about getting the contractor back to work on the road from Leonardtown to the State Roads Commission Garage. Mr. Tate said some of the curb work is currently being done, but the contractor is working too many jobs and does not have enough men.

Mr. J. Frank Raley stated there is a serious problem in St. Mary's City at the college. He stated that engineering has been done for a bypass. Mr. Fisher stated there was money set up to establish this right-of-way, but the only thing holding the project up was a piece of land owned by the church. The Commissioners felt that something could be worked out as far as the church property is concerned. The SRC will study further changes to be made on Route 5 for a possible bypass.

Mr. Fisher stated he will look at Route 5 and be in touch with the Commissioners relative to working something out. He feels that they can expedite Route 235. The access road to the North Gate of the NAS will be checked into by Mr. Tate. He feels that possibly a bridge will have to be constructed on the Millstone Landing Road as it goes directly through a marshy area.

Mr. Burch requested that Mr. Fisher check into the connection of Route 236 and Route 5 at New Market. The cost of constructing this new connection will be approximately \$68,000. Mr. Fisher stated they would try to work in funds for this also.

Meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Approved,

 F. Elliott Burch, President