

# REGIONAL CONNECTORS STUDY

## Consultant Activity Report – February 2023

**Date:** March 27, 2023

**Report Period:** February 1 – February 28, 2023

This monthly report is intended to summarize current or recently completed activity on the Regional Connectors Study by the consultant team.

### Work Activity This Period:

#### Execute Engagement Plan

- Continued to upload the project materials to the project website – agendas, meeting minutes and videos, monthly Consultant Activity reports, and project documents
- Prepared for and hosted Open House events at four locations within study area:
  - February 1, 2023 – Pearl Bailey Library, Newport News
  - February 2, 2023 – Lambert’s Point Community Center, Norfolk
  - February 7, 2023 – Churchland Branch Library, Portsmouth
  - February 9, 2023 – VDOT Hampton Roads District Office, Suffolk

#### Evaluation of study segments on construction complexity, permitting challenges, project readiness and tiering

- Continued incorporating decisions made by the Joint Steering (Policy) Committee and Working Group at the November 17th meeting into the RCS study process and associated materials for public outreach. As a reminder, the following was decided on November 17:
  - Tier I to remain unchanged – segments recommended for consideration in the 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan
  - Tiers II and III are combined into one Tier (updated Tier II) – segments recommended for HRTPO to include in the 2050 Regional Transportation Vision Plan. (This maintains eligibility for further study of the segments.)
- The Joint Steering (Policy) Committee and Working Group approved the following:
  - Recommend I-664 widening and VA 164 widening for Tier I
  - Recommend VA 164 Connector, I-564 Connector, and I-664 Connector for Tier II

### Scenario and Traffic Operations Analysis

- As decided at the November 17<sup>th</sup> Steering (Policy) Committee and Working Group, the Consultant selected three bundles of Tier I and Tier II segments to be evaluated for the 2045 RCS Baseline and three Greater Growth scenarios, and that only Tier I segments will be evaluated in Step 3 traffic operations analysis. The Committees instructed the consultant team to select the most technically informative set of segment bundles to be processed through the Scenario Planning analysis.
- Based on the technical information and professional judgement, the Consultant selected and has continued moving forward with testing the following bundles (shown in graphics that follow):
  - Bundle B: I-664 widening and VA 164 widening
  - Bundle C: I-664 widening, I-664 Connector and I-564 Connector
  - Bundle D: I-664 widening, VA 164 widening, VA 164 Connector, and I-564 Connector
- The Consultant Team is advancing Step 3 activities including travel demand and economic modeling of the updated RCS 2045 Baseline network and selected segment bundles as well as operational modeling of the Tier I segments for the baseline land use forecasts and also the three Greater Growth scenario land use forecasts.

### Prepare for and Attend Meetings

- Prepared for and held February 13 meeting of the Joint Steering (Policy) Committee and Working Group as a debrief of Open House results as well as update on Step 3 activities.

## **Work Anticipated Next Period:**

### Execute Engagement Plan

- Continue to upload project materials to the project website – agendas, meeting minutes and videos, monthly Consultant Activity reports, and project documents
- Create summaries of the four open house events and update the project website accordingly.

### Scenario and Traffic Operations Analysis

- Continue advancing Step 3 activities as noted above including travel demand and economic analysis and operational modeling.

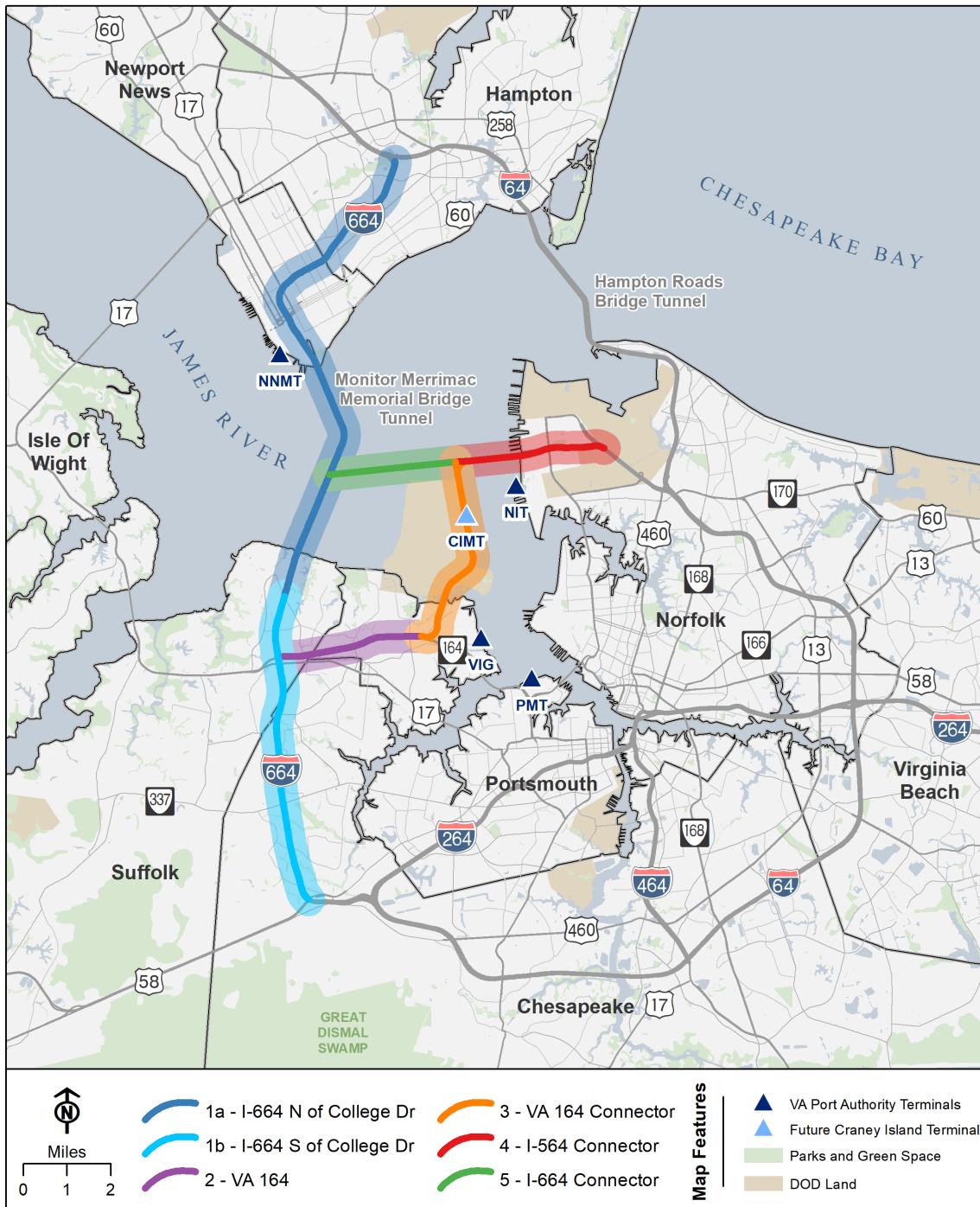
### Prepare for and Attend Meetings

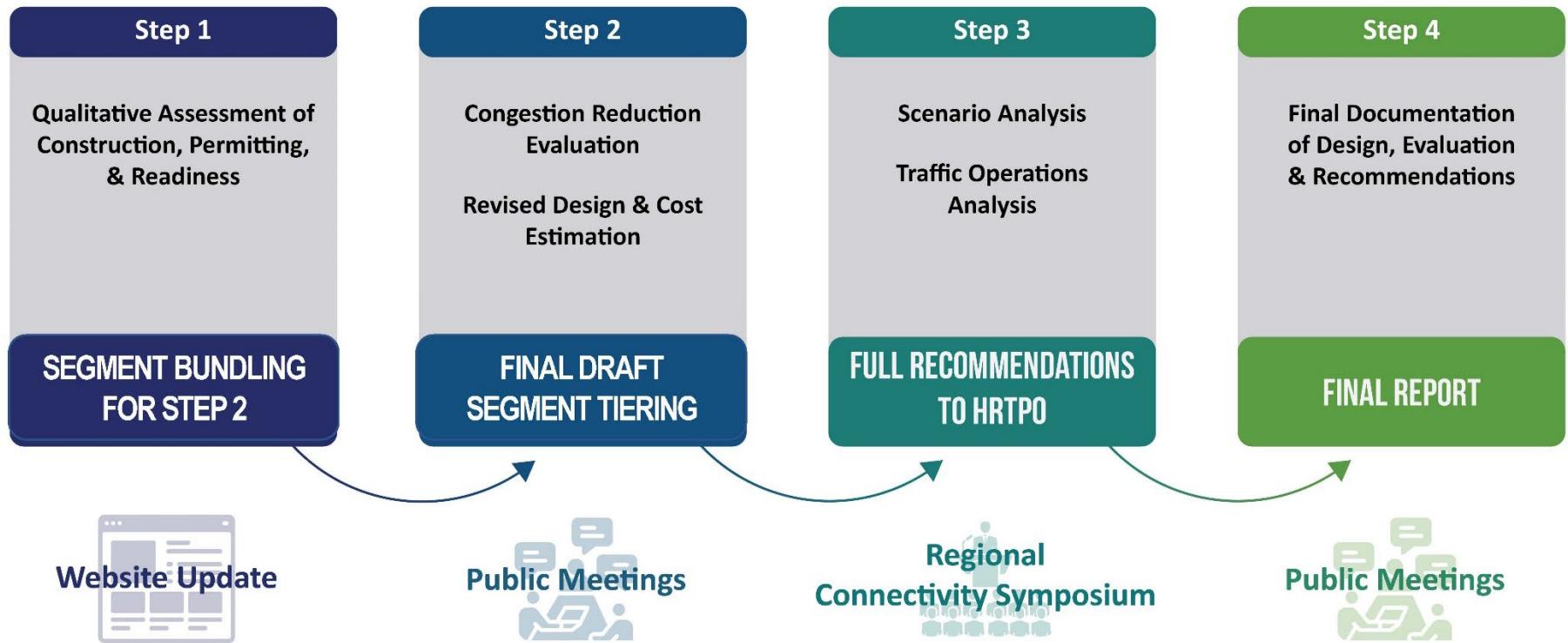
- No meeting activity expected in March

Attachments:

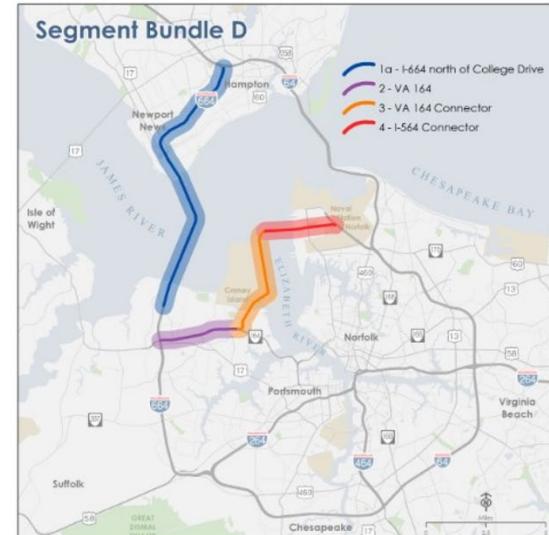
- Mandated Segments
- Phase 3 Process Graphic
- Segment Bundles for Scenario Analysis
- Project Completion Schedule

## Mandated Segments





## Segment Bundles Selected for Step 3 Scenario Analysis



Segment 1b (I664 South of College Drive) included in the 2045 RCS Baseline Network

## Regional Connectors Study Project Completion Schedule (Steps 3 and 4)

Task	Step	Fall 2022	Winter 2022-2023	Spring 2023	Summer 2023
Code and run 2045 RCS Baseline Network for 4 Land Use Scenarios	3				
Code and run up to 3 bundle networks for 4 Land Use Scenarios	3				
Evaluate congestion and economic performance of all of the above	3				
Operational analysis - code/refine segments for analysis	3				
Operational analysis - analyze bundle networks and land use scenarios	3				
Finalize segment cost estimates	3				
Final documentation of study findings	4				
Steering Committee/Working Group Meetings		✓	✓	✓	✓
Public Engagement:					
Plan and Hold Regional Connectivity Symposium	3				
HRTPO Community Advisory Comm. Meeting	3,4	✓		✓	
Plan, restart, continue social media	3,4				
Draft promotion materials, promotion plan for public meetings	3,4				
Plan/attend pop-up events	3,4		Jan. 19, 23, 24		TBD
Plan/Prepare/Publicize public meetings	3,4				
Hold public meetings	3,4		Feb. 1, 2, 7, 9		TBD
		Completed Activities	✓ Steering Committee Meetings: June, Sept. Final HRTPO Board Presentation: October		
		Activities Underway			
		Future Activities			