



REGIONAL CONNECTORS STUDY

JOINT STEERING (POLICY) COMMITTEE/WORKING GROUP MEETING

JANUARY 11, 2022

Michael Baker
INTERNATIONAL

Agenda

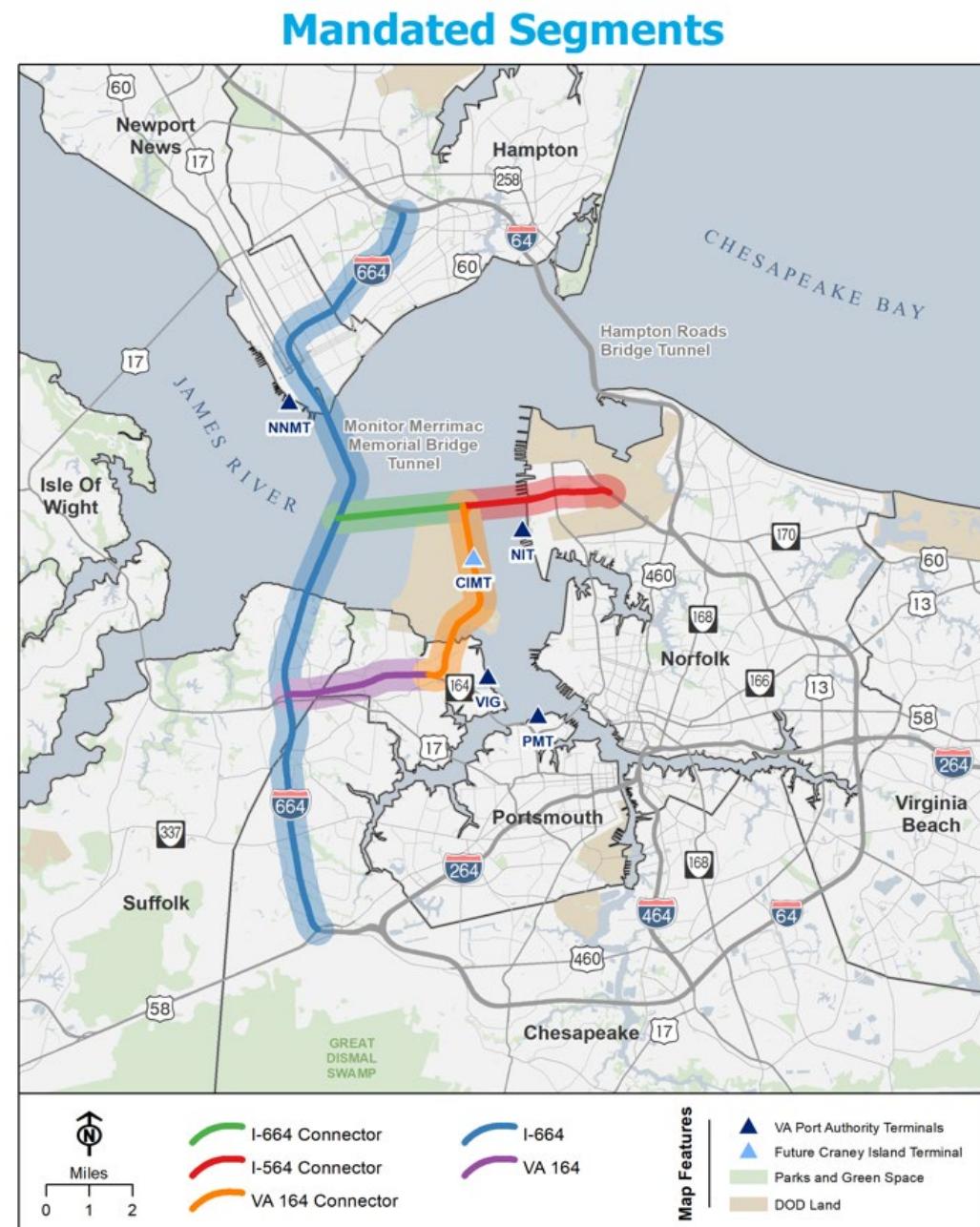
1. Call to Order
2. Welcome and Introductions
3. Public Comment Period
4. Minutes
5. Regional Connectors Study: Scope of Work and Schedule Update
6. Regional Connectors Study: Draft Evaluation Measures for Segment Tiering
7. Other Business

RCS Scope of Work and Schedule Update

PROPOSED APPROACH TO SUPPORT PROJECT COMPLETION

AGENDA ITEM #5

The mandated study segments haven't changed. The updated methodology as approved by the Steering Committee (Oct. 2021) will evaluate and sort the segments into chronological tiers based on readiness and known challenges associated with construction and permitting



Segment Tiering

Tier 1

- Favorable constructability and permitting
- Favorable readiness

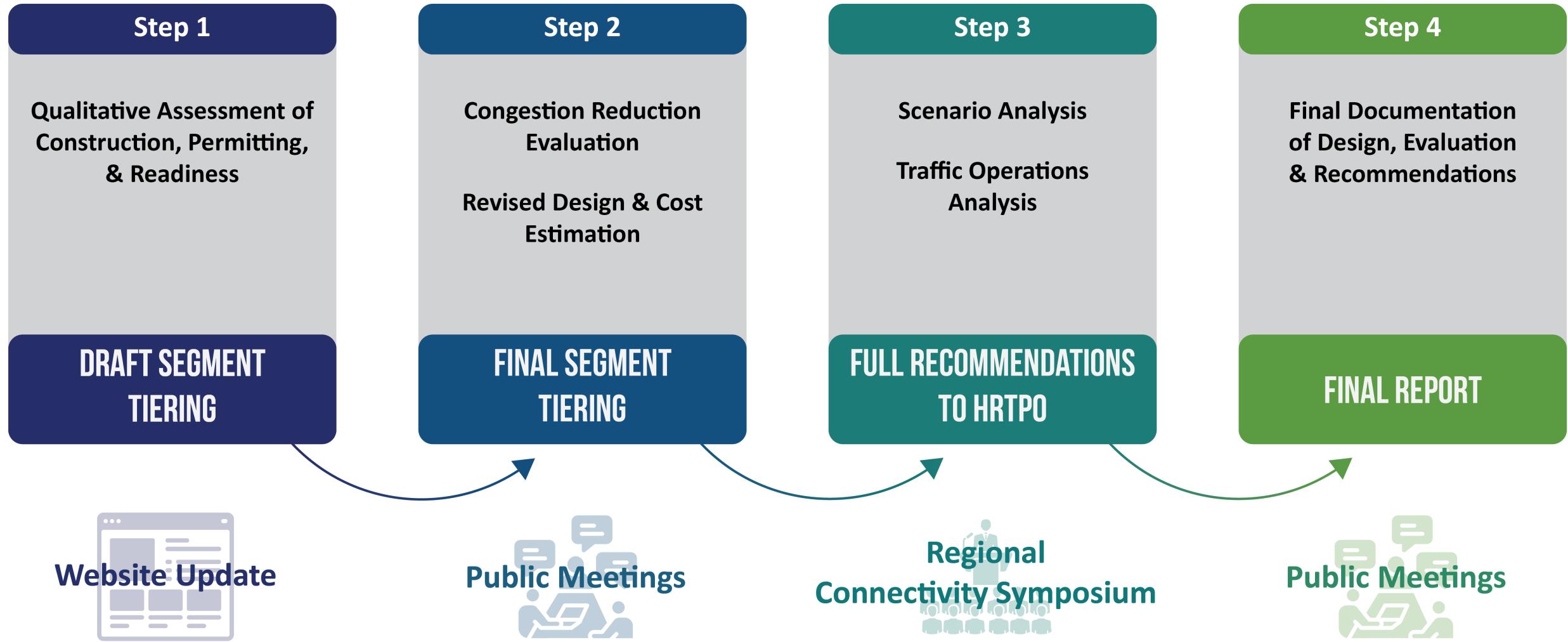
Tier 2

- Favorable or mixed constructability and permitting
- Less favorable readiness

Tier 3

- Currently challenged for constructability and permitting
- Higher degree of uncertainty/requires additional information

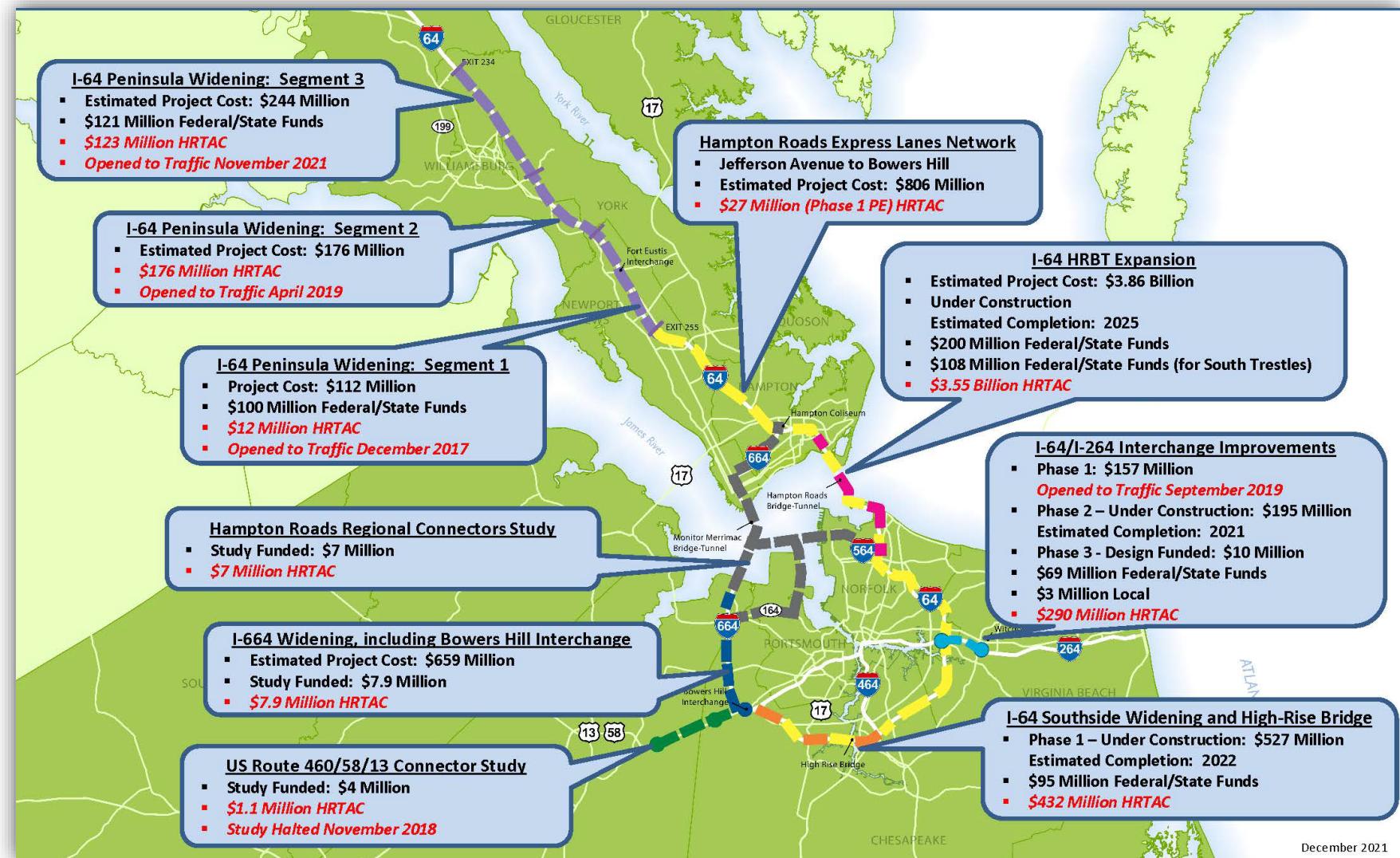
Updated Study Process



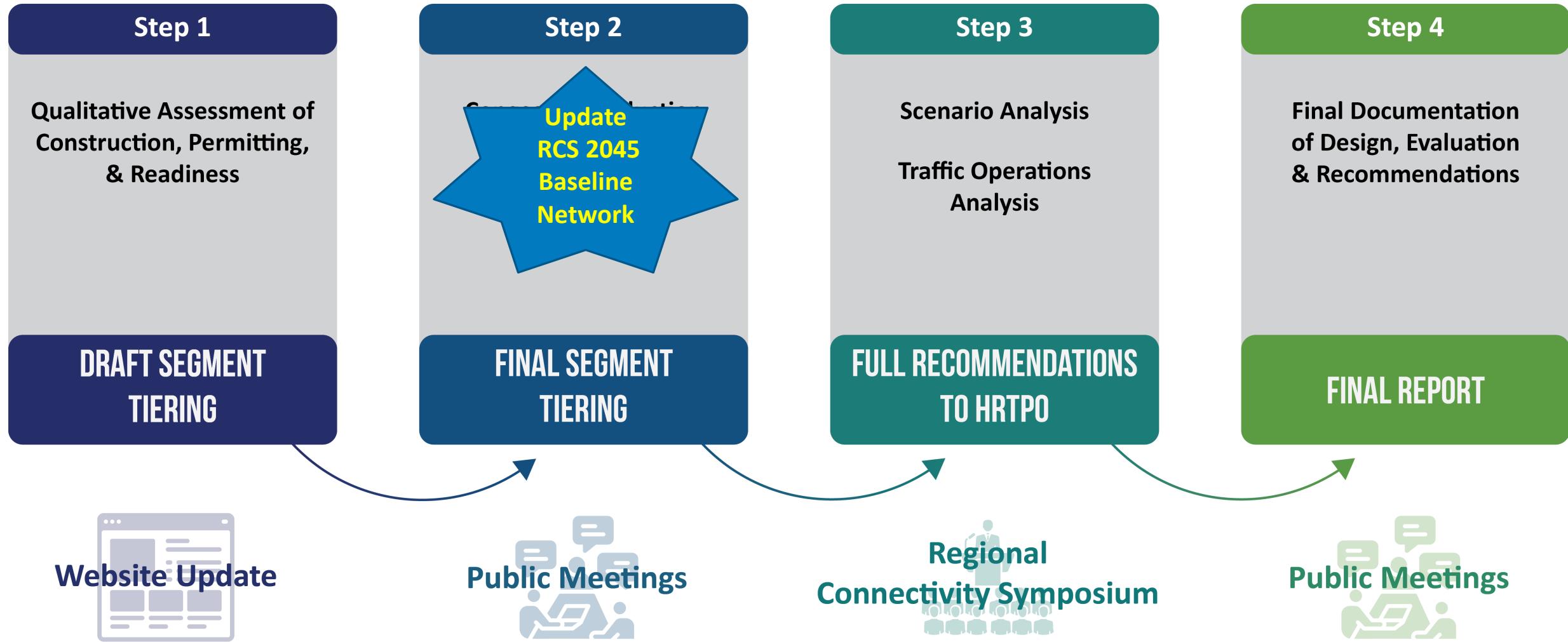
While We've Been Studying Regional Connectors...

Hampton Roads Regional Transportation Priority Projects

\$5.5 Billion Total Value,
\$4.7 Billion HRTAC Funded



Updated Study Process



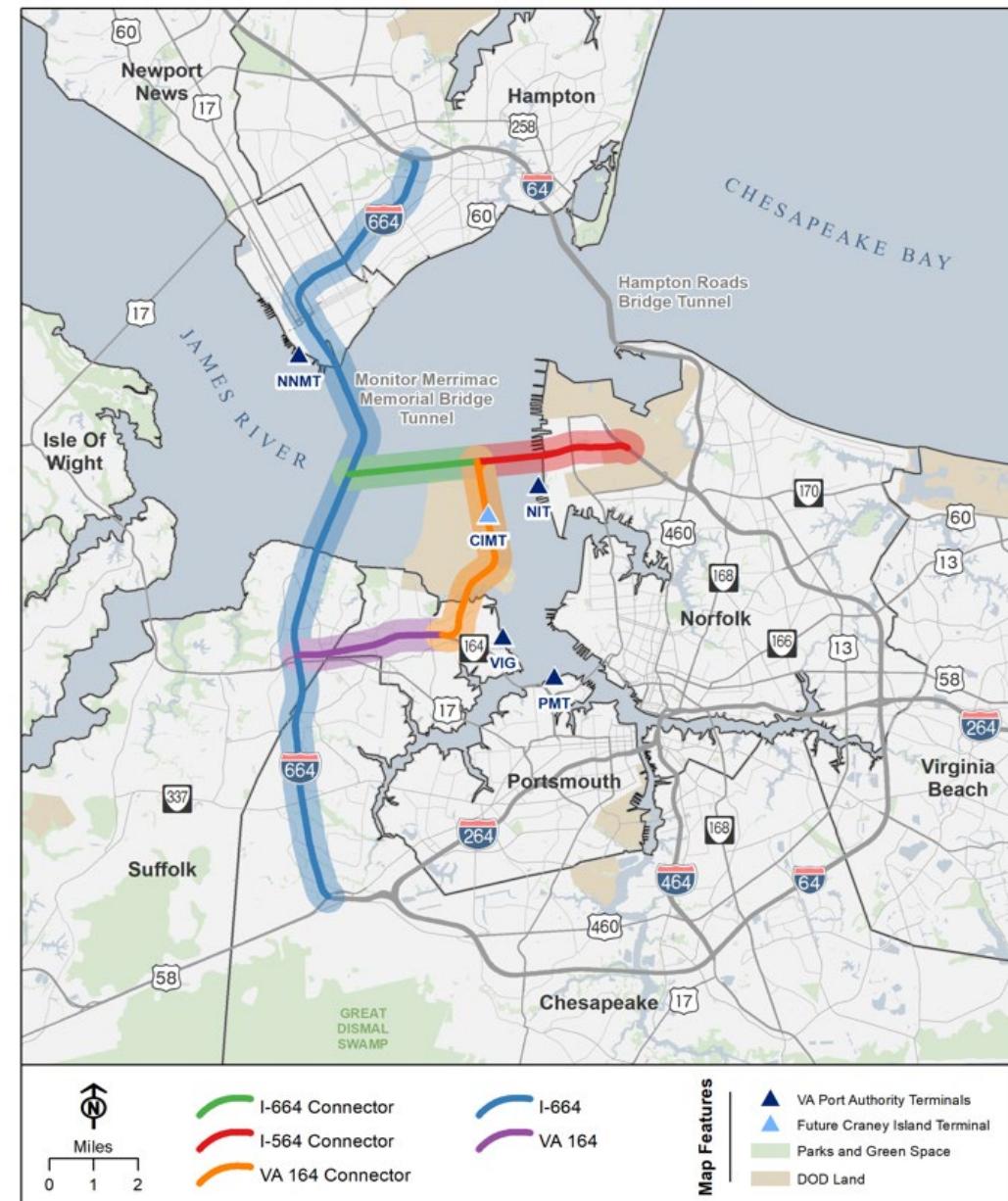
Mandated Segments

Step 1

Qualitative assessment of the segments per existing & updated (express lane) data.

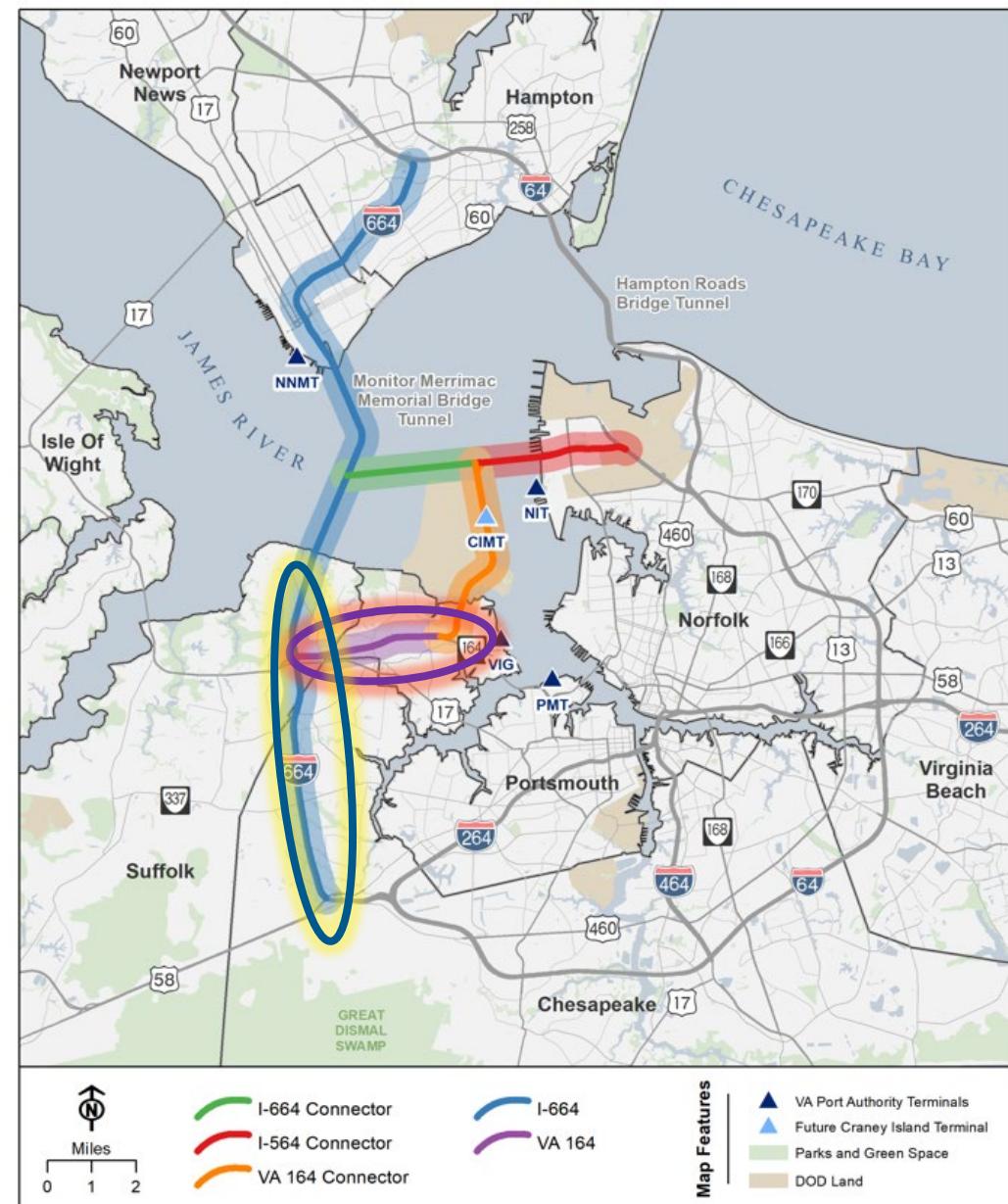
- Construction complexity
- Permitting Issues
- Project Readiness

All Mandated Segments as shown



Step 2

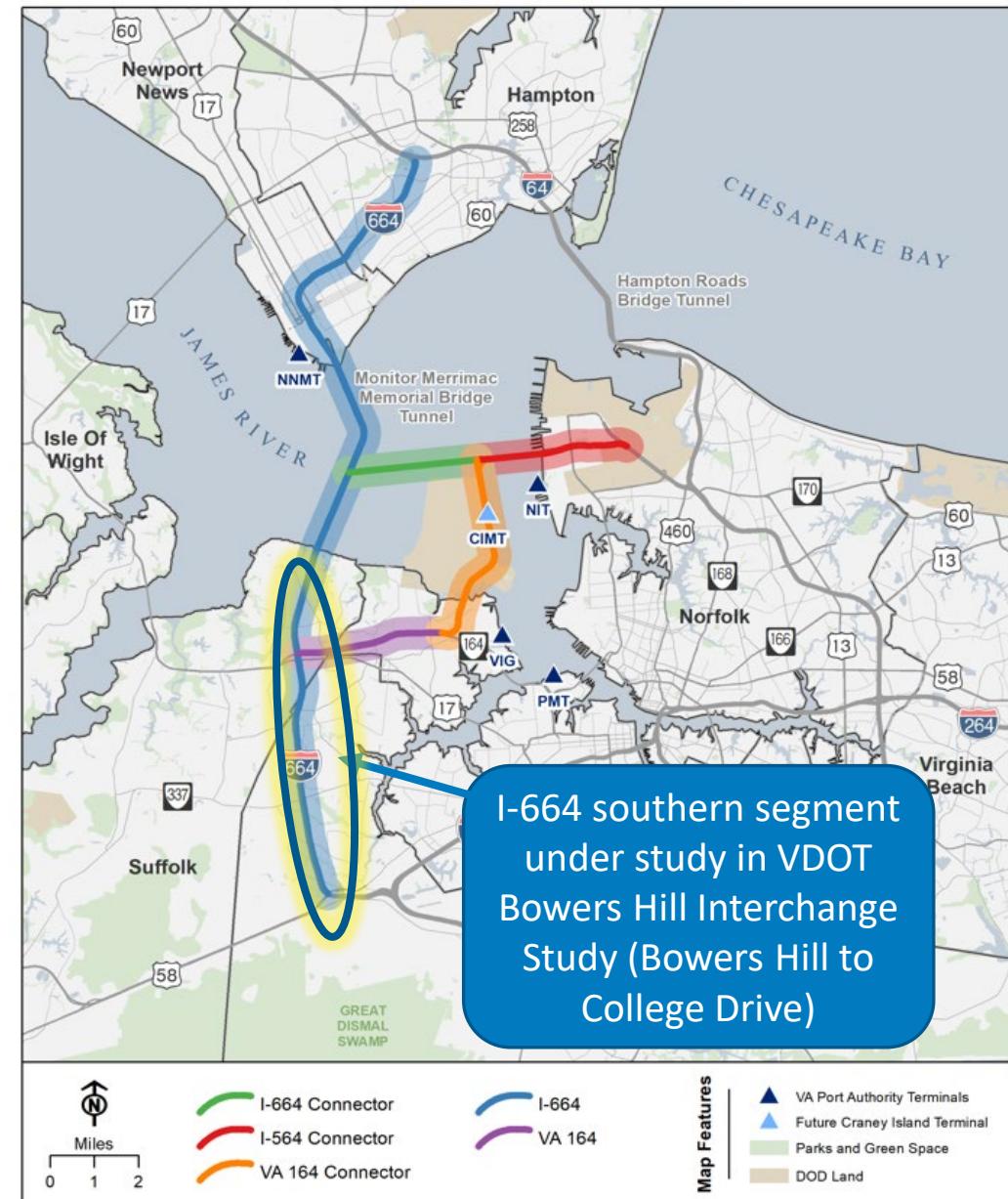
Using the Step 1 Readiness Evaluation and Draft Tiering, consider “overlapping” HRTAC 2045 Plan of Finance Segments to include in an RCS 2045 Baseline Network (in addition to the E+C network)



Mandated Segments

RCS 2045 Baseline Network:

The two overlapping segments may be differentiated in the Step 1 evaluation based on readiness factors such as progress in project development.



Schedule

2022																2023				
	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN		
	Step 1				Step 2				Step 3						Step 4					
Study of:	Segments				Up to 4 Bundles				Up to 3 Bundles of Tier 1 and Tier 2 Segments						Documentation					
Task 2 (Design)	Qualitative Review				Revised Design* Cost Estimates				Refined Tier 1 Design and Cost Estimate						Documentation					
Task 3 (Evaluation)	Permit Challenges Readiness DRAFT TIERING				Congestion Relief Econ. Performance FINAL TIERING										Documentation					
Task 4 (Scenarios & Traffic Operations)									Congestion and Economic Evaluation of Tier 1 and Tier 2 Segments in up to 3 Bundles (Baseline + 3 Greater Growth Scenarios) Traffic Operations Analysis (see Scope) Full Recommendations to HRTPO						Documentation					
Task 1 (Public Engagement)	Website Updates				Round of Meetings				Regional Connectivity Symposium						Round of Meetings					
Committee Meetings	2 (January, April)				2 (June, July)				2 (December, February)						1 (May)					

* Extent of conceptual design varies by tier

Action Item

Recommended Action: Approve the revised RCS Scope of Work and Schedule

Evaluation Criteria for Draft Tiering (Step 1)

PROPOSED APPROACH TO EVALUATING MANDATED SEGMENTS
AGENDA ITEM #6

Evaluation Criteria

- Use existing data to evaluate the mandatory segments
- Base draft tiering on identifiable issues with:





Construction Complexity

Segment Construction Complexity	Impact
Design and Construction Issues	
• Overall design complexity (structures, tunnels, etc.)	
• Constraints of local, state, or federal activities (land use, pipelines, security, etc.)	
• Design dependency with other mandated segments	
• Significant disruptions to traffic	
Cost Considerations	
• Right-of-Way Acquisition	
• Mitigation of environmental factors (sound walls, water quality, etc)	



Construction Complexity

Segment Construction Complexity	Impact	Timing Considerations
Design and Construction Issues		
• Overall design complexity (structures, tunnels, etc.)	High/Medium/Low	notes
• Constraints of local, state, or federal activities (land use, pipelines, security, etc.)	High/Medium/Low	notes
• Design dependency with other mandated segments	High/Medium/Low	notes
• Significant disruptions to traffic	High/Medium/Low	notes
Cost Considerations		
• Right-of-Way Acquisition	High/Medium/Low	notes
• Mitigation of environmental factors (sound walls, water quality, etc)	High/Medium/Low	notes



Permitting Issues

Segment Permitting Issues	Impact
Permits/Natural Environment	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Federal Permits (will include individual ratings for USACOE Section 404, Section 408, Section 10; USCG Bridge Permit; NOAA Incidental Harassment Authorization)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• State Permits (will include individual ratings for VDEQ Section 401; VMRC Subaqueous Bottomlands; VDEQ Virginia Construction General Permits)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Local Permits (Local Wetlands Board Permit)	
Social Environment	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Community impacts (right-of-way, consistency with local plans)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sensitive property impacts (noise, community facilities, cultural)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Environmental Justice (low income and minority communities)	



Permitting Issues

Segment Permitting Issues	Impact	Timing Considerations
Permits/Natural Environment <ul style="list-style-type: none">Federal Permits (will include individual ratings for USACOE Section 404, Section 408, Section 10; USCG Bridge Permit; NOAA Incidental Harassment Authorization)State Permits (will include individual ratings for VDEQ Section 401; VMRC Subaqueous Bottomlands; VDEQ Virginia Construction General Permits)Local Permits (Local Wetlands Board Permit)	High/Medium/Low for each permit	notes
Social Environment <ul style="list-style-type: none">Community impacts (right-of-way, consistency with local plans)Sensitive property impacts (noise, community facilities, cultural)Environmental Justice (low income and minority communities)	High/Medium/Low	notes
Mitigation/Coordination Factors <ul style="list-style-type: none">Mitigation Complexity and Cost (impact rated under Construction Complexity)Permitting Stakeholder Coordination (Timing factor only)		notes



Readiness

Segment Project Readiness	Rating
Project Independence	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Independence from other segments for operation 	High/Medium/Low
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Phasing potential 	High/Medium/Low
Project Development	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Included in local comprehensive/transportation plan 	High/Medium/Low
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adopted by Regional Agency 	High/Medium/Low
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stakeholder/Review Agency Engagement 	High/Medium/Low
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advancement of project study 	High/Medium/Low
Funding Opportunities/Eligibility	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HRTAC 	High/Medium/Low
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SMART SCALE 	High/Medium/Low
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IIJA/BIL 	High/Medium/Low

Note that these ratings will be presented in a manner consistent with other sets of evaluation criteria.

Action Item

Recommended Action: Approve the Draft Evaluation Measures

Next Steps

- Conduct the Step 1 Evaluation of Mandatory Segments
- Update Project Website
- Next Meeting: April 2022