

AGENDA ITEM #14: SIGNATURE PATHS IN HAMPTON ROADS: DRAFT
Robert Case, HRTPO

The purpose of this study — one of the several multimodal mobility studies included in the FY 2016 HRTPO Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) — is to locate inactive railroad right-of-ways and analyze the costs and benefits of converting them to multi-use bike/pedestrian trails.

On September 2, 2015, HRTPO staff introduced the project at the monthly TTAC meeting and held a project kickoff meeting for members of the Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Subcommittee, plus other interested active transportation professionals. Professionals from many localities provided comments regarding the direction of the Signature Paths study. After a few months of work, staff provided a project update to TTAC at its November 4, 2015 meeting, and — having formed a Stakeholder Group by adding interested citizens to the list of active transportation professionals used for the kickoff meeting — held a mid-project stakeholder meeting on November 13, 2015, updating the group on progress. Following that meeting, staff finalized the analysis in light of comments made.

For each candidate rail trail, the report provides costs and both objective and subjective analyses of benefits.

The draft report will be made available for public review and comment on the HRTPO website from January 6, 2016 through January 22, 2016. A final report will be available for TTAC review at its February 3, 2016 meeting.

Dr. Robert Case, Principal Transportation Engineer, will brief the TTAC on this item.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Review the draft report during the public comment period and submit comments to Rob Case (rcase@hrtpo.org) by Friday, January 22, 2016.