

**Hampton Roads Planning District Commission  
Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) Committee Meeting  
Summary Minutes of December 3, 2025**

The December 3, 2025 meeting of the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission (HRPDC) Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) Committee was called to order by Vice Chair Christopher Price at 11:35 am in the 757 Room of the Regional Building located at 723 Woodlake Drive in Chesapeake, Virginia.

**CAO Committee Members in Attendance**

Christopher Price (Vice Chair)	Chesapeake
Doug Beaver (for Patrick Roberts)	Norfolk
Mark Bellamy	York County
Brian DeProfio (for Mary Bunting)	Hampton
Patrick Duhaney	Virginia Beach
David Freeman (for Alan Archer)	Newport News
Kevin Hughes	Suffolk
Don Robertson	Isle of Wight County
Lincoln Saunders	Franklin
Michael Stallings	Smithfield
Carol Steele	Gloucester County
Scott Stevens	James City County
Brian Thrower	Southampton County
Andrew Trivette	Williamsburg
Randy Wheeler	Poquoson

**Executive Director**

Robert Crum

**Others Recorded Attending**

Greg Grootendorst, HRPDC  
Pavithra Parthasarathi, HRTPO  
David Westcott, Chesapeake  
Brent McKenzie, Virginia Beach  
Gretchen Heal, Hampton Roads Chamber  
Erin Carter, Senator Warner  
Mark Geduldig-Yatofsky, Portsmouth Resident  
Drew Lumpkin, Hampton Roads Executive Roundtable  
Jerri Wilson, Newport News  
Brenda Roberts, Representative Kiggans  
Bryan Pennington, Norfolk  
Noele Pinkard, Hampton Roads Transit

## **Welcome and Introductions**

Mr. Price welcomed everyone to the CAO Committee meeting and thanked HRPDC for hosting today's meeting at the Regional Building. He noted that today's meeting was called to discuss the Joint House Resolution on the Regional Infrastructure and Readiness Framework that was introduced at the recent HRPDC and HRTPO meetings. He noted that Chair Bunting is at today's State of the City Address in Hampton and shares her regrets for not being able to participate in today's CAO meeting. He noted that since today's topic is a time-sensitive item, Ms. Bunting asked that we proceed with today's CAO meeting and asked Mr. Price to chair today's meeting.

## **Approval of Agenda**

Mr. Price reviewed the agenda as distributed for today's meeting. He asked that an additional item be added to the agenda, which would be an update on discussions related to the Veteran's real estate tax exemption and the impact it is having on local governments. He asked for approval of the agenda with this amendment. Upon motion by Mr. Wheeler and second by Mr. Stallings, the agenda was approved as amended.

## **Regional Infrastructure and Readiness Framework**

Mr. Crum introduced this item by noting that at the November 20 meetings of the HRTPO and HRPDC, discussion occurred regarding a draft House Joint Resolution proposed by Delegate Bonita Anthony. This draft resolution would establish a Regional Infrastructure and Readiness Framework for Hampton Roads. Mr. Crum explained that both the HRTPO Board and the HRPDC forwarded this proposal to the Chief Administrative Officers for review, with a request that the CAOs review this proposal and provide a recommendation that could be considered at the January 15 meetings of the HRTPO and HRPDC.

Mr. Crum referenced the draft Joint House Resolution that was included in the agenda mailing for today's meeting. He reviewed the various sections of the draft resolution, noting the various provisions. The CAOs proceeded to have an extensive discussion on the components of the draft resolution and reached consensus on the following comments that would be shared with Delegate Anthony for her consideration:

- The CAO Committee expressed their gratitude to Delegate Anthony for being responsive to the issues and challenges raised at our regional board meeting and developing a proposal to assist with our region's significant infrastructure funding needs.
- The CAOs noted that the Hampton Roads region represents a model in regional cooperation for other parts of the Commonwealth, and in some cases, a national model for collaboration. From regional funding of transportation projects to construction of the regional fiber network and economic development site preparation, there are numerous examples of our region setting the standard for

regional cooperation. The Committee recommended that a Whereas statement be added to the resolution to reflect this track record of regional cooperation in Hampton Roads, noting that the regional infrastructure framework will build on these past successes.

- The CAOs were concerned that, as presented, the Joint House Resolution is too broad. They noted that primary and secondary roads, flood prevention and mitigation projects, public transit, and airports are too broad a scope for this effort. They recommended that the Joint House Resolution focus on funding for primary and secondary roads and flood mitigation and prevention projects.
- Since the infrastructure framework will require a broad view and coordination between transportation and flood prevention projects, the CAOs believe that the HRPDC should take the lead role on this initiative.
- The Committee noted that the Joint House Resolution includes the following language:

“The HRTPO and HRPDC shall submit the completed Framework to the Governor, the General Assembly, and the Secretary of Transportation no later than November 1, 2026.”

The CAOs were concerned that this would be a very difficult time deadline to address and requested an extension to November 1, 2027. In addition, the CAOs noted that the HRPDC will need State funding to support this initiative.

The Executive Director thanked the CAO Committee for their review of this proposal and indicated that he would arrange a meeting with the Chair and Vice Chair of the CAO Committee and Delegate Anthony to convey these comments.

The CAO Committee noted that they would be interested in a report back on these discussions and any additional updates and directed the Executive Director to include this topic as a CAO agenda item for January.

### **State Tax Exemptions**

Mr. Price noted that he and the CAO Chair and Executive Director held a virtual call with representatives of other PDCs in Virginia's Crescent to discuss the impacts that the Veteran's Tax Exemption is having on local government projects. He noted that everyone supports this exemption and wants to be clear that we support our veterans in this regard. But stressed that the financial impacts of this exemption have grown far beyond what was anticipated and are having serious impacts on local government budgets. He shared that from a regional standpoint, our Hampton Roads PDC is at the forefront of this issue. He was surprised that most of the other PDCs were not aware of the significance of this issue and did not have it as a regional priority. He reported to the CAOs that he, Ms. Bunting, and Mr. Crum are in the

process of reaching out to some CAOs in the Crescent and are also exploring coordination efforts with the Virginia Municipal League as we prepare for the upcoming General Assembly session.

### **Items of Regional Interest**

Mr. Price asked each CAO to share an item of regional interest from their locality. The CAOs shared information on a number of items in a roundtable discussion, including the following topics:

- Recent Hampton Roads Caucus Meeting
- Upcoming General Assembly Session
- Housing
- Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative

### **Other Business**

Mr. Price noted that the next regularly scheduled CAO Committee meeting will be held on January 7, 2026 at 11:30 am and will be hosted by the City of Portsmouth, with the exact location to be announced. He wished everyone a happy and safe holiday season.

### **Adjournment**

With no further business to come before the CAO Committee, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Crum  
Recording Secretary