AGENDA ITEM #15:   REVISING FUNCTIONAL CLASS DESIGNATIONS FOR MAP-21

SUBJECT:

Having revised the Principal Arterial system in response to MAP-21, VDOT has now prepared a draft revision to all functional class systems.

BACKGROUND:

MAP-21 includes the expansion of the National Highway System (NHS), the bulk of which is the inclusion of all Principal Arterials in the NHS. Only those highways which are part of the NHS are eligible for National Highway Performance Program (NHPP) funds.

On September 20, 2012:

- VDOT submitted Principal Arterial (PA) system changes to FHWA.

On September 28, 2012:

- FHWA released NHS maps reflecting the PA changes submitted by state DOTs.

For the October TTAC meeting, HRTPO staff:

- Reviewed FHWA functional class guidelines
- Reviewed recommendations HRTPO staff made in 2006
- Examined high-volume Minor Arterials
- Examined existing classification maps for gaps
- As a result of this research, prepared a set of recommended additions to the region's Principal Arterial system and presented them to TTAC at its October meeting.

Following the October TTAC meeting, HRTPO staff:

- Reviewed VDOT's September 20, 2012 changes to the Principal Arterial system.

At the November TTAC meeting:

- Ben Mannell (VDOT) gave a functional class presentation to TTAC.
- HRTPO staff 1) recommended upgrades to Principal Arterial status (for Warwick Boulevard and First Colonial Road), 2) restoration of Principal Arterial status (for Virginia Beach Boulevard/Laskin Road and Military Highway, both downgraded by VDOT's September 20, 2012 FHWA submittal), and 3) additional minor changes to the NHS maps.
- VDOT staff stated they would submit draft changes to all functional class systems to HRTPO staff for review and distribution to TTAC members. (To-date, HRTPO staff has not received this information).

Mr. Robert Case, Principal Transportation Engineer, will present to TTAC the status of, and plans for, revisions to the functional class systems.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

For discussion and informational purposes.